

NEWS



392nd BG Memorial Association

VOLUME 8

AUGUST 1993

DOGGED SEARCH ENDS ON GERMAN HILLSIDE

SECOND GENERATION CRUSADERS VISIT UNCLE'S CRASH SITE

Everette (Jim) Marsteller, New Park., PA., and his cousin Jim Morris, Fawn Grove, PA. are namesakes and nephews of S/Sgt Everette (Jim) Morris who was KIA on the Friedrichshafen mission March 18, 1944. S/Sgt. Morris was on the Books crew in the 579th.

Marsteller and Morris were aware from childhood of the part their uncle played in WW II, but the real research started some seven years ago with the death of their grandmother and the opening of a box of documents concerning S/Sgt Morris' fate. They combed Government archives, joined the 392nd BGMA and attended its meetings to interview Crusaders, and teamed up with Ben Jones, the young Englishman from Litcham who is also very interested in the 392nd.

Last March, Jim Marsteller and wife Karen, along with Ben Jones culminated their search with a visit to the village of Hardt, Germany. It was near there that their uncle's plane crashed, and eerily they were there at the same date and hour, 49 years later.

The Friedrichshafen mission was the 392nd's costliest. 28 a/c were dispatched, 4 aborted, and 14 were MIA. Two landed at other English bases with dead and wounded aboard, and there were wounded aboard the a/c that were able to return to Wendling. (For further information, read Col. Bob Vickers' book, "The Liberators From Wendling" and Col. Myron Keilman's accounts as published in the 2AD Journal and later re-published in Myron's WAR STORIES. See also 392BGMA NEWS of May, 1992.)

Marsteller and Morris have amassed a wealth of information about the mission. After a long search, they located the sole survivor of the crew, S/Sgt Chester Strickler, who was able to parachute out of the stricken a/c and was POW. Strickler is alive and well and breeds horses at Reedley, CA.

Jim Marsteller while in Germany made the acquaintance of Carsten Kohlmann, a German archivist who has studied the four a/c that crashed near Hardt. With this connection, Jim expects to continue his research.



Jim Marsteller is shown above with George Laufer, who as a young boy witnessed the air battle over Hardt, Germany. He was at the scene of the crash of the Books a/c, and afterward obtained and hid some of the parts. He gave one of them to Jim; apparently it was part of a gun turret.

VETERANS OF NORWAY MISSIONS NOV 1943 PLEASE NOTE

A 50th anniversary reunion of the crews who were on those missions is to be held during the 2AD reunion at Hilton Head Nov. 4 to 7.

Donations of \$25 are being sought for a memorial plaque honoring those lost on these missions. It is to be displayed at the reunion. Contact is Forrest S. Clark, 44th BG, 703 Duffer Lane, Kissimmee, FL 34759, telephone (813) 427 0371.

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

The Wright Flyer formally accepted as Army's first airplane-1909

2AD PUBLISHING BOOK; CRUSADERS URGED TO SEND IN BIOGRAPHIES

John Conrad, president of Second Air Division Ass'n, is reminding 392nd people to send their biographies, with a picture as you were then and are now, to Turner Publishing Company. No purchase of the book is required, and it is free if you can keep under 150 words. If the copy runs over 150 words it costs 15 cents a word for the extra.

The book will of course cover the entire 2AD and it will be published in the Spring of 1994. If a book is desired, the cost is \$49.

The address is PO Box 3101, Paducah KY 40002.

392ND TO BE AT BOTH 8AF CHICAGO AND 2AD HILTON HEAD

Eighth Air Force Chicago, Illinois

Tuesday, September 28
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Reunion registration open.
8:30 pm - 10:30 pm 8AF Cash Bar Reception.

Wednesday, September 29
8:00 am - 5:00 pm Reunion registration open.
8:00 am - 2:00 pm (Option) Board bus for golf outing.
8:30 am - 4:00 pm (Option) Board bus for Chicago City Tour and Museum.
9:00 am 8th AFMMF Board of Directors annual meeting.
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm 'PX' open.
2:00 pm Unit Rendezvous Meeting Rooms open.
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm Agenda-setting UNIT ADVISORY MEETING.
6:15 pm - 10:00 pm (Option) Board bus for Medieval Times Dinner and Show.

Thursday, September 30
7:00 am - 8:30 am Full Breakfast.
9:00 am - 5:00 pm Reunion registration open.
9:00 am Unit Rendezvous Meeting Rooms open.
9:30 am 'Mighty Eighth' Theater-WWII movies sponsored by 8AFMMF.
Additional showings will be posted.
'PX' open.
Chapter & Unit Development Meeting.
(Option) Board bus for Arlington International Racecourse for lunch on your own and horse racing. Return to the hotel at your leisure. Last bus will leave at 4 pm.
Board bus for Polka evening at the White Eagle Restaurant. Dinner and entertainment included.
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Reunion Program September 28 - October 3, 1993

Friday, October 1
7:00 am - 8:30 am Full Breakfast.
9:00 am - 5:00 pm Reunion registration open.
9:00 am Unit Rendezvous Meeting rooms open.
9:30 am (Option) Board bus for lunch and shopping on your own in downtown Chicago. Tour also goes to the John G. Shedd Aquarium.
10:00 am - 3:00 pm (Option) Board bus for nearby Woodfield Mall. Lunch and shopping on your own. Shuttle service to return at your leisure.
10:00 am - 5:00 pm 'PX' open.
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm 'Fighters' Presentation by Gabby Gabreski.
6:30 pm - 7:15 pm 8AF Cash Bar Reception. Dress informal.
7:30 pm Rendezvous Dinner and 'hangar flying'.

Saturday, October 2
7:00 am - 8:30 am Continental Breakfast.
9:00 am - 11:30 am General Membership Meeting.
9:00 am - 12:00 pm Reunion registration open.
10:00 am - 4:00 pm 'PX' open.
1:30 pm - 4:30 pm 13th Annual 8AFMMF Air-War Symposium
8AF Cash Bar Reception.
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Dress: Coat and tie for men or military uniform.
7:15 pm Military Color Guard Ceremony followed by 8AF Gala Banquet and Dance.

Sunday, October 3
7:00 am - 8:00 am Continental Breakfast.
8:30 am Brief Memorial Service.
9:00 am Short Protestant and Catholic services before checking out of the hotel.

CHICAGO SEP 28-OCT 3, HILTON HEAD NOV 4-7; TRY FOR ONE OR BOTH

Both the 8th Air Force Historical Society and the 2nd Air Division Association have become over the years more unit oriented, realizing that the members wish to renew old Group and Squadron acquaintances. Consequently they make gathering places available for the units and the 392nd takes advantage of this, organizing hospitality rooms and in other ways making it easy for Crusaders to find each other.

Although the official annual meeting of the 392nd Bomb Group Memorial Association will be at 2AD Hilton Head, there will be a strong delegation of Crusaders at both places. Members are urged to make an attempt to attend whichever meeting is their choice; and if possible attend both.

Information regarding both meetings will be found on these pages, along with sign-up blanks. The Spring edition of the 2AD Journal has the same information; and the 8AF has sent its members a special mailing about the Chicago reunion.

