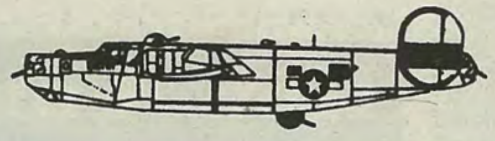
NEWS



392nd B.G. THE CRUSADERS

392nd BG Memorial Association

VOLUME 10 AUGUST 1995

392 & BRITS CELEBRATE FIFTIETH V-E DAY

By John Conrad

Editor's note: John Conrad has distinguished himself in three careers: as a 1/Lt Mickey navigator in the 579th; as an insurance and pension expert; and lately as President of the Second Air Division Association. His report of the 392nd's recent visit to England follows:

Sunday May 7 was the V-E Day parade in Norwich. It was a re-enactment of the V-E Day parade in 1945, and most of the units that paraded then were represented. The American contingent marched with the British units and as the grizzled GI veterans filed past, the applause from the onlookers was deafening.

There was a memorial service at the Cathedral, a Lord Mayor's reception, and the day was concluded with a performance at the Theater Royal of "We'll Meet Again." There wasn't a dry eye in the house.

Monday and Tuesday were spent at the Base. A memorial service was held at the Memorial, and Col Myron Keilman, 579th commander, laid the wreath. There was a flyover during the ceremony by a group of three biplanes.

There was a service at St. Mary Church at Beeston, and a "Hog Roast" at the Ploughshare. A local poet, Peter Tyler, presented his poems and one of them "Wendling", is to be found elsewhere in this issue.

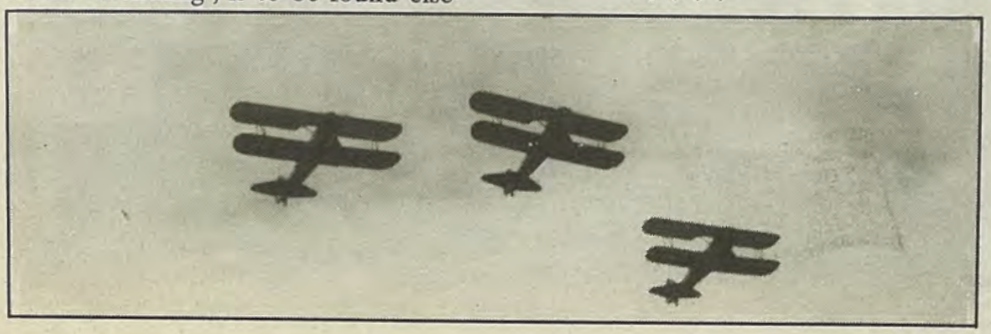
Many Crusaders visited the Beeston school. The teachers told the children that fifty years from now they could say that they knew men stationed at Wendling 100 years ago in WWII. The English keep their sense of history flowing.

On Thursday the 392nd were the guests of the Litcham School for lunch and visits with the students.

On Saturday May 6 most of the contingent attended a memorial service at the Parish church at Upper Sheringham. The residents of Sheringham have erected a monument in their churchyard in memory of the crew of "Alfred", which crashed near there returning from a mission.

Crusaders who made the V-E Day pilgrimage were: Bill and Sarah Bowen; Jack Clarke and Mary Gombkoto; John and Wanda Conrad; Arnold and Cleome Dovey; Harold and Mary Esther Hutchcroft; Myron and Blanche Keilman; Joe and Mellan Lewin; Oak and Maxine Mackey; George Michel; Lawrence and Abbie Myers; Rocky and Mary Rothrock; Leonard and Rosemarie Waldo; Maltby Watkins with son and daughter-in-law Howell and Valerie Watkins and their son Will; Charles Wheelwright; and Bob and Mary Ann Wickens.

* * * *



Wendy Carter photo

Shown above at Litcham High School are Dr. Maltby Watkins, 576th gunner, and his family and host student: Daughter-in-law Valerie; Watkins; the unidentified host student; grandson Will; and son Howell.

MANY CONTRIBUTIONS OF NEWS BEING SENT IN: HAVE PATIENCE

Many Crusaders have sent in really good material for stories for the NEWS. Due to time constraints (the editor is still active in business) and space restraints, the material is yet to be published.

The editor promises to get your story published as soon as possible.

* * * *

1942 PREDICTION; WAR OVER IN TWO WEEKS

Lou Stephens, 578th pilot, says that his grandfather was glad when Lou went into the Army, because it meant that the war would end in two weeks. That's as long as Lou had ever held a job, the grandfather said.

