

NEWS



392nd BG Memorial Association

VOLUME 20

November, 2005

392BGMA IS LOOKING TO SECOND GENERATION PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS

The following amendment, concerning the number of Directors, originated at the 392BGMA Membership Meeting on Sept. 30, 2005. It is to be voted upon at the next Membership Meeting, which will be at the 2AD Association meeting at Washington, DC in October, 2006.

Article seven, Section A. The maximum number of Twelve (12) shall be changed to Sixteen (16).

NEW PRESIDENT

and 6 grandchildren.



Lt/Col Charles E. Dye, USAF (Ret) has been a member of the 392BGMA since its inception. At Wendling he was Base Ammunition Officer, assigned to the 1825th Ordnance Company.

He is a lawyer, since retired, and he specialized in the transportation industry.

He is a past President of the 8AF Historical Society and has held many other responsible posts in that organization.

He lives with wife Helen at 4949 San Pedro, NE #87, Albuquerque, NM 87109. They have 3 daughters.



Bob Books

Books has been nominated for the post of 392BGMA Director and is presently appointed Director pro-tem.

He is the son of 579th pilot Dallas Books, KIA March 18, 1944 on the Friedrichshafen mission. He has been a member of the 392BGMA since 1998.

He has been employed as an engineer working in the fields of rocket.

ANNUAL MEETING SEPT 30 WITH 8AFHS ALSO ELECTS CHARLES DYE PRESIDENT

At the annual meeting of the 392BGMA held at Arlington, VA., concern was voiced about the vacancy of the presidency and the need to harness more of the vitality of the second generation.

The post of President has remained unfilled since the death of Cliff Peterson in 2002 with the all the executive duties falling upon Col Gilbert, the CEO. The colonel has suffered a minute fracture of a vertebra which has affected his mobility and has made it difficult for him to attend meetings. Charles Dye was prevailed upon to take the post and he was duly elected by the Board of Directors. Charley graciously agreed to continue to hold the Treasurer's position until a successor could be found. The Board is anxious to hear from qualified members who are willing to assume this responsibility.

The Board then discussed the necessity of harnessing the talents of more second generation members. Presently serving on a Board of 12 are second generation members Jim Marsteller and Ben Jones, and it was proposed that the Board be expanded to 16 to accommodate more of the second generation. This will require an amendment to the By-laws and such amendment must be published in the newsletter prior to the next annual meeting, which will be with the 2AD Association in Washington, DC, in October 2006.

Realizing that time is not now kind to the 392BGMA, the Board then named second generation members Annette Tison and Bob Books to be members pro-tem. They are nominated and will be officially voted upon at the next general membership meeting, along with anyone else nominated.

In further business, Mary Rothrock asked to be relieved from her duties as Secretary, and Annette Tison was appointed to that post.

The Annual Group Membership meeting was held shortly after the Board of Directors meeting, and there were 19 members present. All of the above actions by the Board of Directors were discussed and ratified.

The following Directors were elected for terms of three years: Lawrence Gilbert, Jim Goar, Ben Jones, and Charles Dye.

Bob Books reported on 2nd generation activities. Since April, he and Annette Tison have compiled and posted on www.b24.net the crew loading lists for all 285 combat missions and 6 diversions flown by the 392nd. The information was gathered by Annette Tison from government archives. This operation equates to approximately 65,000 entries by hand of crew names and a/c serial numbers. Bob has disks available with this information and it is also on b24.net and can be searched by individual name.

Continued on page 2

guidance and navigation, telecommunications research and design, real estate, and several positions in the chemical coating industry. He has been president and board member of several businesses, both profit and non-profit and has been a business consultant. He has spent several years in Central America as a short-term missionary working primarily with the Mayan Indians.

In October of this year he was elected to the Board of Directors of the 8AF Historical Society.

In addition to the 392BGMA site at www.b24.net, Bob has built the websites for the 8AFHS and the Heritage League of the 2AD Association.

