

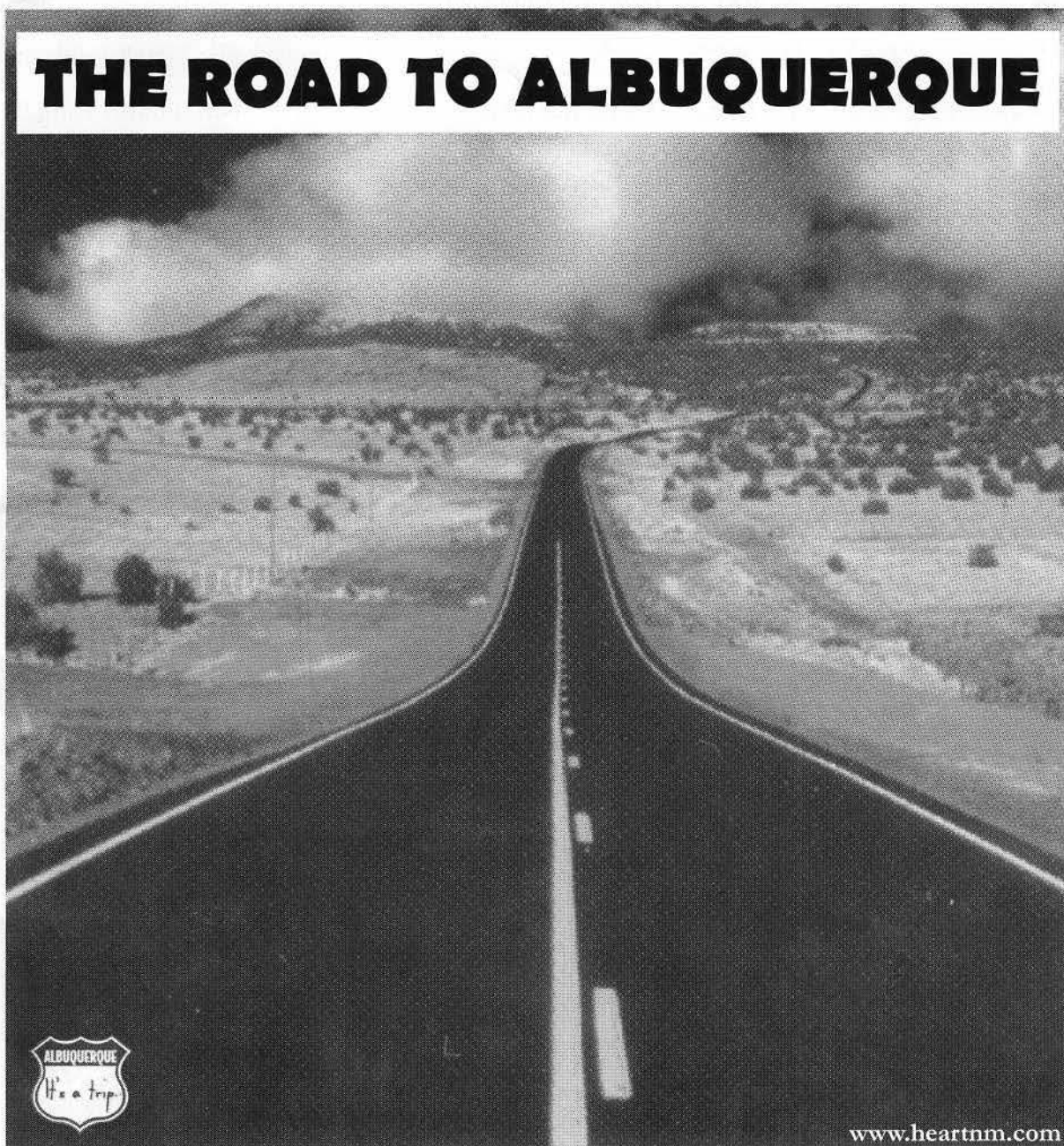


ENDLESSHAM EMORIES



VOICE OF THE 34TH BOMB GROUP (H)

THE ROAD TO ALBUQUERQUE



www.heartnm.com

22ND ANNUAL REUNION OF THE 34TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

SEPTEMBER 21ST - 25TH

HOTEL AND REUNION REGISTRATION FORMS IN THIS ISSUE



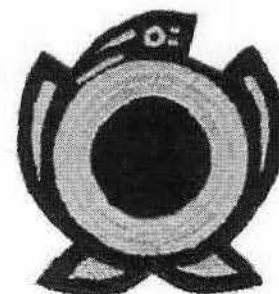
4TH SQUADRON



7TH SQUADRON



18TH SQUADRON



391ST SQUADRON

MENDLESHAM MEMORIES

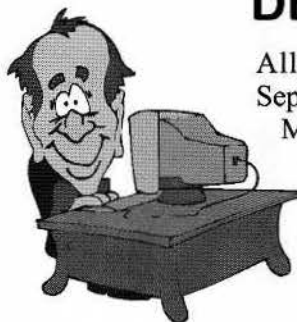
Newsletter of

The 34th Bomb Group Association, Inc.

www.excel-tech.com/34th/

This newsletter is published four times a Year (March, June, September, December). All material for publication is welcome and should be sent to:

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Email: jshare@houston.rr.com



DEADLINE

All material and items for the September, 2005 issue of Mendlesham Memories should reach me on or before July 15, 2005. All copy will be going to the publisher on that date.

Jack Share, editor

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Other web sites of interest:

www.mighty8thmuseum.com

www.air-museum.org/b17.htm

<http://members.tripod.com/valortovictory/index.html>

Share - a thought...

Wow! With a tough winter behind us, the good weather ahead should turn our thoughts to the better things ahead - like maybe the September 34th Bomb Group reunion in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This issue of Mendlesham Memories has all the information you'll need to register and reserve your room plus the reunion agenda.

From all reports the hotel is spectacular, the weather in New Mexico in September is superb and the committee's programs are always exciting. This year's promises to be no exception.

It is always advisable to get your registrations in early, at least as soon as you and your families plans have been formulated. A sizeable turnout is anticipated since our newer members are becoming more involved in the organization's operations. What better way to spend a family vacation than with old and new friends.

This being the 60th anniversary of VE Day, and in its effort to keep history alive, the British government is providing funds to schools giving young people a chance to take part in a variety of activities to remember and learn about the events of World War II. One of those schools taking an active part in this program is the Stoke Ash Community Primary School located just outside of Mendlesham. Under the direction of head teacher (principle) Gordon Leathers, they have become very involved in the project and are in the process of establishing a museum to honor the veterans who served in the 34th Bomb Group.