* * * *

NOSE ART SURVIVES

Wendy Carter photo

This van, parked somewhere in Beeston during the V-E Day celebrations, is probably owned by some Brit 8AF aficionado and proves the ageless appeal of the scantily-clad female form.

LAS VEGAS AERIAL GUNNERY SCHOOL-'42

579th GUNNER RECALLS GUNNERY SCHOOL DAYS AT LAS VEGAS

T/Sgt George W. Bacon graduated from the Las Vegas AAF Gunnery School on Aug. 24, 1942.

Slightly over a year later, he flew his first combat mission with the 392nd. He finished his tour in March 1944, having flown with the Voght and Detrick crews.

While Bacon was at the Las Vegas school, the Los Angeles Examiner ran a full-page spread about the school.It is reproduced for NEWS readers at the right, and George is shown in the picture in the upper right hand corner.

"I recognised myself from the tear the the shoulder of my coveralls", George reports. "It was so hot there that I needed all the ventilation I could get, so I didn't turn in the coveralls for replacement."

* * * *

SECOND AIR DIVISION MIDWEST REGIONAL TO BE AT SPRINGFIELD, ILL

The 2AD Midwest Region is made up of the states of IL, IN, IA, KY, MO, MI, WI, MN, and OH.

A regional meeting is scheduled for Sept. 20 and 21, at the Holiday Inn East, Springfield, IL.

Deadline is Aug. 19, which could be after some Crusaders receive this newsletter, the Post Office service being what it is lately. Call or write W. H. Kirkton, #1 County Road, Chatham, IL 62629 for information. His phone number is 217 483 2114.Reservation fee is $65 per person.

Make your own hotel reservations at the Holiday Inn East, 3100 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62703. The phone number is 217-529-7171. Rates are $59 for single and $64 for double, plus tax. Tell them you're with the 2AD.

* * * *

AIR ANNIVERSARY

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

AIR ANNIVERSARY

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

AIR ANNIVERSARY

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

18 SECTION I LOS ANGELES EXAMINER . . . . A PAPER FOR PEOPLE WHO THINK MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 1942

How Gunners Are Made

On Guns of Wood Uncle Sam's aerial gunners get their first lessons at the Las Vegas Gunnery School. Here they follow the course of model airplanes with dummy machine guns, polishing their judgment of relative speed. These fledgling "sky wonders," whose ultimate goal is to "Aim well, shoot straight, and keep 'em flying," preferably are little fellows. They have to be to fit into turrets and tail "stingers" of bombers. From the wooden guns they graduate **to BB Guns**

Then the Air. Here the student shoots plane-towed targets from the rear cockpit of a North American AT-6A trainer. Within a few days he will wear the silver wings and sergeant's stripes of a gunner.

.30 Caliber machine guns are next for the gunnery-student, firing at stationary targets across the vast ranges. The gun itself is on a stationary mount. Here the gunner gets the feel" of a machine gun, learning how to control the recoil. The targets take a fearful beating.

To Awesome .50 caliber guns that can saw a plane in half the students go next. On the right are turret guns mounted on trucks. With a deafening roar these weapons send bullets tearing through a mobile targets left, that speeds along railroad tracks.

BOOK REVIEW

MY WAR, by Andy Rooney. Random House, ISBN #0-8129-3532-7,1995.

There was culture shock when Andy Rooney, a graduate of an elite Eastern prep school and possessing a couple of years at Colgate was drafted into the peacetime Army. The Army survived to eventually win a global war, and Andy became a famous writer, author, humorist, and TV personality.

After a few months as a truck driver in a field artillery outfit he was shipped with the unit to England in early 1942. He was then assigned to the fledgling London office of Stars and Stripes by a deftly engineered fluke. There he learned the craft of the newsman in the same manner that most do, at the feet of journeymen.

Until D-Day his beat was the 8AF and 9AF, covering their missions and flying five of them, not milk runs. Crusaders may object to his unequivocal endorsement of the B-17 over the B-24, but that could be explained that during 1942 and 1943 there were a lot more B-17's around than B-24's. In fact, the 392nd didn't arrive in England until the middle of 1943, and we were only the fourth B-24 Group into the Theater. Also, with Rooney living in London, B-17 bases were a lot closer and easier to get to than the B-24 bases around Norwich. So he was more familiar with the B-17.

He landed in Normandy just a few days after D-Day, and covered the ground war from there to Berlin for Stars and Stripes.

Shortly after V-E Day, Stars and Stripes sent him to the CBI, and after V-J Day he got out of the service like most of us did, on points.

And oh, yes: he reports (twice, in separate parts of the book) that Gen. Leon Johnson, commander of the 44th BG and the 14th CW, was a gentleman general. But the 392nd already knows that.

