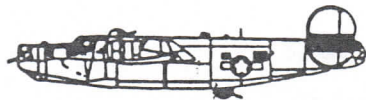


NEWS



392nd BG Memorial Association

VOLUME 3

MAY, 1988

MEMORIAL PROJECT NEWS

Carroll Cheek and Gil Gilbert are going to Cambridge, England on May 19 to represent the 392nd BG Memorial Association in the Memorial Day ceremony at the American cemetery. While there they will meet engineering and landscaping representatives of the American Battle Monuments Commission from the headquarters in Paris. The group will travel to Wendling to review the memorial site and discuss modifications of plans for refurbishing in keeping with our budget limitations. Members of the Beeston Parish Council will actively participate in these discussions. The primary objective for the 392nd BG delegation will be to clear the way for the start of construction as soon as practicable. A full report of the results will be given at the 2 AD reunion in Colorado Springs and in the subsequent newsletter.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

If you are interested in serving on the 392nd BGMA Board of Directors, please contact Jim Goar who is chairman of the nominating committee. His address is:

Jim Goar
5 North Columbia St.
Frankfort, In. 46041

COLORADO SPRINGS

All roads lead to Colorado and the 2nd Air Division Reunion. The date: June 26, 1988. What could be better than "Springtime in the Rockies"? The beautiful mountains, the Garden of the Gods, and last but not least, the Air Force Academy. There just couldn't be a more perfect setting for an air force reunion.

There are sights galore. There is Manitou Springs, at the foot of Pikes Peak. See the famous Balance Rock and the Cave of the Winds. We have a tour of the Academy and a trip to the breathless Royal Gorge. If you are driving from the south, you might want to see the Air Museum at Pueblo. Coming from the east on Interstate 70, you might stop at the Harry Truman Library and Memorial at Independence, Mo. A must is the Eisenhower Memorial at Abilene, Kansas. Plan to spend some time in this beautiful part of America.

The 392nd will have a hospitality room and Ernie Barber will be there with all our memorabilia. Our General Meeting will be held on Saturday at 8:00 AM. We will also have a group rendezvous dinner on Friday night. We need your support and your input. We are expecting a large turnout. Rooms are on a first come first served basis, so GET WITH IT!

Tulsa Reunion Remembered

The following is from a letter which accompanied a check for the Memorial Fund from Al Hersh.

"My wife and I attended the Reunion of the 392nd Bomb Group that was held in Tulsa, Oklahoma in June of '87. It was exciting and wonderful!! Plaudits once again to you and the committee for arranging those great days. The four Officers of the "Double Trouble" crew were all present...Harold Schildknecht, Pilot, Jesse D. Long, Co-pilot, Marion Winters, Bombardier, and myself, Al Hersh (Hershey Bar), Navigator. We four men have not been all together since June of 1943, (perhaps the aforementioned would be an interesting bit of news for your next Newsletter!!). Being together with these dear friends of "Double Trouble" days, proved once again our close friendship. We discussed the many moments of joy and sadness and deep-rooted fellowship that grew with each day of our stay at Wendling, England. Those times will be etched in my mind forever."

Profile

Norman J. Mellow was flight engineer and top turret gunner on the lead crew of the 578th, from original cadre to D-Day, holding the rank of T/Sgt.

After the war, he took his baccalaureate degree from San Jose State and his masters from Fresno State; and taught industrial arts at Merced Union High School from 1950 to 1979.

Now retired, Norman lives at 2220 E. Childs Ave., Merced, Calif. 95340.

Profile

Henry Stetson joined the 576th in March 1944 as a Bombardier on the Donald Prell crew. Mission #1 was Friedrichshafen. (What a baptism, we lost 15 planes.) He also flew Berlin on April 29, 1944. That was our second heaviest loss day. On one mission they were forced to land at an RAF base with 2 engines out and a full bomb load. He was shot down and taken prisoner on May 19, 1944. Only he and a gunner survived 23 missions in 65 days.

He was recalled for a brief stint during the Korean conflict. He returned to civilian life to spend 35 years in professional fund raising, retiring in 1983. He and his wife Helen were married in 1972 after long first marriages ending in the deaths of first partners.

They will participate in the "Return to Wendling" tour. He says he will probably know no one. He will have a raft of new friends when he returns.