Mr. Leathers has written an article for this issue of our newsletter describing the project and would be very interested in hearing from members of our group, some of whom have already contributed information and memorabilia for the museum. He and the student body should be commended for honoring our bomb group and our cooperation and participation is very important for the success of the project.

The members of the 34th Bomb Group should be complemented on their acceptance of the recent dues increase. Many of our life members have sent in extra funds to help the organization stay afloat. It is hoped that the increase will provide ample funding for the continuance of our programs and a respectable Mendlesham Memories newsletter. Our financial situation will be discussed in full at the reunion at which time we will know where we stand regarding our future.

Have a great summer and we're hoping see you all in Albuquerque in September.

Jack

Jack Share



Hal Province



From Hal's Computer (again)

Jan and I express our thanks for the many cards and best wishes we received from the 34th BG members. You are special to us and we love you all!

Little did I think (back at Dayton) that I would again be addressing a letter to you as the treasurer but here it is. I

have worried many days over how to transmit the records I developed on the old EPSON computer that I bought in 1989 when I took over the job from Ray. That old Epson has been long gone and replaced by three other computers. But the Epson program still provided the means to do the jobs that I requested and is still doing those same jobs! Before we can transfer the file data to another program it will have to be worked over and a more modern program substituted. I shall be diligent in working on the job and can almost promise you that it will be ready for the new treasurer to assume his responsibilities.

I wish to commend the membership for your reaction to the raise in annual dues and the assessment for Life Members. Many of you have responded and some have even sent in additional money so that we can continue to keep Mendlesham Memories coming your way. I am certain that we will be able to continue publishing MM and also certain that our second generation members are staunch in their desire and will continue to make the 34th BG Assn. a viable organization in the coming years.

Speaking of the second generation - are there any members who have NOT TOLD their children of their eligibility to become associate members of the 34th BGA? We need to talk up the role of membership and keep adding our children as members - if they show an interest. Don't forget to remind them of their children's eligibility to submit an application for the 34th BGA Ray Summa Scholarship also! I believe this is one of the finest programs we have initiated.

Now I need some help from you. Over the years I have always checked your return address when you sent in dues. Those who are Life Members, I may have your address and telephone for your residence when you sent in your LM dues but there have been many area and zip code changes in the last few years. While I am working on reformatting your individual files I would like to present an up-to-date file with accurate information in it. For you snow birds - if you have changed your schedule or addresses since I first received such information, NOW would be a good time to make it official. Please send me any pertinent changes in your status, this applies to all members! We have no way of correcting your data and we frequently lose track of our members when they move. We have to pay the USPS 70 cents for each returned newsletter due to no forwarding address. A useless waste of funds.

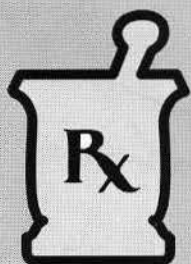
And, if you have any old 43 - 45 year old photos that you would like to share with membership, please send them to Jack Share, Gary Ferrell or Hal Province. We will scan them and return them immediately.

I believe I've rambled enough for now so will close. Be good to yourself and others!

Jan and I wish you ENOUGH! Hope to see you in Albuquerque.

May God abundantly bless!

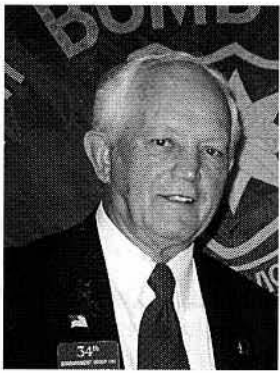
Hal



Thought for the Day:

"There's no fun in medicine,
but there's a lot of
medicine in fun."

-Anonymous



John J. Feda

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Sixty years have passed since V-E Day. Many of us have answered questions about where were you and what were you doing during events that took place during WWII? We have answered those questions from our own personal experiences. How would we answer those same questions if we were to answer on behalf of the 34th Bomb Group?

WHERE WAS THE 34TH BOMB GROUP ON DECEMBER 7, 1941?

We had been activated in January of 1941 and were in training when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Our training took place mainly at Blythe Army Air Field in California.

WHERE DID THE 34TH BOMB GROUP PARTICIPATE IN ENGAGEMENTS WITH THE ENEMY IN WWII?

The Group was sent to the European Theater and stationed at Mendlesham, England, near the English Channel. Our first bombing mission was on May 23, 1944. Our last bombing mission (which was our 155th) took place in April of 1945. Our missions included five to Berlin, Four to Hamburg, four to Cologne, and three to Nurnberg - all on different days.

HOW DID THE 34TH BOMB GROUP GET TO ENGLAND?

The original planes and crews were flown to England from Florida via Brazil and Africa and then to Mendlesham. During the stop in Dakar, Africa, four of the planes were sabotaged. Support personnel and replacement crews traveled to England by troop ships. One of the ships was the Queen Elizabeth which carried 14,000 military troops for each crossing of the Atlantic.

WHAT PART DID THE 34TH BOMB GROUP HAVE IN THE NORMANDY INVASIONS?

The Group flew four missions in support of the ground troops during the three days of the main invasion. No planes were lost over the targets but the German fighters did attack the group as it was landing at the base and four planes were shot down.

WHAT TYPE OF TARGETS DID YOU HIT ON YOUR 155 MISSIONS?

The targets were industrial sites, military bases, bridges, seaports, oil refineries, oil storage sites, air fields, rocket launch sites, marshaling yards and other installations serving the enemy's military operations. The targets were located in Germany, France, Belgium, Holland and Czechoslovakia.

WHAT EXPERIENCE DID THE 34TH HAVE WITH FLAK AND GERMAN FIGHTERS PLANES?

Flak was encountered on almost every mission. 797 aircraft suffered damages that needed repair before they could be flown on another mission. Most of the damage was caused by flak. Only once was the Group seriously attacked by fighters. We did not lose any bombers but our gunners claimed 8 fighters destroyed. 2 probables, and 8 damaged. The Group had a reputation of "good tight" formation flying which discouraged fighters from attacking us. During the combat months the

\$20 DUES \$20 REMINDER

ANNUAL DUES HAVE BEEN INCREASED TO \$20.00

As was reported in the December issue of Mendlesham Memories the annual dues have been increased to \$20.00 and we are asking all life members to contribute \$10.00 to help defray some of the costs in publishing this newsletter.

Please send your 2005 dues to:

Hal Province

31 Shore Crest Circle

Carriere, MS 39426

Thank you for your help in guaranteeing the continuance of the 34th Bomb Group Association.

