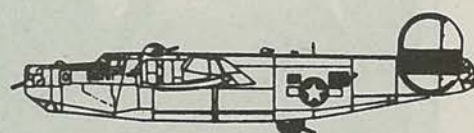


NEWS



392nd BG Memorial Association

VOLUME 19

August, 2004

2ND GENERATION STUDIES CRUSADER HISTORY

J. FRED THOMAS GOES HOLLYWOOD



Jane still looking plenty good, and J. Fred not looking so bad himself.

Sometimes it pays to serve on a committee. J. Fred Thomas, 579th pilot and former President of the 2ADA, was invited to a dinner featuring Jane Russell as a guest. This was because he served on the committee for a dinner for 2ADA's Southern California chapter.

Here's what J. Fred had to say about it:

"I hadn't thought of Jane Russell in years and had no idea of what to expect, but things went great and it was a most enjoyable evening. It turned out that Tom (Tom Nelson, 93rd BG Armament Officer who had dated Jane in their teenage years) and I were the only veterans who attended. We each sat on either side of Jane, and unlike too many meetings we were able to carry on a conversation without interruptions.

'Someone had tipped the TV people, and NBC, CBS, and ABC had their reporters show up to



Jane Russell's famous haystack shot from the picture "The Outlaw", autographed for J. Fred. Jane was a real testosterone booster for us Crusaders in 1943-45.

record the event. There we were on the evening news. There was no Hollywood tinsel about Jane and she was a delight with whom to visit. Seems she was a small town girl, and she hasn't changed. I have attended events with several Hollywood people over the years, and by and large they are nice folks. However, the dinner with Jane Russell was the most rewarding. She had brought some "glossies" and I selected the picture where she was sitting in the hay in the picture "The Outlaw". When you read this you will know why this old man cried when she autographed it for me. She is a sweetheart and I nominate her the Pinup Girl of the 2AD".

TWO FAMILIES FIND THE RECORD OF RELATIVES WHO WERE LOST ON THE MISSION TO BERLIN APRIL 29, 1944

At Wendling, we seldom knew exactly what happened to crews that were reported MIA. Aircrew de-briefings did not furnish much information, especially if German fighter opposition was heavy and the battle spread all over the sky.

Occasionally, wonder of wonders, evadees would arrive back at the base, to be greeted with much relief by the Group. And POW reports filtered back, slowly. But many crews just disappeared. All we could do was put the losses aside and prepare for the next mission. That was the inevitability of fighting a war against a determined enemy.

After the war, Col Bob Vickers, 578th pilot, wrote two definitive histories of the 392nd. The first, "The Liberators From Wendling", was taken from U. S. official reports of the missions. The second, "The Men and Their Missions" was compiled from the Government's post-war investigations, labeled Missing Aircraft Crew Reports, or MACR's.

The families of 2/Lt Douglas Franke and Sgt John P. Bonnassiolle have found what happened on that day in the sky over Germany by building on these records, interviews with Crusader survivors, second generation researchers, and German researchers.

The Group's losses on this mission were the second heaviest of the war: 8 aircraft and 77 aircrew members.

Lt Franke

Lt. Franke was the navigator on the Wyatt crew. In "Liberators" all that was reported was "in ship #510 of the 579th Squadron, nothing is known further surrounding the loss of 2/Lt B. W. Wyatt's crew".

In "The Men and Their Missions", all that Col Vickers could glean from the MACR was, "No report exists from inflight eye-witnesses' accounts on the loss of this aircraft. Other records indicated this aircrew did fly this mission with formations of the 392nd's sister

Continued on page 2

Sgt Bonnassiolle

Sgt John Bonnassiolle was a waist gunner on the Bishop crew in the 578th. In "Liberators" it was reported "in ship #105 from the 578th, 2/Lt R. R. Bishop's crew was last seen after the first fighter attack at 1103, position 5240N-1020E, with the aircraft's right elevator shot up. No chutes were seen from this ship."

In "The Men and Their Missions", in addition to the above, Col Vickers said that there were no more additional reports on the loss of this aircrew and ship in the MACR.

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

Group, the 44th, to the Berlin target complex. However, little else was known about the crew's fate". Vickers went on the give grave registrations of 5 of the crew.

This very sparse information did not daunt Robert H. Franke and his daughter Annette Tison. Mr. Franke is the brother of Lt. Douglas Franke. The 392nd has file correspondence with Mr. Franke in 1991 and 1993 which indicates that he was searching for information at that time.

