



ENDLESHAM EMORIES

34TH BOMB GROUP H

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OFFICERS

President: Raymond Palmer (316) 686-1228
 1st Vice Pres.: Allen O. Israelsen (612) 822-9234
 2nd Vice Pres.: John Doronsky (216) 942-4109
 Recording Sec.: John Feda (507) 532-5334
 Treasurer & Corresponding
 Secr.: Harold Province (601) 798-2059
 Archivist: Wallace Brauks (314) 849-3166
 Past President: Ambers Hanson (334) 821-8412
 Editor: Eli Baldea (219) 988-4607

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Harold Rutka (97) (218) 724-1667
 Claude Conklin (97) (319) 444-2503
 Dale Finley (98) (812) 793-2463
 Norman Mayer (98) (714) 842-1521
 Carl Freysinger (99) (512) 653-8977
 Jack Farley (99) (201) 239-2940
 Paul Shull (P.X.) (816) 356-4630
 James Martin (Chaplain) (915) 348-3086
 Gerald Pine (Reunion Chmn.) (608) 836-3939
 Robert Wright (Reunion Comm.) (219) 232-4287

CHANGING OF THE GUARD



New President Raymond Palmer accepts the gravel from Past President Ambers Hanson

Merry Christmas

OBSERVATIONS

Since our last issue I have been in touch with, and coerced by, several of our members who have been coaxing me to try to get published a book covering our "Memories" and "A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The War" stories, along with some of the other miscellaneous items printed in Mendlesham Memories in the more than eleven years that I have been editor.

I have given this a lot of thought and, with prodding from Rose and others, have decided to try. The object of the whole thing would be to let the young people of today get an idea of what their elder relatives had to go through and their mental attitudes back then, more than 50 years ago, when they were teenagers or barely into their 20's.

To date I have copied, on the computer, better than 150 pages of stories, etc. I have also sent a letter to nineteen (19) publishers of military-type books to see whether anyone is interested in printing it. I have also written to all of the authors for their releases to use their stories. Their approvals were not necessary for use in the "MM", but I cannot use their stories in the book without it. To date, 90 percent of the authors have given me their O.K. The others, unless I hear from them prior to publishing, will have to be omitted. Hopefully, I will hear from them all. Also to date, I have heard from six of the publishers telling me that they no longer publish that type of book. Hopefully someone will want to publish it. If not, I'll just forget it and go on with my life.

Now, on to other matters. The reunion, as usual, was most enjoyable. It's a lot of fun to meet up with many old friends and to make many new ones. Ours is one of the few bomb groups with a lot of that old spirit. I have several friends who had been in other WWII bomb groups that have no such association with their old friends. How sad! They tell me how much they envy our fraternity. How thankful most of us are for those, many years ago, who had the foresight to get this association going. I can't remember all of their names but personally want to thank them all for their efforts.

Rose and I are planning a visit to Florida to see our son and daughter. We leave a few days before Christmas and will stay about three weeks. I will work on the next issue there and be back in time to go to press. Our March issue will go to press on January 24, 1997. Any material for that issue must have reached me by that date. We try to hold the deadline dates as late as possible but, with the amount of time for typesetting, proof reading, correcting and printing, it takes about five weeks to get out an issue. This means that, at the earliest, the March issue might be in the mail by late February. Please remember - "DEADLINE DATE IS JANUARY 24, 1997".

Beyond that, both Rose and I want to wish all of you, regardless of religion, the happiest and healthiest holiday season ever. May the GOOD LORD be with you in all your endeavors and bestow upon you and yours all of the good things. Beyond that, what else is there?

Thank you to all who have written me with encour-

agement on my efforts. I do try to do a good job. I must say, though, that, with age, my mental capacity has slipped somewhat. I find that I am forgetting some very minor events in my life. Hopefully, this won't impair my ability to continue as editor for some time to come. We'll let you know if, and when, it becomes a problem.

"HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!"

Eli Baldea

Editor

PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It was great to see everyone in Raleigh, NC, for our annual reunion! The members traveled many miles to meet once again to renew friendships and make new friends. There were a good number of "First Timers" in attendance. Our hats are off to Bill Cheek and his crew for having eight crew members present. Verb Holcomb and I were happy to have our pilot, Clarence Arand, and waist gunner, Bill Huber, along with their wives, Rita and Shirley, join us this year. We were all especially glad to have our friends Peter and Sylvia Gaskin from England with us again.

I appreciate the opportunity of serving as your president this past year. The support provided by the reunion committee, members of the board and committee members helped to make my job much easier. The hotel facilities were quite adequate, the food was delicious and the entertainment was great! As always, we enjoyed John Doronsky's entertainment on the accordion in the hospitality suite.

I'm looking forward to another great year under the leadership of our new president, Ray Palmer. I'm already making plans to be in Omaha, Nebraska in 1997. What about you?

Ambers Hanson



Part of Lt. C. Harris's crew - Frt: Burns, Willoughby & Whitaker. Rear: Martinelli, Lower & Holtz

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thanks to the hard work of our Reunion Committee we had a successful reunion in Raleigh, North Carolina. I don't have the exact attendance figures at my fingertips but it was around 325. We had a good number of "First Timers" attending and wearing their blue ribbons. We hope they had a good time and will return for our future reunions. Our Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary, Hal Province, continues to do yeoman's work with his various lists of names to locate additional members. He is even using the computer INTERNET to try to reach them. We missed him at the reunion as a result of major surgery. We hope and pray for his full and speedy recovery.

I thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president for the coming year. With the help of our hard working committees and the Board of Directors, we will do our best to make the reunion in Omaha, Nebraska one of the finest.

Bula and I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy & Prosperous New Year. See all of you in Omaha!

Ray Palmer,
President

FROM THE TREASURER'S COMPUTER



(provi@Brutus.Datastar.Net)

First off, my heartfelt thanks for the calls, letters, cards and notes regarding my health following my prostate surgery. I'm on the way back to normal activities and, before long, expect to be doing things I was doing before the surgery. As I've told several, it sure takes a lot longer to recover than it once did but I guess that's the effect of the added years under the belt! Jan and I continue to thank God that our health has been what it has over the years and that we're able to do as much as we do. We pray that your health will be just as good!

To say that we missed being with you at the reunion would be an understatement! I think sometime each day we would decide what activities were under way at Raleigh. With the exception of the tour and some hotel services, most of the comments I've heard have been good and everyone enjoyed the reunion. I really had

some concern about continuing the reunion after Bob Province called and reported on the storm damage around Raleigh. But, just like the 8th A.F., the 34th B.G. forges ahead!

Many of you have asked if I've received the e-mail sent to me since the June issue was printed. My activity on the internet, etc., was curtailed for about six weeks and, apparently, my in Box was purged sometime during that period. I had to have the mother-board replaced in July so perhaps that contributed to my problems. Anyway, I believe everything is once again working and I should be able to receive e-mail again. Sorry that I lost all your previous messages.

It's that time of year again and, for those who pay annual dues, 1997 dues are DUE upon receipt of M/M. I once thought sending dues during the Christmas mail season would result in lost letters but this hasn't happened.

AND, PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE GOING TO MOVE OR ARE GOING TO BE AWAY FROM YOUR REGULAR ADDRESS! Each issue Eli mails usually results in 15 to 20 returns with the notation of a MOVE or TEMPORARILY AWAY. Each notice means a copy of M/M destroyed and the addressee missing his copy. Please help us cut down on this waste!

I've seen two pictures that were taken at Westover in October, 1941. One was the 4th BS. with Maj. Laver commanding and the other was the 18th BS. under Maj. Koon's command. Were pictures also taken of the 7th and 391st BS's? Was the 391st called the 1st Recon Sqdn. then? Copies of these pictures would make excellent material for our display at the Heritage Museum. Does anyone want to donate a copy or have another copy made. Please advise!

Since this is the reunion report issue I'll close for now and leave a few lines for Eli. CHEERS TO ALL!

Harold Province
Treasurer



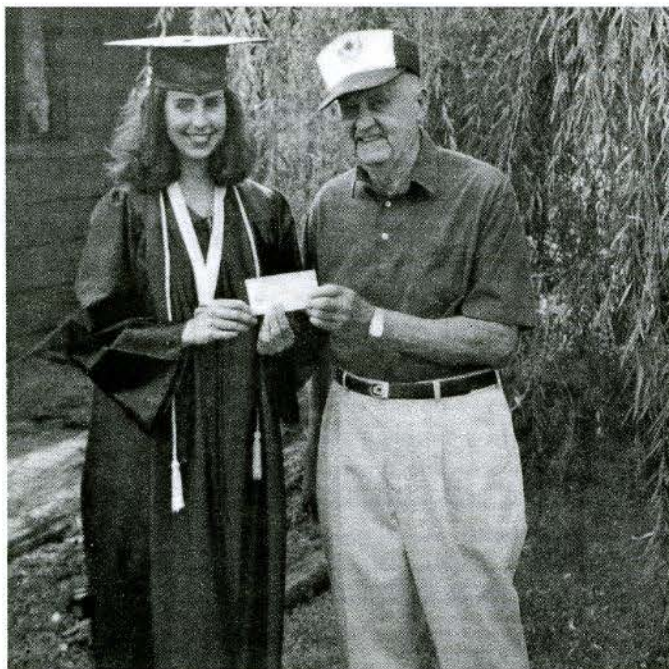
Bob Wright at Punta Gorda with Training Plane 53 years after soloing.

SCHOLARSHIPS

FIRST PLACE WINNER CAROLINE J. ROSSOW

GRANDDAUGHTER OF HAROLD B. ROSSOW

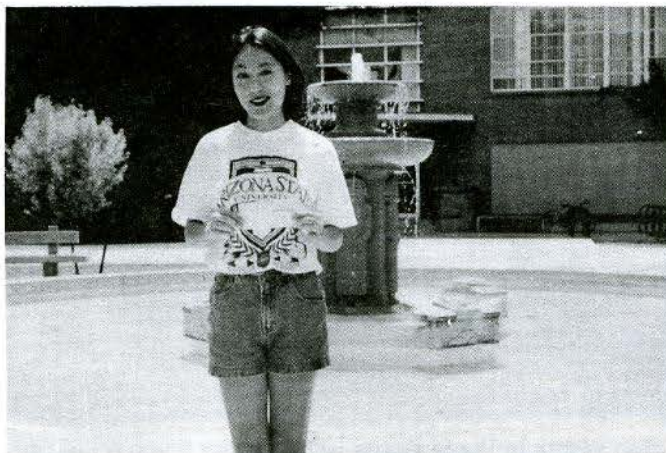
From Caroline J. Rossow - I wanted to very sincerely thank you all for the financial aid you have awarded me. I have just started my first semester at Central College in Pella and the scholarship which you provide has made this all the more possible. Thank you.