The 392BGMA website is now almost complete with mission summaries, MACRs and aircrew loading lists for all 285 missions and the 7 diversion missions. The site is currently number one on the google search list and is attracting over 22,000 visitors each month.

Bob with his wife Carol make their home in Pensacola, FL. They have one daughter and 2 grandchildren, living in Menomonee Falls, WI.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

Pre-invasion bombing of Cape Gloucester, New Britain completely destroyed enemy defenses-1943.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

12 USAF pilots rescued from Greenland icecap by C-47 using rocket boosters-1948.

392BGMA ELECTRONIC DIRECTORY CHANGES

We'll print the entire Electronic Directory in the first issue of the year, and in ensuing issues we will print changes as they are reported to us. If you need an Electronic Directory now, let me know- Editor.

Bambauer, Gil
Hammond, James G.
Hammond, John
Van Pelt, Warren W.

MGBAMBAUER@MSN.COM
hirokosh@kuentos.guam.net
mckyham@cs.com
Jwvanlpelt@aol.com

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

NEW SECRETARY



Books photo

Annette Tison

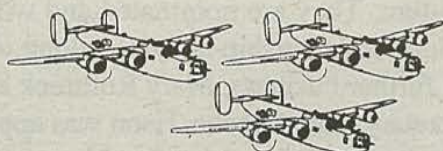
As well as Secretary, Annette is a 392BGMA Director nominee and is now serving as Director pro-tem. She is assistant editor of the 392BGMA NEWS and has made several in-depth editorial contributions.

She is the niece of 2/Lt Douglass Franke, 579th navigator KIA April 29, 1994 on a Berlin raid.

She retired as Commander, USN, having seen duty in Scotland, Charleston, and Philadelphia.

She has been a member of 392BGMA since 2001 and has been an indefatigable member of the www.b24.net team.

She is married to Don and they have two children, a son at Purdue and a daughter at Northwestern.



8AFHS PRESENTS AWARDS TO 8AF PERSONNEL AT ARLINGTON REUNION

The 8AF Historical Society maintains a relevant relationship with the present day 8AF by presenting awards at each annual 8AF reunion.

The 392BGMA traditionally hosts these "Blue Suiters" at our Group dinner the evening preceding the Awards banquet.

The awards are: the Pursuit of Excellence (Maintenance) Award and the General Ira C. Eaker Outstanding Airmanship Trophy.

Pursuit of Excellence Award

This distinguished recognition for extraordinary maintenance achievement was presented to an outstanding management supervisor, Senior Master Sergeant Ralph C. Gilliken while he was assigned to the 5th Bomb Wing, an Air Combat Command B-52 organization located at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota.



Zybor photo

B/Gen Bobby Efferson (Honorary member of 392BGMA), M/Sgt Gilliken, Lt/Gen Kevin Chilton, Commander 8AF.

Sergeant Gilliken's citation noted that his strong leadership, aggressive management style and impeccable mission support directly contributed to the many successes and accomplishments of the 5th Bomb Wing.

Eaker Award

The Eaker Award went to Major Donald Temple, a U-2 aircraft commander pilot, while assigned

to the Air Force Global reconnaissance organization located at Beale Air Force Base, California.

His citation read: "Major Donald G. Temple distinguished himself while deployed in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, 99th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron, 380th Expeditionary Wing, Al Dahfra Air Base, United Arab Emirates on 17 June, 2004. As Major Temple reported on station, he was informed that coalition ground forces has come under attack and two soldiers were wounded. The ground forward air controller was having difficulty initiating the medical evacuation due to a partial failure of his communications equipment. Major Temple maneuvered his U-2 into position to act as a communication relay between the air controller and his direct support assets. Major Temple's previous training and experience as an air controller aided him in painting an actionable representation of the objective area to the inbound helicopters enabling them to destroy enemy forces. He also provided ingress routing to the rendezvous point and helped to prevent fratricide by advising other support assets of the wounded soldiers' situation. Upon completion of the extraction phase, with friendly air assets conducting armed reconnaissance and ground forces clearing houses, Major Temple positioned his U-2 so as to maximize the intelligence collection process and fed the results of these critical intelligence efforts directly to the ground forces. The distinctive accomplishments of Major Temple reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force."