Annette became a member of the 392BGMA and with the help of Crusaders and second generation members the search for information culminated in a visit to the crash scene and interviews with eye witnesses.

Here follows Annette's story of her uncle's fatal mission and its aftermath, taken from material that she furnished the NEWS.

The breakthrough on the hunt for information came when the Franke family made contact with Markus Graw, a 10 year veteran of the German Air Force who lives near the village of Dinklage, about 230



Shown above at the monument are Don Tison, husband of Annette; Robert Franke; Annette Tison; and Markus Graw. It is interesting to note that all are retired military: Don Tison, US Navy; Robert Franke, US Army; Annette Tison, US Naval Reserve; and Markus Graw, German Air Force. The flowers at the base of the monument were from a retired German Air Force colonel.

miles west of Berlin. Mr. Graw had been researching war-time crashes in the area and he found the name of Lt. Franke in a cemetery nearby. A query was made to b24.net, and

within days the late Cliff Peterson and Ernie Barber had put him in touch with Robert Franke.

Much correspondence ensued and a picture of the final minutes of a/c #510, "El Lobo", came to life.

The a/c was seen in the target area by Capt Robert Copp, a 577th pilot, and this was the last time it was identified by any American.

An eyewitness, who was 13 at the time, remembered that he heard gunfire coming from above the clouds and then a smoking plane emerged from the clouds and headed towards the woods where it finally crashed.

Another eyewitness remembers that as the plane crossed overhead a crewman jumped out without a parachute, sure proof that things were desperate inside the plane.

Apparently, just before the plane hit, another man bailed out. He was found dead, dangling from his partially opened chute that had been caught in a tree. Annette believes that this man was her uncle, Lt Douglas Franke.

The a/c still had its bomb load aboard and German army personnel later detonated them. It is specu-

lated that some kind of an equipment failure kept the crew from releasing their bombs over the target.

Robert Franke, having gone through some years of searching and now having found all the answers, had the feeling that it would be fitting to have a monument erected at the crash site. The problem of placing an American monument in a German location was solved when the monument bore the inscription that it was dedicated not only to the memory of the American crew but also to the Germans in the area, civilian and military, who lost their lives in 1939-1945.

On April 29, 2004, a dedication ceremony was held at the monument. Present was a ceremonial U.S. Air Force detachment headed by B/Gen Vernon Findley who was representing Gen Fogelsong, commander of USAF in Europe. Over one hundred people were present, including local government officials, officiating clergymen, and German Air Force officers, both active and retired.

Sgt Bonnassiolle

Continued from page 1

Paulette Gooch is the sister of Sgt. Bonnassiolle and was a young child when he was lost.

She started her search for the details of her brother's death on the Internet and found his name at the U. S. Military cemetery in the Netherlands. She posted his name, a/c number, and unit on the b-24.net web site and soon received an avalanche of responses. She heard from Annette Tison; Bud Guillot, a Crusader who witnessed the crash of the Bishop a/c; Hal Province, Daniel Stockton, and Greg Hatton.

Then she heard from Jim Marsteller, who put her in touch with Enrico-Rene Schwartz in Germany. Enrico's seven-person team, named Missing Allied Air Crew Research Team, work to find Allied airmen who are still

missing in action, with the assistance of the Military Cemetery staff.

The search was concentrated on a farm owned by the Gudehus family. The present and sixth-generation owner, Willy Gudehus, was seven years old on the day of the crash and he vividly remembers the dog fight in the air overhead. The German fighter planes attacked and finally the large B-24 bomber spiraled down to a horse pasture below.

Only a minute separated that crash and the crash of the 576th's Kamenitsa crew. Three of that crew were KIA, and one of the survivors, Bud Guillot, told Pauline that he witnessed the Bishop crew's crash. He wasn't sure until 2003 which plane he had seen.

The MAACRT crew worked at the crash site diligently but didn't

find anything definitely identifying the aircraft. One Sunday as Enrico was returning home from a business trip to Bremen he felt the impulse to stop at Meitze and try once more. He began sifting dirt and noted an object that might be part of a gunner's jacket. When he examined it further he saw a strip of leather with the name Bonnassiolle on it. Later in the day he found engine identification numbers and then there was no doubt that he had located the crash of the Bishop plane, #42-110105.

In October of 2003 Pauline and her son visited the crash site, there to be welcomed by the Gudehus family and the local townspeople. While there they located a piece of the cowl from the Kamenitsa plane, which she brought home and mailed to Bud Guillot.