Group lost 35 planes to all causes which included flak, weather, collisions, and mechanical failures.

DID ANY GERMAN V-1 OR V-2 ROCKETS HIT YOUR BASE?

None hit our base but our location in East Anglia exposed us to the sounds of buzz-bombs and the contrails of the rockets being shot towards England.

WHAT TYPE OF CASUALTIES DID YOUR GROUP SUFFER?

As of April, 1945, a report prepared by Capt. Robert Provence listed 90 men killed in action, 46 wounded in action, 203 missing in action. 76 as prisoners of war and 8 interned in Sweden.

DID YOUR GROUP HAVE ANY HUMANITARIAN MISSIONS?

Yes, we dropped food to the starving Dutch six times in early May before the war was over. Then after the war, we transported French displaced persons from Linz, Austria, back to Paris, France. The Germans had used them as forced labor in a radio factory in Austria.

WHERE WAS THE 34TH BOMB GROUP ON V-J DAY?

We had been returned to the States via the North Atlantic route in June. We were given 30-day leaves. We were then slated for training in B-29's and action in the Pacific. After V-J Day that plan was scrubbed.

John J. Feda

(All of the above can be confirmed by reports in the published histories of the 34th Bomb Group dated 1947, 1988 and 1999.)

REUNION COMMITTEE REPORT

We welcome everyone of you again to the 22nd Gala Reunion of the 34th Bomb Group (H) Association to be held this year from 21 September 2005 to 25 September 2005 at the MC Elegante Hotel, 2020 Menaul Boulevard, NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107. This issue of our Mendlesham Memories newsletter has our hotel reservation form and details of our seven hour city tour that includes Old Town, the Pueblo Indian Cultural Center, the Turquoise Museum and the National Atomic Museum. There will be time for attendees to have lunch, on their own, (Furr's Cafeteria is nice) in Old Town.

On Friday, 23 September, you will board a deluxe coach and head to Old Town and a brief walking tour of the historic Plaza area. Old Town was the original center of Albuquerque founded in the early 18th century. It includes San Felipe de Neri church and many historic buildings that form an architectural record of the city's past. There will be time to explore hidden courtyards and stroll under covered portals and shop, on your own, at the many fine specialty stores and galleries around the plaza. You can also visit the Albuquerque Museum which features a permanent exhibit devoted to the "Four Centuries of Albuquerque" and is the largest holder of Spanish Armor in the U.S.

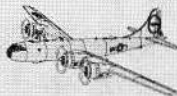
Next is the National Atomic Museum with history and artifacts that tell the story of the Atomic Age. Then we continue on to the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center with all the preservation and perpetuation of Pueblo Indian culture, history and art. The museum, gallery, shop and restaurant will be of interest.

Next stop will be the Turquoise Museum with the largest, private collection in the World. Here you will learn about the many degrees of turquoise and see one of a kind turquoise specimens from over fifty mines, four continents and six countries.

NOTE: The deluxe buses will leave the hotel at 9:00 A.M. and return at 4:00 P.M., on Friday, 23 September, 2005.

Mistaken Identity

From Oliver Bolduc - 391 Sqd.
(Crew chief - Lt Hazen Eastman's crew)



When the 34th deployed for overseas duty, I was scheduled to fly to England with my assigned B-24 crew. But at roll call time some one else answered to my name and left in my place so, consequently, I went to Massachusetts with other ground echelon for the boat ride over. When we were to load on the ship, I found I was not on the boarding list. After some confusion, they did allow me to board but when we docked in England, of course, I was again not on the list. Again, even though I was not on the list, someone accepted me as one of the 34th. When we met with the flight crews of our assigned bombers at Mendlesham, Hazen Eastman, pilot of my B-24 told me that who ever took my place to fly with him to England was not the man he was expecting which displeased him through out the trip.

I never knew who the mechanic was that took my place. I do know that quite often there were names, if not pronounced correctly, would often be a problem, as was probably so in this case.

PLEASE REMEMBER: To ensure accurate reservations, please complete the hotel reservation form, in this issue, and return it before **AUGUST 20, 2005** - the cut off date. Our rooms are guaranteed until that date. After that date you will have to contact the hotel. Rates are valid 3 days prior to and 3 days after reunion dates. Hotel phone number: 505-884-2511 fax - 505-881-4806

TRANSPORTATION TO HOTEL: We have complimentary shuttle service to the hotel from the airport. Make your way to the Baggage Claim Area, pick up your luggage and call the hotel, direct, from the complimentary phone by the information desk. Tell them you have arrived and the hotel shuttle will pick you up.

AIRLINES serving the Albuquerque area: American West, American, Continental, Delta, Frontier, Mesa, Northwest, Rio Grande Air, Southwest, and United.

- ☛ Albuquerque weather is simply amazing. Very low humidity and comfortable temperatures.
- ☛ Travel will be by deluxe motor coach with tour guide and bottled water.
- ☛ If anyone desires to be a balloon pilot contact Harold Rutka at 218-724-1667.
- ☛ Early registration - Wednesday, 21 September, 2005 - 1300 to 1600 hours. (Main Floor).
- ☛ Registration on Thursday, 22 September, 2005 - 1000 to 1600 hours. (Main Floor).
- ☛ Board of Directors' Meeting - Thursday, 22 September, 2005 - 1400 to 1600 hours.
- ☛ Friday, 23 September, 2005 - Tour "Destination Southwest".
- ☛ Saturday, 24 September, 2005 - 0900 A.M. - General Membership Meeting. Gala Banquet - 1900 hours.
- ☛ Post Exchange and hospitality suite to be open at hours yet to be announced.

We hope to see all of you "Special Folks" at our Gala Reunion in Albuquerque.

The Reunion Committee:

Harold Rutka, chairman

Robert Wright

Bruce Sothern



-Yank March 45

Mission of Happiness

Return to the Homeland

In the many years Mendlesham Memories has been published, we have read many stories of our bombing missions and of the mercy missions delivering food to the starving people of Holland.

But, there were other acts of humanitarianism carried out by the 34th Bomb Group that not much has been said. That being the operational missions over Europe to pick up Nazi prisoners of war and labor camp survivors and returning them to their respective native homelands.

Hugo Andrew Chiesi, a flight engineer and top turret gunner on a B-17 crew flying with the 7th squadron was one of those who remembers those post war acts of kindness carried out by the 34th Bomb Group.

He remembers while flying into Orley Field, Paris, France, seeing this poor wretched mass of humanity set up at the airfield in the form of a huge star.