For further information contact:

FOR 2AD:

Oak Mackey, 392nd vice-president
6406 E. Presidio
Mesa AZ 85205
Tel (602) 641-3033
or,
Evelyn Cohen, Secy 2AD Ass'n
06-410 Delaire Landing Road
Philadelphia PA 19444
Tel (215) 632 3992

FOR 8AF:

Clifford Peterson, 392nd vice-president
2120 Woodcrest Dr.
Winter Park FL 32792
Tel (407) 647 6641
or,
8AF Reunion
PO Box 11327
Norfolk VA 23517

It is important to note that for room reservations for 8AF, Crusaders should contact the Hyatt Regency Hotel. For 2AD, the contact is Evelyn Cohen, not the hotel.

For RV campground information at Hilton Head, write or call Floyd Bull, PO Box 30, Circleville, NY 10919, tel (914) 361 2632.

392ND AT 8AF CHICAGO

The Group membership meeting will Friday, Oct. 1 at 9 a.m.

392ND AT 2AD HILTON HEAD

The Group membership meeting will be Friday, Nov. 5 at 9 a.m. There will be a POW symposium Friday afternoon.

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

B-29 "Enola Gay" dropped atomic bomb on Hiroshima-1945

Registration Instructions...

- See choices below. Then complete Registration Form.
- Remit by check or money order made payable to: 8AF Reunion by August 28, 1993. Forms received after this date will be accepted on a space available basis only.
- Mail Registration Form and payment to 8AF Reunion / P.O. Box 11327 / Norfolk, VA 23517 by August 28.
- Costs include tax and service charge.
- Canceled check will serve as your receipt, although you are not expected to present it at registration.
- After you have checked into the hotel, report to the reunion registration desk to pick up your registration packet with nametags, tickets, and other important information.
- Full refund for cancellations postmarked by August 28. After the cut-off date, refund amount will depend on charges made for unused portion of services.

Meals/Events Choices

Choice #1 Total Package \$148

Package includes 7 food functions starting with Thursday breakfast and full program of listed events. Thursday polka evening available only in this package. Options are separate.

Choice #2 Partial Package \$112

Package includes five food functions starting with Friday breakfast and events as listed in reunion program. Options are separate.

Choice #3 Individual Events

Friday: Rendezvous Dinner \$28 and Saturday: Banquet \$36 can be purchased separately if you do not wish to be included in Choice #1 or #2 above.

Options:

Wednesday: Golf \$57, Wednesday: Tour \$27, Wednesday: Medieval Times \$39, Thursday: Races \$18, Friday: Shopping & Museums \$24, or Friday: Mall Shopping \$16.

Membership Notice

The Eighth Air Force Historical Society, sponsor of the annual 8AF Reunion, welcomes you. Annual dues \$10 (\$15 overseas). If you wish to apply for or renew your membership, please remit to 8AFHS, P.O. Box 7215, St. Paul, MN 55107.

Mail this form directly to the Hyatt Regency O'Hare by August 28, 1993
9300 West Bryn Mawr Avenue/Rosemont, IL 60018

CONVENTION CODE: 8TH AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel. # _____
Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____
Please reserve _____ room(s) for _____ no. of people
Name(s) of person(s) sharing room(s) _____

Check or Money Order enclosed - Amount _____
Name of Credit Card _____
Account Number _____ Exp. Date _____
Signature _____

The room rate is \$85 plus tax (12%). This rate is good for one to four people in the room. Please specify room type: King Double/Double Non-smoking Smoking Handicapped

Suites: There are six types of suites available to our guests ranging from \$250 to \$750 per night. Please call Hyatt reservations directly (708-696-1231) to discuss your needs.

Registration Form

Names (for nametags) _____

A. Dress (incl. zip) _____ Tel: () _____

8AFH. Membership # _____ Check () if Life Member

WWII Group (for seating arrangements) _____

Is this you, first 8AFHS reunion? _____

Meals Section

Choice #1 per person \$148 \$ _____

Choice #2 per person \$112 \$ _____

Choice #3 - Individual Events

Note: Friday and Saturday dinners are included in #1 and #2 above.

Friday: Rendezvous Dinner per person \$28 \$ _____

Saturday: Banquet & Dance per person \$36 \$ _____

Events Section (Options) See Pages 10 & 11

Wednesday Golf per person \$57 \$ _____

-or- _____ -or- _____

Wednesday City Tour per person \$27 \$ _____

Wednesday Medieval Times per person \$39 \$ _____

Thursday Horse Races per person \$18 \$ _____

Friday Shopping & Museum per person \$24 \$ _____

-or- _____ -or- _____

Friday Mall Shopping per person \$16 \$ _____

Mandatory Registration fee per person \$30 \$ _____

(Reg. fee includes Unit rebates, Symposium, 8AFMMF memorial plans, 8AFHS postage, etc.)

Please Note Saturday Night Banquet Choice:

_____ Sliced Sirloin of Beef

_____ Chef's Selection of Fish

Enclose Full Payment to 8AF Reunion \$ _____

In case of emergency notify: _____

Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

Physician: _____ Phone: _____

Medications Taken _____

Mail to the address below postmarked by 8/28/93

8AF Reunion - P.O. Box 11327 - Norfolk, VA 23517

SEND THIS HOTEL

RESERVATION

DIRECT TO

HOTEL

BAILS OUT OVER HOLLAND IN 1943; EVADES TO SPAIN

Col (then 2/Lt) Vic Ferrari was the navigator in one of the early replacement crews in the 578th, arriving at Wendling in Sept. 1943.

His second mission was to Bremen Nov. 13. They were down to two engines when they left the target, could not keep up with the formation, and were under attack from 15 or 16 enemy fighters when it became apparent that the aircraft was doomed and the bail-out order was given. Ferrari and 2/Lt Eddie Roberts, the bombardier, exited together and Roberts broke his shoulder landing. They were over Holland.

(Ferrari and Sgt Nick Mandell were able to evade capture; Roberts evaded for some time but was eventually captured; and the rest of the crew were captured and were POW. All survived the war, but Nick Mandell is now deceased.)

Ferrari and Roberts hid in the cold November waters of a pond until dark and were picked up by the Dutch resistance.

Then began a 3-month odyssey through Holland and Belgium and to Toulouse, France by way of Paris. Most of the trip was by train with Ferrari disguised as a Flemish laborer and with many layovers in safe houses. On the way he was joined, separated, and joined again by Nick Mantrell.

From Toulouse it was over the Pyrenees mountains by foot, at night and over the most difficult terrain, because the easy passes were guarded.

Arriving in Spain, Ferrari and the small party of evadees were passed to the Americans there. Ferrari was sent to Gibraltar where he boarded a C-47 for a flight to England. Even aboard the plane he could not heave a sigh of relief, because the gooney bird developed engine trouble and they barely made it to Land's End, England.

He was debriefed in London and returned to Wendling. Because of the Geneva convention rules regarding evadees he was taken off combat and returned to the States.

Ferrari held various navigation school assignments from 1944 to 1954. The rest of his military career was duty in Saudi Arabia, at the Air Force Academy, as Deputy CO at Mather AF Base, and AFOTC at Notre Dame. He retired as Colonel in 1971.

From 1971 to the present he has been an executive in the United Services Automobile Association in San Antonio, where he lives at 3419 Hunters Wind with wife Doris Gene. They have three children and two grandchildren.