MESSAGE FROM JIM GOAR, EDITOR

There was so much material in this issue that we had to postpone many interesting stories. We received D-Day feedback from Roland Sabourin, Charles Breithaupt, and Burt Hinckley.

We also heard from Ernest Parke, a Brit who was with us at Wendling; and from fellow Brit John Gilbert, who represented the 392nd at D-Day celebrations in France.

Also, we received belated news of the civilian accomplishments of Jack Kaplan, who died Jan. 24, 2004.

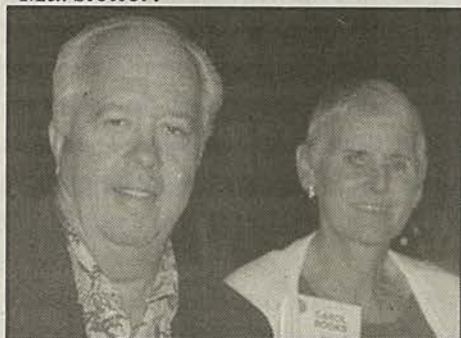
Stay tuned.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

177 B-24's drop 311 tons of bombs from low level on oil refineries at Ploesti, Romania-Aug. 1, 1943.



Annabelle Garoffolo and Karen Marsteller.



Bob and Carol Books



Emily Long Reid and Ann Phillips



Dennis Rogers, Greg Hatton, and Annette Tison.



Ann Long Phillips, Luther Beddingfield, and Greg Hatton.



Col Gilbert, celebrating his 80 something birthday, was presented with a bottle of wine.

PHILADELPHIA THE SITE OF 329BGMA'S ANNUAL MEETING, HELD WITH 2ADA ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2004

It was 2nd Air Division Memorial Association's turn, following the 392BGMA's custom of alternating our annual meetings between the 2ADA and the 8th Air Force Historical Society.

Some 31 Crusaders and guests were present, labeled a good turn-out considering the medical problems among our membership that inhibit traveling.

Carroll Cheek and Jim Marsteller were re-elected to the Board of Directors. Also elected were Mary Peterson and Tom Perry, all serving a 3-year term.

Mary is the widow of Cliff Peterson, 578th pilot and long-time President of the 392BGMA and a former President of the 8AFHS. She is a retired educator and has been a Realtor in the Winter Park, Florida, market.

Tom was early joiner, entering the Group at Biggs Field in 1943. He was assigned to the Ordnance section in the 576th.

After the war, he earned BS and MS degrees and became principal of the high school at Brownstown, IL. In 1952 he left the education field and worked in the construction industry as an internal auditor. His wife Maria is deceased, and he lives at 12 Leopard Drive, Sandy Hook CT 06482.

He has been a very active researcher for the 392BGMA web site.

Other business at the Group meeting was the passage of two resolutions, one enabling the U. S. Battle Monuments Commission to assume responsibility for the monument at Wendling; the other to establish a 392nd plaque at the cemetery at the AF Academy.

Officers elected were Vice president for Memorials, Carroll Cheek; Vice-president for Communications, Jim Goar; Secretary, Mary Rothrock; Treasurer, Charles Dye; and Vice-president for the 2ADA, Oak Mackey. The post of President remains unfilled. Col. Gilbert's post as CEO is constitutionally permanent.

Present were: Vernon Baumgart; Luther Beddingfield; Bob and Carol Books; John Buschman; John Conrad; Lawrence and Marjie Gilbert; Jim Goar and Annabelle Garoffolo; Jim Green; David and Renee Greene; Bob and Jane Harned; Greg Hatton; Cathy Leonard and Tony Rosowski with Peg and Joe Leonard; Oak and Maxine Mackey; Jim and Karen Marsteller; Tom Perry; Emily Long Reid and Ann Phillips; Dennis Rogers; Mary Rothrock; and Annette Tison.

NEW DIRECTORS



Mary Peterson



Tom Perry

The NEWS thanks Jim Marsteller for the photos on this page.



SECOND AIR DIVISION
ASSOCIATION

57th Annual Convention

MAY 25 - 30, 2004

Hyatt Regency Hotel
at Penn's Landing
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



John Buschman with a member of Sgt Tom Hoover's family. John's crew (578th) was one of our early losses, being shot down on Oct. 8, 1943 on the mission to Vegesack. 7 of the crew were POW, and Sgt. Tom Hoover, the radio operator, was one of the 3 KIA. John met with the family at the Philadelphia meeting.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

Second atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki by B-29 "Bock's Car"- Aug. 9, 1945.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

8AF bombers attack Regensburg Messerschmitt works and Schweinfurt ball bearing plants. Lose 60 out of 376 bombers in daylight attack-Aug. 17, 1943.