Read it, you'll like it. *Jim Goar.*

* * * *

392BGMA MET WITH 2AD AT LEXINGTON JUL 4; OFFICERS ELECTED

The membership of the 392nd Bomb Group Memorial Association met July 4 at Lexington, KY, during the Second Air Division Association convention.

Oak Mackey was re-elected to be the Group's representative with 2 AD.

The following directors were re-elected: Carroll Cheek, Howard Ebersole, David Greene, and Keith Roberts.

The Board of Directors then named its officers for the coming year, and they are: Col. Lawrence Gilbert, Chairman of the Board; Cliff Peterson, President; Carroll Cheek, Vice-president, Memorial; David Greene, Secretary; Gil Bambauer, Treasurer; and Howard Ebersole, Recording secretary.

Bill Braddock reported that some 400 pages of the anthology were now on computer discs, ready for editing.

It was suggested that the 392nd's stand-alone reunion be scheduled in October 1996, coinciding with the 8AF meeting scheduled for that date in Orlando. There was discussion about the 392nd's meeting being a few days ahead of 8AF, so that Crusaders could attend either or both. More discussion is scheduled for the Group meeting at St. Louis Sept. 6-10 with the 8AF. Members should convey their thoughts on the matter to Col Gilbert or Cliff Peterson.

Present at the Lexington meeting were: Lou Affinito and Kay; Hank Allen; Gil Bambauer; Ernie Barber; C. M. Barber and Evie; Vern Baumgart; Luke Beddingfield; Wally Blackburn and Loraine; Bill Braddock and Marge; Carroll Cheek and Mabel; John Conrad and Wanda, with Bill and Mary Beth Conrad Shores; Harvey Devoe and Bette; Ray Dunphy and Cile; Charley Dye and Helen.

Also, Howard Ebersole and Jeanne; Teddy Egan; Ben Foote; Herman Garner and Annelle; Col Gilbert and Marjie; Jim Goar and Virginia; John, Fern, and Stephanie Goodwin; Dave Greene and Renee; Floyd Bull and Roberta; Clayton Whisman; Bob Harned and Jane; Jim Hoover and Reba; Ed Janak; Arlo Jones and June; Ray Kopecky and Norma Jean; Harry Kruse; Bob Lane; Birdie Larrick; Sally Kauffman; J. D. Long and Emily; Oak Mackey and Maxine.

Also, Jim Marsteller; Ben Jones; Cliff Peterson and Mary; Warren Polking and Dette; Ed Popek and Erma; John Rickey and Rose; Keith Roberts; Lou Stephens and Delores; Fred Thomas; Harry Vasconcellos and Edythe; Neely Young and Sharon; and Ray Teater and Mable.

* * * *

GRADUATE STUDENT NEEDS INTERVIEWS WITH CRUSADERS

Scott Richardson, a pre-doctoral student at the University of Central Oklahoma, has written to Cliff Peterson, president of 392BGMA, asking for help in preparing his thesis.

He is preparing his Master's thesis on the 8AF's fighter operations 1942-45, and hopes to continue his doctoral studies with a thesis on some aspect of 8AF bombing operations.

He says that he needs to understand what the men of the Bomb Groups were doing in regard to missions and overall strategy.

If any Crusader desires to help this young man with his scholastic asperations, contact him at 4103 W. Main, Apt. A, Norman, Oklahoma 73072. His phone number is 405 360 6518.

* * * *

AIR FORCE GUNNERS ASSOCIATION LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

The Air Force Gunners Association is a non-profit association composed of enlisted aerial gunners who served in the AAF or the AF as a gunner, including radio operators and flight engineers.

Numbering some 1,600, they have biennial reunions with the next scheduled for Seattle in 1997.

Annual membership fee is $15. To join contact them at 453 Plaza Circle, Bossier City, LA 71111-4811.

* * * *

AIR ANNIVERSARY

Second atomic bomb dropped on Nagasacki by B-29 "Bock's Car"-1945.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

Last bombing missions by 20th AF completed-1945.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

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

AIR ANNIVERSARY

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

WENDLING MEMORIES

By Peter Tyler

Remember Crosby's crooning, hear Glenn Miller's swing,
Remember another Lib, flying on a wing,
Jitterbug and Jiving chasing all the dames
Remember Sunday afternoons,
those awful cricket games

Recall the children chasing, pestering for gum,
Recall excited faces when we gave them some.
Red Caps in a foursome, riding in their jeep,
Gathering bomb group three nine two,
like shepherds with their sheep.

