

NEWS



392nd BG Memorial Association

VOLUME 17

FEBRUARY 2002

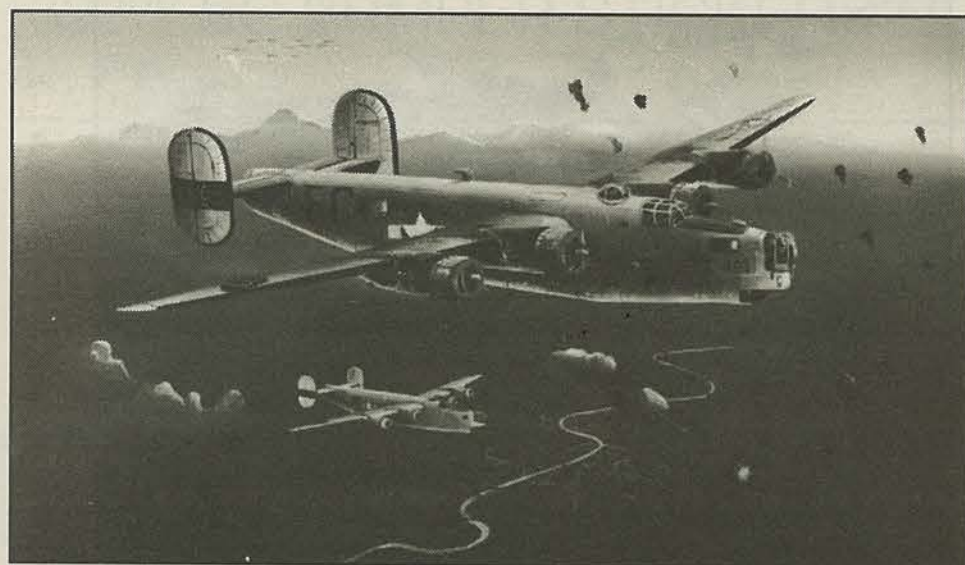
392nd AT BOTH 8AF AND 2AD MEETINGS THE 392ND GATHERS IN TEXAS

By Lawrence Gilbert and Cliff Peterson

Thirty six veterans, family, and friends joined with the 8AF Historical Society for a Group Reunion in Irving, Texas, on Oct. 25-29, 2001 at the Harvey Hotel. Hotel accommodations, food service, and hospitality were given high marks by consensus of the attendees.

The Hospitality Room, always the focal point of socializing, was also the popular showcase for video displays and web site material engineered by our Second Generation members: Jim Marsteller, Bob Books, Ben Jones, and Greg Hatton. The work, time, and effort of these computer gurus in preserving our Group history deserve high praise.

The Group dinner attendance included six active duty members of the Eighth Air Force, who were being honored in later ceremonies for meritorious achievement. Roger Freeman, the well known British historian and author of many books about the 8AF, was also an honored guest. In his remarks Roger made the surprise announcement that the B-24 being restored for display at the American Air Force Museum in Britain at Duxford will bear the markings of the 392nd and the name "Dugan". "Dugan" was the a/c flown in combat by 578th pilot Bob Vickers. Bob, as everyone knows, is the author of *Liberators From Wendling, Remembrance of the Missing*, and is a research historian par excellence of the combat history of the 392nd.



Shown above is British artist Keith Hill's rendition of "Dugan". Hill has painted a representative a/c from each of the bomb groups of the 8AF.

Roger Freeman gave an excellent review of the history of aerial warfare before an overflow crowd of 8AF veterans. His presentation, "Round The Clock", highlighted the team effort of the RAF Bomber Command and the 8AF in maintaining the bombing offensive day and night, fair weather or foul.

During the annual 392nd Group business meeting, Jim Marsteller, Second Generation, was elected to membership on the Board of Directors and Jim Goar was chosen to be 392nd vice-president for Second Air Division. In the subsequent meeting of the Board of Directors, Keith Roberts was named secretary and Jim Goar vice president for communications.