**8th AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REUNION
OCTOBER 5 - 10, 2004 WESTIN CROWN CENTER - KANSAS CITY**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

2:00pm- 7:00pm

Early Bird Registration open

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6

8:00am -10:00

Reunion Registration open

9:00am -Tbd

Hospitality/Gathering Room & Memorabilia Room opens

9:00am -2:00pm

CITY TOUR

11:00am -3:45pm

STEPHENSON'S APPLE FARM / TRUMAN MUSEUM

1:00pm -Tbd

8AFHS 'PX' open through Sunday

1:00pm -5:00pm

Reunion Registration open

2:00pm -

8AFHS Board Meeting

5:45pm -10:30pm

NEW THEATRE RESTAURANT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7

7:00am -8:30am

Continental Breakfast

8:00am -9:00am

Reunion Registration open

8:00am -9:30am

Unit Advisory and Chapter & Unit Development Meeting

9:30am -3:00pm

FORT LEAVENWORTH

9:45am -3:15pm

STEAMBOAT ARABIA MUSEUM / TOY AND MINIATURE MUSEUM

3:30pm -4:30pm

Medical Advisory Seminar: Pearls, by Dr. Walter Brown

4:45pm -5:30pm

Seminar: "The Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum - The Future and You."

2:00pm -5:00pm

Reunion Registration open

6:00pm -7:00pm

Cash Bar Reception

7:00pm -9:00pm

Group Dinner & Entertainment

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

7:00am -8:30am

Continental Breakfast

8:00am -10:00am

Reunion Registration open

8:30am -10:00am

Individual Group Meetings

10:15am -3:45pm

STEAMBOAT ARABIA MUSEUM / TOY AND MINIATURE MUSEUM

11:00am -3:45pm

STEPHENSON'S APPLE FARM / TRUMAN MUSEUM

11:00am -12:00pm

SEMINAR: STARS & STRIPES MUSEUM / LIBRARY

1:30pm -2:30pm

SEMINAR / HANGAR FLYING: Subject TBD (tentative)

2:00pm -5:00pm

Reunion Registration open

6:00pm -7:00pm

8AFHS Cash Bar Reception

7:00pm -

Rendezvous Dinners and 'Hangar Flying'

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

7:00am -8:30am

Full Breakfast Buffet

9:00am -11:00am

General Membership Meeting

11:15am -4:15pm

CITY TOUR

1:00pm -4:00pm

SYMPOSIUM: "Remembering 'The Kassel Mission', Sept. 27, 1944"

5:30pm -6:00pm

Reunion Registration open

6:00pm -7:00pm

8AFHS Cash Bar Reception

7:00pm -

8AFHS Gala Banquet

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

7:00am -8:30am

Continental Breakfast

8:30am -9:15am

Separate Protestant and Catholic Services at the hotel

9:30am -

8AFHS Annual Board Meeting

CUT HERE AND MAIL TO HOTEL

8th AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY - HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

REUNION DATES: OCTOBER 5 - 10, 2004

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE # () _____ SHARING ROOM W/ _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ TIME _____ am/pm DEPARTURE DATE _____

SPECIAL REQUESTS: Wheelchair accessible room _____ Non-smoking room _____

King Bed _____ Two Double Beds _____ Bed types are not guaranteed.

RATE: \$92 (1-4 people in room) + tax (currently 13.5%). Rate good three days before and after reunion dates, based on availability.

CUT OFF DATE: 9/2/04. Reservations received after 9/2 will be processed on a space & rate available basis.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Deposit is refundable if reservation is canceled 48 hrs. in advance of arrival date. Record your cancellation number. Call (816) 474-4400.

GUARANTEE: Reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or first night's deposit, enclosed.

____MC ____VISA ____AM. EXPRESS ____CARTE BLANCHE/DINERS ____DISCOVER ____JCB

CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____ EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE (regardless of payment method) _____

Mail to: The Westin Crown Center, One Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108-2599

Fax to: 816-391-4490

TOURS AVAILABLE

City Tour: Wed. Oct.6: 9:00 am board bus, 2:00 back at hotel. Sat Oct. 9: 11:15 am board bus, 4:15 back at hotel. See the beginning of the Santa Fe Trail; the Lewis & Clark point; the Kansas City skyline. Lunch on your own at Country Club Plaza, Kansas City's premier retail, restaurant, and entertainment district. \$27 per person, includes bus and guide.