Caroline J. Rossow with Grandfather Harold B. Rossow.

SECOND PLACE WINNER - SUSAN LEE GRANDDAUGHTER OF SHERWOOD R. KIPP

From Susan Lee - I apologize for the delay but enclosed is a picture of myself with the scholarship check awarded by the 34th Bomb Group Association. Thank you.



Susan Lee, granddaughter of Sherwood R. Kipp

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - SEPT. 19, 1996

The meeting was called to order by Pres. A. Hanson at 10:00 a.m. After the pledge of allegiance Pres. Hanson gave the invocation inasmuch as our Chaplain, Sam Baglio, passed away on June 30th of this year. James Martin has agreed to take over the job of Chaplain.

Pres. A. Hanson asked for a roll call. Those present were Pres. A. Hanson, 1st V. Pres. R. Palmer, 2nd V. Pres. A.O. Israelson, Rec. Sec. V. Ames, W. Brauks, C. Stemen, J. Doronsky, H. Rutka, C. Conklin, D. Finley, N. Mayer, G. Pine, R. Wright and P. Shull.

A motion was made to approve the 1995 Board and General meeting minutes as printed in the Mendlesham Memories. This was seconded and approved.

P.X. REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$183.19
Income	\$5781.76
Expenses	\$5755.50
Ending Balance, Aug. 31, 1996	\$209.25

A detailed report was submitted to the President, Secretary and Treasurer. A motion was made to approve the P.X. Chairman's report which was seconded and approved.

Pres. A. Hanson reported that Treasurer H. Province was absent due to recent surgery and had submitted the following report:

	1995	1996
GENERAL FUND		
In England	721.16	394.74
Checking Account	86.80	584.00
Money Mkt. Accts.	2859.03	1301.34
CD's	1251.58	LM Savings
Sub-Total	4924.57	3782.56

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND

Savings	1348.23	in CD's	3501.73
CD	3300.00	(Sold)	
CD	19,748.93		19748.93
CD	6069.94	(Sold)	
Sub-Total	30,467.10		23259.66

SCHOLARSHIP FUND 4386.09 in CD 5358.38

MEMORIAL FUND 1055.89 in CD 1130.89

GRAND TOTALS 40834.09 35171.98

The reduced Grand Total this year was due to the \$5,000.00 that we donated to the Mighty Eighth Heritage Museum at Savannah. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the Treasurer's report.

Our membership for 1996 is broken down in the following components:

Members who pay annually	559
Life Members	341
Friends of the Eighth	10
Honorary Members	8
Indigent Members	29
Members' wives	11

Continued on Page 5

The Memorial in England was discussed, indicating the need for a new lawn mower and general landscape maintenance, etc. A motion was made, seconded and carried to have our Treasurer contact Geo. Stedman in England for his recommendations.

COPY MACHINE - After some discussion a motion was made, seconded and carried for us to abandon our antiquated copy machine and pay for any copies required.

REUNION COMMITTEE REPORT - R. Wright reported that there were 316 registered so far this year and that after last year's reunion he turned over \$1,578.91 to the treasurer. G. Pine reported on hotel rates going up, declining attendance, credit requirements, etc. The 1997 reunion will be at the Red Lion Inn in Omaha, Nebraska on Sept. 26th, 27th and 28th. The 1998 reunion, as of now, will be in Boise, Idaho. The committee is looking at Des Moines for 1999. A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the report.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE - H. Province, this year's Chairman, provided the report presented by A. Hanson. First he thanked C. Romero and J. Janes, original members, for their work and then acknowledged their replacements, R. Vaughn and H. Vincens. There were 18 applications this year. The First Place winner was Caroline Jeanne Rossow from Panora, Iowa, the granddaughter of H. Blair Rossow, also from Panora. The Second Place winner was Susan Lee, from Colony, Texas, the granddaughter of Sherwood Kipp from Durango, Colorado.

CONSTITUTION - In 1995 J. Farley was asked to review our Charter to determine if it conflicted with our constitution. He reported that he has been unable to find any Charter, but he believes that the Articles of Incorporation is the document known as the Charter. Considerable effort by our President and others to contact the former Archivist for information about the Charter and to transfer papers to our new Archivist, W. Brauks, was futile. J. Farley will follow up with J. Blackham and report to the Board.

MENDLESHAM MEMORIES - E. Baldea asked that all reunion pictures include the correct names and he also set Oct. 18th as the deadline for articles and pic-



Crew of the "Ole' Timer". Ft. L. to R.: Kotun, Mann, Chestnut & Connelly - Rear L. to R.: Bobrowicz, Davis, Janoskie, Dayton & Benson.

tures. It was the consensus that Eli has been doing an excellent job.

Pres. A. Hanson appointed the following Audit Committee: A.O. Israelson, W. Howarter and V. Holcomb. He also appointed the following Nominating Committee: B. Sothern, J. Martin and W. McAllister.

NEW BUSINESS - H. Rutka had a plaque from the folks over in Mid-Suffolk that was presented to the 34th. It was suggested that it be forwarded on to Savannah for display after acknowledgment in Mendlesham Memories.

D. Finlay displayed several items, pictures, etc. donated by H. Summa that were Ray's and, after some discussion, it was decided to send them to Savannah, too. J. Clarkson will be glad to see that they get there.

Pres. A. Hanson asked W. Brauks to present a Memorial Service at the dinner banquet. To honor the crew with the largest attendance G. Pine will make arrangements for a single table at the banquet.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Recording Secretary Vern Ames

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - SEPT. 20, 1996

The annual meeting was called to order by President Ambers Hanson at 9 a.m. After the pledge of allegiance J. Martin, our new Chaplain, gave the invocation.

It was moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of last year's meeting as they were published in the Mendlesham Memories. The motion was seconded and carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT - H. Province, absent and excused due to recent surgery, submitted the following report which was read to us by our President.

	1995		1996
GENERAL FUND			
In England	721.16		394.74
Checking Account	86.80		584.00
Money Mkt. Accts.	2859.03		1301.34
CD's	1251.58	LM Savings	
Sub-Total	4924.57		3782.56
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND			
Savings	1348.23	in CD's	3501.73
CD	3300.00	(Sold)	
CD	19,748.93		19748.93
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Sub-Total	30,467.10		23259.66
SCHOLARSHIP FUND	4386.09	in CD	5358.38
MEMORIAL FUND	1055.89	in CD	1130.89
GRAND TOTALS	40834.09		35171.98

After pointing out that the grand total difference year to year was due to the \$5,000.00 gift to the Heritage

Continued from Page 5

Museum a motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the report.

SCHOLARSHIP REPORT - Again, A. Hanson, standing in for H. Province, reported that there were 18 applications this year. The first place winner of \$1000.00 went to Caroline Jeanne Rossow from Panora, Iowa, the granddaughter of H. Blair Rossow, also from Panora. The second place winner of \$500.00 was Susan Lee from The Colony, Texas, the granddaughter of Sherwood Kipp from Durango, Colorado. A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the report.

REUNION COMMITTEE - Two representatives from the Boise, Idaho Visitor's Bureau presented a very colorful and informative program designed to encourage the 34th Bomb Group to come to Boise. G. Pine then thanked the ladies for their presentation and noted that it looked favorable for Boise in 1998 and Omaha in 1997.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - Pres. A. Hanson called for the report of the Nominating Committee and B. Sothorn presented the following slate of nominees for 1996:

President	R. Palmer
1st V. Pres.	A.O. Israelsen
2nd V. Pres.	J. Doronsky
Recording Secretary	J. Fedá
Board of Directors (99)	J. Farley & C. Freysinger

Bruce then asked for nominations from the floor. None were heard and a motion was made to close the nominations and accept the slate as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

AUDIT COMMITTEE - A.O. Israelsen reported that he, W. Howarter and V. Holcomb had examined the financial books of the 34th B.G. Assn. including the Reunion committee and the P.X. and found them all in good order.

Pres. A. Hanson reported on the work H. Province has been doing for the 34th B.G. Assn.'s display at the Heritage Museum. Working with a local artist he has produced plaques for each squadron. (They are excellent) J. Clarkson will take them to Savannah. Prompted by Ambers, the members gave Hal Province a round of applause for this project and all the work he does for the group.

CHARTER - J. Farley reviewed last year's request to investigate any conflict between our Charter and our Constitution. A search continues for a Charter as such. To date it appears that The Articles of Incorporation was a substitute. J. Martin will assist him. Progress reports will follow.

J. Clarkson spoke on the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum located in Savannah, Georgia. Jack is a volunteer guide and our only local member. The museum is open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. every day, the year around.

NEW BUSINESS - Pres. A. Hanson thanked H. Province for his efforts in locating new members. He asked all that were attending for the first time to stand and be recognized. He also asked Sylvia and Peter

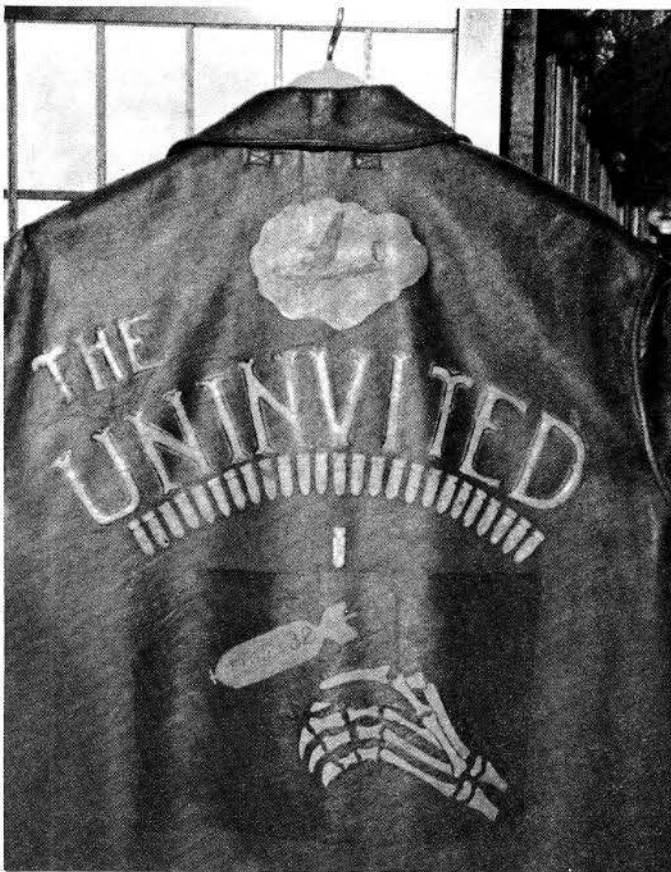
Gaskin, members from England, to stand and he thanked them for coming.