FOLDED WINGS

C. Royce Bishop, 577

Robert Callender, 578, Jan. 6, 1979

Donald B. Clark, Hq., about 1964-66

Peter C. Kost, Feb. 22, 1988

Alexander Quaglietti

Tom Sisson, 578, Feb. 6, 1993

John W. Yost, 579, May 1, 1993

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

Two Army planes participated for first time in ground force maneuvers-1912

Second Air Division Association 46th Annual Convention • November 4-7, 1993 Hyatt Regency Hotel, Ocean Front at Palmetto Dunes Hilton Head Island, S.C. 29938 • Telephone (803) 785-1234

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Registration
Early Bird Party
(Cash Bar and Complimentary
Hors D'Oeuvres)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Registration
Golf Tournament
Cocktail Party
Buffet Dinner
Awards Ceremony

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Buffet Breakfast
Free Morning & Afternoon
(Group V.P. will advise you as to group
activities for this morning and afternoon -
costs not included in package.)
Cocktail Party
Group Dinners

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Buffet Breakfast
Business Meeting
Cocktail Party
Banquet & Dance

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Buffet Breakfast

The costs listed below are for the entire package listed above, including hotel room for three nights, Thursday 11/4 to Sunday 11/7. For special requirements, drop me a line and I will advise costs.

COSTS PER PERSON

Single Occupancy	\$455.00
Double Occupancy	\$330.00 per person
Triple Occupancy	\$285.00 per person
Quad Occupancy	\$265.00 per person

DEPOSIT WITH RESERVATION — \$50.00 PER PERSON — FULL PAYMENT BY SEPTEMBER 1st. In all future conventions, an advance deposit of \$50.00 per person attending will be required, which will be non-refundable if written cancellation request is not received before 90 days of the convention starting date or by due date of the entire payment. Confirmations will be mailed upon receipt of deposit.

We will no longer provide you with insurance forms. You may obtain these from your travel agent.

All extra nights and incidental charges must be paid upon check out, directly to the hotel.

Cost for extra nights — \$80.00 + 7% payable on check out.

PLEASE SEE REVERSE FOR ADDITIONAL NOTES AND CONVENTION RESERVATION FORM.

CAMPGROUNDS — R.V. Resort & Yacht Club, Hilton Head Island

Full Hookup: \$28.00 per night.

Rental Camper: \$55.00 per night. (\$150.00 refundable deposit required for rental.)

Notes: (1) You must first send your reunion deposit to Evelyn Cohen. (2) Early camper get-together will be held on Wednesday, 11/3. (3) We are working on shuttle transportation. (4) No reservations accepted after 9/25.

Name _____ Group _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Arrive _____ Depart _____ Total No. in Party _____ Children _____ Pets _____

Type R.V. _____ License No. _____

Make check payable to: R.V. Resort & Yacht Club (\$25.00)

Mail to: M&M Floyd Bull, P.O. Box 30, Circleville, N.Y. 10919. (Phone 914-361-2632).

PARKING: Free at Hyatt Regency.

GOLF TOURNAMENT: Contact Pete Henry, 164B Portland Lane, Jamesburg, N.J. 08831. Phone (609) 655-0982.

NON-SMOKING ROOMS: 145 Available

HANDICAPPED ROOMS: 15 Available

WHEELCHAIRS: 2 Available

AIR TRAVEL: If you wish to avoid going to Atlanta, I would recommend that you fly U.S. Air to Charleston, S.C. and change for flight to Hilton Head.

RESERVATION FORM

Name _____ Spouse _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Group for Group Dinner Seating _____ Group for Banquet Seating _____

Sgl. _____ Dbl. _____ Trip. _____ Quad _____ Will Share _____ Arr. _____ Dep. _____

First Convention _____ Deposit _____ Paid in Full _____ Nicknames _____

Names of other parties in your room if triple or quad _____

DO NOT CALL HOTEL FOR RESERVATIONS, CHANGES, CANCELLATIONS, ETC. All these should be sent to:

Evelyn Cohen
06-410 Delaire Landing Road
Philadelphia, PA 19114
Telephone (215) 632-3992

ALBUQUERQUE MEETING MARKS 392ND'S 50TH

SYMPOSIUMS RECALL GROUP'S EARLY DAYS; TOUGH MISSIONS; GROUND EFFORT

One of the largest turn-outs of Crusaders to attend a reunion celebrated the Group's golden anniversary at Albuquerque May 20-24.

The affair was ably chaired by Bob Vickers and Charley Dye, assisted by Bob's wife Lois and mother Ann, and Helen Dye. Other committee members were Gil and Martha Bambauer, Keith and Patty Roberts, Art and Teddy Egan, and Howard Ebersole.

The highlight of the convention was the presentation of three symposiums: Early Days, The Tough Missions; and Ground Support. These were videotaped by Dan McGovern, a combat photographer in the 8AF and presently involved in such productions. Dan has edited them and they, along with another tape covering the entire convention, are available for \$23 each from the 392nd's PX. (See PX order blank, this issue, for particulars.) Copies of the tapes will be forwarded to Ian Hawkins, the British author who is preparing a history of the 392nd.

EARLY DAYS



At Alamogordo in the early summer of 1943 (note the khaki uniforms): Major Joseph Bush, Ground Executive Officer; Lt Col Irvine Rendle, commander; and Major John Fritsche, Adjutant.

The Early Days symposium was chaired by Keith Roberts and panelists were Gil Bambauer, personal equipment sergeant; Joe Whittaker, the 392nd's first Bombardier and later 2AD Bombardier; Kenneth Paddock, Group Navigator; Myron Keilman, commander of the 579th; Cecil Rothrock, gunner on one of the original crews; and Jim Goar, sitting in for the ailing Warren Polking, 578th's commander. Discussed was the early history of the Group when it was stationed at Tucson, El Paso, and Alamogordo, with some of the Group at Orlando for early training. Col. Irvine Rendle was the first commander.

The Ground Support panel was chaired by Jim Goar, Transportation Officer. On the panel were Gil Bambauer; Ernie Barber, 578th crew chief;

Norman Mellow, flight engineer on the 578th's No. 1 crew; Charley Dye, station Ammunition Officer; and Barney Glettler, Flying Control Officer.

The Tough Missions symposium was led by Bob Vickers and participants were Myron Keilman, Vern Baumgart, Cliff Peterson, Carroll Cheek, Howard Ebersole, J. D. Long, Jim Buzick, and Richard Griffin. All were present at one or more of the nine missions that accounted for one-third of the Group's casualties.

During the convention plaques for service to the Group were award to Col. Joe Bush, Ground Executive Officer; Col. Lawrence Gilbert, last commander; Bob Vickers, historian and convention chairman; Carwin and Henriette Thomason, operators of the PX; Ernie Barber, archivist; and Jim Goar, newsletter.

CO-CHAIRPERSONS



Stan Zybort photo

Sharing convention duties with Bob Vickers were Helen Dye, WWII navy nurse; and husband Charles Dye, station ammunition officer at Wendling and 392BGMA Treasurer.

There was an impressive Memorial Service at Kirtland Air Force Base, during which a flower was presented by a representative of every unit stationed at Wendling.