He relates how these beautiful, gracious people were loaded into the B-17's, "packed to the gills" and flown to their respective homelands.

Andrew describes the devastation he saw while flying these people home. "We flew low over many cities in Germany on these operational missions. It was awesome to see all those cities bombed into concrete rubble. The church of Cologne was the only building standing in that city. Today: it is incredible to see all the beautiful cities that have emerged from the rubble".

FROM THE FILES OF WALTER STURDIVAN:

The ground echelon of the 34th Bomb Group who sailed over to England in 1944 on the *USS Wakefield* will recall setting sail on April 13, 1944 with thousands of other troops on board. Among them was the 489th Bomb Group heading for Hailsworth, England in the 2nd Bomb Division. Like the 34th Group, the 489th sent the air crews by the Southern ferry route and the ground personnel on the *Wakefield*. Whereas the 34th Group stayed in Europe until the end of hostilities, the 489th Group ceased operations on November 14, 1944 and returned to the United States in preparation for the war in the Pacific. Many of the personnel were, however, retained in Europe and dispersed to other bomb groups. Those who returned to the United States began training on B-29's. However, the end of hostilities came before they could be assigned to the Pacific combat area. Similarly, there were many of us from the 34th who trained on B-29's after returning home upon completion of our missions and were doing so when the war with Japan ended.

Flight to Glory

(To Our Proud and Brave Buddies Who Never Came Back)

By Charles W. Nanney

In the days of Hitler's folly
When the bombs were falling free,

The C.O. took up his pencil
With a curl upon his lip.

From the firelds of dear old England
To the heart of Germany/

"put 'em down upon the roster.
We'll be rid crew and ship."

From the Forts and Liberators
Led by Jugs and Little Friends,

The flak was thick, the fighters eager.
At the high altitude they rode.

Fell a stream of thousand pounders
Only highest bravery sends.

No one drifted near the hoodoo,
Fearing that she would explode.

Up there in the brains of Pinetree
Where they settle all accounts

From 12 o'clock they made their passes,
Rolling over in their turn.

Were the records of a Fortress
That they called the Jersey Bounce.

But those watching in amazement
Saw the hoodoo would not burn.

There it was upon the records
Like thing of guilt and shame,

They could see her props were feathered
As she plowed on through the flak,

"Seven times she flew to battle,
Seven times she turned back lame."

And the Jerries split asunder
As she nosed into the pack.

Came a crew of lazy bastards
Short on brains and long on lip,

But they saw upon each engine
Something soft and full of light,

"We've no plane to fly tomorrow,
Let us fly the hoodoo ship."

Like four angels from the glories
Now descending from the light.



On she flew. They could not stop her,
And then all attention drew

To the bright and shiny halos
On the faces of the crew.

To the I.P. and the bomb run,
"Bomb doors open. Bombs Away!"

And she clobbered the whole target
More than any ship that day.

In the days to come they sought her,
Sending searchers near and far,

And they wrote her off as "mystery!"
And stayed busy with their war.

No, they never found her wreckage,
Parachutes nor any thing.

Jersey Bounce had flown to glory
With four angels on her wing.

34th Bomb Group Project

Stoke Ash Primary School in England is currently running some commemorative projects based on the 34th bomb group. Our school is about 3 miles from the Mendlesham Airfield site. We have lots of local contact who remember you guys from the war!

Our projects include:

- & Developing a school museum based around the 34th bomb group - this will be taken to various open days and air shows to promote the memory of the 34th bomb group.
- & A memorial service in Stoke Ash Church for the 34th. Our pupils are also designing a memorial for the church as well.
- & A school memorial banch in our school grounds which will list all missing airmen for the 34th.
- & Produce a series of short films based around veterans stories and memories. Decorate leather jackets with nose art from famed 34th bg planes.
- & Re-frame photographs in local pubs (anyone remember The Fleece?) and include new ones where possible.
- & A website which will provide an interactive tour of the Mendlesham air field site as it is today - visit the airfield from your home in the USA!

All of the above will be recorded onto a CD and DVD which we will mail out to all contributors later on this year.

We need your help! Our pupils have found your history really interesting and we are looking for some volunteers to answer questions, write stories for our website and museum, send photographs and or artefacts (photographed is just fine!) and also tape record their stories for a series of short films about the 34th that our pupils will be producing soon.

Please contact me if you can help in any way. The 34th does not have a museum in the UK. There has been the suggestion that we could become a permanent museum using donated resources. We could open our doors to visiting vets and their families and be a point of contact for anyone else interested in the history of the 'Red Tailed Devils'!

My main aim is to keep the 34th flying in the hearts and minds of our local communities and educate the younger generation about your heroism, sacrifice, courage and bravery.

My contact details are:



Gordon Leathers, Headteacher
Stoke Ash Community Primary School
Stoke Ash
Suffolk, England, UK
IP237EL
01379678288
gordonleathers@hotmail.com

Our website address is:
<http://redtaileddevils.mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk>

We look forward to hearing from you soon!



Florida Chapter, 8th AFHS Reunion

Jim Stuthers announces from Florida that the Florida Chapter of the 8th AFHS is having it's semi-annual reunion at the Holiday Inn in Venice, Florida from November 17th thru the 20th, 2005. All past and present members of the "Mighty Eighth" are encouraged to attend.

For information, membership applications and registrations forms please call the reunion chairman, Jim Stuthers Sr. at 941-323-2676 or write him at 430 Palmetto Drive, Venice, FL 34293.

The planned reunion last November 2004 had to be cancelled because of the hurricanes. Hopefully, all will go well this time as they anticipate a very large turn out.

34TH Bomb Group's MCM ELEGANTE' 22nd Annual Reunion HOTEL

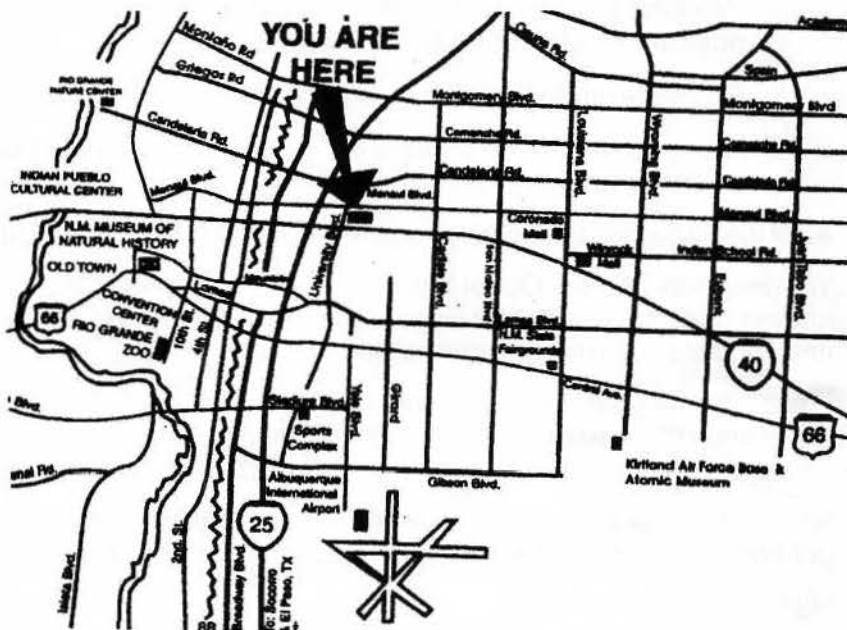
2020 Menaul Boulevard, NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107
(505) 884-2511 * Fax (505) 881-4806