You can't forget Jane Russell, pin-up of the year.
You can't forget the nylons, English luke warm beer.
Drinking at the Ploughshare, blackout lights at night.
Visiting Norwich 'Blue Room' Club,
then getting in a fight.

Don't forget that local girl, trying to behave,
Don't forget her standing there, saying we were brave.
Holding back her sorrow, as we flew away,
Then trying to persuade herself,
that we'd return some day.

Why do we all remember the silly little things,
Recalling in such detail young romantic flings.
Hiding there behind them, things we really dread,
The memories that torment us
of friends....who are now dead.

(With apologies to the author for a slight edit, translating English (King's) to English (Yank).

* * * *

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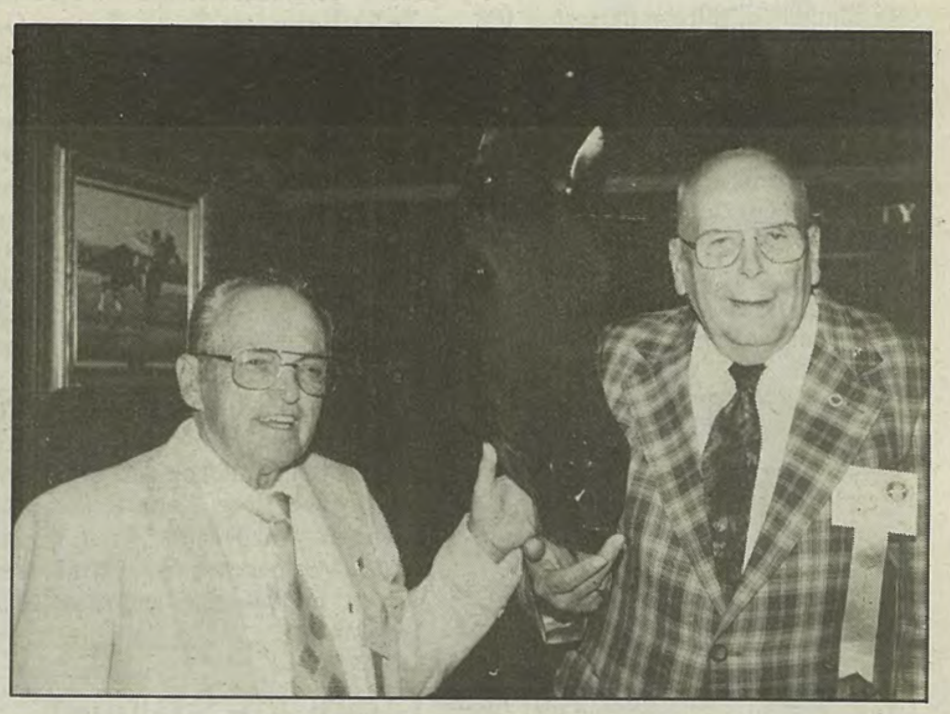
CRUSADERS GATHER AT SECOND AD

Capt Neely Young, 578th pilot, was and is a free spirit. Consequently, not all his conversations with majors and colonels at Wendling were exactly pleasant interludes. However, this picture indicates that his report to Col Gilbert was satisfactory. Seated around the table are Marjie Gilbert, Carroll Cheek, Col Gilbert, and Mabel Cheek. Standing are Neely, Sharon Young, and Joe Whittaker.

Five members of the crew of the 578th's GI Jane were present. Pictured are John J. Rickey, TG; John Goodwin, CP; Neely Young, P; Ray Dunphy, N; and Ray Teater, LWG. Seated are some of the WACs from 2AD Headquarters that the a/c represented: Dottie Krogmann, Eleanor Storms, Tommie Davis, Evelyn Cohen, Lida B. Thompson, and Gladys Veynar. (See the November 1994 issue of the NEWS for more information on the GI Jane)

Vern Baumgart, 80 years young, rode his bike from Sheboygan, WI. Vern was a first pilot in the 579th, arriving at Wendling in Sept. 1943. He stayed in the Air Force, retiring as Lt Col.



Jim Marsteller photo

Two former 578th crew chiefs, Ernie Barber and Cleon Barber (no relation) got their picture taken with a horse. Being a dummy, the horse wasn't saying much.