SECOND AIR DIVISION DEFIES ARAB TERRORISTS; FLIES TO ENGLAND FOR OPENING OF NEW MILLENNIUM LIBRARY

Arming themselves with plenty of prescription pills, over 500 aging warriors with their families emplaned for England on Nov. 1. There they joined their British friends at Norwich and spent a week celebrating the close ties established in 1942-45.

Evelyn Cohen on the U. S. side and David and Jean Hastings on the Brit side planned and executed an exercise of immense complexity. The attendees were housed in five separate hotels, fed at several venues, were transported to several sites within Norwich and to the cemetery at Cambridge. They were met and returned to two London airports at the beginning and end of the session. All this was performed under stringent security measures.

Paraphrasing the story that appeared in the Norwich Eastern Daily Press: "They may not be back but they will never be forgotten."

Around 300 old servicemen, many in their 80's, made the trip to our region for a week of remembrance, tribute, and pride.

Monday saw an emotional visit to the American cemetery at Madingly, Cambridge, and a tour of the Imperial War Museum at Duxford.

On Tuesday the 2nd Air Division received the freedom of the city of Norwich during a service at St. Andrews Hall. It was a unique occasion and the first time a foreign organization had been bestowed with such an honor.

Wednesday saw the climax of the trip with the official opening of the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library at the Forum, commemorating the 6700 who died flying from East Anglia from 1942 to 1945.

In the evening a banquet attended by around 800 people was hosted by the 2nd Air Division Association at the Sports Village in Norwich. During the evening the chairman of the Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division, Paul King, was presented with checks totaling \$200,000. Mr. King said, "This is in order to augment the Endowment Fund of the Trust to provide additional library staff in the new memorial library."

There has never been a week such as this and those who made the journey from the States know there will never be another.

But while there is inevitably a tinge of sadness and a few tears as the servicemen head home, they leave in the knowledge that their East Anglian friends and ensure their legacy will live on for generations to come."

On Thursday the 392nd delegation headed out for Wendling, there to find the Memorial in impeccable condition, manicured to perfection and with new flags flapping in the breeze. Tom and Jill Scotts' hard work and devotion was very evident.

Thursday was the only bad weather day of the week. And bad it was, a reminder of the damp, bone-chilling weather when we were there in 1943-45. There was even a short but sharp hail storm, striking during the service at the Memorial. But the unflappable Reverend Jonathon Boston epitomized the legendary Brit resolve by conducting the service without faltering, in spite of pea-sized hailstones pelting him on his bare head and covering his prayer book.

8F IRVING

Special recognition and thanks are due to the volunteer logistics committee of the Hospitality Room: Mary Peterson, Charley and Helen Dye, and the indefatigable presiding officer of the beverage department, Barney Glettler. Barney was honored at the Group banquet with a large birthday cake celebrating his 85th birthday.

Crusaders and guests present were: Laurin Austin; Luther Beddingfield; Jack Bode; Bob Books; Charles Dye and Helen; Anthony Ferdinando; Lawrence Gilbert and Margie; Barney Glettler; Greg Hatton, Ben Jones; Jim Marsteller and Karen; Joe McNeil and Ruth; Thomas Perry; Cliff Peterson and Mary; Keith Roberts and Jan; Dennis Rogers and Joanne; Joseph Sauter; Gaetano Spinelli and Madeline; Harry Stockman and Tillie; Bob Vickers and Annelie; and Stan Zybort.

* * * *

OPERATE HERE



PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR DUES STATUS IT'S TIME TO SEND IN YOUR 2002 MEMBERSHIP DUES

We don't send out dues notices, so you can help the news editor and the Treasurer if you will sit down right now and send in your 2002 dues. If you are paid ahead, you can check it by the code right after your name on the label of the newsletter. If it is LM (for Life Membership) or 02 or higher, you're paid up. If Frnd is after your name, you're our guest. If there is an error, contact Charles Dye.