E. Baldea stated that there would be no professional photographer at the Saturday night banquet and asked that individuals take pictures of their tables and identify the people. Deadline is October 18th and the pictures will be returned.

G. Pine reviewed the 1997 reunion dates at Omaha on 9/26 to 9/29. The banquet will be on Sunday night and the get-away breakfast on Monday. B. Wright reported we now had 347 registered to date.

There being no other business, a motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,
V. Ames, Recording Secr.



Flight Jacket of H.R. "MAC" McNeill, Bombardier on Tom Copeland's crew in the 18th Squadron.

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.**

RALEIGH REUNION ATTENDEES

Aldridge, Frederick
 Ames, Vern & Millie
 Arand*, Clarence & Rita
 Armstrong, Denton * Eileen
 Ashley, David & Loretta
 Joyce Tennie
 Attridge, Charles
 Babcock, Lawrence & Lucille
 Bacalis, Ted & Mary
 Baer, Bob & Rosemarie
 Bailey*, Holcomb & Jean
 Baldea, Eli & Rose
 Ballantyne, Ray & Millie
 Barclay, Charles & Roberta
 J.D. & Peggy Barclay
 Baumgardner, Donald & Vera
 Baxter, Carwin & Marlene
 Beall, Joseph & Estella
 Belleau, Thomas & Madeline
 Bergold, Robert & Olive
 Bess, Leonard & Helen
 Bice, Robert G.
 Bichowsky, Robert & Margie
 Bloczynski, John & Marge
 Anthony Scott & Patricia Stuhr
 Boreen, Lloyd & Bobbie
 Georgia Hatch
 Brauks, Wallace & Doris
 Browne, William J.
 Bruen*, James & Helen
 Bujalski, Brancis
 Burnell, Bill & Margo
 Chauson, Hy & Ruth
 Cheek, Bill & Betty
 Clarkson, Jack & Dorothy
 Clemens, James
 Cobb, Jenius & Virginia
 Betty Graves & Mildred Pecor
 Cole, Bob & Ginny
 Conklin, Claude & Genevieve
 Conway, Charles & Lorraine
 Coutros, Anthony & Mary
 Crawford, Harry & Marie
 Dieterle, Marcus W.
 Donaldson*, John & Betty
 Dooley, Lawton & Joan
 Doronsky, John
 Beverly Stearns
 Dunkel, Dick
 Betty Lute
 Edwards*, Richard & Lois
 Evans*, Edward & Charlotte
 Farley, John & Bernie
 Fay*, Dick & Kitt
 Fedas, John & Betty Mae
 Fieber*, Herman & Nancy
 Fiedler, Morton & Sheri
 Finley, Dlae & Margie
 Firestone, Abe & Ernestine
 Forister, Carroll & Sylvia
 Franco, George & Felicia

Frank, Dale & Esther
 Frank, Earl & Mary
 Freysinger, Carl & Imogene
 Gaskin, Peter & Sylvia (FOTE)
 Gaumer, Basil & Lorene
 Gay, Robert & Phyllis
 Gibbs, Claude & Audrey
 Goodnough, Glenn R. & Judith
 Green, Wallace
 Green*, Robert & Evelyn
 Griffin, Ryle & Juanita
 Griffis, Willis
 Grimes, Bryant & Myrtis
 Gross, Robert & Cynthia
 Habiger, Tony & Joan
 Hall, Herbert
 Ham*, Robert
 Hanson, Ambers & Jean
 Hardee, Daniel & Elizabeth
 Henry, Glenn & Vera
 Herget, Charles & Eileen
 Hetherington, Pop & Tootie
 Hinchee, Ray & Margaret
 Holcomb, Verbal & Betty
 Holmes, Gerald & Marie
 Hood, Jack
 Horton, Kenneth & Merle
 Howarter, Wayne & Laverne
 Huber, Bill & Shirley
 Israelsen, Al & Agnes
 Ivey, Kivett & Lucille
 Jacobbausk, Mike & Margie
 James, Eugene & Helen
 Jansky, Robert & Jo
 Jellum, Walter & Donna
 Jones, Wyatt
 Jordan, Dexter & Beulah
 Kincaid, Gerad & Edith
 Krystof, Joe and Fran
 Lampey, Bob & Betty
 Leath, John & Ethel
 LeMaster, Fred & Helen
 Loneragan, Edward & Birgit
 Lundeen, Ralph
 Lute*, Raymond & Mary
 Lyons, John & LaVonne
 Maciel, Earl & Helen
 Marks, Joe & Kay
 Martin, James & Bettie
 Mayer, Norman
 Marci Campbell
 McAllister, Walter & Ruby
 McClellan, Val & Lois
 Meeder, Paul & Twyla
 Moats, Raymond H.
 Raymond Moats
 Mongeon, Omer & Eloise
 Mullin, Tom
 Nendel, Robert & Dorothy
 Neubauer, George W.
 Newton, Thomas & Mildred

Northrup, John & Margaret
 Noullett, William & Doreen
 Palmer, Raymond & Bula
 Patrick*, Tommy & Betty
 Paxton, Ken & Kathleen
 Perry, Harry & Willie
 Peterson, Ralph & Bernice
 Pine, Gerald & Wanda
 Plaut, Bernard & Eileen
 Podulka, Phillip & Frances
 Poole, Wally & Joan
 Prillaman, Arnold & Georgia
 Provence*, Robert & Rachel
 Reilly*, John & Glennis
 Richmond, Floyd & Miriam
 Thelma Warfield
 Ritchie, George & June
 Rockmuller, Sid & Hannah
 Romero, Cleveland & Henrietta
 Rose, Everett & Margo
 Roy, Herbert & Dorothy
 Rutka, Harold & Genevieve
 Sakal, Charles & Rose
 Santas*, Verne Jr. & Juanita
 Schoch, Frederick & Clara
 Schwartz, Robert & Laura
 Share, Jack & Marian
 Shee, Donald & Bonnie
 Shull, Paul & Pauline
 Simpson, Ronald & Martha
 Sivret, Frank & Alda
 Skinner*, Lawrence & Darlene
 Smith, George & Ruby
 Smith, James & Jane
 Smith, Jim & Chris
 Sothern, Bruce & Muggs
 Steiner, Alfred & Jean
 Stemen, Carl & Peg
 Stevens*, Jack
 Shelley Ruff, Sheri Stevens,
 Richard & Kathie Mattingly
 Stiver, David & Ethel
 Stufflebeam, Donald & Evelyn
 Sturdivan, Walter & Lois
 Stuthers, James & Kay
 Tavasti, Roy & Kate
 Taylor*, Jay & Louise
 Terry, Jack & Nellie
 Turko, Walter & Mary
 Vaughn, Robert & Helen
 Vincens, Hilton & Vicky
 Voss, Frederick & Blanche
 Walker, Oral
 Jim & Peggy
 Waltz, Fred & Rachel
 Wolstencroft, Sam & Arlene
 Wong, Joseph & Marilyn
 Wright, Robert & Esther
 Yockey, Charles
 Zeldes, Benjamin & Edith

* First Timers

REUNION '96 - LEISURE TIME



John Doronsky Entertaining as usual!



Peter Gaskin (UK) & Jim Martin



Fred & Rachel Waltz



Ralph & Bernice Peterson with Morton & Sheri Fiedler



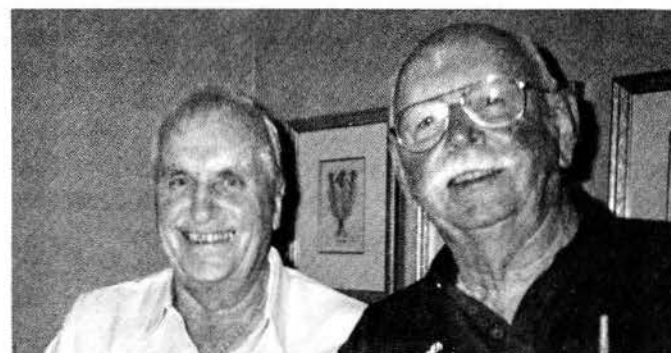
Ed Lonergan, Gerry Pine & Jim Martin



Enjoying the Hospitality Room, Raleigh



Wayne Howarter & Lawrence Babcock



Harold Rutka & Gerry Pine, The "Entertainment" Committee and Bartenders

REUNION '96 - LEISURE TIME



Waiting for the tour bus



On the tour bus



Jean & Ambers Hanson



The tour "Picnic" lunch on the lawn of the Museum



Michael & Marge Jacobbausk, Bryant & Myrtis Grimes and Peg & Bob Schwartz



Bob & Betty Lampey, Wally & Joan Poole and Peg Stemen



Harry & Marie Crawford, Marci Campbell, Ralph Lundeen & Willis Griffis



The Evans Crew - rear: James & Chris Smith, Charlotte & Ed Evans, Betty & Bill Cheek & Tommy & Betty Patrick - front: Bernard Plaut, Wally Green & Bernard Schwartz

REUNION '96 - LEISURE TIME



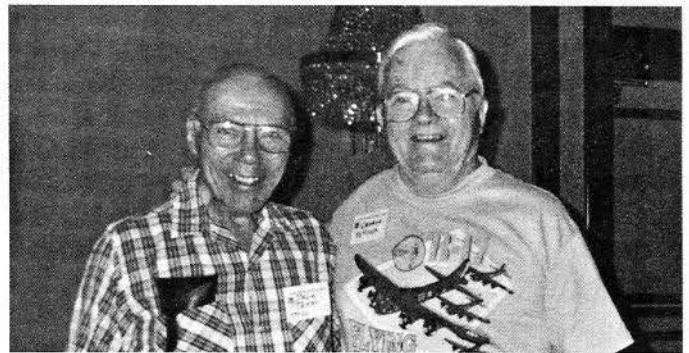
Golfers Edith & Gerald Kincaid with George & June Ritchie



Golfers John & Glennis Reilly with "B" and Ed Lonergan



Golfers Jim Clemins, Bob Wright, Roy Ballantyne & Bob Cole



Jack Terry & George Ritchie



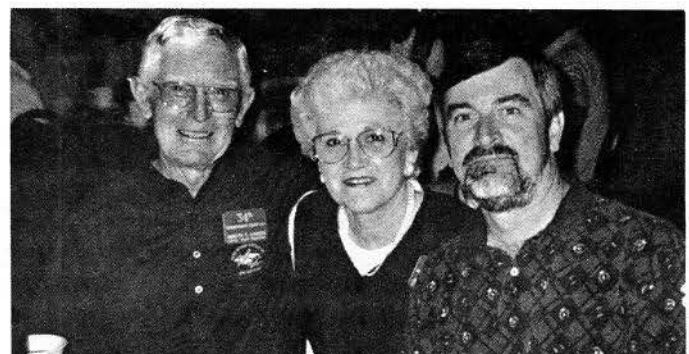
Golfers Paul Shull, Hilton Vincens, Ray Hinchee & Earl Maciel



Rose Baldea & Gwyneth Tweats of the U.K.