MEETING AT LEXINGTON, KY ON JUL 3-6

The hospitality room is always the center of activity at all 392nd gatherings, whether it be at an Eighth Air Force Historial Society, Second Air Division Association, or 392nd BG Memorial Association meeting. Ernie Barber, the Group archivist, brings his pickup truck loaded with scrapbooks and other memorabilia, and a display is set up. A bar is always a part of the arrangement, although it has been noted lately that the level of consumption is much lower. Some Crusaders have been heard to say that they only go to the stand-alones, because that's when they meet 392nd people. That's true, but there are always plenty of Crusaders on hand at the 8AF and 2AD meetings, too, as evidenced by the photos on these two pages. Below are shots taken at various times during the convention by Associate Jim Marsteller at the hospitality room.

Pulchritude a-plenty. Shown are Virginia George, Mabel Cheek, Marjie Gilbert, and Sally Kauffman.

Col Gilbert, never ill at ease with pretty girls, is pictured with Sally Kauffman and Birdie Larrick.

578th Squadron Meeting. M/Sgt Ernest Barber, crew chief; Col Warren A. Polking, squadron commander; Capt Carrol Cheek, pilot; and 1/Lt Lou Stephens, pilot.

Wally Blackburn, gunner on the Jack Ross crew in the 576th, ponders a question raised by Ben Jones, the former kid-on-a-bicycle from Litcham who used to meet us when we arrived at Wendling for reunions there.

DUGAN'S CREW CELEBRATES A 50TH ANNIVERSARY

By Keith Roberts

April 25, 1995. Dugan's crew reunions in Gettysburg. Dugan was not the pilot. "Dugan" was the name of the airplane, a silver B-24M, #44-504493, C-Bar, christened by the crew and baptized with a four-leaf clover as nose art. The members of Dugan's crew who met in Gettysburg were the pilot, Bob Vickers; the navigator, Keith Roberts; the right waist gunner, Bill Nock; the radio operator, Nick Constanzo; and the engineer, Gene Krutys. This 1995 day, Dugan's crew toured the Gettysburg battlefield, visited the Eisenhower farm, told some Dugan stories, met for drinks in our hospitality room, and enjoyed dinner in a private dining room with wives Lois Vickers, Pat Roberts, Judy Nock, and guests Betty and Alan Blue, the noted B-24 historian, along with Jim and Karen Marsteller and England's Ben Jones, 392nd Bomb Group historians. A quiet day.

April 25,1945, FIFTY YEARS AGO. The CQ, Sgt. Carey, got Dugan's crew out of the sack at 2:30 AM for a 3:30 AM pre-dawn briefing. It was dark. We breakfasted, briefed, trucked out to Dugan, and were ready for the 5:50 AM take-off of the lead ship. Dugan took off at 6:00 AM, formed up, and at 7:09 1/2 AM overflew the Wash two miles east of King's Lynn. We left the English coast at Cromer at 7:26 AM at 8,400 feet altitude and air temperature of two degrees below zero.

Headed east at 8:17 AM, Dugan's crew crossed the coast of Holland at Westkapelle, 8,400 feet altitude, ground speed 175 knots. The day was beautiful, blue sky with a few puffy clouds, a navigator's delight because every ground feature was visible. We climbed and at 9:01 AM passed over Liege, Belgium, at 12,000 feet and nine degrees below zero.

The Rhine River, and Mannheim, passed under our wings at 9:48 1/2 AM, the air temperature was thirty below at 22,000 feet, and, in the open waist, the gunners feel it. At 10:35 AM, we cross the Danube River at 22,400 feet and confirm that the Danube is not blue, but brown; ground speed is now 212 knots. Nine minutes later we pass the Isar River and turn south toward the target at a ground speed of 243 knots.

At 11:05 AM, it's BOMBS AWAY at the Hallein railroad yard at the foot of the Austrian Alps, a very few miles from Hitler's last redoubt at Berchtesgaden. The Alps were snow-covered and magnificent, until our view was spoiled by some of the most accurate flak we had ever seen exploding right in the middle of our formation. Dugan flew through a black cloud of flak. Linzmeir, the Group lead, was hit and slid out; Beder, our squadron lead, left later because of flak damage. Moving in from the deputy lead spot, Dugan's crew led the 578th Squadron home.

Dugan heads home, course 319 degrees. At 11:32 AM, we crossed the Isar River, gazing at Munich just ten miles away, now at 20,000 feet and warming up at twenty-six below, ground speed at 216 knots. Eleven minutes later the Danube is under us at Ingoldstadt.

Down we go, until at 12:27 1/2 PM we cross the Rhine at 8,200 feet, warmer still at only four below zero, and in twenty more minutes we are over the Moselle River valley and can see the vineyards. At 1:34 PM, Dugan flies right over Antwerp, Belgium, at 7,200 feet, a glorious view, and we leave the coast of Holland just north of Veere at 1:47 1/2 PM, moving at 195 knots ground speed, flattened out for Wendling.