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 and send it now!

Name _____ Ground [] Air [] Sqdn _____ Assoc []

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Dues for 2002, \$12

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Age 61-65 \$120 ☐Age 66-70 \$96 ☐Age 71 and over \$78 ☐Hardship Waiver ☐

Send with check to Charles Dye, 4949 San Pedro NE, #87, Albuquerque, NM 87109



OPERATE HERE

EDITORIAL

I always feel the need to apologize when I usurp the space in this newsletter to vent my personal feelings. However, judging by the tenor of the e-mails from Crusaders that recently have been forwarded to me, I think that a substantial majority of the Crusader family will be in general agreement with these sentiments.

I can't help feeling a little cynical about the rise of patriotism and other fundamental American values since Sept. 11. Most Crusaders that I know have been wearing American flags in their lapels for years. Now I see former left leaning, military bashing TV commentators wearing them religiously.

But the thing that really caught my attention was a news item about how the Norman Rockwell collection on display at the Guggenheim Library in New York City is attracting large numbers of viewers. The family values conveyed in his paintings have been sneered at by some in the artistic community for years.

This editorial was written the day after Thanksgiving. Probably instead of being cynical I should be thankful, that however horrible the events of Sept. 11, the nation was shocked into a renewal of the values that in 1941-45 sent us to the colors.

At any rate, the Vietnam era ended Sept. 11, 2001. It is no longer cool to be a unpatriotic U. S. citizen.

Jim Goar

* * * *

2AD NORWICH

A wreath was laid by three past presidents of the 2ADA and the widow of another in the persons of John Conrad, Oak Mackey, J. Fred Thomas and Emily Long Reid. Another was laid by the Lincolnshire Aircraft Recovery Group by Ian Blackamore. That group helps maintain a small museum near Boston that contains many 392nd artifacts.

Denis and Hilary Duffield planned and Mike Hyde and John Gilbert led the tour. Denis is awaiting an operation for a serious heart condition but he surprised the Crusaders and possibly himself by the condition of his health being good enough for him to be able to continue the 30-odd years that he has been the 392nd's Base Contact and Official Host.

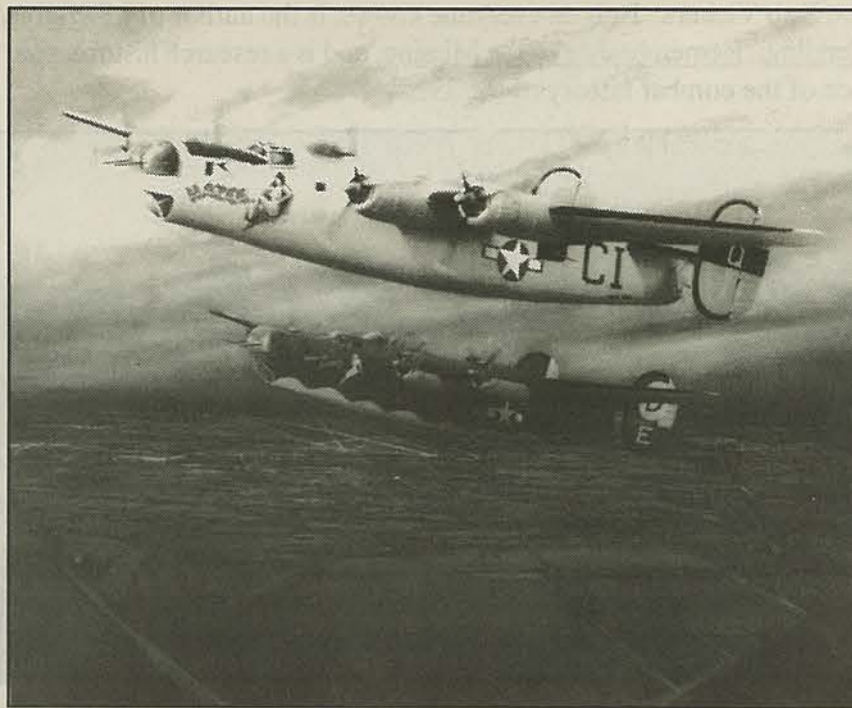
The Group visited the Beeston elementary school, where they met the staff and students and were presented with gifts of Beeston-inscribed mugs and copies of a painting of 392nd aircraft by artist Peter Westacott.