Golfers Hyman Chausow, Mort Fielder & Ralph Peterson



Ambers & Jean Hanson with son Scott

REUNION '96 - LEISURE TIME



Mary Frank with Sylvia & Peter Gaskin & Dale Frank



Earl Frank with Gen & Claude Conklin and Dale Frank



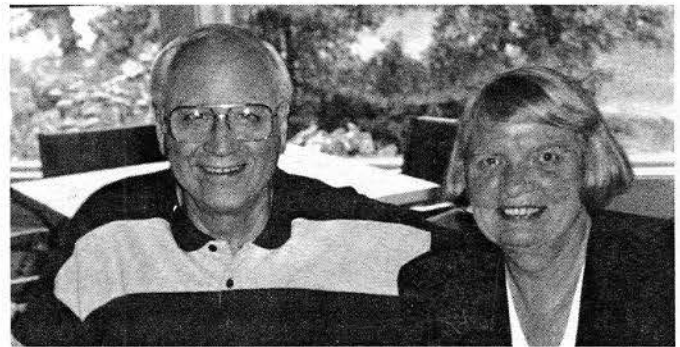
Betty Lampey, Peg Stemen, Marian Share & Joan Poole



Joseph & Estella Beall



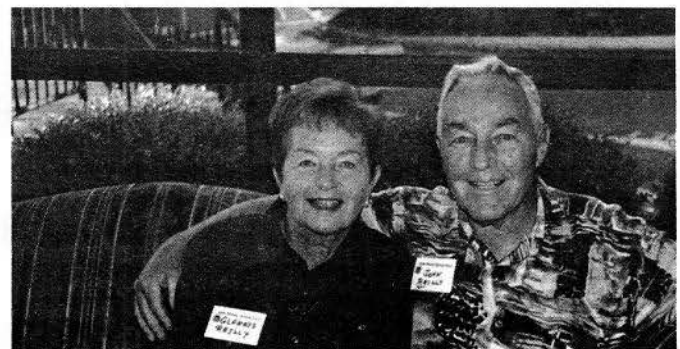
Val & Lois McClellan



Don & Bonnie Shee



Mary & Anthony Coutros

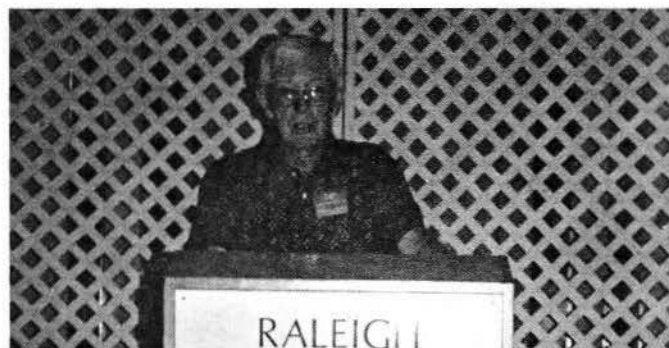


Glennis & John Reilly

REUNION '96 - THE MEETING



View of General Meeting



Pres. Ambers Hanson Addressing the group at the General Meeting

GALA BANQUET - HEAD TABLE



Bula & New President Raymond Palmer



Jean & outgoing President Ambers Hanson



Wallace & Doris Brauks



Jim & Betty Martin



Eli & Rose Baldea



Agnes & Al Israelson

REUNION '96 - GALA BANQUET



Fred & Clara Schoch, Gene & Helen James, Margo & Bill Burnell & H. Prillaman



Phyllis & Bob Gay and Hannah & Sid Rockmuller



Nellie Terry, Glenn & Vera Henry and Laverne Howarter



Marge Jacobbauski with Eloise & George Mongeon and John Northrup



Mary & Walter Turko, Joseph & Kay Marks, and Esther & Dale Frank



Betty Graves, Ralph Lundeen, Frank Bujalski & H.D. Bailey



Shirley & Bill Huber with Clarence & Rita Arand.
Rear: Scott Hanson



Rear: David & Ethel Stiver and Fred & Clara Schoch.
Front: Gene & Helen James, Margo & Bill Burnell and Arnold Prillaman

REUNION '96 - GALA BANQUET



Marie & Harry Crawford with Willis Griffis & Marci Campbell



Marcus Dieterle, Gerald & Edith Kincaid, Betty & John Feda and Robert Ham



Marci Campbell, Norm Mayer, Betty Graves & Ralph Lundeen



Table: Henrietta & Cleveland Romero, Peggy & Sam Wolstencroft and Tom Mullin. Rear: Darlene & Lawrence Skinner and Lois & Richard Edwards



Table: George Smith, Dale & Margie Finley, Fred & Blanche Voss, Glennis & John Reilly. Rear: Ruby Smith and Earl & Mary Frank



L. to R.: Joe & Marilyn Wong, Jack & Bernie Farley, Bob & Judy Goodnough, Tony & Mary Courtros and Charles and Lorraine Conway



Frt.: Rose Sakal, Muggs & Bruce Sothern & Margo Rose. Rear: Charles Sakal, John Doronsky, Frank & Alda Sivret & Everett Rose



Table: Mildred Newton, Peggy & Jim Walker, Oral Walker, Ron & Martha Simpson & Bill Browne. Rear: Tom Newton and Willie & Harry Perry

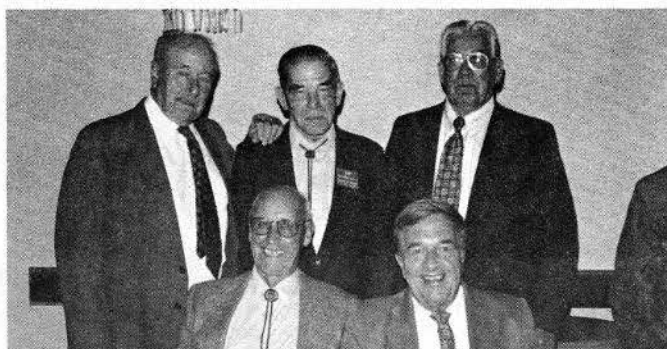
REUNION '96 - GALA BANQUET



Charles & Roberta Barclay, Bob Bice and Carroll & Sylvia Forster



Marcus Dieterle, John Feda, Gerald Kincaid & Robert Ham
All members of Feraro's Crew



Frt.: Bruce Sothern & John Doronsky. Rear: Frank Sivret, Charles Sakal & Everett Rose



Table: Harold & Gen Rutka, Wanda Pine, Esther & Bob Wright and Juanita & Ryle Griffin. Rear: Walter & Lois Sturdivan and Gerald Pine



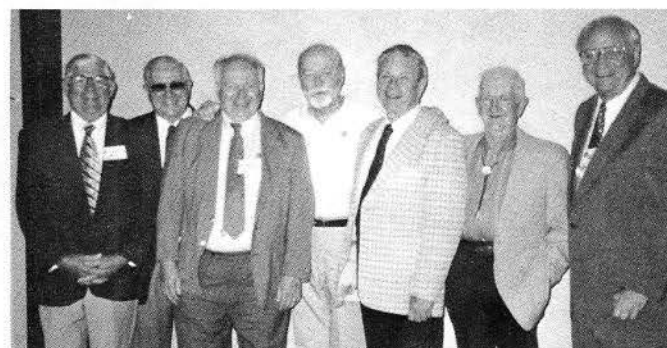
Table: Wally & Joan Poole, Peg & Carl Stemen, Carl & Imogene Freysinger and Bob Lampey. Rear: Betty Lampey, Marian & Jack Share



Paul & Pauline Shull, Bud & Lucille Babcock, Wayne & Laverne Howarter, Glenn & Vera Henry at the



Table: Rachel & Bob Provence, Meryl & Kenneth Horton, Elizabeth & John Donaldson and Bernice Peterson. Rear: Ralph Peterson, Sheri & Morton Fielder



The Jim Glass Crew - L. to R.: Herb Roy, Bob Yockey, Ben Zeldes, Fred Aldridge, Chuck Herget, Bill Hetherington and Don Shee

REUNION 1996

1. Betty & Tommy Patrick with
Wally Green



1

2. Abe & Ernestine Firestone



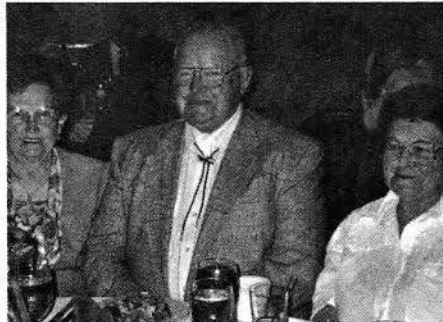
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3. William & Doreen Noullet

4. Shirley & Bill Huber

5. Pauline & Paul Shull

6. Miriam & Floyd B. Richmond



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7. Glenn & Vera Henry



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8. Lucille & Bud Babcock

9. Wayne & Laverne Howarter

10. Donald & Evelyn Stufflebeam

11. James A. Clemins



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12. James & Helen Brien

13. Sylvia & Peter Gaskin (Eng.)

14. Kitt & Dick Fry

15. Dale & Esther Frank

16. Bobbie & Lloyd Boreen with
Georgia Hatch

17. Audrey & Claude Gibbs

18. Wally & Joan Poole

19. Carl & Imogene Freysinger

20. Bob & Betty Lampey

21. Peg & Carl Stemen

22. Scott Hanson & Gerald Holmes

23. Bill & Betty Cheek

24. Ed & Charlotte Evans

25. Donna & Walter Jellum



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- GALA BANQUET



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REUNION 1996

1. Jack & Nellie Terry
2. Lavonne & John Lyons
3. Michael & Marge Jacobbauski
4. Bryant & Myrtis Grimes
5. Lucille & Kivett Ivey
6. Fred & Rachel Waltz
7. Claude & Audrey Gibbs
8. Earl & Helen Maciel
9. J. C. & Jane Smith
10. Bob & Dorothy Nendel
11. Herb & Dottie Roy
12. Mildred & Roy Ballantyne
13. Ken & Kathleen Paxton
14. Ted & Mary Jane Bacalis
15. Ginny & Bob Cole
16. Tom & Madeline Belleau
17. Eloise & George Mongeon
18. "Toots" & Bill Hetherington
19. Edith & Ben Zeldes
20. Eileen & Chuck Herget
21. Best Friends - Bruce Sothern & John Doronsky
22. Margaret & John Northrup
23. Dexter & Beulah Jordan with Herbert Hall
24. Bill Brown with Bernie & Jack Farley
25. Gerald & Marie Holmes