The hospitality room under the supervision of Ernie Barber was well visited, with its several foot lockers of pictures and other memorabilia.

Closing the event was the Memorial Banquet, when the powerful prayer composed by the Very Reverend Robert C. Martin, 576th pilot and retired Dean of the Cathedral at Erie, Pa. was read. The prayer, first said at the Wendling Memorial in 1992, now has a permanent place in the newsletter under the picture of the Memorial on the back cover.

Attendees were Anthony Albino and Edna; Ben Alexander and Elizabeth; Elmer Amble; Lawrence Bachman and Louise; Gil Bambauer and Martha; Ernie Barber; Dr. George Barger and Helen; Joseph Barnes and Ardeth; Peter Baxter; Bill Barry; Vern Baumgart; Luther Beddingfield; Jack Berkley and Barbara; Bob Berger and Jean;

Wally Blackburn and Loraine; Joe Bonanno and Anne; Jim Buzick; Jim Cassity; Bill Cetin; Carroll Cheek and Mabel; James Childers; Don Clover and Anne; John Colvin and Mary Ann; John Conrad and Wanda; Robert Copp and Ruth; Art Crafton; Jackson Crane and Anna;

Fred Crane and Ruth; George DeBaca and Mary; Winfield Denton and Betty Jo; Arnold Dovey and Cleome; Allen Duff and Elizabeth; Charles Dye and Helen; Howard Ebersole; Art Egan and Teddy; Bob Egan; Lee Ehrlich and Shirley; Manly Fox and Estelle; Ben Foote;

Sterling Fligge; Robert Gardner and Helen; Herman Garner and Anelle; Frank Gillett and Phyllis; Lawrence Gilbert and Margie; Barney Glettler; Jim Goar and Virginia; Robert Gorham and Mary; David Greene and Renee; Richard Griffin; Roy Grimm and Rusty; Bob Harned and Jane; Walter Hebron; Burton Hinckley and Jean; Richard Hoffman and Ruth; Fred Hollien and Lorraine; Edward Holmes and Dalpha; Frank Hostetter and Mary; Delmar Johnson and Lucille; Raymond Johnson and Harriet; George Judd and Ruth; Bill Jurczyn and Renella; John Kallas; Francis Kane and Jean; Sally Kauffman; Myron Keilman and Blanche; Ralph Kieffer and LaRue; Stephen Kinzler and Marie; Raymond Kopecky and Norma Jean; Harry Kruse; Joe Landers and Jeanne; John Largen; Birdie Larrick; Leon LeBleu and Betty; Willard Levin and Ann; Jack Lovett and Mabel; J. D. Long and Emily; Oak Mackey and Maxine; Dan McGovern; Randall Mayer and Rita; Jim Marsteller and Karen; John Malloy and Peg; James Maris and Lucille; John Martin and Martha, Guthrie, and Madlyne; Walter Mateski and Margaret;

Norman Mellow and Alberta; Jim and Jerome Meyers; Willis Miller and Dorothy; Donald Mitchell and Patricia; Jim Morris and Jane; James Myers and Dottie; Kenneth Paddock and Bridget; George Phelps and Gloria; Mike Perry and Patricia; Kenneth Parks and Regina;

Cliff Peterson and Mary; Milton Planche and Mary; Warren Polking and Dette; Ed Popek and Erma; Bert Prost and Margaret; Keith Roberts and Patty; George Richner and Marjorie; John Rosenberg and Betty; Rocky Rothrock and Mary; John Rumancik and Lucy; Roland Sabourin; William Singleton and Jean; Dale Slayter and Margaret;

Clyde Smith and Shirley; Guy Spinalli and Madeline and Steve; Adrian Sprosty and Avis, Thomas, and Norma; Kermit Spears and Mary Ada; Paul Strahler; Robert Strausbaugh and Thelma; Charles Taylor and Billie; Bob Tays and Frances; J. Fred Thomas; Carwin Thomason and Henriette; J. Robert Thompson; Robert Tuchel and Wanda; Jim Tudor and Lee; Edmund Twining and Sheryl; John Urban; Bob Vickers and Lois and Ann; Cleo Van Amberg and Helen;

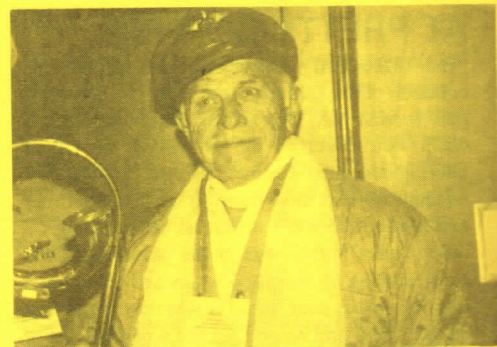
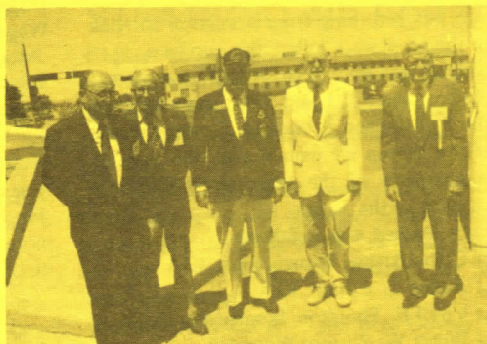
Edwin White and Dorothy; Van White and Lore; Harry White and Nancy; Joe Whittaker; Leonard Wipfler and Mary; Raymond Wolfinger and Dave; and Stanley Zybort and Mildred.

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

Radio controlled bombers first used in missions flown against V-1 rocket sites-1944

BAD TIMES, GOOD TIMES RECALLED AT ALBUQUERQUE REUNION

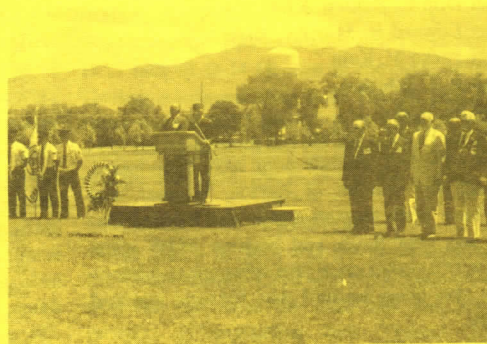
L. Early commanders and staff: Col Warren Polking, CO 578th; Col Myron Keilman, Oprn O and CO 579th; L/C Joe Whittaker, first Grp Bombardier and later 2AD Bombardier; L/C Kenneth Paddock, Grp Navigator; Col Lawrence Gilbert, Grp Oprn O, Deputy CO, last commander.



R. Col Bob Vickers, reunion chairman, disguised as a flying cadet.

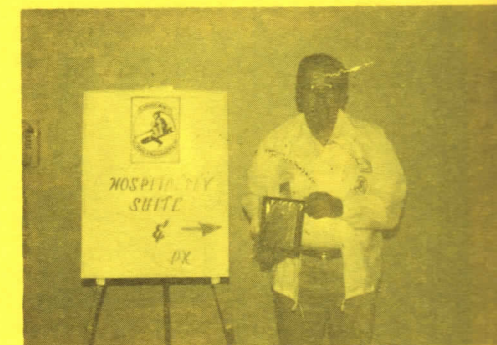
L. Memorial Service at Kirkland AF Base.