A visit to Wendling would not be complete without refreshments at the Ploughshare, the ancient pub that has welcomed sojourners for centuries. The Crusaders were joined by Capt Christine Weeks, USAF, and a few of her fighter pilot cohorts from Lakenheath and Mildenhall. Capt Weeks is the granddaughter of Willis Miller, 579th pilot, and Dorothy Miller. All would have stayed there into the night had it not been for the schedule.

On the loading list for this mission were: John Conrad and Wanda, with daughter Margy and her husband Ronald White; Jerry Gersten and Roz; Jim Goar and Annabelle; Burt Gorback and Sylvia; Bob Harned and Ida Jane; Willis Miller and Dorothy; Murray Milrod and Helen, with Murray's sister Sylvia Rubin; Oak Mackey and Maxine; Emily Long Reid with daughter Ann Phillips; J. Fred Thomas and Elva; and Joe Micksch and Ella.

The NEWS thanks Joe Micksch for accepting the assignment as Group Photo Officer for this mission. The results of his work can be seen in the center spread.

* * * *

BEESTON ARTIST DEPICTS 392ND A/C

Peter A. Westacott, an aviator and artist now living in Beeston, used our a/c as subjects for a recent painting. He presented copies of it to the Group's visitors when they were at Wendling on Nov. 8.

Hazee, #44-50527, a 576th a/c, survived the war and was returned to the U. S. in June, 1945. Rose of Juarez, #42-7469, a 579th a/c, crash landed at Wendling on April 8, 1944.

Mr. Westacott regrets that no prints were made of the painting. However, he stated that he would be willing to sell it to any Crusader for half-price, \$750 U. S. The price would include framing but exclude shipping charges. Anyone interested may reach Mr. Westacott through the NEWS.

* * * *

PX ITEMS

Anthology, "20 th Century Crusaders. \$36.50 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 , \$28.95 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 II, 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. \$19.95 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

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

392ND BG BUMPER STICKERS NOW AVAILABLE



You can order these from George Goehring, 389th, 799 Pleasant Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590.

Phone 516 334 4635, e-mail gegbag@aol.com. \$2.00 for one and \$3.00 for two, postpaid.

Air Anniversary

General H. H. Arnold directed establishment of new Air Force later designated 8AF-1942.

Air Anniversary

Allied Air Forces in Africa activated under Maj Gen Carl Spaatz-1943.

Air Anniversary

3 two-pound sandbags dropped in first simulated bomb drop experiment-1910.

CONTROL TOWER CONVERSATIONS

The editor's niece, a very alert observer of the passing scene, sent the following to the NEWS, knowing that it would be of interest to grizzled veterans of air wars.

Some exchanges between pilots and control towers:

The German air controllers at Frankfurt Airport are a short-tempered lot. They expect the pilots to know their gate parking location and how to get there without any assistance from them. An exchange between Frankfurt ground control and a British Airways 747, call sign "Speedbird 206":

Speedbird 206: "Top of the morning, Frankfurt, Speedbird 206 clear of the active runway."

Ground: "Guten Morgen. You vill taxi to your gate."

The big British Airways pulled onto the main taxiway and slowed to a stop.

Ground: "Speedbird, do you know where you are going?"

Speedbird 206: "Stand by a moment, Ground, I'm looking up our gate location now."

Ground (with arrogant impatience): "Speedbird 206, haff you never flown to Frankfurt before?"

Speedbird 206 (coolly): Yes, I have, actually—in 1944. In another type of Boeing, but just to drop something off. I didn't stop."