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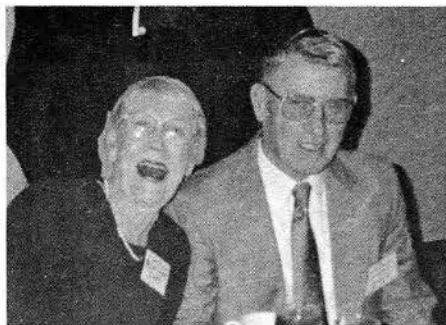
- GALA BANQUET



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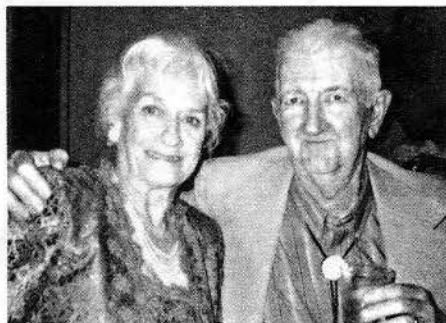
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REUNION 1996

1. Peter & Sylvia Gaskin with
Jack & Marian Share

2. Clarence & Rita Arand "First Timers"

3. Holcomb & Jean Bailey with
Marie & Harry Crawford

4. Al & Jean Steiner

5. Bill & Shirley Huber

6. Cathy (Daughter) with Bernard &
Eileen Plaut

7. Oral Walker

8. J.C. & Jane Smith with Twyla &
Paul Meeder

9. Marci Campbell, Norman Mayer,
Betty Graves & Ralph Lundeen

10. Loretta & David Ashley with
daughter Joyce Tennie Allen

11. Kate & Roy Tavasti with
Ruby & Walt McAllister

12. James & Chris Smith

13. Arnold Prillaman & son, Harry and
Bill Burnell

14. David & Ethel Stiver

15. Dan & Elizabeth Hardee

16. Margaret & Jim Hinchee

17. John & Ethel Leath

18. Hilton & Vicky Vincens

19. Jean Bailey with Marie & Harry Crawford

20. Betty & Verbal Holcomb

21. Ambers & Jean Hanson

22. Bobbie & Lloyd Boreen with
Charles Attridge

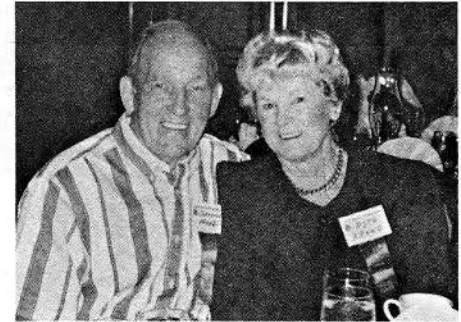
23. Leonard & Helen Bess

24. Millie & Vernon Ames
(Their 50th Wedding Anniversary)

25. Kay & Jim Stuthers with Marcus Dieterle
M.M. Page 20



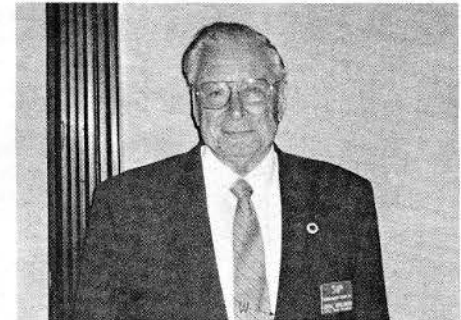
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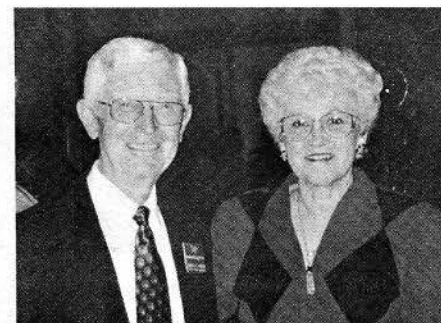
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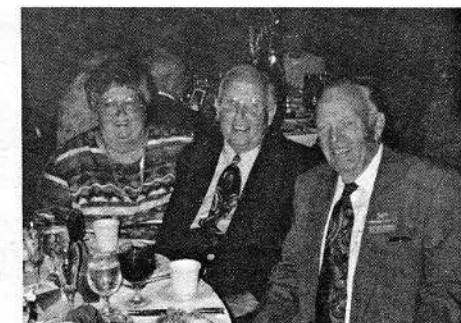
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- GALA BANQUET



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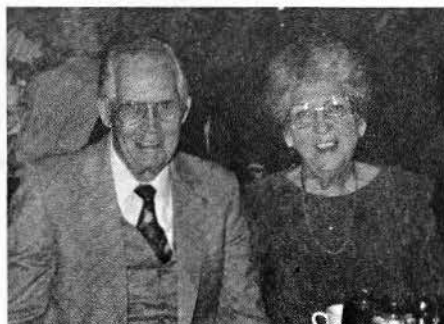
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ROSE'S CORNER

"Well done!" is what I can say about our reunion! First of all, the situation which I shall forever remember was eating, out of our brown paper bag, a lunch while sitting on the curb near the art museum and watching the ants trying to get at my sandwich faster than hungry me! The most unforgettable was trying to stand from the almost reclining position on that very low curb, trying to look as though I was still 23 and very able! Thanks to the two handsome men who gave me a hand up! Also, many thanks to Mrs. Smith who gave me a pair of sunglasses which enabled me to see again. That North Carolina sun was blinding!

Secondly, we were very impressed to see the large number of "First Timers" and felt the poignancy of your meeting again your crew after all these years!! What joy to relive the many good and bad close calls! It is sad to be a "First Timer" because it took so long to become one. Right? Thanks to the hi-tech and Hal Province's computer, we finally meet! Among the newly-met, we had a real pleasure to meet Betty Patrick, who is a very pretty lady and lives in Terre Haute, Indiana, where our eldest grandson attends Indiana State University. I told her that when we visit him I would call her for a recipe she told me about. Lo and behold, Betty sent it to me immediately upon arriving home. Great! I'm sharing it with you all so here it is:

PEANUT BUTTER RICE KRISPIES

Combine 1 cup of light Karo syrup, 1 cup of sugar and 1/2 stick of Oleo and cook until dissolved. Remove from heat and add 2 cups of peanut butter and 4-1/2 cups of Rice Krispies. Mix well and spread in a 9x13 pan.

ICING

Cook until dissolved 1/2 stick of oleo and 1/4 cup of brown sugar. Remove from heat and add 1 tablespoon of milk, 1/2 teaspoon of vanilla and 1-1/4 cups of powdered sugar. Mix well and spread over the top of the above mixture. Cool and cut.

Betty writes: This is a fabulous recipe all ages thoroughly enjoy!

Thank you very much, Betty. I received several other real good dishes which will go into future issues including Bread Pudding, a Black Bean Salsa and a Tomato Pie.

Omaha, Nebraska looks good to me. Make your plans! To "First Timers" - The second reunion you attend is even more fun than the first! I must stop for now.

May God's blessings be bountiful for you and your families.

Love, Rose

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

From the Department of History at Wartburg College we have the following:

For a project tracing aircraft with nicknames that have Iowa ties, I would like to contact people with knowledge of a 34th Bomb Group B-24 names "SWEET SIOUX." Please contact Dr. Terrence J. Lindell, Department of History, Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa 50677 - Phone number is : (319) 352-8344; e-mail: lindell@wartburg.edu

Frank McCullough sends in the following regarding the D.F.C. medals:

Since the article concerning the Distinguished Flying Cross medal appeared in the MM in December '95, I have received many letters and phone calls from members of the 34th B.G. who failed to receive the D.F.C. after they completed their missions.

After pursuing the subject, with the help of Gen. Bill Creer, and contact with H.Q.A.F.P.C., Decorations and Awards, 550 C Street West STE. 12, Randolph A.F.B., TX., 78150-4714, it narrows down to the fact that, "We were only doing what we were assigned to do." I assume anything "above and beyond" a routine mission would have been documented at the time and recommended for the D.F.C.

Rather than to write or call all the members who have contacted me, I would like a few lines inserted in the next issue of MM to let them know the results of my inquiries. I'm sorry we weren't successful in this endeavor - perhaps their Congressmen may come up with something. If this happens would they please contact me?

If any member of the 34th has received the D.F.C. and has a copy of the A.F. directive or something that qualifies him for the medal after completing his required tour of duty missions, I would appreciate receiving a copy as I will write the President in Washington, D.C.

(Ed. Note: Since we got the above letter we have received from Gen. Creer information regarding recommendations for the D.F.C. medal. Each recommendation package will need a one-page narrative and proposed citation, with the cover letter signed by the person in the chain of command making the recommendation, and endorsed by the next higher official in the chain of command. Also, in the cover letter or endorsement, an explanation needs to be given as to why over 50 years have passed before the recommendation has been submitted. The narrative should only cover the date(s), complete I.D. (name), then rank, Service Number, unit/major command of assignment, and description of the act, accomplishment or service performed.

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

Continued from Page 22

We have also been informed of the following:

"RECYCLE YOUR GLASSES". An old pair of prescription glasses can still be used to indigent people in the United States and other countries, such as Mexico, Nigeria, Brazil and the Ukraine. To make a donation, send the used glasses to "New Eyes For The Needy," 549 Millburn Avenue, Dept. P, Short Hills, NJ. 07078. Include your name and address for notification that your tax-deductible contribution has been received.

In a letter from Hal Province we have the following:

An unusual event has taken place at the Raleigh reunion. The nine men of the Evans Schwartz crew have survived the 51 years since the crew was disassembled in 1945 and the young men returned to their particular part of the country to resume lives so interrupted by the hostilities against Germany. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday the nine men reassembled at the reunion for the "First Time" since the crew was disassembled in 1945! It is extremely rare that an entire crew has survived to this point in time and, even more amazing, the men are able to gather once again in Raleigh to renew their acquaintance, one with another. At their ages in life infirmities have taken over and many of our men are unable to travel because of these infirmities.

Walter Sturdivan has sent in the following:

I'm endeavoring to document all our bomber losses, both B-24s and B-17s. I don't expect to find all the information about every plane loss but, with the help of our members, perhaps we can get a picture of what happened in most of the cases where our planes were lost in combat or combat-related accidents or crashes, both in Britain or on the Continent. Walter has a form which he would like filled out with the information needed. If you are interested in participating in this project write to: Walter W. Sturdivan, 5901 N. El Dorado St., Stockton, CA. 95207. I'm sure it will be much appreciated.