R. Rocky Rothrock, a gunner on Cassel crew, one of the original crews; and Bill Cetin, a horse soldier before he came to the 392nd and became the 579th's Sqdn Bombardier.



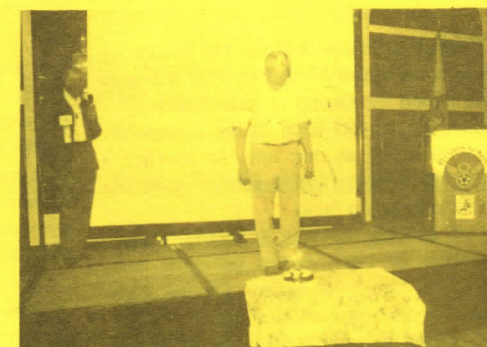
L. Virginia George and Milly Zybort in the hospitality room.

R. M/Sgt Ernie Barber, 578th crew chief, who hauls a pickup truck load of memorabilia to 392nd gatherings. Ernie was awarded a plaque in appreciation.



L. Col Lawrence Gilbert, 392BGMA president and last Group commander, who celebrated his xx birthday during the convention.

R. The Tom Sisson crew, 578th: Elmer Kruse, tail gunner; Bob Strausbaugh, radio op; Walt Cranson, co-pilot; Cleo Van Amburg, waist gunner; and Ed White, nose gunner and toggeler.



L. The Willis Miller crew, 577/579th: Jack Crane, Bombardier; Frank Gillett; navigator, Jim Cassity, co-pilot; and Willis Miller, pilot.

R. The Roland Sabourin crew, 578th: Roland Sabourin, pilot; Joe Landers, navigator; Walt Mateski, r waist gunner; Bill Singleton, bombardier; Elmer Amble, co-pilot; and Fred Hollien, flt engineer.



THE 578TH "ALFRED" CRASH JAN 4 1944 AT PRETTY CORNER

The Memorial Association heard on the occasion of the Group's 1992 return to Wendling that a Mrs. May Ayers was inquiring about a crash that occurred at the village of Upper Sheringham, near Cromer, on Jan. 4, 1944. The neighborhood is known locally as Pretty Corner and is about 25 miles northeast of Wendling.

Mrs. Ayers' father was in the woods near the coast picking up firewood when a B-24 crashed into the woods near him. He was one of the first on the scene and helped get the wounded out of the crashed aircraft.

Mr. Stanley Wright, now a lively 78-year old, was also an eyewitness to the crash. He was in his fields on high ground overlooking the sea at Malthouse Farm, West Beckham at the time of the crash. He saw the a/c coming in low over the water, losing height as it approached and it was obvious that it was in serious trouble. After crossing the coast at a height of about 200 feet and flying on just two engines, the plane turned sharply to port and stalled into rising ground near the woods on the Sheringham side of Pretty Corner.



Photo courtesy Manly Fox

This photo of "Alfred" was taken at Wendling on Dec. 10, 1943, and shows (then) Lt. Col. Lorin Johnson, at that time deputy commander, on the left. The other airman is thought to be 1/Lt Lynn G. Peterson, 577th, who was KIA March 18, 1944 on the Friedrichshafen mission.

Mr. Wright recalls that the a/c was visibly badly damaged, particularly the starboard wing. The port wing and the tail unit had also suffered damage. He recalls: "As the a/c turned, you could see daylight through the wings. There was a mighty roar as the remaining engines were put at full throttle in an attempt to avoid a stall and the a/c went into the port turn, but she rapidly lost height".

Mr. Wright believes that the pilot was heading for the RAF airfield at Matlaske, only 5 and one-half miles inland from the coast. However, on crossing the cliffs at a point just to the west of Sheringham, the pilot was confronted with the radar antennas at West Beckham, directly on his flight path and only a short flying time distant.

Mr. Wright thinks that this situation led to the violent turn to port, resulting in an unrecoverable loss of altitude.

The a/c was returning from a mission to Kiel. Five of the crew were killed, five survived.

The aircraft was #42-7485, "Alfred", assigned at times to both the 577th and 578th and was flying with the 578th when it crashed. It was the first of five Group a/c named after the popular comics character of the time. Only Alfred V made it back to the States.

The crew loading was as follows:

2/Lt Colby Arthur Waugh, pilot, KIA
2/Lt Arthur L. Cound, KIA
2/Lt Virgil E. Thomson, bombardier, KIA
2/Lt James W. Barton, Wounded
T/Sgt L. L. Wagner, Wounded
S/Sgt Don C. Belden, KIA
S/Sgt Edward R. Murphy, KIA
S/Sgt Parke V. Kent
S/Sgt E. J. Johnson
S/Sgt H. Wilk

The 392nd BGMA NEWS has mounted a search for the survivors. To date none have been found, although the widows of Barton, Wagner, and Kent have been located and it was learned that Kent was shot down and became POW when flying with another crew on a subsequent mission. It has also been learned that Johnson survived the war.

T/Sgt Lester Wagner, who died June 17, 1992, was the flight engineer. He reported before his death that he sustained wounds in the action and was grounded for medical reasons. He finished out the war in England as a ground mechanic in the 389th.

The NEWS continues to search for Johnson and Wilk.

The villagers at Upper Sheringham plan to erect a small monument to the crew in the church yard, and the dedication is planned for 1994, 50 years after the crash.

The villagers report that for years on the anniversary of the crash a wreath has been hung in the woods near the crash scene, and they are not aware of who does it.

PROFILE

S/Sgt George A. Phelps was the tail gunner on the No. 1 crew of the 578th, the Cliff Edwards crew. He joined the Group at Alamogordo.

In civilian life he has been in the automobile business, operating at one time or another a garage, a parts store, and a salvage yard. At present he operates a farm.

Active in politics, he was a Vermont state representative in 1983, and is presently campaigning to fill that post again. He has been Selectman for the town of Thetford.

He and spouse Gloria are the parents of four children and have 7 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Their address in the summer is PO Box 122, East Thetford, VT 05043 and in the winter they live at 18149 Evening Star Ave., Brooksville, FL 34609.

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

Berlin Airlift corridor to be equipped with flight aids to insure winter airlift operations-1948

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

First official airship test flights made at Ft. Meyer, VA-1908

PROFILE

1/Lt Walter Neustad, Jr. was an Intelligence Officer in the 576th. He joined the Group at Wendling in January or February of 1944.

After the war he was a geologist in the oil industry. Active in University of Oklahoma affairs, he has been a Regent and president of the University Foundation. He is president of Westheimer-Neustad Corporation, and is presently semi-retired.

He lives with wife Dot at 1805 Stanley, Ardmore, OK 73401. They have three children and three grandchildren.

PROFILE

1/Lt Walter Cranson was co-pilot on the Sisson crew in the 578th, arriving at Wendling in February 1944.

After separation from the service, he went back to college to brush up a little, and then taught GI agriculture in La Junta, CO. Reacting to what he was teaching his students, he bought a small farm near La Junta, working also for the railroad as a round house clerk.

Becoming interested in the Peace movement, he started a Peace Academy book store in 1978 and is still at it. Evidently a guy who believes in what he's doing, he ran as a Peace candidate three times, in '66, '68, and '72, for the US Senate.