At the 392nd Group dinner, Major Temple would admit only to an altitude of "over 70,000 feet" The NEWS thanks T/Sgt Jeffery Loftin, NCOIC Public Affairs, Hq. 8AF, for his assistance in the preparation of this story.

Merry Christmas!

The 392BGMA NEWS and the rest of the leadership of the 392nd wishes one and all the very best wishes of the season. Most of us of the older generation are of the age that we're lucky to be alive, albeit having many aches and pains.

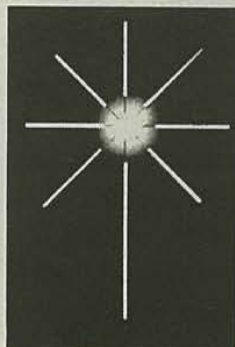
On the right is the Christmas menu for 1944 for Mess #2, sent to us by Dan Collin, son of M/Sgt Everett Collin, Grp Hq.

Note the B-24 dropping lethal Spam ordnance on the hapless enemy.

The censored items must be the squadron designations of the personnel mentioned. (As if the Germans didn't already know what squadrons were at Wendling)

And we wonder whatever happened to Cpl Buillion, noted as one of the cooks. With a name like that we hope that he continued in a culinary career and met with much success.

On a more sober note, while we were chowing down on Christmas of 1944, the ground forces on the Continent were being overwhelmed by the sudden German offensive. The Battle of the Bulge took many American and Allied lives before the tide was turned. The weather finally cleared and the Air could punish the Nazis and assist the ground forces. And General Patton arrived with troops to relieve the embattled paratroopers at Bastogne.



AIR ANNIVERSARY
B-17's bomb shipping near Philip-
pines in first American bombing
mission of war-1941.



THE 392ND BOMB GROUP, 8TH AIR FORCE, HAS WON A VICTORIOUS NEW YEAR AND THE HOPES THAT WE MAY ALL BE ABLE TO SPEND OUR NEXT CHRISTMAS SEASON WITH OUR FOLKS BACK HOME.	
MESS SERGEANTS S/Sgt Gerald V. Allen S/Sgt Joseph F. Miller	CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON 1944
STORE ROOM CLERKS Sgt Walter E. Strohlein Pfc Robert Scott	Menu Fruit Punch (Flavored) Soup Turkey Rice Dressings Fruit Salad
COOKS Sgt Joseph ... Sgt Taylor ... Sgt King ... Cpl Capone ... Cpl Rocco ... Sgt Winiowski ... Cpl Bouillion ... Cpl Reid ... Cpl Walker ... Pfc Gonzalez ... Pfc Harris, Grp Hdqtrs	Entree Roast Ten Turkey ... Gingerbread ... Bread Dressing ... Snowflake Potatoes
BUTCHERS Sgt Simmons ... Pfc Stoddard ... Sgt Hagaman ... Cpl Parade ...	Vegetables Buttered Peas ... Assorted Hot Rolls ... Cranberry Sauce ... Assorted Pickles
Tree Lighting ... Cover Designer ... Artist ...	Dessert Apple Pie with Chutney ... Cookies ... Candy ... Coffee ... Cigar Smoking
JOSEPH R. COPPOLA 1st Lt., Air Corps Mess Officer	

Denis Duffield

Denis Duffield, "The 392nd's Man At Wendling", died Sept. 1, 2005 after a long and valiant fight with heart trouble.

Denis was the local contact for any returning Crusader, and he and Hilary became fast friends of many.

Denis spent his life in the vicinity of the Wendling base and was very knowledgeable about it. As a young boy he was fascinated by the B-24's and the men who flew and serviced them.

The 392BGMA sent a wreath to the memorial service held at All Saints' Church, Mattishall. (Mattishall is about five miles east of Dereham)

In addition to spouse Hilary, he is survived by daughters Jayne and Julie.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

First sustained controlled flight in a powered aircraft-1903.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

Lt "Buzz" Wagner became first American ace of WWII-1941.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

Flying Tiger pilots went into action against Japanese for the first time-1941.