From the Robert Henderson Studios of Canon City, Co. we have the following:

A B-17 Bronze memorial sculpture will be dedicated at the USAF Academy, Colorado Springs, CO. at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, August 22, 1997. The monumental bronze replica of the famous aircraft will join four other Warbirds already in place at the Academy, including a P-38, P-40, P-47 and P-51. For more information regarding the dedication phone (800) 305-1738.



Crew of Pilot W.O. Hatley - L. to R. - J.W. Prokop, J.H. Wagner on H.M. Morris' shoulders, M.K. David & J. Mancuso.

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

DEADLINE

Any material or items to be inserted in the March issue of Mendlesham Memories should reach me on or before Jan. 24, 1997. That is the date our final copy will be presented to the printers.

Ell Baldea, Editor



JOSEPH BOBROWICZ - Philadelphia, PA.

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter regarding the 34th Bomb Group (H) Association's search for those who had served with this group. Indeed, I am one of those! I arrived with my crew at Station 156 in Mendlesham, England, the 34th Bombardment Group (H), 18th Sqdn. on November 27, 1944.

I flew my first combat mission as a replacement tail gunner on Dec. 24, 1944 and, thereafter, completed 35 missions with my regular crew. We flew our last mission on March 27, 1945, completing our tour of duty and were sent back to the States.

JOHN & LENORA WOOTEN - Adalanto, CA.

We both look forward to getting the Mendlesham Memories each time and cannot put it down until we have read all of it. Each of you are doing a wonderful job. Keep it up. You are appreciated.

MARY McCUE - Mobile, AL.

This is to inform you of the passing of my husband, John C. McCue, on August 23, 1996. He died at home of cancer, sixteen days after our 50th anniversary. I not only lost my husband but my best friend. We both enjoyed the reunion in Huntsville.

JUNIUS COBB - Union Hall, VA.

Just a short note to say how much we enjoyed the reunion in Raleigh. It is always such a pleasure to see old friends and relive old times. I only had to drive about 150 miles this year. That really made it nice.

I especially enjoyed the Saturday night gala. The recognition given to the ground crewmen, the number present from the same flight crews and the number present who were prisoners of war was really great.

If any of you had success with your video cameras at the dance portion of the night I would like to buy a copy from you. Mine did not turn out. The lighting was not good and even my flash pictures were dark. We're looking forward to the reunion at Omaha, Neb. next year.

CHARLOTTE POTAK - Hicksville, NY.

Please sound "TAPS" for my husband, Walter Potak, who died on August 15, 1996. One of the pleasures he savored during his long illness was receiving the "Mendlesham Memories" and reliving his youthful, purposeful days. He loved his country, his unit and his friends. Several years ago, while in England, he made it a point to visit the site of the Memorial where he spent time remembering his old friends and comrades in arms.

May you all enjoy your upcoming reunion. Walt will be there in spirit.

HERBERT MERMELSTEIN - Akron, OH.

It has been a long time since I have corresponded with you but, since 1994, I have been pre-occupied with other family matters. Our son was diagnosed with cancer. It was the most critical type of melanoma with metastases to the lumbar vertebra. All our time was spent with him up to the very last. He left us February 6th of this year. He was only 38 years old, so young. His whole life was still ahead of him. He was an Executive Chef at an up-scale Senior Citizen's Retirement complex. The people just loved him and he didn't want the residents to know how bad he was. He worked up to four months before he died. The last couple of months he spent in a wheel chair and he said, "If this is it, so be it!" He could still get around in his kitchen. He lived in Minneapolis at that time with his wife and he wanted to come back to Akron for the burial so, now my wife, Miriam, and I are trying to get our lives back together.

I didn't mean to go on but I thought that I should explain my absenteeism. They say that the best thing to do is to keep busy, which we are doing.

DON FILLMAN - West Des Moines, IA.

Tomorrow I am going into the hospital and will have replacement surgery for my right knee. It's not known if we can get to Raleigh this year - probably not. The other knee will be done, hopefully, late in 1996. Many thanks to all of you for what you do for the Assn.

FRED BERGLUND - Wahkon, MN.

Hazel and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in Minnesota last July 3rd, 1995. We had all the family together, which was wonderful.

RUTH KIMBAL - Littleton, MA.

I received a letter from Hal Province searching for Russell Kimbal. This is his wife, Ruth. Russell died in 1993 in January. He was the man you were looking for - he was in the 34th Bomb Group of the 8th Air Force. He had been a building contractor for years, but he had quite a bit of sickness. I am sure most of it was war-related. He ended up with M.S. and a bad back which he had all of his life after service. He ended up with plastic veins.

We had one boy and three girls. Yesterday I was in the attic and his Air Force uniform was in a trunk, just like new.

NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Continued from Page 24

FRANCIS W. GIBSON - Shiloh, GA.

I received your letter regarding my serving with the 34th Bomb Group of the 8th Air Force in Mendlesham, England in WWII. Please send me the additional information about the association.

ALFRED P. BERNARDO - New Cumberland, PA.

On August 22nd Doris and I went to the Capital City airport to see a B-17 which had flown in for five days of exhibition. I was talking to one of the crew members and I told him that I flew 17 missions in the B-24 and completed my last 13 missions in the B-17.

Then Doris and I walked around the aircraft looking it over when two young men (about 40) came up to me and said, "Sir, I would like to shake your hand. You fellows did a helluva job!". I was quite surprised but if I had been wearing my Air Corps. cap I don't think it would have fit me because my head must have swelled 2 inches. It was a good feeling knowing there are still people around who appreciate what we did.

EDWARD E. ZESCH - Banning, CA.

Delores and I renewed our marriage vows in honor of our 50th wedding anniversary at a double-ring ceremony and reception. The event was hosted by our two daughters and their families. Our daughters served as matrons of honor and their husbands as the best men. Two of our grandsons served as ringbearer and video camera-man and another gave the bride away. Our granddaughter was the flower girl.

In attendance were my sister from Florida and 50 close friends and relatives. My sister was present at the original wedding, which was on July 19, 1946, following my service in the Air Force.

WALTER STURDIVAN - Stockton, CA.

I have received considerable response to my request for information on lost planes and crews during the time the 34th B.G. was in England. I have sent out a number of questionnaires and I want to thank all the members who have responded. As usually happens, it has developed into something a little larger than I had first envisioned. I want to include some experiences of the crew members who lost planes for whatever reason. Also, any planes that made it back to England or to friendly territory after damage will be of interest. I will return any pictures sent to me if requested. Come on, fellows, let's make something that will be of interest to all of us. I plan to make it available to all as reasonable as possible.

JOHN J. FEDA - Marshall, MN.

We were very pleased with the recent reunion in Raleigh. It was especially joyful because our flight engineer, Robert Ham, attended for the first time. I enjoy Mendlesham Memories very much, thanks to your good work.

LANCE ANDERSON - Grand Prairie, TX. (Assoc. Mbr.)

This photo is of Dick Atkins (pres.-elect of the No. Texas 8 AFHS Chapter) presenting a model of a B-17G painted in 34th B.G. colors to Gen. Buck Schuller at the Mighty Eighth Heritage Museum. My son, Andrew, and I made the B-17, name "Gotta Haver", and a B-24 named "Tommy Thumper II" for the 34th B.G. display case discussed in earlier MM. Dick was going to the museum just before the official Grand Opening in May and agreed to deliver them for me.



Oh, by the way - Mom is at home now recovering from a quadruple bypass operation on 7-14-96. Her recovery may preclude them from attending the reunion this year.

JOE EDWARDS - Hickory, NC.

Verna and I took in the new 8th AF Museum in Savannah. It was very nice. For me the outstanding item was a film of a mission enhanced with flashes and sounds of exploding bombs and flak. The narrator was a volunteer from the 34th, Jack Clarkson. He was excited because I was the first from the 34th that he had seen.

I want to thank you for the great job you have done on Mendlesham Memories. Thanks a million!

HARRY CRAWFORD - Leesburg, FL.

Congrats to all who were involved in the 1996 reunion. It was great! I'm enclosing some pictures taken at the banquet. Unfortunately one of my shots did not develop or did not take at all. The missing people were "First Timers" and I would hate to have them think that we ignored them. Their names were Jean & Holcomb Bailey and Francis Bujalski. Please offer my apologies in the newsletter. Norm Mayer also took pictures at our table. Perhaps he may have got them.

Continued on Page 26

M.M. Page 25

NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Continued from Page 25

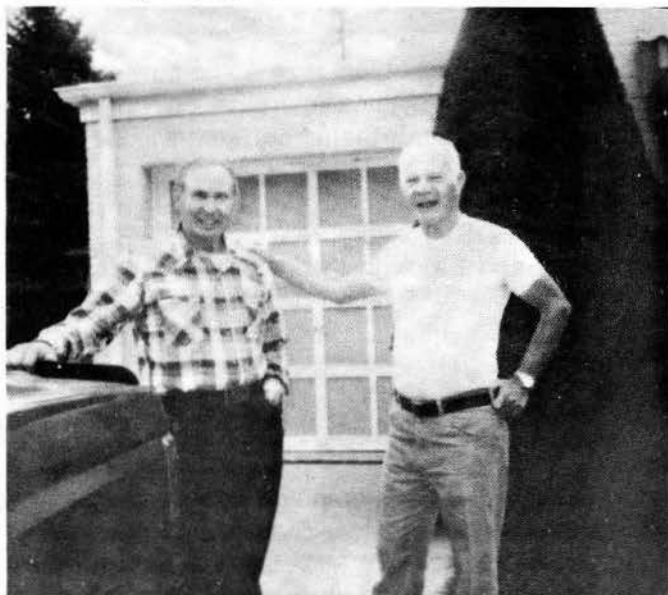
WELDON K. BURNS - Plano, TX.

You are probably unaware that our Crew 44 was unique in so many ways. We were among the original crews selected at Blythe. We flew the first mission and the last B-24 mission. We flew the first B-17 mission and flew most of our missions together. We never had an injury of any kind. Our pilot was among the first, if not the first, to earn the D.F.C. for his bringing the plane back on June 7th.

I hope to be in contact with what remains of the crew to obtain some details of their life prior to and after "Crew 44". Nine of the original ten were still alive fifty years later. Holtz, our gunner, died in November or December of 1994. The last word we had about Clayton Harris, our pilot, was that he was still in the service in 1955.

JAMES "CHIP" SPENCER - Carsonville, MI.

A mini reunion was held on August 19th between two crew members who hadn't seen each other in 52 years. I went to visit my friend, Robert J. Filip, at LaGrange Park, IL. We had so much to talk about since we had seen each other. Bob finished his missions and went home on a boat with some POW's who had been held in Germany. I did three more missions and came back on the "Queen Elizabeth". I've enclosed a picture of us at our meeting in August.