He and mate Margaret Ann have parented 9 children and have 27 grandchildren. Not a record in the 392nd, but close to it.

Their address is 32160 E. 194, La Junta, CO 81050.

PROFILE

Cpl. Robert S. Gardner was in the 577th's S-2, joining the Group at El Paso in April, 1943.

In 1944 he was transferred to the 9th AF and served with them on the Continent. He was in Europe somewhat longer than the 392nd, leaving LeHarve in December of 1945.

He was in the Postal Service at Kansas City for 40 years.

He lives with wife Helen at 1401 S. Maywood, Independence, MO 64052. They have two boys and one granddaughter.

PROFILE

Col Richard E. Griffin, USAF, (Ret) was a 1/Lt and the co-pilot of the Case crew in the 578th. He joined the Group at Wendling in Oct. 1944 and flew 26 combat missions.

Post-war, he graduated from the University of Southern California and after some time in the reserves, was recalled to active duty in 1951 and saw duty in Korea, Japan, and Viet Nam with 103 combat missions in that action. Other duties were Training Command, Air Force plant representative, and Defense Contract Administration.

After retirement from the military, he was director of quality assurance with an Aerospace company.

He and wife Shirley have one daughter and two grandchildren. The Griffins live at 29815 Circle R Creek Lane, Escondido CA 92026.

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

First wholly automatic landing in history accomplished-1937

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

Barling bomber made its initial flight-1923

FROM THE KEILMAN WWII NOTEBOOK

Col Myron Keilman, the commander of the 579th, has compiled accounts of events in 392nd history that he has named "Lest We Forget". Following are his notes on our attacks on Bremen, with a citation from the Commanding General, 2AD:

The city of Bremen with its great port facilities, submarine pens, oil refineries and industrial complex was an important strategic target and was heavily defended by anti-aircraft batteries. The 392nd struck it as early as 13 November 1943 and lost four a/c. The Group returned to it two times in December, and on 29 July 1944 45 of the Group's B-24's bombed it again by radar. Here is General Hodge's message from Hq 2AD: "Flash report just received from Pinetree states H2X mission to Bremen yesterday was one of the most successful to date. PRU shows several damaging hits on the ordered primary target; and concentrations in the Deschimag U-boat shipbuilding works, a target that always been priority one. Considerable damage is also evident to the yard facilities and two or three ships, one of which was a very large vessel, were sunk. Further, a warehouse district north of Deschimag, the Kaffe-Handlesac priority three, sustained heavy damage and in the principal Bremen warehouse district east of Deshimag, even heavier destruction was caused. Twelve warehouses were severely damaged and were still burning. Railroad facilities north of the target were hit heavily and considerable damage was caused to rolling stock. Full reconnaissance coverage has not yet been obtained and it is quite possible that even further damage was caused. My heartiest congratulations on this good news. Hodges."

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

First American heavy bomber mission during WWII flown in Europe-1942

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

12th AF activated in preparation for the invasion of North Africa-1942

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

B-29's made first supply dropping mission to WWII POW's in China-1945

HISTORIAN POINTS OUT SHEER SIZE OF EUROPE STRATEGIC AIR FORCES

CMSgt Adolph Scolavino, USAF (Ret) is an avid historian and collector. He lives in Albuquerque and visited our hospitality room at the Albuquerque reunion, checking out 392nd history.

A veteran of 56 combat missions in both B-17's and B-24's, he is well qualified in his avocation. In a recent letter to the NEWS expressing thanks for our cooperation, he pointed out some impressive statistics:

World-wide WWII B-17 and B-24 Groups:	80
8AF B-17 and B-24 Groups	44
15 AF B-17 and B-24 Groups	23
Others World-Wide	13

Mr. Scolavino further stated that there were 26 B-17 and 16 B-24 Groups in the 8AF, with two Groups equipped with both a/c. In the 15AF, there were 6 B-17 and 17 B-24 Groups. World-wide, all Groups ended up equipped with B-24's except, of course, the B-29's in the Pacific.

PROFILE

T/Sgt Harry B. Sooy was the flight engineer on the Conneran and Callahan crews. Squadron? He said the one near the coke pile and the cow pasture. (Consultation with Vickers' history indicates that the Conneran crew was assigned to the 577th.)

He joined the Group at Wendling in March 1944, was shot down Apr. 11, and spent 13 months as POW. After VE day and liberation, he saw duty in the Pentagon on General Arnold's staff as designer of Air Corps presentations for Joint Chiefs of Staff meetings.

Post-war, he was a free-lance artist and designer, specializing in corporate and industrial design. He retired in 1981, but still does consulting in the art/design field.

Wife Joyce is a travel consultant, and they have 2 sons and 3 daughters; and 9 grandchildren. They live at 25 Charles St., Emerson NJ 07630-1336.

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

First tricycle landing gear installed on the Army Wright plane-1910

NEUNDORF HOSTS 392ND BAY AREA GET-TOGETHER

The annual Sacramento-Bay Area reunion in June was attended by Bob and Jean Berger, Sterling and Beth Fligge, Delmar and Lucille Johnson, Myron and Blanche Keilman, Frank and Barbara Kirtana, Bill and Vi Long, Willis Roddy, James and Mary Royer, Roland Sabourin, and Harry and Nancy White. Host was Charlie Neundorf.

PROFILE

M/Sgt Hoyt Barfield was the aircraft inspector in Group Headquarters and mainly from his records has come the so-called Wedgeworth list of all the a/c assigned to the 392nd during operations from Wendling. Barfield joined the Group early at Davis-Monthan Field March 15, 1943.

He retired from the service department of a Ford dealership in 1984.

He and wife Carolyn live at 1225 Laurel Hill Drive, Decatur, GA 30033.

PROFILE

Sgt Reymond Lee Brewster was a clerk in S-4 in Hdqtrs. He was an early member of the Group, joining at El Paso early in 1943.

Post-war, he was a traveling salesman for a lumber company, selling creosoted material.

Brewster's address us PO Box 13002, Alexandria, LA 71315-3002. He has a son and a daughter who is deceased, a grandson in the Air Force and a granddaughter.

PROFILE

S/Sgt Herman Craighead was a clerk in Group Engineering. He joined the 392nd at El Paso in March 1943.

He is an accountant in the construction industry, still working.

He and spouse Ruth live at 4900 Ruskin Ave., Nashville TN 37216. They have 2 sons and 4 grandchildren.

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

Air Corps pilots flew 5 miles above earth's surface to photograph eclipse of sun-1942

FOLDED WINGS REPORT (PLEASE REPORT ANY DEATH OF SPOUSE AS WELL AS OF MEMBER)

Name of deceased _____ Sqdn. _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of death _____ Survivors: (Send copy of obit from newspaper if possible) _____

Reported by _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

[] Record a memorial contribution to 392nd BGMA in my name, check made out to 392nd Bomb Group Memorial Ass'n., enclosed. Send this report to J. D. Long, Jr., 102 Kemp Road East, Greensboro, NC 27410.

MEMORIES OF ENGLAND

by M/Sgt Roof

(Submitted by Hoyt Barfield, Hq)

E is for eggs, they're always powdered,
N is for NAAFI and their tea,
G is for the gum the kids all want, chum,
L is for the lights you never see,
A is for ack-ack always acking,
N is for the nights you never sleep.
D is for the dampest weather ever seen,
and England's not the place for me.