TRANSPORTATION TO HOTEL: ENJOY OUR **COMPLIMENTARY SHUTTLE SERVICE** - WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE AIRPORT MAKE YOUR WAY TO THE "BAGGAGE CLAIM AREA", ONCE YOU HAVE YOUR LUGGAGE, **GIVE US A CALL**. THERE IS A COMPLIMENTARY PHONE ON THE INFORMATION DESK THAT CALLS US DIRECT, JUST TELL US YOU HAVE ARRIVED AND WE WILL PICK YOU UP.

THE MCM ELEGANTE' HOTEL IS PLEASED TO HOST THE 34TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION'S REUNION 20 SEPTEMBER - 25 SEPTEMBER 2005.

(TO ENSURE ACCURATE RESERVATIONS, PLEASE COMPLETE THE RESERVATIONS REQUEST AND RETURN IT BEFORE AUGUST 20, 2005.)



Room type preference: Single _____ Double _____ Triple _____ Quad _____

of Rooms: _____ # of People: _____

Please list any special requirements _____

Conf. # 23480 # 34209

Name: _____

Arrival Date: _____

Address: _____

Departure Date: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Additional Guests: _____

Telephone: _____

I have enclosed a check in the amount of one night's room charge plus tax \$72.84 - **DOUBLE OCCUPANCY. \$84.05 FOR INCLUDING TAX. OCCUPANCY OF THREE OR FOUR. INCLUDING TAX.**

Please charge one night's room charge plus tax to the following credit card:

_____ Master Card _____ American Express _____ Visa _____ Diners Club _____ Discover

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

I understand that I will forfeit my deposit in the event that I do not arrive or cancel less than 72 hours prior to arrival.

Name of Credit Card Holder: _____

Signature of Credit Card Holder: _____

Check-in time after 3 PM; Check-out time is 12 NOON.

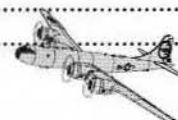
All hotel accounts are subject to credit arrangements at time of registration and payable on departure.

PX Order Form

AUTO WINDOW STICKER - 2"X4" BLACK AND SILVER

VET: WWII US ARMY AIR CORPS\$4.00 EACH - OR - 3 FOR \$10.00
(NO SHIPPING CHARGES ON THIS ITEM)

REPRINT OF 34TH B.G. HISTORY BOOK, 1947 edition, EDWIN S. SMITH	\$37.50ea.
PERMANENT NAME TAGS (First and last names & Sqdn. No)	\$10.00ea.
LICENSE PLATE HOLDER (2 for \$5.00)	\$3.00ea.
FRONT LICENSE PLATE (34th Bomb Group).....	\$10.00ea.
PATCHES - 34TH BOMB GROUP "VALOR TO VICTORY"	\$5.00ea.
PATCHES - SQUADRON - 4th - 7th - 18th - 391st and Eighth Air Force.....	\$5.00ea.
DECAL - VALOR TO VICTORY - 5" X 5"	\$1.50ea.
BUMPER STICKER- 34TH B.G. - 3" X 12"	\$1.50ea.
HAT PINS (FOR DECOR) B-24 - B-17 or POW	\$3.50ea.
WINGS - (about 2") - PILOT - BOMBARDIER - NAVIGATOR - GUNNER OR FLIGHT ENGR	\$4.00ea.
WINGS (about 1")	\$3.00ea.
TIE TACK - 4TH - 7TH - 18TH - 391ST Sqdns and 8th Air Force	\$ 4.00ea.
BALL POINT PEN (retractable) DK. BLUE W/GOLD LETTERS (34TH BG, 8TH AF)	\$ 2.00ea.
VIDEO TAPE 58 mins. (" Start Your Engines + 50Years").....	\$19.95ea.
MEN'S POLO SHIRT W/ POCKET AND 34TH B.G. Logo (Hunter Green & Cobblestone Biege)	\$25.95ea.
M. LR. XLR. XXL R	\$25.95ea.
MEN'S POLO SHIRT (White W/ Logo - no pocket) X Large only	\$8.50ea.
CAP - ROYAL BLUE or NAVY w Patriotic flag on bill	
NEW ITEM (First shown @ San Antonio Reunion:	
WHITE T-SHIRT W/POCKET & LOGO OF BOTH B-17 & B-24 ON FRONT & BACK - Picture on back shows	
Our bright red rudder. Nice for warm weather & very colorful	\$14.00ea.
SWEATSHIRT - GRAY (Proud to be a veteran on front - 34th Bomb Group on back).....	\$20.00ea.
KEYRING - B-17, B-24 or 8th Air Force	\$4.00ea.
KEYRING with leather back	\$6.00ea.
BOLO TIE - B-17 OR B-24 or 8th Air Force	\$6.00ea.
BOLO TIE with Mother of Pearl background	\$10.00ea.
BELT BUCKLE "America's Heritage - The Right to Bear Arms"	\$11.50ea.
MEN'S ROYAL BLUE POLO SHIRT.....	\$22.00ea.
HAT PIN - "Valor to Victory".....	\$5.00ea.