A Pan Am 727 flight engineer waiting for start clearance in Munich overheard the following:

Lufthansa (in German): Ground, what is our start clearance time?"

Ground (in English): "If you want an answer you must speak English".

Lufthansa (in English): "I am a German, flying a German airplane, in Germany. Why must I speak English?"

Unknown voice (in a beautiful British accent): "Because you lost the bloody war!"

Air Anniversary

General of the Air Force H. H. Arnold died of heart ailment-1950.

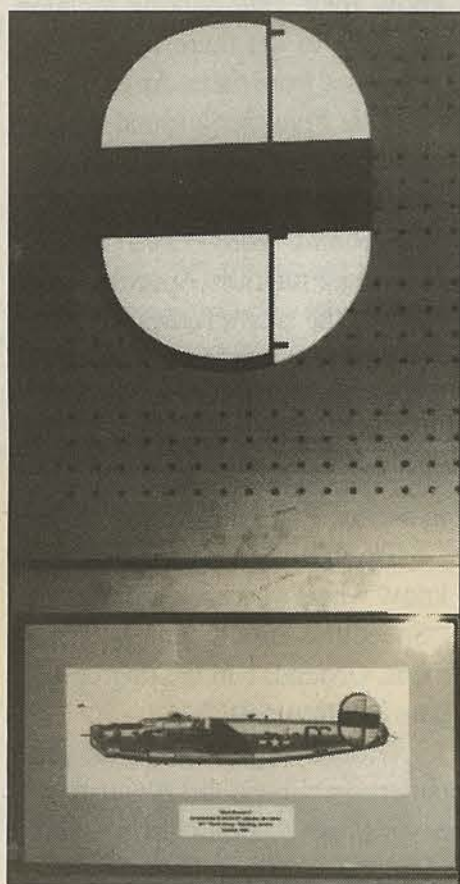
Air Anniversary

Last operational P-51 fighter retired to AF Museum-1957.

392ND CRUSADERS AGAIN CROSS THE

Strapping on their canes, hearing aids, and other equipment necessary for aging troops, a detachment of Crusaders boarded a/c on November 1 and deployed to England.

The pictures on these pages show the results of their joining up with their British allies.



Joe Micksch photo

All Groups are represented at the Library by a display of the Group tail marking and a photo of one of the Group's aircraft.



Joe Micksch photo

The Combat Officers Club still stands, now as Jaguar repair shop. The decorative wall is still intact. The father of Major Jack Fritsche, Group Adjutant, was a senior officer at a higher headquarters. He knew that the newly arrived 392nd would soon be incurring serious casualties and would need all the morale they could get, so painters were sent to decorate the mess.



The RAF sent a sizable number of troops to the Millenium Library in Norwich. The new building, burned in 1996, is the site of the Second World War Museum.



Joe Micksch photo

The Maid's Head Hotel in Norwich, home of the 392nd's contingent, and the haunt of many a GI in WWII. The foundations of the building date back to 1287.



Di Walthew teaches her students at the Millenium Library in Norwich. The new building, burned in 1996, is the site of the Second World War Museum. This scene will always be an England."



Joe Micksch photo

Hilary and Denis Duffield, at the banquet. Denis, who has been the 392nd's Base Contact for some thirty years, is awaiting an operation for a serious heart condition.



Joe Micksch photo

Mike Hyde, left, and John Gilbert. They filled in admirably for the ailing Denis Duffield in directing the visit to Wendling.



Joe Micksch photo

Dorothy and Willis Miller, proud grandparents of Capt. Christine Weeks, USAF fighter pilot. Left: Capt. Jeff Weeks, USAF, husband of Christine.



Jill and Tom Scott, the 392nd's VP of the Division Ass'n. They have been instrumental in the planning and maintenance of the memorial at Wendling.

ATLANTIC IN THE FACE OF THE ENEMY



Joe Micksch photo
ps to mark the opening of the new library, which replaces the one that Air Division Memorial Library room.