PROFILE

1/Lt Willis H. Roddy was the co-pilot on the Becker crew in the 576th. The crew was assigned to the 392nd at Tucson and theirs was the first 576th a/c to touch down at Wendling in 1943.

After the war he attended UCLA and spent a number of years in the poultry industry, being a plant superintendent for Swansons and the Campbell Soup Company. Later he was a partner in a poultry equipment company. He is now in semi-retirement in the Sierra Nevada foothills and is a real estate broker.

He has four children, 10 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. His address is PO Box 561, Altaville, CA 95221.

NEW LOOK

The NEWS has acquired a new font program for the word processor. The new program gives us a wide range of choice of type faces and we hope to make the newsletter more readable and pleasing to the eye. Reader comment is invited.

COMPILES RECORD OF BROTHER'S CAREER IN 392; VISITS MEMORIAL

Reverend Frank Whitt is a retired Methodist minister living in Tacoma, Washington. His brother was S/Sgt Clyde Whitt, gunner on the Larson crew in the 577th, KIA June 19, 1944.

Rev. Whitt, working with his brother's diary, has put together a record of S/Sgt Whitt's experiences in WWII and particularly the record of his missions while flying with the 392nd.

He and Mrs. Whitt have just returned from England, where they visited the 2AD Library in Norwich and with Denis Duffield toured the base at Wendling.

His visit to the Memorial at Wendling was an emotional experience, as it is with all of us. He is an associate member of the 392BGMA, and he expressed his appreciation of the Memorial.

PROFILE

S/Sgt Leon W. LeBleu was one of the first Crusaders, being the assistant engineer and left waist gunner on the 578th's Cliff Edwards crew. He reported to the Group Feb. 10, 1943.

Now retired, he spent most of his employment time with the Rocky Mountain Arsenal in Denver and with the National Bureau of Standards at Boulder.

He and wife Betty live at 16501 El Mirage #589, Surprise, AZ 85374.

PX ITEMS

Book, "392nd War Stories", by Col. Myron Keilman, 579th,	\$20
Book, "Country Boy Combat Pilot", by Col. Bob Tays, 578th,	\$15
Book, "The Liberators From Wendling", by Col. Bob Vickers, 578th,	\$25
Cap, black, 392nd BG w/gold braid, summer,	\$9
Cap, black, 392nd BG w/gold braid, winter,	\$9
Cap, blue, w/B-24 and 392nd Crusader logo,	\$9
Jacket, white nylon, w/392nd BG and Crusader patches,	\$20
Patch, 392nd BG logo, \$1.50 postpaid	
Print, "The Flying Crusader", by Frederick T. Searle, unsigned, reduced to	\$10
Print, "The Flying Crusader", by Frederick T. Searle, signed, reduced to	\$15
T-Shirt, 392nd BG, \$10	
Video, from Albuquerque Reunion Symposium, "The Early Days",	
Video, Symposium above, "The Ground Support Teams Prepare for a Mission",	
Video, Symposium above, "The Tough Missions, Pt. 1, Bremen, Keil, Gotha, Freidrichshafen"	
Video, Symposium above, "The Tough Missions, Pt. 2, Politz, Berlin, Bernberg, Bingen, Wesel"	
Video, from Albuquerque Reunion, general scenes from the reunion	
(EACH VIDEO IS \$23 POSTPAID)	
Add \$1.50 per item for shipping cost (except postpaid items)	
Total	

Send with check to Charles Dye, Treas., 7000 Louisiana Blvd., NE, Apt. 1601, Albuquerque, NM 87109

HDQTRS SENIOR NCO'S



Photo courtesy Manly Fox

Pictured standing behind a suitably inscribed 2000-lb bomb casing are, L to R, Sgt Harold Bandelier, Sgt Raymond Brewster, S/Sgt Herman Craighead, M/Sgt Hoyt Barfield, T/Sgt Tom Horn, and S/Sgt Michael McBride.

Bandelier was the Colonel's driver and is a retired contractor living at New Haven, IN; Brewster was in S-4 and is a retired timber salesman living in Alexandria, LA; Craighead was in Group Engineering and is semi-retired as an accountant in the construction industry, living at Nashville, TN; Barfield was in Group Engineering and is retired from the service department of a Ford agency, living in Decatur, GA; Horn was in Group Armament and is a tobacco and popcorn grower living near Elkton, KY; and McBride was in Group Ordnance and is deceased.

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

Gen. Nathan F. Twining became first Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff-1957

CAPT DONALD B. CLARK

The Memorial Association has for some time been searching for news of Capt Donald B. Clark, the Group's Protestant chaplain.

Now, thanks to the efforts of Jim Tudor, 576th bombardier and retired professor at the University of Missouri and Dean Larry D. Clark, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at U. of M. we learn that Dr. Don Clark died unexpectedly from a heart attack sometime in the period 1964-66. At the time he was chairman of the department of English at the University.

A newspaper columnist recently noted that WWII veterans are "slowly marching into the gray mists of history".

Don Clark preceded us.

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

Last bombing mission by 20th AF completed-1945

2AD HERITAGE LEAGUE UP AND GOING; 2ND GENERATION INVOLVED

The 2nd Air Division Ass'n sponsored Heritage League was formed to accept for regular membership spouses, brothers, sisters, children, and grandchildren of persons who served with the Second Air Division. Friends or associates who by their demonstrated interest in the League may become associate members.

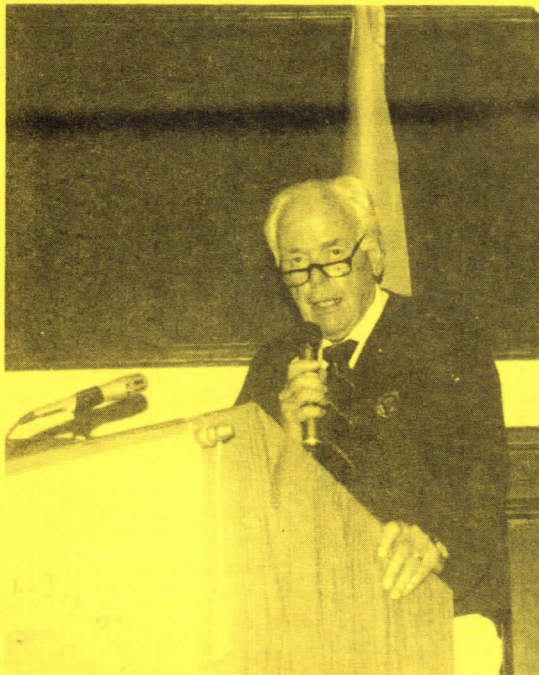
A membership application is to be found elsewhere in this issue. For only \$6, you can enroll someone who might be interested in carrying on the work and ideals of the Second Air Division Association.

Members receive a newsletter, The Heritage Herald, which is a publication of high quality.

ROBERTS MESMERIZES REUNION AUDIENCE

Keith Roberts, poet, dreamer, ex-Sears store manager, ex-navigator on the 578th's Vickers crew, captivated his listeners at the farewell banquet of the Albuquerque reunion with this nostalgic comment on the Glenn Miller Orchestra's theme in the 40's.