- PLEASE CIRCLE ITEMS DESIRED -

AND INCLUDE YOU TELEPHONE NUMBER WITH EACH ORDER (sometimes needed for clarification)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ORDER

Please add \$3.50 postage for orders under \$20.00 and \$4.50 postage for orders \$20.00 and over

Send check or money order to:

34th B.G. PX

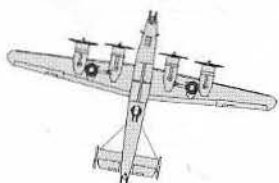
Ken Paxton

6402 E. 11th St.

Wichita, KS 67206

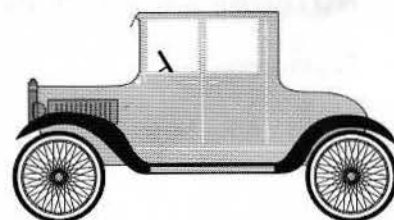
Tel: (316) 683-2900

e-mail: kenpaxton@sbcglobal.net



HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED -

**ANYBODY GOING SLOWER THAN YOU IS AN IDIOT,
AND ANYONE GOING FASTER THAN YOU IS A MANIAC?**





PROPOSED AGENDA
34th BOMB GROUP REUNION

MCM ELEGANTE HOTEL
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

CHECK THE HOTEL BULLETIN BOARD FOR ROOM LOCATIONS

WEDNESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2005

1300 – 1600 hours EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION (lobby area)

THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2005

1000 – 1600 hours REGISTRATION (lobby area)

1400 – 1600 hours Board of Directors Meeting

FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2005

0900 – 1600 hours Tour group departs for Destination Southwest.
Lunch will be on your own, available in Old Town.
Tour lasts until 1600 hours.

1800 hours Cash Bar

1900 hours Dinner

SATURDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2005

0900 hours General Membership Meeting
Lunch on your own/free time

1800 – 1900 hours Cash Bar

1900 hours Gala Banquet

SUNDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2005 Farewells until 2006

Post Exchange and Hospitality Suite to be open at hours yet to be determined.

FRIENDS WRITE

BERT OLIVER - WORCHESTER, MA

Another year and they go by much to quickly. Sorry to hear Hal is stepping down. He has down a wonderful job and I wish him the best of luck.

Enclosed is a stamped envelope to return my '05 membership card. Take care and be good to yourself.

BETTY LOU LAMPEY - AURORA, OH

Good to see you all at the reunion. The kids and I had a great time and I look forward to the next one.

I am enclosing my check for the 2005 dues. This will cover Scott and Todd Lampy and Lynn Bachouros.

Hope you are having a good winter and I am sure you wish you were up North here with 2 feet of snow.

WILLARD STELLING - OTTAWA, ILL

I received my copy of Mendlesham Memories the other day and I noticed that the dues have been raised. I had already sent my check for \$10.00 in December so am forwarding an additional \$10.00 to cover the increase.

Also I notice Hal is retiring as our treasurer after many years. He has done a great job and deserves a rest.

C. EDWARD HAYES, JR. - SALISBURY, MD

Thank you Hal, for the many years of service you've given the 34th Bomb Group Association. At this date, I know of only three members of our crew that are still living and my health is not the best.

I enjoy reading the Mendlesham Memories. Brings back some unforgettable memories.

Enclosed is check for \$50.00 for 1 years dues and the balance for the general fund of the association.

DICK CUTTING - ST PAUL, MN

I am a long time life member and am enclosing a check for \$50.00. \$10.00 for extension of my life membership and \$40.00 for general purpose.

REGINA GIVEN - SILVER STAR, MT

I am enclosing dues for Regina Given, Ganel Given, Wade Given and Rick Given.

I've been in contact with the four surviving crew Dick flew with and have learned so much.

Have a great year.

GERTRUDE TURKO - WATERLOO, IA

I just want to share with you the sad news that my husband, Walter passed away on February 2nd after a long illness. We haven't been to a reunion in several years but Walter always enjoyed receiving and reading Mendlesham Memories. Thank you so much.

RITA HILTNER - FREEPORT, MN

I know I have my dues paid for 2005, but I see they have gone up to \$20.00 so I'm sending the extra amount. We need to keep this organization going. I really enjoy reading Mendlesham Memories. I don't make the reunions anymore but I really like to read about all our friends.

My son, Peter, just retired from the Army after 32 years of service.

HANNAH SUMMA - ANDERSON, IN

Enclosed is my check for the \$10.00 life member assessment to keep the Mendlesham Memories alive. I enjoy every issue and don't want to miss any. Hal, you have had over 11 years and I know you are ready to give it to someone else.

I miss the reunions and all the members. We had such a good time together. Hope everyone is feeling better.

PAUL & BETTY BRESH - FORT MYERS, FL

The best for 2005. When reading Mendlesham Memories, the notice of Richard Given's death was a way to connect with his family. I had no contact in all these years so Mrs. Given and family have been glad to receive our condolence note. Richard was our very fine flight engineer, none better. For our Christmas, the Given's family sent a box of beautiful Montana fir to decorate our home. We have exchanged notes, letters and info on Richard's life. Sad it took all these years and lost contact.

WALTER STURDIVAN - STOCKTON, CA

I'm already looking forward to the next reunion of the 34th BGA at Albuquerque, NM in September.

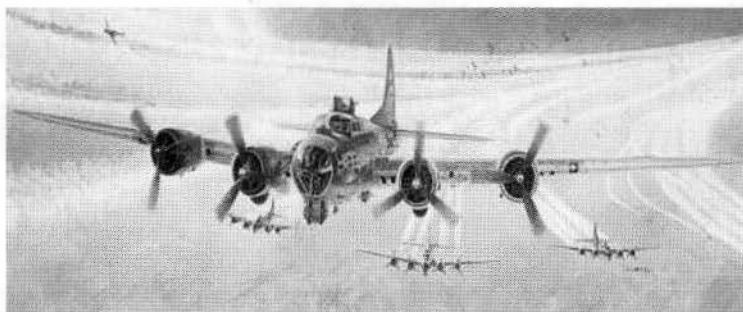
OLIVER BOLDUC - CHAPLIN, CT

Additional \$10.00 for 2005 dues enclosed and I proudly have my 2005 membership card. Trust your winter has gone well and health wise you're up to par in these "Golden Years". Winter here has been brutal with many below 0 temps and snow. More on the way they say, possibly 12 to 26 inches. I guess we live here because we like the challenges - or something. I was hospitalized for 6 days last October and am now more or less housebound trying to stay out of the wife's way but helping where I can.

ROBERT SCHROEDER - AMERICAN FALLS, ID

Thank you for sending the last Mendlesham Memories.

We sent in our dues plus those for our two daughters who we want as associate members





VIVIENNE SCHWAB - KIRKWOOD, MO

It is with great sadness that I write to you about the death of my mom (Sylvia Forister). She had not been in good health for the past several years and it all caught up with her on February 28th. She had been in the hospital the last two weeks but we never expected such a sudden ending. Dad (Carroll Forister) is doing quite well but

still in the early stages of mourning after nearly 57 years of married life together. Going to the reunions without her will be very hard but I plan to come with Dad. She would want that tradition continued.