TIME TO SEND IN DUES FOR 2006

The Board of Directors, faced with declining membership, increased the dues in 2003 by a modest \$3, to \$15. They remain the same for 2006. Also, if you feel that you are in a position to help the Treasury with an extra donation, there is a provision for it below. It is possible that Life Members might feel that the Lord has been good to them and that they have lived beyond their actuarial years and an extra payment might be in order. Your dues status can be found right after your name on the mailing list. If the number is 06 or higher, you're current. LM means Life Member, and Frnd means that you are our guest.

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 2006, \$15

Hardship Waiver ☐

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Age 61-65 \$120 ☐

Age 66-70 \$96 ☐

Age 71 and over \$78 ☐

DONATION

\$ _____

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

CRUSADERS ATTEND 8AFHS MEET AT ARLINGTON, VA.

The Crusaders and their spouses and guests, clutching their pill boxes to their breasts, limped and otherwise made their way into the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, VA Sept. 28 to Oct 2 to attend the 31st annual reunion of the 8AF Historical Society.

The managers of the reunion, surprised by the turnout, were forced to house some attendees in other than the host hotel.

Activities, as usual, consisted of more than attending meetings and hanging out in hospitality rooms. Tour busses were busy taking the aging veterans to the various sites of interest in and around Washington.

Struggling up the drive to the hotel after alighting from a bus one 8AF veteran (not 392BG) was overheard to say, with great sincerity, "The hell with it, I'm ready to go. I'm ready to meet my maker, but I don't know if he's ready to meet me."

392nd attendees were: Gil Bambauer and Martha; Bob Books and Carol; Nick Costanzo; Charley Dye and Helen; Gerald Gersten and Roz; Dick Giesing and Rita; Jim Goar and Annabelle; Dave Greene and Renee; Greg Hatton; Sally Kauffman; Oak Mackey and Maxine; Jim Marsteller; Bill McCutcheon; Bill Neck; Tom Perry; Keith Roberts; Mary Rothrock; Birdie Larrick and brother John Schmidt; Annette Tison; Bob Vickers and Annelle, Charles Wheelwright and Irma; and Stan Zybert and care giver Helena.



Books photo
The "founding fathers" of the second generation involvement, Jim Marsteller and Greg Hatton.



Zybert photo
Stan Zybert with his faithful care giver Helena Przystupa. Helena, as usual, charmed all the Crusaders with her bright and cheerful demeanor.



Dye photo
Martha Bambauer in a pensive mood. The view from the window is toward the Pentagon and the site of the Air Force Memorial, which is under construction.



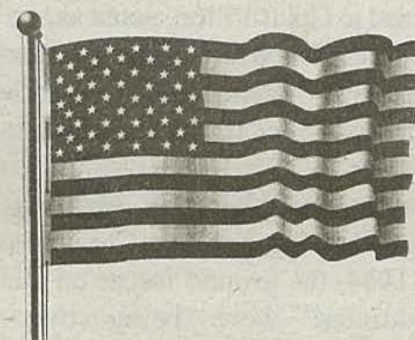
Dye photo
Gil Bambauer, early secretary of 392 BGMA. Gil kept the embers burning while the rest of us were not paying attention to our heritage. The folded flag on the table is the last flag flown over Wendling.



Books photo
Seated at the banquet table are Oak Mackey, vice-president for 2AD Association, and Renee and Dave Greene.



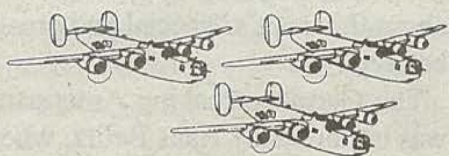
Books photo
Jim Goar, newsletter editor; and Tom Perry and Mary Rothrock. All are Directors of the 392BGMA.