The English Channel is lovely and we make landfall five miles north of Great Yarmouth at 2:23 PM, admiring the green British countryside at 2,200 feet. At 2:35 PM we are over Station 118, Wendling, and drop the wheels on the runway at 2:40 PM. Dugan's crew has completed a 1,433 mile, eight-hour and forty minute tour of England, Holland, Belgium, France, Germany, and Austria, with a few heart-stopping minutes of intense, accurate enemy flak.

Flak was indeed accurate. Ten 392nd Liberators suffered flak damage, Dugan was sprinkled with holes. Linzmeir landed at B53 in Belgium and Beder made it back to Wendling. The target was blown up. No one on Dugan's crew was hurt.

This mission, April 25, 1945, was the last mission of Dugan's crew, the last mission of the 392nd Bomb Group, and the last mission that the mighty Eighth Air Force flew in World War II.

And exactly fifty years later, to the day, Dugan's crew, led by its pilot, Bob Vickers, celebrated that anniversary at Gettysburg, a great battlefield of another war.

* * * *

CECILIA BARBER

Cecilia Barber, wife of M/Sgt Ernest M. Barber, 578th, died April 29, 1995 after a short illness.

Funeral services were held at both Lincolnton, GA, the couple's home, and at Union City, PA, Mrs. Barber's former home.

Mrs. Barber was the widow of Homer Barber, who was a cousin of M/Sgt Cleon Barber, 578th. She and Ernest Barber were married Sept. 17, 1994.

Ernie Barber is known throughout the 392nd not only for his outstanding record as a crew chief in WWII; but also for his dedicated service to the Memorial Association as its archivist. All Crusaders join in Ernie's bereavement.

* * * *

JOHN MATT

John Matt, 576/79 navigator, died May 20, 1995 after a long and valiant fight.

He remained in the Air Force after the war and was a crew member on the B-17's that flew into hurricanes for weather reconnaissance, which became known as Hurricane Hunters. He also sampled the air for the nuclear bomb tests, and was support in the Korean conflict. He was in the "White House Squadron" whose duty was to fly government dignitaries literally to the ends of the earth. He retired as Major.

In civilian life he was with the FAA.

He is the author of "Crew Dog", an autobiograhical work that takes a young first-generation immigrant from Great Depression days through WWII and his subsequent military career.

The book is particulary interesting to Crusaders, because since he was a navigator by trade his stories have a tremendous sense of place. When following WWII missions the reader knows just where the a/c was when it penetrated the enemy's air space; where it turned into the IP; and where the flak and fighters were encountered. His description of the low-level Wesel re-supply mission will raise the heartbeat of any airman who flew that mission.

He was buried at Arlington Cemetery with full military honors. Ebe and Jeanne Ebersole and David and Renee Green represented the 392nd.

Survivors are wife Pris; daughters Holly and Jill; and grandchildren Lincoln, Evin, Leanne, and Zephrine.

* * * *

LAST CALL FOR 1995 DUES. IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID, THIS WILL BE THE LAST ISSUE YOU WILL RECEIVE. YOU'LL BE DOING US AND YOURSELF A BIG FAVOR IF YOU SEND YOUR $12 TO GIL BAMBAUER NOW.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

You can tell where you stand with your dues by the code right after your name on the label. If is LM (for Life Membership) or 95 or higher, you're paid up. If Frnd is after your name, you're our guest. If there is an error, contact Gil Bambauer.

The Board of Directors has ruled that no Crusader will be denied membership because of financial difficulty, so if you are in straitened circumstances check the Hardship Waiver Box. Fill out the form below and send it in now!

Name_____ Ground [ ] Air [ ] Sqdn_____ Assoc [ ]

Street_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Dues for 1995, $12 [_____]

HARDSHIP WAIVER [____]

LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

Age 61-65 $120 [_____]

Age 66-70 $96 [_____]

Age 71 and over $78 [_____]

Send with check to Gil Bambauer, 974 Fairway Dr., Dewey, AZ 86327

MEMORIAL GIFT TO WENDLING AREA SCHOOL LIBRARIES

I/we donate $50 to the 392nd Bomb Group Memorial Ass'n, and I/we request that a book be purchased for the Litcham or Beeston school library, and that it be inscribed as follows:

IN MEMORY OF: (List a crew or an individual)

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

A photograph of the crew or individual is enclosed, which is to be copied and and copy placed in the book. I understand that the original photo will be returned to me after copying.

Additional descriptive material, such as dates the above were at Wendling, is also enclosed.