FRANK McCULLOUGH - ALLENTOWN, PA

I would like to make you aware of the fact that Ray Machalz passed away in July 2004. Ray and I were on the same "SLIC-CHIC" B-17 crew, 391st squadron, 34th Bomb Group. We had completed 34 missions and were both happy to have finally been awarded the DFC in 1999 and 2001.

I kept in touch with him over the past 20 years and it was always good to talk about the missions we flew. I was shocked when I called him last year and his wife, Betty, told me he had passed away. I miss our phone conversations.

We attempted to locate some of our other crew members but were unsuccessful. If any of our crew reads this I would really like to hear from you. My address is 2807 Andrea Dr., Allentown, PA. Our e-mail address is: ritamm@enter.net

Thanks for doing such a great job with Mendlesham Memories. I always look forward to receiving it.

ALICE PAWLOWSKI - DUNKIRK, NY

Enclosed are my dues for the year 2005. I am happy to pay the increase to help the Memories of Mendlesham to be published

DALE FRANK - WINTERSET, IA

Please find enclosed a check for \$50.00 to help on the Mendlesham Memories. I am a life member and we both enjoy the newsletter so much that we would hate to have it discontinued.

Hope to see you all in September.

GRANVILLE PIERCE - DALLAS, TX

Enclosed please find our personal check for \$10.00 to cover the increased annual dues for 2005

We so enjoy the Mendlesham Memories. It is super.

We received a very good telephone call from Bob Burgner from Ohio 2 weeks ago. A very nice surprise.

BERNIE FARLEY - VERONA, NJ

Here's John and my assessments for '05. I know from my 200 newsletters how much everything costs - plus the mailing 3rd class.

RAYMOND PALMER - WICHITA, KS

Enclosed is my life membership voluntary contribution of \$10.00. I haven't been able to attend the conferences since Boise due to Bula's deteriorating health with Alzheimer's. I was always able to take care of her at home until she passed away on 13 May 2004. She had collapsed in the bathroom with heart failure and was gone in five seconds. The EMS team is housed about four blocks away and got there by the time I had her laid on the floor, but never got a response. It has been a terrible thing to go through after nearly 62 years of marriage. The only salvation is my children, all live in Wichita and keep close tabs on me.

GERALDINE WIRTHLIN - SAINT GEORGE, UT

I just received the latest MM and thought I should ask you to remove my name from the mailing list. It is becoming difficult for me to read any more so I am not getting the good from it that I used to. I hate to waste things and feel it is a waste of your money. I have enjoyed it in the past but we all know that things change over our life time.

Thanks for all the memories of the WWII years. I wish the best for all of you in the future and hope that the younger generation will never forget our generation and our contribution to a great nation.

DON BENSCOTER - LAPWAI, ID

Enclosed is the payment for 2005 dues. The reading that is in the Mendlesham Memories is worth every cent. Any more I read every issue twice. Thanks to all for the effort that goes into this publication.

In this last issue there was a letter from a member from New Mexico. His name was McCloskey. The co-pilot on the crew I flew with was Bruce McCloskey. The pilot was Luther (Luke) Richardson and he was never able to find McCloskey. To my knowledge, I am the only remaining crew member. There were only three members that we were not able to locate.

Maurice Anderson, the radio operator, put together a book of the history of our time together. It would be interesting to have the co-pilot listed in this record. I would be very grateful if you would send me the address of this man. If it would take much effort it is not that important.

LESLIE LUMMIS - MENDLESHAM, ENGLAND

Having seen in the latest copy of Mendlesham Memories that you are increasing membership fees to \$20. As I have been sent a free copy for many years, I feel I should help by applying for associate membership, if this is allowed. I enclose a cheque for \$25 as there may be some bank charges changing an English cheque. If I am not allowed to become a member please accept the cheque as a donation towards further copies of MM.

You may be interested to know that to commemorate the sixty year anniversary of WWII, a local Primary School at Stoke-Ash, just up the road from the airbase, is opening their own museum to ensure the 34th Bomb Group's part in our local history is not forgotten. Myself, and other local people have provided them with various items and photographs to help in their project.

WANDAPINE - BLACK EARTH, WI

Sorry I'm so late with this. Just wondering if we Life Members have to pay this every year.

ROBERT DELOYE - LANESBORO MA

Enclosed is \$50 for 5 years dues to help make up the short fall. I really enjoy my membership and MM.

Sorry I can't make reunions. My days with 34th Bomb Group started June 30, 1941 at Westover Field. Bob Gay, Gen. LeMay and many others I have lost track of.

I really appreciate the efforts of so many of you to keep the Association alive.

P.S. I am only 60 miles from Westover and have been there many times over the years for air shows, etc.

BILL IHLO - MEW MILFORD, CT

I recently learned that my cousin, ALBERT PEGG, JR. served with the 34th Bomb Group and was KIA on mission #150 on March 23, 1945. I'm looking forward to learning more about what you all went through and perhaps finding someone who knew Albert.

My mailing address is: MR. WILLIAM F. IHLO
BOX 605
NEW MILFORD, CT 06776

Thanks.

WILLIS GRIFFIS - VERNON HILLS, IL

It might be of interest to those who are planning on attending the reunion in Albuquerque that the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta starts on Saturday, October 1st, the weekend following our reunion. This is a great event and lasts a week, although, the first week-end is the best. There should be around 700 hot air balloons of all shapes and colors. For more information, the web site is www.balloonfiesta.com. For more information on Albuquerque, contact Albuquerque Convention and Visitors Bureau, 800 284 2282 or on the web at www.abqcvb.org. There are shuttle buses from some of the malls to the fiesta. Hotel space does get a bit tight.

ISABELLE JENKINS - VANCOUVER, BC

It saddens me to finally contact you to say my husband, Richard (Dick) F. Jenkins of the U.S. Army Air Force passed away on the 23rd of March, 2004 at the age of 79 after a long and characteristically valiant fight against cancer.

My husband grew up in Charleston and graduated with a BS from the Citadel gaining his Master in Science at Clemson. With the U.S. 8th Army Air Force, Richard flew daylight bombing raids in WWII. After many missions he was shot down over Germany and spent time as a POW.

Returning to the U.S., Richard married his first wife, Frances and had two sons. Moving to Canada in the 1960's, where we met in Vancouver, B.C. and were married for 33 years.

He is missed by all who knew and loved him.