At the hospitality room gathered around Ernie Barber's model of "Windy City Belle" are Tom Perry, Sally Kauffman, Birdie Schmidt Larrick, Mrs. Ivor McCutcheon, Gil and Martha Bambauer.



*Books photo
Bill McCutcheon, new second generation
member, attending his first reunion.*



Many years ago in England pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim or handle of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get service. "Wet your whistle" is the phrase inspired by this practice.

In Scotland, a new game was invented. It was entitled, "Gentlemen only, Ladies forbidden." Thus the word GOLF entered the English language.



578TH'S VICKERS CREW JOIN HANDS AGAIN



Dye photo

Keith Roberts, navigator, and Bill Nock and Nick Costanzo, gunners, joined their WWII airplane commander, Bob Vickers, at the 8AFHS reunion at Arlington, Va.

As shown in the photo below, Bob bestowed an honorary crew member plaque upon Birdie Schmidt Larrick, director of the Red Cross club at Wendling.



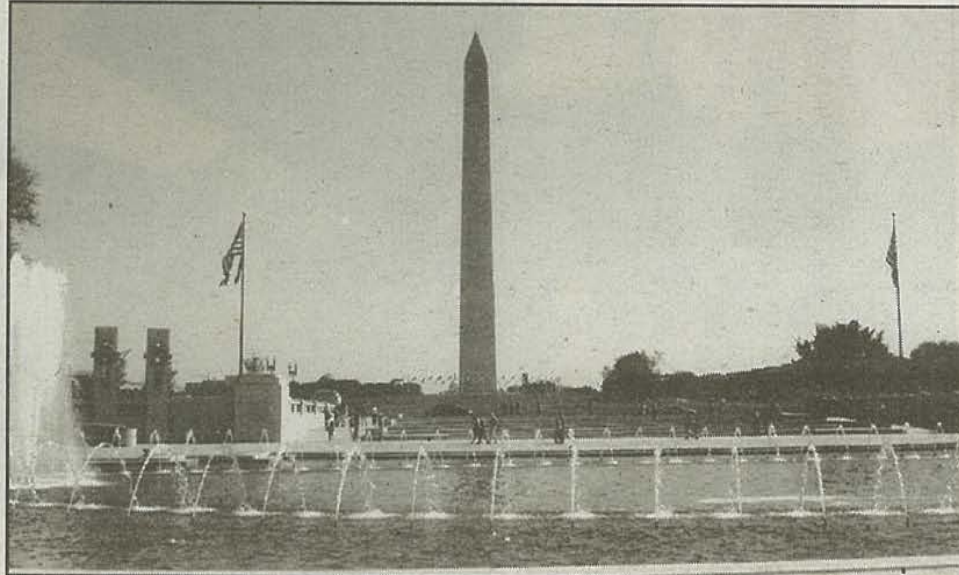
Dye photo

Editor's note about the man, John Schmidt, seen behind Birdie Larrick in the above photo:

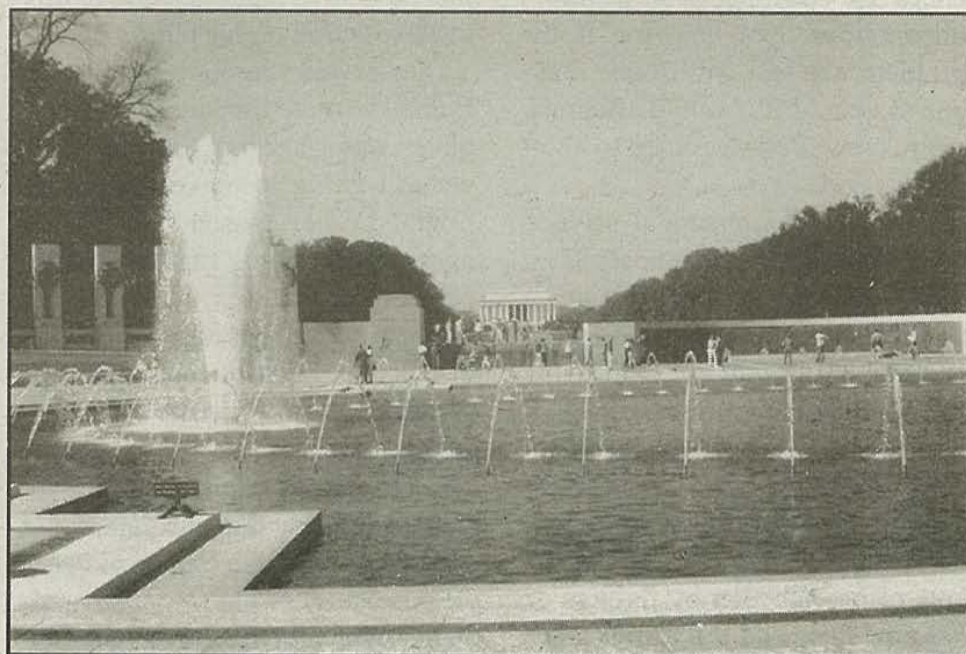
Pioneer Ohio State University agronomy professor Jacob Schmidt and his wife did not rest on their laurels after producing Birdie. The 392nd knows of her beauty, her artistic ability, her contributions to the world. But after Birdie came John. He held the pole vault record at Ohio State. His baritone voice graced the Broadway stage for 10 years, and after that he held responsible positions in the Ohio State extension programs.

THE WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

Bob Books with some spectacular photography captured these views of the monument. It is located in the center of the Mall between the Washington and Lincoln monuments. For most Crusaders, it was one of the highlights of the reunion.



Each column represents a state or territory of the United States. One side of the circle is designated the Pacific theater and the other side the Atlantic theater. Along the walls of the entrance portal are shown in bas relief the various highlights and turning points of the war in their respective theaters.



61 YEAR OLD PHOTO RECALLS EPIC WWII FLIGHT



Editor's Note: The above photo was given to German researcher Markus Graw, and all that was known about it was the pilot's name, Belitz. Recognizing the 392 tail markings on the plane, Mr. Graw sent the photo to Annette Tison. She located the only living members of the Belitz crew, 392BGMA members Allen Jones, the bombardier-navigator; and Harry Walz, the tail gunner. They told her all that they remembered and sent her a videotape of Hans Belitz describing his experiences. She shared her information with Mr. Graw and that led to an article in the local German newspaper. Readers responded with additional photos of the crash and the identity of the person who took the original photo was discovered. Many people who were either at the crash site or had heard their parents talking about it came forward. What the American crewmen and the German witnesses remember is summarized below.

By Annette Tison

On June 21, 1944, the 577th's Belitz crew was on a mission to Genshagen, Germany. As they neared the Initial Point, bombardier-navigator 2/Lt Allen V. Jones did not respond to a routine interphone check. He was found at his position, unconscious. Not knowing if the problem was just with Jones' oxygen system or if it would affect the entire crew, Belitz decided to abort the mission.

He reversed course and salvoed the bombs while engineer S/Sgt John Sekul revived Jones with a portable oxygen bottle. Belitz dropped to about 12,000 feet so the crew would not have to rely on oxygen. It wasn't long before tail gunner S/Sgt Harry Walz saw flak bursts while nose gunner Sgt William Smith saw two Me109s make one pass at the lone plane. Whether by fighters or flak, the nose and top turrets were

hit and both Smith and Sekul were badly cut on their faces by plexiglas fragments.

To get out of danger, Belitz warned the crew that he was going to put them on the deck and then put the ship into a steep dive. Walz says that he is alive today because of this evasive action on his pilot's part.

They stayed low for a long time. Belitz warned the crew that the plane was guzzling gas and they weren't going to make it back to England. They passed over a German airfield, going right down the center of the runway, while 20mm shells riddled the bottom of the fuselage. A burst of flak exploded an ammunition box in the waist and broke gunner S/Sgt Vineall's arm. The #3 and #4 engines were also damaged during this encounter.