Donor _____

Street, City _____

State, Zip _____

Telephone (in case we have any questions) Area code: _____

SEND THIS FORM WITH CHECK AND PHOTO TO GIL BAMBAUER, TREASURER, 974 FAIRWAY DRIVE, DEWEY, AZ 86327-5825

392nd BG MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION, Inc.

F I N A N C I A L S T A T E M E N T

1 JANUARY 1995 - 31 MAY 1995

1 January 1995 Balance			$ 3,870.11
1995 RECEIPTS (thru 31 May 1995):			
Dues - Regular	$ 3,280.00		
Life	864.00		
General Fund	62.58	$ 4,206.58	
P X - Regular Sales	323.95		
Books - Libs from Wendling	215.50		
War Stories	86.00		
Combat Pilot	16.50		
Crew Dog	86.85		
ABQ '93 Vidoes	184.00		
Directories	210.00	1,122.80	
Memorials	130.00		
8th AFHS Rebate (S.D. Reunion)	245.00		
Wendling Area School Library Fund	818.00	1,193.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS 1st five months 1995			6,522.38
TOTAL RECEIPTS AND OPENING BALANCE			$10,392.49
DISBURSEMENTS (Jan. thru May 1995)			
Office Supplies	372.55		
Mailing Cost	81.22	453.77	
Newsletter - General Expense	257.00		
Printing/Misc.	758.97		
Mailing	369.27	1,385.24	
P X Supplies - Books, Combat Pilot	16.50		
Crew Dog	71.85		
Directories and other	455.66		
K-Products-Caps, Jackets	234.69		
ABQ. '93 Videos	168.00	946.70	
Braddock Editing Serv. (Hawkins Book)	300.00		
Membership Expense	52.61		
Telephone	28.42		
Books for Library Fund	818.00	1,199.03	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:			$ 3,984.74
CLOSING BALANCE - Opening balance + receipts - disbursements			$ 6,407.75
MONEY INTEREST ACCOUNT (date of Dep. 4 Jan. 1995) (Renamed BUSINESS MARKET INTEREST ACCOUNT)			$10,469.14
			$16,876.89

SUBMITTED BY:

Gilbert R. Bambauer, Treasurer

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BOOK REVIEW

CLASH OF WINGS, by Col Walter J. Boyne, USAF (Ret). Simon and Schuster, ISBN #0-671-79370-5, 1994.

Col Boyne's book covers all elements of WWII military aviation, from 1939 to 1945. Written with a Churchillian comprehensiveness and sweep, the author examines the tactics, strategies, strength, and aircraft of the nations which fought in WWII. He also presents in a penetrating light the personalities and characters of the figures who were involved in the campaigns.

Col Boyne is a former Director of the National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institution. He is also the author of many other works on aviation. His military record includes over 5,000 hours in aircraft ranging from the Piper Cub to the B-1B.

No serious student of WW II aviation should be without this book. -Jim Goar.

PX ITEMS

Book, "392nd War Stories", by Col Myron Keilman, 579th, $21.50 postpaid $_____
Book, "The Liberators From Wendling", by Col Bob Vickers, 578th, $28.00 postpaid $_____
Book, "Crew Dog", by Maj John Matt, 579th, $28.95 postpaid $_____
Cap, black, 392nd Bomb Group w/gold braid, summer, $10.50 postpaid $_____
Cap, black, 392nd Bomb Group w/gold braid, winter, $10.50 postpaid $_____
Cap, blue, 392nd Bomb Group w/B-24 and Crusader logo, $10.50 postpaid $_____
Directory, Jan 1995, $10 postpaid $_____
Jacket, white nylon, w/392BG and Crusader patches, $22 postpaid (Circle size wanted) M L XL XXL $_____
Patch, 392nd Bomb Group logo, $1.50 postpaid $_____
Print, "The Flying Crusader", by Frederick T. Searle, signed, reduced to $16.50 postpaid $_____
T-shirt, 392nd Bomb Group, $18.50 postpaid (Circle size wanted) M L XL XXL $_____
Video, from Albuquerque Reunion Symposium, "The Early Days" $_____
Video, from Albuquerque Reunion Symposium, "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 Symposium, general scenes from the reunion $_____

(EACH VIDEO IS $23 POSTPAID)

TOTAL $_____

Send with check to Gil Bambauer, Treas, 954 Fairway Dr., Dewey, AZ 86327

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 Jim Goar, 5 N. Columbia St., Frankfort, IN 46041.