Joe Micksch photo
e Beeston elementary school, with a of shining faces reiterates "There



Joe Micksch photo
with Jim Goar, for Second Air the Scotts have in the refurbish- e of the 392nd's ing.



Mike Hyde photo
Joe Micksch, the Group Bombsight Maintenance Officer, found the bombsight vault to be still there. Here he is shown demonstrating how he calibrated bombsights to wife Ella May and the fascinated present users of the building.



Joe Micksch photo
On a typical cold, rainy, windswept day, complete with a hailstorm hitting in the middle of the service, the Reverend Jonathon Boston prepares to lead the memorial service at Wendling.



Joe Micksch photo
The Ploughshare, scenes of centuries of conviviality, hosted a luncheon for the Crusaders and their Brit friends.



Joe Micksch photo
These rows of crosses at the U. S. cemetery near Cambridge are a somber and compelling demonstration of the tremendous cost of lives in WWII.



Joe Micksch photo
Photographer Joe Micksch pictures this magnificent stained glass window in the Norwich cathedral.



The Brits are extremely good at Pomp and Circumstance. The three officials bearing the maces and sword of office precede the City Clerk and the Mayor of Norwich. The procession was at the medieval St. Andrews Hall, where the 2ADA was granted the Freedom of the City of Norwich.



Joe Micksch photo
Taking care of business: Evelyn Cohen, 2ADA membership vice-president, seen handing out information to an attendee.

OUR BATTLES ARE NOT IN THE SKY TODAY

Crusaders don't talk about air battles in the sky over Germany any more. Instead, they tell of skirmishes in various operating rooms around the country.

The NEWS is reporting on those battles that have been brought to our attention. We interrogated the walking wounded in the latter part of January and can report the following:

Birdie Schmidt Larrick, ARC

She was felled by a stroke in October, keeping her from attending the 8AF meeting in Irving, TX. She was in hospital for three weeks, spent some time in rehabilitation, then home. She was driving until her doctor grounded her pending

some driver rehabilitation. A woman of great determination who grittily overcomes all obstacles, when asked if she was considering assisted living quarters said, "Not Yet".

Ernie Barber, 578th crew chief

A simple week-end trip to visit Jackie and Guy Carnine left him in a hospital in Tennessee for a week. His trouble diagnosed as emphysema, he returned to Georgia pulling an oxygen cart. Better now, he says that he is gradually promoting himself to a carry-around bottle.

Ebe Ebersole, 578th pilot

Ebe has been fighting pain and deteriorating ability to walk for years. Finally he went through a long and difficult operation on his spine. A veteran of both WWII and Korea, he told Col Gilbert "It was

the toughest thing I've ever faced". Wife Jeanne reported that he's four months into a twelve month rehab period, and is gradually improving.

Charley Dye, Base Ammunition Officer

In early November, Charley underwent a procedure for new heart valves. It was touch and go for awhile, according to Helen, but now he's slowly recovering and is well enough to handle the Group's finances, much to the relief of Helen.

He's waiting for the medics to do something about his heart rhythm, which has been erratic.

Lou Stephens, 578th pilot

Lou had a little work done on his heart in the early Fall, which kept him and Deloris from attending the 2AD reunion in Norwich. His doc-

tor, knowing that he had in his possession a snow blower, warned him not to cause himself to have a heart attack this winter as a result of cleaning off all his neighbors' driveways. Lou said, "I cleaned several driveways, but the snow blower ran out of gas before I did."

Lou and the editor had some difficulty in communicating with each other about birthday congratulations, since their birthdays fall within a two week span. Lou said, "This electronic communication reminds me of the old Indian saying: Don't send smoke signals on a foggy day."