At one point a tree branch pierced the nose turret and hit Jones so hard on the right shin that he thought his

leg was broken. He knows he was hit by a tree because he saw leaves in the nose turret afterward. *(Editor's note: It's too bad that Lt. Jones was unable to apply for a Purple Heart. A Purple Heart for a tree limb wound would have set some sort of a record in the 8th Air Force)*

The finishing touch came when they struck a chimney of a house and the #1 propeller came off. Both Jones and Walz vividly recall seeing the propeller rolling on the ground as they passed by overhead.

With the #1 propeller gone, the #3 engine on fire, and the #4 engine damaged, Belitz had no choice but to land the plane. In the tail, Walz's intercom was out and he was unaware of Belitz's intentions until Sekul came back, tapped him on the head and said, "Come on up, we're going to crash." The crew was all on the flight deck when Belitz lowered the wheels and set the plane down in a field of rye near Aldup, Germany. Walz and Jones call it a miraculous landing and agree that it was one of the smoothest their pilot ever made.

As soon as they stopped, co-pilot 2/Lt Robert Loar ducked out of the plane and hid in the grass at the field's edge. It was the first mission

for Loar, a substitute from 2/Lt William Whitteaker's crew. After dark, he headed west. He got about 85 miles before being captured at 4:20 a.m. on July 4 near Assen, Holland, while trying to cross the Noord-Willemskanaal.

The rest of the crew had no chance to evade, as a German soldier was there almost immediately, with others coming by motorcycle. Civilians quickly arrived on the scene as well. Civilian eyewitnesses remember that one crewman requested, in broken German, that his injured comrades be helped. They needed to go to a hospital, he said. These civilians remember how this officer did everything he could for his crew. In the 61 years since the crash, they have often spoken about this man's "special and great behavior".

The German-speaking American was undoubtedly Hans Belitz, who was born in Hannover (less than 70 miles from where he crashed) and lived there until his family moved to Pennsylvania when he was 13.

The civilians took the crew by horse-drawn cart to a barn. There, Belitz gave Jones a shot of morphine from the ship's first aid kit. A Luftwaffe doctor treated the other

Continued on page 7



Standing, left to right: S/Sgt Bradford Vineall, waist gunner; S/Sgt John Sekul, engineer; S/Sgt William Smith, nose gunner; S/Sgt Robert Mulhern, radio operator; Sgt Henry Peters, waist gunner; and Sgt Harry Walz, tail gunner. Kneeling, left to right: 2/Lt Leon Cook, co-pilot; 1/Lt Hans Belitz, pilot; 2/Lt Donald Schofield, navigator; and 2/Lt Allen Jones, bombardier.

—Continued from page 6—

cuts and injuries and sent nose gunner Smith to a hospital. This doctor also refused to turn the crew over to an SS officer who tried to get custody of them.

Belitz and Jones were taken first to the German airbase but soon re-joined the rest of the crew at a railroad station, probably in Osnabrück. There was an air raid alert and they were hurriedly locked in a closet on the train platform while their guards went to the air raid shelters. When the air raid was over, the crew was taken first to Frankfurt for interrogation and then separated, with the enlisted men and officers going to different POW camps.

Belitz and Jones were sent to Stalag Luft III near Sagan and were among those moved by foot and train to Moosburg in late January 1945. While there, Belitz traded his

dog tag with an enlisted man and exchanged barracks with him. As he had hoped, Belitz was soon sent out on a work detail to clear rubble from a marshalling yard in nearby Munich. When permitted to take a bathroom break, he hopped on a passing freight train and escaped. Posing as a French farm worker, Belitz needed only ten days to travel the 160 miles west to the American lines. After the 392nd confirmed his identity, he spent a few days in Paris and then sent home to the States.

Allen Jones and Harry Walz last saw each other on April 29, 1945, the day they were liberated from Moosburg. However, they make it a point to talk on the telephone every June 21st and reminisce about that day long ago when their lives were saved by a good pilot and a lot of luck.