Stephenson's Apple Farm/Truman Museum: Wed. Oct. 6 and Friday Oct. 8: 11:00 am board bus, 3:45 back at hotel. On the way to Independence, will stop at Stephenson's Apple Farm Family Restaurant for a sit-down lunch. Enjoy the exhibits, films, and memorabilia of Harry Truman's presidency and private life. \$45 per person includes bus, guide, admission, and lunch.

New Theatre Restaurant: Wed. Oct. 6: 5:45 pm board bus, 10:30 pm back at hotel. Enjoy a buffet-style dinner and then a Broadway hit show. \$64 per person includes bus, escort, dinner, and show.

Fort Leavenworth: Thursday Oct.7: 9:30 am board bus, 3:00 pm back at hotel. Command and General Staff College, numerous historic buildings and mansions. Frontier Army Museum features one of the finest collections of pioneer vehicles in the world. Enjoy lunch with the "Harvey Girls" in town at the High Noon Saloon. You will need a photo ID to enter the Fort. \$40 per person includes bus, escort, tour fee, and lunch.

Steamboat Arabia Museum and Toy and Miniature Museum: Thursday Oct. 7: 9:45 am board bus, 3:15 back at hotel. Friday Oct. 8: 10:15 am board bus, 3:45 back at hotel. In 1856 the Great White Arabia sank in the Missouri River. It was raised in 1988, uncovering a time capsule of 1856 frontier supplies including jewelry, china, cookware, clothing, and food. Enjoy your lunch on your own at the City Market. Continue on to the Toy and Miniature Museum of Kansas City, housed in the renovated home of a prominent Kansas City family. \$42 per person includes bus, guide, and admissions.

← OPERATE HERE

8AF HISTORICAL SOCIETY AT KANSAS CITY OCT 8-10

EYES FAILING, STEPS FALTERING, IT'S REUNION TIME

At our stage in life, opportunities that are passed up might be lost forever. So now, not next year, is the time to renew the friendships that were created in WWII.

Kansas City is nearly in the center of the U.S. If you live on either Coast, it's not so far away. All Crusaders are urged come to the 8AFHS meeting, lift a glass in toast and enjoy touching again the cream of the men and women belonging to the "Greatest Generation". The 392nd will have, as usual, its own hospitality room.

At the rendezvous dinner on Friday Oct. 8 the 392nd will host the "blue-suiter" 8AF officers and airmen who are the recipients of the prestigious 8AFHS awards. This is always a highlight to mingle with these fine young warriors. After all, weren't we like them in 1943-45?

The 392nd's Group meeting is scheduled for 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. Friday Oct. 8., with CEO Col Lawrence Gilbert presiding.

NOTE THAT THE CUT-OFF DATE IS SEPTEMBER 2.

Don't miss the symposium on the Kassel mission on Saturday, Oct. 9 1-4 at the hotel. The mission, flown on September 27, 1944, was a disaster for the 445th. They strayed from the bomber stream and lost 25 of their 26 a/c. This was the largest loss of any 2AD Group for any one mission. The 376th Sqdn. of the 361st FG accounted for 18 enemy a/c and probably saved the 445th BG from total annihilation.

The 392nd encountered no fighters on this mission but the flak was moderate and accurate. The 577th's Lt R. A. Petty crew in a/c #867 was forced to land at Antwerp with engine problems. The crew was returned by C-47 on the 29th of September.

8TH AFHS ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order (no credit cards or phone reservations accepted). Your canceled check will serve as your confirmation. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before September 2, 2004. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing.

Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.
P.O. Box 11327
Norfolk, VA 23517
ATTN: 8th AFHS