Bob Lane, 578th Executive Officer

Bob needed some abdominal work done this Fall, and his five daughters rallied around, sending Sharon,

Continued on page 7

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

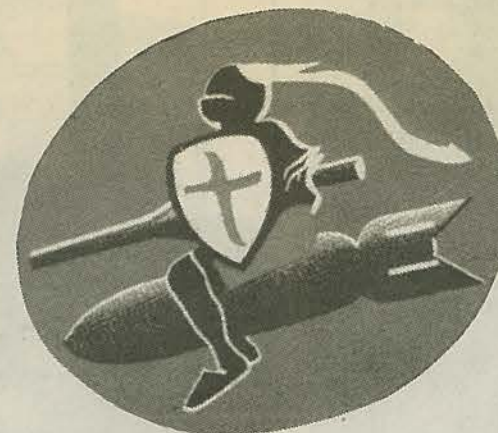


All copies will be autographed by Col. Lawrence G. Gilbert, our final Commander.

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.

392nd Bomb Group Leather Patches



Ben Jones has undertaken the task of supplying the 392BGMA with the leather Crusader patches that started appearing on the Group's A-2 jackets in 1944.

Ben says: These patches are handpainted on genuine fine leather to meet the specifications of WWII. As the war progressed, various hand painted Group patches started appearing on A-2 jackets. As there was no standard size among the various Groups, Hq. USAAF authorized the use of a 5" circular leather patch on which the unit logo could be painted.

The Crusader is drawn on a USAAF-approved 5" circular leather patch. Each patch is unique with no two being identical, as with mass-produced copies. You can choose between a distressed look or a freshly painted look.

The logo is painted on the leather, then coated with a sealant that protects it. Like any leather, it is suggested that it not get wet.

The cost is \$20 plus shipping and handling.

Ben says also that there will soon be available polo shirts with the Crusader emblem.

So if you're interested, contact Ben Jones at 1000F Circle Drive, Dover, DE 19901, or e-mail him at limeybj@frontiernet.net.

Let him know if you want the "distressed" or "freshly painted" look.

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

392BGMA ELECTRONIC DIRECTORY

The Electronic Directory is a regular feature in the NEWS; if you want to be listed please contact the editor by mail at 2201 Redbud Blvd., Frankfort, IN 46041, or at the E-mail or Fax addresses listed below.

E-MAIL

8AF Museum, Savannah
Anstey, Milton P.
Bambauer, Gilbert
Barger, George
Barber, Ernie **NEW CHANGE**
Barnard, Mary Beth
Barnes, Joe
Barry, Bill
Bartsch, Arlo
Books, Bob
Braddock, Bill
Canonne, Philippe
Case, Bill
Conrad, John
Damerst, William A.
Dewez, Luc
DuBois, Phyllis
Ebersole, Howard ("I:be")
Egan, Thomas J.
Ehrlich, Lee D.
Eller, Melvin
Elston, Robert C.
Garrett, Howard
Gilbert, John
Gilbert, Lawrence
Glettler, Barney
Goar, Jim
Greene, David
Grimm, Roy
Gross, Earl
Hart, Wildrick
Hawkins, Ian
Hinckley, Burt
Hyde, Mike
Jones, Ben
Jones, Mervyn
Long, William
Lory, Bob
McGuire, Bill, Jr.
Marcelli, Anthony F.
Matelski, Lorn W.
Marsteller, Jim
Michel, George
Micksch, Joe
Peterson, Cliff and Mary (**Change**)
Popek, Ed
Odierno, Frank
Onstot, Perry
Polking, Dette
Roberts, Keith
Rothrock, Mary
Russell, Carroll E.
Sabourin, Roland
Satterly, Everett F.
Stockman, Harry
Szenegeto, Joe **CORRECTION**
Thomas, J. Fred
Thomason, Henriette
Tuchel, Robert H.
Tyler, Bob
Vassey, Emanuel
Weed, Oscar and Toni
Westbrook, Joe
Willies, Doug
Zyborz, Stanley

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Goar, Jim 765 654 4457 or 765 654 4253
Greene, David 631 205 1301
Gross, Earl 310 652 9307
Jones, Mervyn +44 (0) 1328 701 262
Eller, Mel 717 238 9202
Ehrlich, Lee D. 773 774 4311
Onstot, Perry 816 363 7054
Thomas, J. Fred 714 536 2184

WEBSITE

www.b24.net
www.mighty8thmuseum.com

Continued from page 6

an RN like her mother Marilyn, to take care of him. He recovered quickly and is now at home in Melbourne, FL.