"When I was young there were big bands. And a song called 'Moonlight Serenade'."



Stan Zyborst photo

KEITH ROBERTS

TV was yet to be invented so we listened, on the radio, to the music of the big dance bands broadcasting from faraway romantic places like Frank Dailey's Meadowbrook, the College Inn in Chicago, and the Glen Island Casino "just off the Shore Road in New Rochelle, New York", as the radio announcer used to say.

Moonlight Serenade. The theme song, the song that identified Glenn Miller's big band in the late 30's and early 40's.

Willie Schwartz, a clarinetist in the Miller band, once said in an interview, "I don't know why, but to me there was always something sad about that song."

Sad?

Yes.

And to me and my generation Moonlight Serenade meant much, much more.

Moonlight Serenade. A whole world to discover out there- to high school students studying homework while glued to the radio. "How can you study and listen to the radio at the same time?", our parents would ask. High school swing bands playing copied Miller books while we learned to dance, awkwardly, at proms in the high school gym.

Moonlight Serenade. A vague longing. College dances, the sweet perfume of gardenia corsages, dancing so close that you caught the fragrance of your girl's freshly washed hair. Moonlight Serenade was the last dance, cheek to cheek. Moonlight Serenade was young love, found love, lost love, young love. It was Peggy and Cathy and Jean and Denise and Pat. Malt shops and juke boxes, record machines that played one record for a nickel and a quarter bought five plays. Saddle shoes, blue jeans, and Ford V-8's. Sitting at a desk overlooking a tree-shaded campus, studying for final exams and listening to music coming from the Cafe Rouge in the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York. It was a handsome young saxophone player named Tex who played haunting solos.

Moonlight Serenade. It sang of going off to war and the goodbye kisses. It was a Quonset hut in England, writing home and tuning in to the Glenn Miller 8th Air Force Band on Armed Forces radio. It was the Miller band filling hangars at U. S. air bases in England, galvanizing the troops. It was returning from a combat mission in the skies over Nazi Germany, reaching the English channel, the radio operator finding Moonlight Serenade on the BBC and the pilot linking it into the airplane's intercom so the bomber crew could hear it, too.

Moonlight Serenade. Emptiness. Loss. The BBC news broadcast announcing that Major Glenn

Miller was gone, missing from a flight over the English Channel. Later, at the Rainbow Corner in Paris, after a parachute jump and a journey across France, listening to the great AEF band without Major Glenn Miller, we heard Moonlight Serenade as a requiem to a man and his music and as a goodbye to our youth.

Moonlight Serenade.

Sad?

Yes.

And much, much, more.

When I was young, there were big bands. And a song called "Moonlight Serenade".

BOB BERGER'S FIRST JUMP A SURPRISE TO YOUNG INSTRUCTOR

The military career of Col Bob Berger, US Army (Ret) was a little different from most Crusaders who made a career in the Service.

In 1944 he was 2/Lt, co-pilot on the Clover crew in the 576th. In 1950 he returned to the Service with the 45th Infantry Division in Korea. In 1969 he retired, and along the way served at many stations at home and abroad in many different situations.

When stationed in Europe, still in the prime of life but no longer a youngster, his unit was suddenly designated Airborne. This meant he had to take the mandatory Airborne training, and his instructor was a gung-ho young sergeant who took his responsibilities very seriously. His training regimen was very tough, and he was fond of admonishing his students that although the training was difficult, the students "would thank him for it when they made their first jump".

Berger, the good soldier, endured all this and graduated from jump school in good order. His first jump having been from a stricken B-24 over Friedrichshafen, he sought out the sergeant after the graduation ceremony and told him, "When I made my first jump, sergeant, you were in kindergarten."

AUGUST AIR ANNIVERSARY

Capt. Joseph W. Kittinger, Jr. parachuted from 102,000 ft., a world record-1960

Heritage League Membership Application

I wish to become a member of the Heritage League of the Second Air Division (USAAF) and to support its purposes. I certify that I am eligible for membership under one of the categories indicated.

Name _____ Spouse _____

Street Address _____ Home Tel. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Work Tel. _____

2ADA Member (Sponsor) _____ Unit No. _____ Relationship _____

Membership Category (please check) ☐ Regular ☐ Associate ☐ New ☐ Renewal

Annual Dues: Regular \$6.00, Associate \$4.00 Signature _____

Send Remittance To: Heritage League of the 2AD, C.N. "Rusty" Chamberlain, III, 9635 West 73rd Avenue, Arvada, CO 80005

Regular Members: Spouses, brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren of former personnel, military and civilian, American and British, who, at any time served with the Headquarters organization of the 2nd Bomb Wing, 2nd Bomb Division or 2nd Air Division during WWII and any person who served with any bomb group or any other unit of the 2nd Air Division, USAAF, either assigned or attached. These shall be voting members.

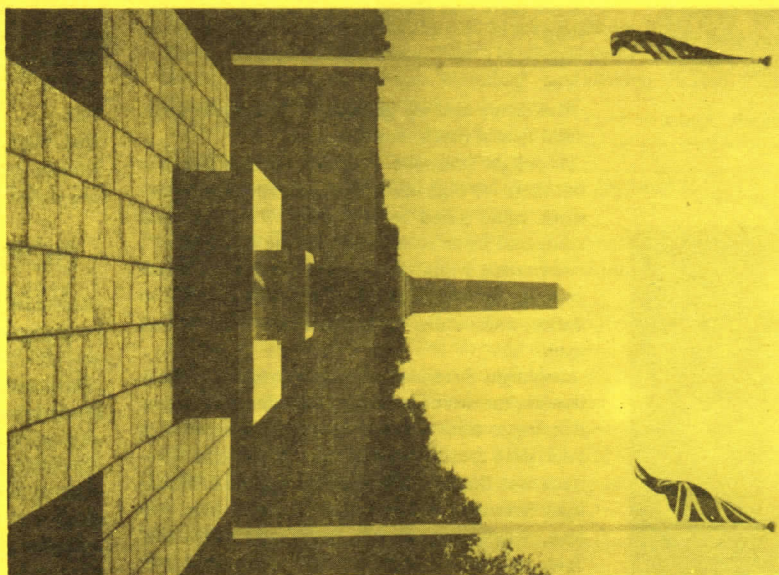
Associate Members: Friends or associates of regular members who by their demonstrated interest in the League and who make literary, artistic historical or other valuable contributions to the 2nd Air Division Association, The Heritage League of the 2nd Air Division (USAAF) and/or The Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division. These shall be non-voting members.

NEWS



392nd BG Memorial Association

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THE REFURBISHED MEMORIAL AT WENDLING

Almighty God, Who has blessed us with the will and courage to do our duty, we praise You for our comrades whose death kept freedom living. We praise You also for giving us the years we have lived since their departure. We pray that You will strengthen and sustain our devotion to truth and justice, so that we may be faithful beneficiaries of their sacrifice. Continue Your mercy to our comrades; keep them in Your care; and bring us all at last into Your presence there to rejoice eternally. Amen.

-Prayer composed by 50th pilot the Very Reverend Robert C. Martin, retired Dean of the Cathedral at Erie, Pa.

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