OFFICE USE ONLY

Check # _____ Date Received _____
Inputted _____ Nametag Completed _____

	Price Per	# of People	Total
CUT-OFF DATE IS 9/2/04			
REGISTRATION FEE			
Includes Unit rebates, Saturday's Symposium expenses, and other reunion expenses.	\$40		\$
MEAL PACKAGES			
Choice #1 includes 7 hotel meals beginning with breakfast on Thursday.			
Choice #2 includes 5 hotel meals beginning with breakfast on Friday.			
Choice #1	\$180		\$
Choice #2	\$128		\$
Please select your entrée choice(s) for the Banquet:			
Roast Prime Rib of Beef		#	
Pan-Seared Salmon w/ lemon cream sauce		#	
SEPARATELY PRICED MEALS (If not purchasing a package)			
Friday: Rendezvous Dinner (chicken)	\$35		\$
Saturday: Banquet (please select your entrée)			
Roast Prime Rib of Beef	\$40		\$
Pan-Seared Salmon w/ lemon cream sauce	\$40		\$
TOURS			
Please choose one of the following two tours:			
Wednesday: City Tour	\$27		\$
Wednesday: Stephenson's Apple Farm / Truman Museum	\$45		\$
Wednesday: New Theatre Restaurant	\$64		\$
Please choose one of the following two tours:			
Thursday: Fort Leavenworth	\$40		\$
Thursday: Steamboat Arabia / Toy & Miniature Museum	\$42		\$
Please choose one of the following two tours:			
Friday: Steamboat Arabia / Toy & Miniature Museum	\$42		\$
Friday: Stephenson's Apple Farm / Truman Museum	\$45		\$
Saturday: City Tour	\$27		\$
Total Amount Payable to Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.			\$

PLEASE PRINT

Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

MEMBER NAME _____ 1st 8AFHS REUNION? _____

LIFE MEMBER? _____ 8AFHS MEMBERSHIP # _____ WWII GROUP _____

SPOUSE NAME _____ LIFE MEMBER? _____ MEMBER # _____

GUEST NAME _____

MEMBER'S STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP _____ PH. NUMBER () _____

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS _____

IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN TOURS, WOULD YOU REQUIRE A WHEEL CHAIR LIFT ON THE BUS? _____

(PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ PH. NUMBER () _____

↑ ↑
OPERATE HERE

PX ITEMS

Anthology, "20 th Century Crusaders. (Hard cover book) \$36.50 postpaid	\$
Anthology, "20 th Century Crusaders (CD) \$15.00 postpaid.	\$
Book, "Remembrance of the Missing", by Col. Bob Vickers, \$35.00 postpaid	\$
Book, "392 nd War Stories", by Col. Myron Keilman, \$21.50 postpaid.	\$
Book, "The Liberators From Wendling", by Col. Bob Vickers, \$28.00 postpaid	\$
Book, "Crew Dog", by Maj. John Matt, 579 th , Reduced to \$18.00 postpaid.	\$
Book, "Country Boy Combat Bomber Pilot", by Col. Bob Tays, \$13.50 postpaid	\$
Book, "My Combat Diary", by Walt Cranson, \$13.50 postpaid	\$
Cap, black, 392 nd Bomb Group w/gold braid, summer, \$10.50 postpaid.	\$
Cap, black, 392 nd Bomb Group w/gold braid, winter, \$10.50 postpaid.	\$
Directory, \$10.00 postpaid (ALL DIRECTORIES ARE NOW WITH CURRENT DATA)	\$
Jacket, white nylon, w/ 392 Bomb Group and Crusader patches, \$29.00 postpaid	\$
(Circle size wanted) M L XL XXL	\$
Patch, 392 nd Bomb Group logo, \$1.50 postpaid	\$
Print, "The Flying Crusader", reduced to \$16.50 postpaid	\$
Video, 392 nd 's memorabilia photos, \$17.50 postpaid	\$
Total (Send with check to Charles Dye, 4949 San Pedro NE, #87, Albuquerque, NM 87109).	\$

Book, "After The Liberators, A Father's Last Mission, A Son's Lifelong Journey", by Bill McGuire, son of 579th navigator Bill McGuire Sr., KIA Friedrichshafen mission.
Order direct from publisher, Parkway Publishers: PO Box 3678, Boone, NC 28607, \$20.95 postpaid
(Mention 392BGMA newsletter in your letter and you can take 10% off the total bill)

Book, "Joey, Joe, and Joseph" by William A. Damerst, 576th navigator.
Order direct from publisher, Publish America: PO Box 151, Frederick, MD 21705-0151. \$21.95 postpaid

Book, "Stalag 17B, Prisoner of War", by L/C (USAF, Ret) Richard H. Hoffman, ball turret gunner, 579th.
Order from publisher, Xlibris Corp, phone 888 795 4274, or on line at www.xlibris.com/html/bookstores. Also at Amazon.com. No cost figures furnished.

Book, "Don't Call Me A Hero", by Jim McGregor, pilot, 579th.
Order from Publisher, Willeo Publishing, 702 Foxborough Sq. W, Brentwood, TN 37027. \$19.95 postpaid.