James "Chip" Spenser and Robert J. Filip

EDWARD J. LONERGAN - Fort Myers, FL.

Enclosed are the pictures of all those who played golf at the Raleigh reunion. It was a beautiful day and the course was in good shape, even though hurricane Fran had blown away hundreds of trees. Please extend our thanks to the reunion committee for all they did to make the reunion a memorable success. Gerry Pine and his crew did a fine job. We're looking forward to Omaha in '97.

M.M. Page 26

GEORGE RITCHIE - Swansboro, NC.

Four members of the 7th Sqdn. living on the east coast of No. Carolina held a mini-reunion at the Star Hill Golf Course in Cape Carteret, NC. - Bill Jones, Bill Gombos, George Ritchie and Hal O'Madion.



Bill Jones, Bill Gombos, George Ritchie, Hal O'Madion

CARWIN A. BAXTER - Lakeland, FL.

I want to thank you for the good job you do on Mendlesham Memories. I read it from cover to cover. We also enjoyed the reunion in Raleigh, NC. I want to thank the reunion committee for their good work in making all the arrangements. We're hoping to attend the 1997 reunion in Omaha.

LAWRENCE SKINNER - Eau Claire, MI.

We were at the reunion in Raleigh for our first time. What a delightful time and we met so many wonderful people. We will plan on attending again next year. It's too bad so many years went by that we didn't hear of the activities of the 34th Bomb Group. Thank you.

JAMES STUTHERS - Venice, FL.

My wife, Kay, and myself sure enjoyed Raleigh reunion this year. This was my fourth reunion and each one seems better than the one before, of course. I'm certain it's because I feel more comfortable with each one as I get to know you all better. I really enjoy my association with all of the 34th members as we toast and tell stories and rekindle our memories of Mendlesham in the hospitality room each evening. It was even better this year. John Doronsky's entertainment with the accordion and his singing made the evenings most enjoyable.

In closing, I must say that each year my association with the 34th becomes more enjoyable and, God willing, Kay and I will be in Omaha next year.

Continued on Page 27

NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Continued from Page 26

ALAN KEECH - Edinburgh, Scotland

I regret having to inform you that my father, G. F. Keach, died on April 10, 1996 at the age of 101-3/12 years. The funeral was well attended by family, friends and representatives of the Royal Air Force and The Royal Scots, his army regiment from the first world war.

He always enjoyed "Mendlesham Memories" and letters exchanged with Sam Turnipseed, his old friend from those days.

I wish you and all the veterans of the 34th good health and happiness for the future and thank you for the relative peace I have enjoyed for the last 50 years as a result of your sacrifices.

DONALD I. SHEE - Downers Grove, IL.

I have enclosed a donation to the Ray L. Summa Scholarship Fund in memory of James W. Prokop who died on September 26th in his home at Naperville, IL. I knew Jim during our high school days before either of us thought much about becoming members of the U.S. army Air Corps. We went into the service at different times and took training at different places around the country. Our occasional letters to one another were almost always delayed due to the fact that they had to be forwarded to the next base on our tour of duty. You can imagine our surprise when we both ended up in the 34th Bomb Group, the same squadron and lived in the same hut! It never could have happened if we had planned it that way!

PAUL SHULL - Raytown, MO.

Our reunion of Raleigh, NC., 1996, is over and, as usual, was a special time for Pauline and myself. Our P.X. facilities, arranged by the reunion committee, were very good and made our work much easier. Again, THANKS! to our willing P.X. helpers - Bud and Lucille Babcock, Marge Finley, and Laverne and Wayne Howarter. We much appreciated all your help in making the P.X. fun and another great year. And last, but not least, it was great seeing so many "First Timers" and visiting with all the "Ole Timers". Thanks for stopping in the P.X. We still have a good inventory of merchandise, so keep sending in your orders.

THOMAS E. PATRICK - Terre Haute, IN.

Well, after 30 missions and 51 years - I had almost put my war memories away. However, due to Bill Cheek and James Smith (Smitty), I decided to attend at 34th Bomb Group reunion. I'm sure glad I did. To see the crew again and to hear some of their stories was an event I'll always remember. To see Plaut, Cheek, Smitty, Schwartz, Jellum and Evans was the highlight of the reunion. To meet Wally Green, the bombardier from the original crew, was a real pleasure. I enjoyed our talk together at the dinner table. Betty says "Hello" to all the wives and we hope to see you all again.

ALFRED N. STEINER - Basking Ridge, NJ.

It was certainly a pleasure to see you all again at the 34th reunion. This was my third and my wife, Jean's, second. We both felt this was the most cordial of all. The facilities were excellent and the hospitality exceptional.

We don't plan to make either the Omaha or Boise reunions but hope for one in Savannah.

ROBERT H. WRIGHT - South Bend, IN.

We got home Monday after the reunion and I went in Wednesday for catheterization. My aortic valve was almost closed. Had surgery on Oct. 1st and came home on Oct. 6th. I'm getting along fine and am on an exercise program now. My chest is sore from being split open but it should heal in six weeks and I'll be back on duty.

WILLIAM F. CHEEK - Lakeland, FL.

It was good seeing everyone in Raleigh. Betty and I enjoyed the reunion and seeing members of my crew after so many years. We had eight of the nine in attendance. Most of us had not seen one another since we were split up in England in 1945. Fifty-one years is a long time. Our ninth crew member was unable, at the last minute, to make the reunion due to illness.

DALE FRANK - Winterset, IA.

Another great reunion! We sure wish to express our appreciation and thanks to the planning committee. We're now looking forward to next year.

BEVERLY STEARNS - Cleveland, OH. (Guest of John Doronsky)

What a pleasure it was again for me to attend your 34th B.G. reunion in Raleigh - to renew previous friendships and meet some new people. The lunch on the curbstone at the Art Museum was "unforgettable".

We want to wish "Happy Holidays" to all and are looking forward to seeing everyone at the Red Lion in Omaha next year. John sends his regards.

VERNE SANTAS - Concord, NH.

My wife, Juanita, and I were "first Timers" at the Raleigh reunion in September and really enjoyed the three days with so many who made us a part of the 34th "family". We look forward to hearing from new friends and seeing them again next year in Omaha. Our thanks to the reunion committee and all who made this a memorable time together.

BETTY (BOB) LAMPEY - Aurora, OH.

Bob and I had a great time at the reunion and enjoyed renewing old friendships and making new ones.

MARY JANE (BRONISLAW) KONOPNICKI - Hampton, VA.

I received the notification about the 34th B.G. reunion. My husband died on 18th Oct., 1988 and is buried in Arlington. So, you best add his name to the TAPS roster.

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NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Continued from page 27

JACK TERRY - La Crescenta, CA.

I'm sorry these pictures are getting there at the last minute. After the reunion Nellie and I drove to New Jersey and spent a week getting better acquainted with my brother's descendents. We also were able to visit some cousins and acquaintances of long standing.

The last day in New Jersey Nellie developed a cold and I got mine on the flight home. Nellie's hung on and the doctor called it bronchitis, with a touch of pneumonia, and it is nearly cured by now.

CHARLES ATTRIDGE - Westminster, CA.

It was another great get-together with all the good people of the group. My pleasure, however, was dampened because of the absence of my wife, Evalyn, who passed away in July. She looked forward so much for the chance to see again the people she already knew and for the opportunity to meet some of the people she had yet to meet.

I would like to again express my thanks for all of the expressions of sympathy and concern that I received from all who knew or heard about Evalyn. I certainly plan to see you all again in Omaha next year.

CLAUDE GIBBS - Catawissa, MO.

We thoroughly enjoyed the reunion and must compliment the committee for the outstanding work they do. The Mendlesham Memories is something we all look forward to and is a real joy to read front to back. I know it has to be a tremendous job and it is done in fine fashion. We're looking forward to Omaha and hope to see everyone there.

ROBERT COLE - South Bend, IN.

Another great reunion - thanks to the committee members, officers and board members. It was great to renew old acquaintances and make new ones. The accommodations were great and the golf outing was fun, thanks to Ed and Birgit Loneragan. I was really amazed at all the storm damage in the area. A real shame. See you in Omaha.

CARROLL E. FORISTER - St. Louis, MO.

Thanks for all the hard and dedicated work you do on our behalf. As usual we had a great time at the reunion and ended up in Savannah, GA. The 8th A.F. Heritage Museum is wonderful. All should go to see it.

FRED SCHOCH - Spokane, WA.

We're finally getting back into our Pacific time. Our stay on the east coast gave us a three hour time difference. Our fall is upon us now with the trees turning colors. The snow level was reported at 4500 ft. in the mountains around here.

The reunion went so fast and the time to visit and meet old friends passed too quickly. I am enclosing a few

M.M. Page 28

photos for MM. Your time and work for the group is most appreciated. We missed Hal and Jan Province and hope he is on the road to recovery.

IMOGENE (CARL) FREYSINGER - Cable, OH.

Another great reunion, thanks to all the people who work so hard so all of the 34th can enjoy themselves. The object of the reunion is not to have a great city tour, or a perfect meal, but to get together with all of our many friends and relive the years when all the brave young men gave so much for their country. No matter what religion or beliefs we all have, we are one big happy family for a few days.

It was so nice to meet all the new members. We welcome you. Thanks to all of you for having enough confidence in Carl to elect him to the Board of Directors. We're looking forward to Omaha. See all of you there!

BRUCE SOTHERN - Minneapolis, MN.

Another great reunion! Some things our reunion committee has no control over. However, they are to be commended for another good job - Well Done! Every now and then one of the engines malfunctions but the three of them, along with their wives, always seem to have a proper solution - whether a little oil or grease or a new spark plug - and all four engines are fine tuned and in the air again. I have no doubt in my mind that Omaha will turn out to be every bit as good, if not better, than Raleigh. I'm happy to be a member of the great 34th B.G. Assn.

MARGO (BILL) BURNELL - Kirkland, WA.

Guess all went well for the reunion (except for the terrible "so-called tour") We will now look forward to Omaha, then closer to home in '98 at Boise. After the reunion we had another great three days at Hogs Head at the Prillaman's son's cottage on the Atlantic.