FLOYD BENNETT - RICHMOND PASCO, WA

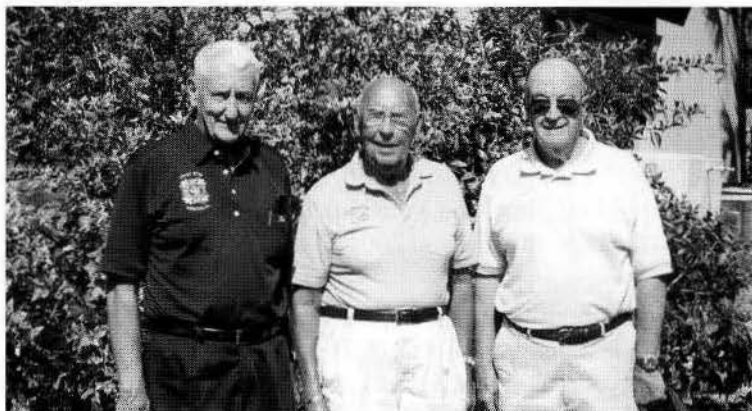
It is with sadness that I relate the death of my sister, Thelma Warfield, and associate, life member of the 34th Bomb Group Association on March 20th, 2005. She attended the past fourteen reunions with us. She made friends easily and never met a stranger.

I recently had replacements on both knees, nerve repair in my left elbow and wrist and am recuperating very well.

Miriam and I are planning to attend the reunion in Albuquerque and hope to see lots of friends there.

BOB WRIGHT - SOUTH BEND, IN

We had a luncheon at Punta Gorda, Florida at Fisherman's Village in March.



L to R James Stuthers, Bob Wright and Jim Scully

All members of the 34th Bomb Group Association

CAROLYN TRESCOTT - MENDLESHAM, ENGLAND

I type the Mendlesham Newsletter, organize both the Street Fayre every year and the reunion lunch at the Community Centre when the veterans of the 34th Bomb Group come to visit.

I have had the privilege of meeting veterans of the 34th when I was invited to join you for a meal on your last visit, together with the people who put flowers on the 34th Bomb Group Memorial.

I have been speaking to Bob Lummis and it seems their will be no one coming to visit us this year. I realize that everyone is getting older and the trip must be very tiring. When you have visited in the past I have always thought it is rather a shame that it was all such a rush. No one had time to stop and reflect and maybe have a slow walk around Mendlesham, the church and airfield.

I am thinking that it would be great to offer veterans or their families, who felt able to make the trip, a more relaxing trip and staying with a family in Mendlesham for a few days and be able to explore at their leisure.

I intend to bring this subject up at a meeting tomorrow evening at the Mendlesham Community Council but would like to know what you think. Tony Butts from Suffolk Veteran Vehicles Trust has told me this evening that Horkham village has decided to dispense with "Mr. Tomato" and organize their own reunion! Maybe Mendlesham could do the same.

Hope this finds you well. Spring has at last arrived in Mendlesham this weekend.

MOVING?

IF YOU ARE MOVING SOON, BEFORE THE NEXT MENDLESHAM MEMORIES IS DUE, OR IF THERE IS SOME MISTAKE IN YOUR NAME OR ADDRESS, PLEASE ENTER THE CORRECT INFORMATION BELOW, CUT THIS OUT AND SEND TO: JACK SHARE, 22 S. AVONLEA CIRCLE, THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS 77382.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Mailing labels are printed on Feb. 1, May. 1, Aug. 1 and Nov. 1 for the March, June, September & December issues.

Congratulations
Claude and Genevieve Conklin
60th
Wedding Anniversary
July 8th, 2005



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LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORG	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
BLAIR	JAMES, C	4ALM	680 W. HWY 54	CAMDENTON	MO	65020
DINENNO	ALFRED	391LM	1041 PINE CIRCLE	KING OF PRUSSIA	PA	19406
			THE LAFAYETTE AT VALLEY FORGE F-107			
HAVRON	WILLIAM, R	7LM	487 LK FOREST DR	BLUE RIDGE	GA	30513
LAMPEY	TODD	18A	751 WEST J STREET	BENICIA	CA	94510
RICKER	CONRAD, L	7	509 S. SANTA FE #134	EDMOND	OK	73003
SLAUGHTER	HERMAN, F	391	242 TOWNSHIP RD#1525	PROCTORVILLE	OH	45669
STEMEN	CARL, B	7LM	821 LANRECO BLVD	LANCASTER	OH	43130
STUTHERS	JAMES A, JR.	18A	38TH TERRACE EAST	BRADENTON	FL	34208
STUTHERS	STUART A	18A	22499 SACRAMENTO AVE,	PORT CHARLOTTE,	FL	33954
WALKER	ORAL, D	391LM	3241 LAKE SHORE DR	BATTLE CREEK	MI	49017

TAPS

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORG	DOD	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
BLAIR	JOHN, A	4LM	07-02	345 WEST 54 HWY	CAMDENTON	MO	65020
BRIDGE	GLENN, M	7	01-05	P.O. BOX 775	ROANOKE	VA	24019
HUNTER	THOMAS, G	4LM	12-27-04	238 MELROSE DRIVE	NORTH SYRACUSE, NY		13212
JENKINS	RICHARD, F	7	03-23-04	3793 WEST 20TH AVE	VANCOUVER	BC	V65
MACHALZ	RAYMOND, J	391	06-04	4729 N NEW ENGLAND AVE,	HARWOOD HEIGHTS, IL		60656
SEASE	ROBERT, D		02-05	5980 COATS ROAD	HASTINGS	MI	49058
TURKO	WALTER	4LM	02-02-05	1326 MAXHELEN BLVD #2B,	WATERLOO	IA	50701
WARFIELD	THELMA,	ALM	03-20-05	725 NORTH 9TH	WALLA WALLA	WA	99362

NEW MEMBERS

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORG	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
IHLO	WILLIAM, F	ASSOC	PO BOX 605	NEW MEDFORD	CT	06776
TOWNSEND	DAVID, J	ASSOC. UK		NORWICH	NORFOLK CO	
LUMMIS	LESLIE, R	ASSOC. UK	CHURCH ROAD	MENDLESHAM	SUFFOLK	IP14ST.Q

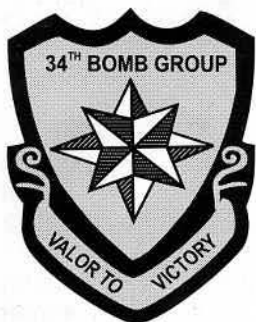
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Joseph K Marks

Pilot, 4th Sq., Crew No. 12, April - Aug 1944

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