Video, from Albuquerque Reunion Symposium, "The Early Days", \$17.50 postpaid
Video, Symposium above, "The Ground Support Teams Prepare For A Mission", \$17.50 postpaid
Video, Symposium above, "The Tough Missions, Pt. 1: Bremen, Keil, Gotha, Friedrichshafen both parts \$27.50 pp
Video, Symposium above, "Tough Missions, Pt. 2: Politz, Berlin, Bernberg, Bingen, Wesel, both parts \$27.50 pp
Video, Symposium above, general scenes from the reunion, 2 parts, \$27.50 postpaid
Order videos direct from Dan McGovern productions, 5307 Cantante, Laguna Hills, CA 92653

KNOWLEDGE GLEANED FROM THE INTERNET

Bill Damerst, 576th navigator, sends these bits of trivia picked up off that source of all kinds of information, the internet.

The first couple to be shown in bed together on prime time TV were Fred and Wilma Flintstone.

Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the U. S. Treasury.

Men can read smaller print than women; women can hear better.

Coca-Cola was originally green.

It is impossible to lick your elbow.

The state with the highest percentage of people who walk to work is Alaska.

The percentage of Africa that is wilderness is 28%. The percentage of North America that is wilderness is 38%.

The cost of raising a medium-

sized dog to the age of eleven is \$6,400.

The average number of people airborne over the US in any given hour is 61,000.

Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.

The world's youngest parents were 8 and 9 and lived in China in 1910.

The youngest pope was 11 years old.

The first novel written on a typewriter was *Tom Sawyer*.

Those San Francisco cable cars are the only National Monuments.

The king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king in history: Spades, King David; Hearts, Charlemagne; Clubs, Alexander the Great; Diamonds, Julius Caesar.

111,111,111 x 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321.

If a statue in the park of a person on horseback has:

a. both front legs in the air, the person died in battle.

A GLIMPSE OF WENDLING IN FEB., 1944

Below is a scene from the Operations Room of the 577th Squadron. Pictured left to right are (then) Major Lawrence Gilbert, Group Operations Officer; B/Gen James P. Hodges, CG 2nd Air Division; and Major Clinton Schoolmaster, commander of the 577th. And in the corner out of the way of all that brass is Sgt Herman Canfield, Squadron Operations Clerk.



Major Schoolmaster was lost shortly after this picture was taken. He was transferred to the 95th Combat Wing and was there only a few days when he went down when flying a P-47 monitoring bomber formations. Neither wreckage or his body were ever found.

Mrs. Janet Englemann, his widow, has furnished the NEWS this passage from his diary:

"Thurs., Feb. 17, 1944. Not much happened today, thank God. Very nasty weather; it's been trying to snow all day. Drizzle, then a little snow, then drizzle.

'We had our big inspection by B/Gen Hodges, CG of 2nd Bomb Division; B/Gen Leon Johnson, CG of 14th Combat Wing; and Col Irvine Rendle, CO of the 392nd BG.

'I think we made out o.k. They all came into my Sqdn Operations and my lead crews and myself had to explain all the training procedures, etc. They spent all day here."

b. one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds in battle.

c. four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on Aug. 2, but the last signature wasn't added until 5 years later.

"I am." is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.

Hershey's kisses were called that

because the machine that makes them looks like it's kissing the conveyor belt.

Question: What occurs more often in December than any other month? Answer: Conception.

Half of all Americans live within 50 miles of their birthplace.

The most popular name of boats: Obsession.

If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter A?

Answer: One thousand.

DUES NOTICE - - - DUES NOTICE
CHECK THE MAILING LABEL, SEE IF YOU'VE PAID

AND NOW: "THE REST OF THE STORY"

Sgt Canfield, the Operations Clerk in the above picture, met Nora Norgate from Norwich and they were married in December 1944. After the war Nora joined Herman on his farm in western Indiana, where they raised 5 sons, all with college training.

Herman and Nora were pictured in Martin Bowman's book, "Wild Blue Yonder".



Sgt Canfield and Nora Norgate, 1944



Mr. and Mrs. Canfield, Indiana, 2004

392nd SECOND GENERATION
CAN SUPPLY YOU WITH THESE ITEMS

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5" circular leather patch, as used on A-2 jackets. Cost \$20 plus shipping and handling from Ben Jones, 15115 Jones Beach Rd., Kent NY 14477-9780

COASTER



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Sorry, sold out of Challenge Coins.