Marie Dewez, Belgian Friend

Little Marie, daughter of Sophie and Luc Dewez, spent nearly a month in hospital in Brussels getting her heart mended. Now she's home and lookin' good, as the picture below shows.



Phyllis DuBois, Friend

Phyllis is the retired librarian at the 2AD Memorial Library at Norwich and a long time friend of the 392nd. She has been battling the big C for some time but except for the side effects of treatment she is able to live a normal life.

Denis Duffield, our man at Wendling

Denis has been threatened by heart trouble. A scheduled operation has been shelved on account of the risk, but Hilary reports that his heart valve is stronger due to medication. He takes it easy, doesn't lift anything. So he is jogging on.

Jim Goar, Group Transportation Officer

If I felt any better, I could be arrested.

SCHEDULED 8AF, 2AD MEETINGS FOR YEAR 2002

The 392BGMA has always considered itself to be an integral part of both the 8AF Historical Society and the 2AD Association. We have a strong turnout at both meetings, and there is always an organized hospitality room.

We alternate our annual corporation meetings between the two, and in 2002 it will be with the 2AD.

Unfortunately both meetings will be on the East coast this year, making it difficult for Western members to attend.

The 2AD meeting is at the new Hyatt Regency in Cambridge, MD, over Labor Day.

The 8AF will be at the Sheraton Waterfront Hotel in Norfolk, VA on Oct. 10-13.

Regional Meetings

The Southern California Regional meeting of the 2AD will be Feb. 23 at the Los Alamitos Race Track in Los Alamitos, which is near Anaheim. Point man is Dick Baynes, phone 949 552 3889.

The Southwest Region of the 2AD will be April 27 at the Sheraton Grande in Irving, TX. Chairman is Ray Lemons, phone 214 348 2762.

There will be a 392nd presence at both meetings.

Air Anniversary

USAF adopted slate-blue uniform-1949.

NEWS



392nd BG Memorial Association

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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.

Chaplain's Corner

By George Barger, Ph. D

New year, old doubts; new year, new circumstances. It's a refrain we repeat at the beginning of each year. Sometimes we make resolutions. Looking back they seem somehow naive. Still, the entire human venture rests on such naivete. Fragile creatures, weak in will and wisdom. We continue into the unknown because our restless mind lures us with the promise of understanding. "In the image of God". His thoughts become our thoughts and the promise is renewed. Welcome, New Year!

Air Anniversary

8AF observed its third birthday with a 1,000 plane raid on Germany-1945.

Folded Wings

Alan B. Clarke, 576, Aug. 19, 2001
Frank Hostetter, 579, Aug. 31, 2001
James J. McNicholas, March, 2001
Dorothy Damerst, Dec. 2, 2001
wife of Bill Damerst, 576
Jack C. Clarke, 578, Jan. 8, 2002
Ed Popek, 577, Dec. 26, 2001
Malcom Hinshaw, 578, Jan. 28, 2002
Edw. K. Washington, 579, 2002

PROFILE

S/Sgt (later S M/S) Hortis Hanna was early cadre, joining the 392nd at Biggs Field. He was a power turret specialist in the 578th.

He remained in the AF until he retired in 1968, and after that he was a civil servant in the U. S. Army. He was at Ravenna, OH and later at Kingsport, TN., retiring in 1983.

He was married to Florence Edge at St. Mary The Virgin church in Beeston in 1944. Florence passed away Aug. 4, 2000.

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

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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