Howard Sumner and Joe Warren Wright at Jack Dempsey's Bar in New York just before being shipped out to England

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

(As of 10-18-96)

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>ORG.</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>ZIPCODE</u>
ANDERSON	JULIE	391A	250 WALNUT STREET	FRAMINGHAM,	MA.	01701
ANDERSON	MAURICE		17635 43RD AVENUE NORTH	PLYMOUTH,	MN.	55446
BAILEY	HOLCOMB D.	18	202 DORMAN STREET	HARRINGTON,	DE.	19953
CAMPBELL	THOMAS J.	4LM	301A HERITAGE VILLAGE	SOUTHBURY,	CT.	06488
CULVER	DOUGLAS E.	391	1840 N. PROSPECT AVENUE	MILWAUKEE,	WI.	53202
HYLER	ROBERT D.	4LM	8301 N. 103RD AVE. LOT 23	PEORIA,	AZ.	85345
LARMORE	CHARLES W.	HDQ.LM	720 E. DUSTMAN RD. #159	BLUFFTON,	IN.	46714
LOGAN	WILLIAM C.	7/18	332 SUTHERLAND PLACE	MANITOU SPRINGS,	CO.	80829
SCHMIDT	HARROLD C.	7	P.O. BOX 720868	HOUSTON,	TX.	77272
SCHWARTZ	ROBERT H.	7	14039 MENDON ROAD	VAN WERT,	OH.	45891
SMITH	BIRNA R.	MED.	1820 S. CRAWFORD, D-4	MT. PLEASANT,	MI.	48858
STARR	JOHN J.		5655 GULF OF MEX.DR.,APT.D107	LONGBOAT KEY,	FL.	34228
ULAM	KENNETH	7LM	200 NORTH DALE AVENUE #211	ANAHEIM,	CA.	92801
UNDERWOOD	LAWRENCE D.	4	301 BOWLING GREEN DRIVE	MONTGOMERY,	AL.	36109
WILSON	LLOYD E.	1276MP	44380 REDTAIL HAWK LANE	LEONARDTOWN,	MD.	20650
WITTE	JOHN	452B6	2520 BOSTON PIKE	RICHMOND,	IN.	47374

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

9342 As of 10/12/96

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>ORGN.</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>ZIPCODE</u>
FILLMAN	DONALD K.	18LM	2625 VINE STREET, APT. 414	WEST DES MOINES,	IA.	50265
FOSTER	JOHN R.	4-18LM	12014 HEIBER COURT	RICHMOND,	VA.	23233

NEWLY FOUND

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>ORGN.</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>ZIPCODE</u>
BOBROWICZ	JOSEPH R.	18	2312 SPRUCE STREET	PHILADELPHIA,	PA.	19103
GIBSON	FRANCIS W.		R.R.1, BOX 47A	SHILOH,	GA.	31826
IWAMOTO	GEORGE G.	391	626 CORAL STREET #1820	HONOLULU,	HI.	96813
KIMBALL	RUSSELL		BOX 342, 44 GOLDSMITH STREET	LITTLETON,	MA.	
NORTON	JOHN J.	4WP	522 PARK AVENUE	NEWBURGH,	NY.	12550
SANTAS	VERNE F. JR.	4WP	1 JUNIPER LANE	CONCORD,	NH.	03301



TAPS

TAPS

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORGN.	STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIPCODE	DIED
BLACK	WILLIAM B.	7	421 SO. COURT	TIPTONVILLE,	TN.	38079	?????
KEECH	G. F.	F.O.T.E.	25 CAMMO ROAD	EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND			04-10-96
KIMBALL	RUSSELL		BOX 342, 44 GOLDSMITH ST.	LITTLETON,	MA.		JAN., 1943
KONOPNICKI	BRONISLOW			HAMPTON,	VA.		10-18-88
LATTEN	CLIFFORD M		3090 LANDMARK, APT. 1901	PALM CITY,	FL.	34684	07-27-85
McCUE	JOHN C.		211 GRAND BLVD.	MOBILE,	AL.	36607	08-23-96
POTAK	WALTER	7	105 SPINDLE ROAD	HICKSVILLE,	NY.	11801	08-15-96
PROKOP	JAMES W.	18	84 FLICKER COURT	NAPERVILLE,	IL.	60565	09-26-96
ROSCHER	PAUL E.	7	30 STURBRIDGE LANE	GREENSBORO,	NC.	27408	JAN., 1996
TRAPANI	JOSEPH V.	7	1900 TIERRA VISTA DR. UNIT 101	LAS VEGAS,	NV.	89128	05-05-96

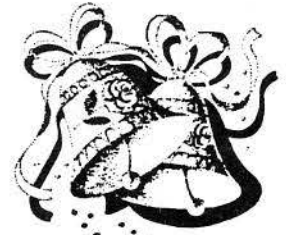
DONATIONS TO RAY L. SUMMA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	IN HONOR/MEMORY OF
DEMKO	JOHN	BYRON SHEESLEY
GROSS	ROBERT	GRADY DEATHERIDGE
HANSON	AMBERS E.	JAMES L. HIBBERT & FRED D. McGOWAN
SHEE	DONALD I.	JAMES W. PROKOP
STEINER	ROBERT L.	MICHAEL DERENGE & JAMES LANGDON



50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

(Congratulations to these brides and grooms!!)



MARRIED	LAST NAME	FIRST NAMES	STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIPCODE
39-06-17	DAVIS	ROBERT & ZOE	98 SCENIC DRIVE SE.	HUNTSVILLE,	AL.	35801
40-12-14	CASSELL	ALBERT & LUCILLE	2194 INDIANA AVENUE	COLUMBUS,	OH.	43201
41-12-13	ICE	WILLIAM & EILEEN	1663 GARRETT'S PRAIRIE RD.	WEST FRANKFORT,	IL.	62896
42-07-05	WEESE	RUSSELL & RHEA	2995 EASTHAVEN COURT, SO.	COLUMBUS,	OH.	43232
42-11-21	GRAVES	HARRY & DELLA	EAST 14410 10TH AVENUE	VERADALE,	WA.	99037
43-03-19	MYERS	RAYMOND D. & THERESA	1980 SHERIDAN DRIVE	ORANGEBURG,	SC.	29115
43-07-14	GROSS	ROBERT & CYNTHIA	34 IRONWOOD ROAD	WEST HARTFORD,	CT.	06117
43-12-09	SACHERMAN	LEE & MARY ANN	21801 BURBANK BLVD. #89	WOODLAND HILLS,	CA.	91367
44-02-12	DANIELS	COURTNEY & MARION	3393 SO. OAKWOOD STREET	SALT LAKE CITY,	UT.	84109
45-02-10	NORTON	JOHN & ???	522 PARK AVENUE	NEWBURGH,	NY.	12550
45-07-03	BERGLUND	FRED & HAZEL	RT. 1, BOX 36-7	WAKON,	MN.	56386
45-07-05	WRIGHT	JOE WARREN & JEAN	39 CROWNPOINTE DRIVE	JACKSON,	MS.	39211
45-07-25	NOULLET	WILLIAM & DOREEN	4410 HENDERSON RD.	TEMPLE HILLS,	MD.	20748
45-08-22	FOSTER	JOHN & ELIZABETH	12014 HEIBER COURT	RICHMOND,	VA.	23233
45-09-20	LOTSPEICH	WILLIAM & MIRIAM	2202 WEST 11TH STREET	IRVING,	TX.	75060
46-06-09	FILLMAN	DONALD & BETTY	2625 VINE STREET, APT. 414	WEST DES MOINES,	IA.	50265
46-06-19	ZESCH	EDWARD & DOLORES	6052 W. OJAI CIRCLE	BANNING,	CA.	92220
46-07-06	GRIFFIN	RYLE & JUANITA	4338 DUNBARTON AVE. #16	TAMPA,	FL.	33611
46-07-18	DONLON	WILLIAM & JO	P. O. BOX 2212	PINELAND,	FL.	33945



Then and Now



VERBAL HOLCOMB



1944



1992

JOHN T. LYONS



1945



1995

ANTHONY COUTROS



1943



1995

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

Address Correction Requested



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



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MEMORIES SUPERSTITION?

By Americo Penna

When our crew first arrived at Mendlesham we were greeted by the officers of the barracks next door. We chatted awhile (I believe my pilot, Lt. Arand, was with me at the time) and were invited to their barracks for refreshments. We accepted and, after entering, I observed pictures on the wall, a pot belly stove, a radio and a table with several chairs surrounding it. But what attracted my attention mostly was that in the center of the table was a statue about 18 inches tall of Atlas carrying a globe on his shoulders, with his hands extending over his head to balance the globe. The globe was constructed with strong, intertwined, wire and appeared to be a solid structure. Now, the odd thing about the statue was that English pennies were affixed to it with some sort of adhesive.

When I questioned this, one of the officers told me that, before every mission, they lit a candle and the melted wax was poured onto the penny and acted as an adhesive when placed on the statue. They had flown ten missions so far and about forty pennies were adhered to the statue. Their superstition was that this was their good luck charm.

A few weeks later our crew began our sixth mission. On the way to the briefing one of the officers (our neighbor) appeared very sad and concerned that they had all left in such a hurry and were unable to place their pennies on the statue. Now it was too late to do anything about it.

We flew this mission and, during the bomb run, his plane was hit and exploded in mid-air. No one survived. After the mission Lt. Arand and I returned to their barracks to give notification to their roommates, but no one was there. Then came a sudden shock when we noticed that the statue of the Atlas was completely

collapsed of all its coins, and the pennies were strewn all over the table. To me this was very scary. Perhaps it was an omen - or did the pennies carry too much weight after fifteen missions?

I MEAN "HAIRY!"

By Fred Berglund

Of all the "hairy" experiences which I witnessed as a co-pilot a few were the most memorable.

First was the mission to Stendahl where I witnessed the suicide ramming of two B-17's in the bomb group in front of us. Two German fighters flew straight down and rammed two B-17's within a minute of each other. All that was left of the four planes were two giant black puffs of smoke which we flew through. No falling wreckage was observed. It was enough to scare you! (I always thought you had a few seconds to bail out before you blew up!)

Next in my memory was watching the "Gotta Haver" crew fall down right through our ships which scattered like pigeons. We could see the plane rocking and smoking from heavy anti-aircraft hits. I never saw John Doronsky, the waist gunner, until fifty years later, when I saw him playing the piano at the St. Paul reunion. I saw Roger Revay, the co-pilot, a few weeks later (after he was shot down) at our base in Mendlesham. He was covered with purple welts all across his face where the German civilians beat him with sticks when they "rescued" him. General Patton's 3rd Army really rescued him a few days later at a jail. The pilot was badly burned from fire in the plane and had to stay in a German hospital for several months. I met him at an 8th A.F. reunion in Los Angeles about ten years ago.

The "hairiest" flight I ever flew was the trip back to Greenland from England. We flew at 50 to 100 ft. altitude in a big storm. Our plane kept icing up. We could melt the ice by flying at low altitude over the angry wave tops. Nobody would touch the controls because it was so bad.