Nora Canfield said it all with this poem:

Twass quite a small village near Dereham, they say,
Where a girl named Nora once went to stay.
A great Yankee airbase was very close by
And of all the GI's there was just one guy
Who came riding out on his army bike
To meet this young girl who he started to like.
In Norwich they courted with concerts and shows
And how many miles they walked nobody knows.
Before the year ended glad wedding bells sounded
And neighbors and friends alike were all dumbfounded.
Now many years later, on a midwestern farm
A woman rises early when she hears the alarm.
Yes, Nora and Herman are milking the cows
Twenty years after saying their vows.

* * * *

AIR ANNIVERSARY

B-29 "Enola Gay" dropped atomic
bomb on Hiroshima-Aug. 6, 1945.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

Japan surrenders unconditionally-
Aug. 14, 1945.

**We Bought Out The Publisher
And Have Further Reduced the Price:
Now only \$36.50, postpaid**



All copies will be autographed by Col. Lawrence G. Gilbert, our final Commander.

Order from the PX order blank contained in this newsletter.

Over 100 authors, including Ian Hawkins and Ernie Barber, have contributed to this anthology, edited by Bill and Marge Braddock. There are personal stories of bombing missions, aerial dogfights, air-sea rescues, aircraft crashes, life-saving parachute bail-outs, captures by the enemy, evasions, escapes, resistance-fighters assistance to downed airmen and airmen returning to England.

NEWS



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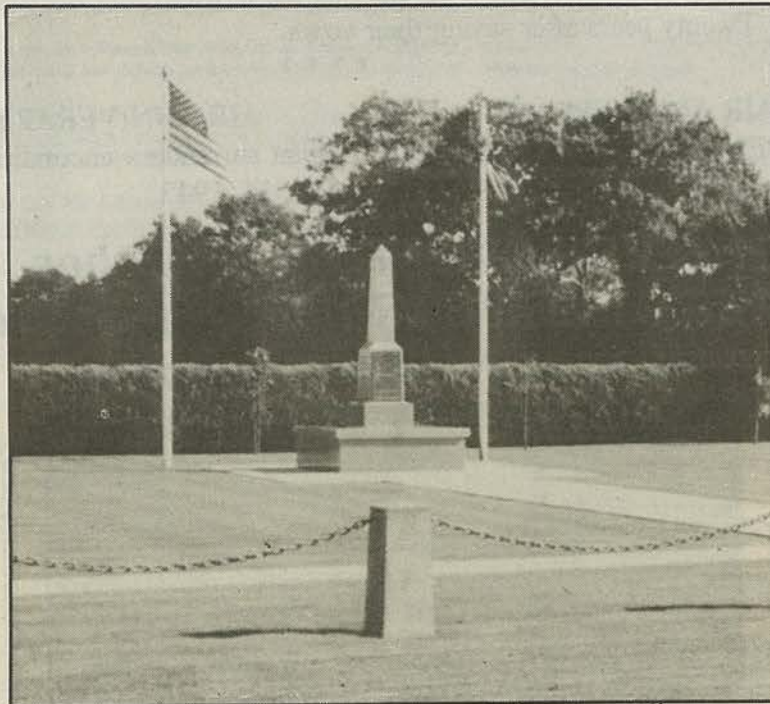
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THE 392nd MEMORIAL AT WENDLING

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 576th pilot the Very Reverend Robert C. Martin, retired Dean of the Cathedral at Erie, Pa.

MESSAGE FROM CHARLEY DYE, 392ND TREASURER

"Our recent request for donations has been an outstanding success and we, (the Board of Directors and your Treasurer) are truly grateful.

'Donations continue to come in, as the donation drive is still in effect. Only time prevents me from acknowledging individual contributions (\$1.00 to \$500.00). All are appreciated and are needed. Thank you!"

* * * *

Folded Wings

Ernest McMahon, 578, May 8, 2004
Russell I. Vrieling, 578, May 11, 2004
Edward P. Jakusik, 576, Mar. 29, 2003
Carmen Morro, 577, 1989
Gene Morrow, 577, April 6, 2003
Mark Osment, 579, Sept. 21, 2002
Emuel Edward Vassey, Jr., 578, 7/3/02
Jack G. Murray, 576/9, 1982



392nd Bomb Group Memorial Ass'n NEWS
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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, 2201 Redbud Blvd., Frankfort, IN 46041.

**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