He and Helen reside in Winterhaven, Florida.

1988 REUNIONS

Second Air Division Association

JUNE 23-26, 1988

Clarion Hotel

Colorado Springs, Colorado

8TH AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

October 12-15, 1988

Des Moines, Iowa

Registrations received by August 15 entitle the 392nd BG to a handsome refund. Get yours in early.

Profile

Oak Mackey was 1st Lieut. Mackey, co-pilot on Jack Clarke's crew, joining the 578th at Wendling in Sept. 1944.

Taking his flying skills with him into civilian life, Oak flew for United Airlines, Alaska Airlines, and then for Republic for 32 years.

He and Maxine live at 1910 160th St. W., Farmington, Mn., 55024, and have 6 children and 6 grandchildren.

MEMBERSHIP

We recently sent a letter to those of you who have never joined our 392nd Bomb Group Memorial Association. The recent rise in postal rates makes it impossible to continue our large mailing to nonmembers. We are also aware that most of us are living on fixed incomes. If the \$10.00 per year is a financial burden and you enjoy getting the newsletter, please drop me a note and we will continue sending it to you. If we haven't heard from you, we will assume that you are not interested and will discontinue the newsletter.

Reply to :

William H. Richards
5206 S. Harvard #313
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135

1988 Dues

Have you forgotten to send your 1988 dues? Please send your \$10.00 check today. We need your support!

Reply to:

Gil Bambauer
2032 E. LaMadera Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85719

Notice

392nd BG Memorial Association

Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, June 23, 1988

2:00 PM

Colorado Springs, Colorado

The 392nd PX is offering the book, "LIBERATORS From Wendling. The price is \$25.00 postage included.

We still have black caps with gold scrambled eggs on the bill and a patch which says 392nd Bomb Group-Wendling England. The price is \$9.00 including postage.

Send your order and check to:

Gilbert R. Bambauer
2032 E. LaMadera Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85719

HELP WANTED

Are you moving?

Please send us your new address. The Post Office charges us each time they have to return a Newsletter and send an address correction.

Gilbert Bambauer
2032 E. LaMadera Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85719

Do you have any addresses of 392nd people that we don't have? Help us to get in contact with them. We need to continue expanding our base. Thanks to those of you who have sent names and addresses.

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The following recognition plan was adopted for the Wendling Memorial fund and is repeated for your information:

Up to \$199.00	----	1	STAR	DONOR
200.00-499.00	----	2	"	"
500.00-999.00	----	3	"	"
1,000 - 1,999	----	4	"	"
2,000 - or more	--	5	"	"

As of April 11, 1988, the following list includes all contributors to the Wendling Memorial Fund. This will be the last complete listing of the donors. If there is an error, please contact Gil Bambauer and it will be corrected in the next newsletter. Future contributors (names not now appearing) as well as any UPWARD MOVEMENT in the STAR CATEGORY GIVING will be acknowledged in the newsletter.

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Joseph Bush
Carroll Cheek

John B. Conrad
Howard R. Ebersole
Lawrence G. Gilbert

Willis L. Miller
Wm. H. Richards

4 STAR DONORS

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We wish to thank each of you for your
individual contributions, your patience
and your understanding.

I N M E M O R I A M
Claire Paul Burtner

Membership Drive

We are running a little behind in our membership drive. We need about 15 new members by the end of this year. I hope some of you who are reading this newsletter will fill out an application and send it with your check for \$10.00. This will pay your dues through 1988. Believe me, there is strength in numbers. Why not join our Association today? We need each other!

392nd BG Memorial Association Membership Application

Name: _____
 First Middle Last

Address: _____
 Street Apt. No.

 City State Zip Code

Unit or Squadron _____ ☐ Associate
Dues are \$10.00 each calendar year (Jan. thru Dec.)
Send check or money order to 392nd BG Memorial Assoc.
C/O Gil Bambauer, 2032 East LaMadera Drive, Tucson,
AZ 85719

☐ Check if this is a gift membership.

392nd BG Memorial Association
2032 East LaMadera Drive
Tucson, AZ 85719

Address Correction Requested
Forwarding & Return Postage Guaranteed

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Lawrence G. Gilbert
1482 Granville Drive
Winter Park, FL 32789

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Tulsa, OK 74135

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