NEWS

392nd BG Memorial Association

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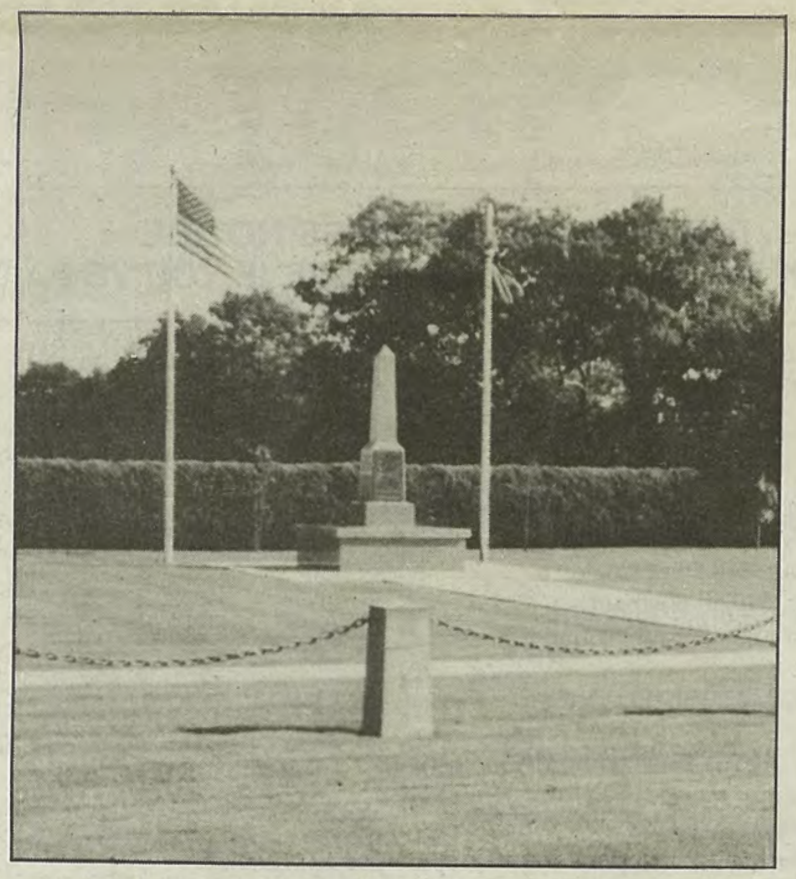

Almighty God, Who has blessed us with the will and courage to do our duty, we praise You for our comrades whose death kept freedom living. We praise You also for giving us the years we have lived since their departure. We pray that You will strengthen and sustain our devotion to truth and justice, so 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 576th pilot the Very Reverend Robert C. Martin, retired Dean of the Cathedral at Erie, Pa.

PROFILE

1/Sgt Ted Zeman was first sergeant for the 576th. Drafted at the age of 39, he was and is slightly older than the run-of-the-mill Crusader, and celebrated his 90th in March of this year.

He joined the 392nd at Biggs Field, and did clerical work both in the 576th and in Group Headquarters before becoming 1st Sgt.

He had a voice, and when Glenn Miller made his visit to Wendling in 1945, Ted was part of a duet that sang with the band.

After the war, he was in a stock brokerage firm.

His wife is Evelyn, and they have two children. They live at 500 Evelyn Ave., Seven Hills, OH 44131.

* * * *

AIR ANNIVERSARY

W. Stuart Symington named first Secretary of the Air Force-1947.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

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

AIR ANNIVERSARY

A new world record refueled flight duration record of 37 hrs. 15 min. 4.8 sec set-1923.

392nd Bomb Group Memorial Ass'n NEWS
5 N. Columbia St.
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But we..shall be remembered;

**We few,
we happy few,
we band of
brothers;**

**For he to-day
that sheds his
blood with me**

**Shall be
my brother...**

William Shakespeare
Henry V

FOLDED WINGS

Mrs. Ernie Barber, 578, Apr. 29, 1995
Clifford Edwards, 578, Apr. 25, 1995
Ralph Casstevens, 578, May 1994
John Matt, 576/9, May 20, 1995
Hollis C. Powell, Sr., 576, May 2, 1995
William L. Wallace, 579, July 9, 1995

NOT TOO LATE FOR 8AFHS REUNION IN ST LOUIS SEPT 5-10

Although the published cut-off date for the 8AF St. Louis meeting was Aug. 5, the NEWS has been told that there is still room.

Information and sign-up material is to be found in the May issue of the 8AF NEWS.

The 392nd's own Charley Dye, president of 8AF, urges all Crusaders to attend, because there are always 392nd people at 8AF reunions.

Guests of the 392nd at their Group dinner will be BG Marcotte, CG of the new B-2 wing, plus some 20 Air Force Award Of Excellence winners.

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