* * * *

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, \$37.00 postpaid	\$
Book, "The Liberators From Wendling", by Col. Bob Vickers, \$35.00 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, Willco 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

AIR ANNIVERSARY

General H. H. Arnold became General of the Army-1944.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

650 B-17's and B-24's made first major strike against German V-weapons-1943.

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

THE AF OFFICER OF THE DAY POSTS A GUARD AT THE GATE



Courtesy Charley Dye

"Believe me. If you stand right there, no one will attempt to enter at this gate."

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

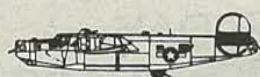


All copies will be autographed by Col. Lawrence G. Gilbert, our final Commander.

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



392nd BG Memorial Association

Chairman of the Board
Col. Lawrence G. Gilbert, USAF (Ret)

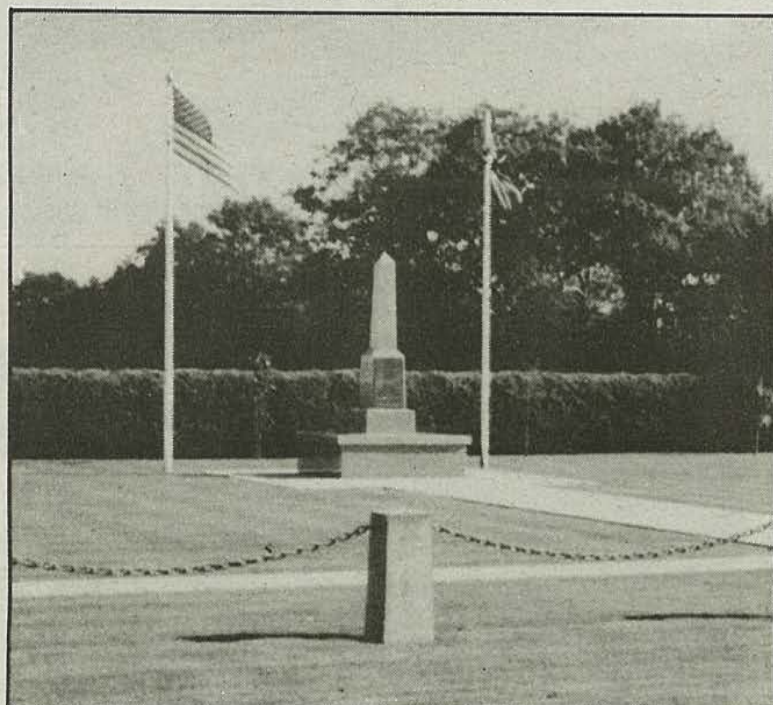
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Editors
Jim Goar
Anette Tison



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.

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, 1555 N. Main St., #106, Frankfort, IN 46041.

Folded Wings

Ray Walton, 578, Jan. 14, 2005
Irving Kreisman, 10SC, June 2, 2005
Aner Anderson, 579, Aug. 9, 2005
Dorothy Gergits Walsh, Oct. 10, 2004
wife of Frank Walsh, 578
Denis Duffield, Friend, Sept. 1, 2005
Georgiana Rockwell, 2005
sister of Col. Irvine Rendle
Weissbeck, Edward A., 1952



Blaisdell, Robert O., 576, Feb. 4, 2005
John E. Walters, 576/7/8/9, Oct. 25, '05
Don Bennett, 579.
Donald K. Clover, 576, Sept. 16, 2005
Henry K. Porter, Nov. 3, 2005

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...**

392nd Bomb Group Memorial Ass'n NEWS
1555 N. Main St., #106
Frankfort, IN 46041

Address Correction Requested
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Roger Freeman

Roger Freeman, who as a young boy heard the thunder of the 8AF aircraft in East Anglia, died at the age of 77 on Oct. 7, 2005.

He became the final authority on the 8AF, writing many books in great detail about it. He coined the term "Mighty Eighth Air Force".

He was the official historian of the 8AF Historical Society, and he and spouse Jean attended nearly every 8AFHS reunion.

In addition to Jean, he left children Sarah, Emma, and Daniel, and grandson Samuel.

Memorial services were held at St. Mary's Church, Dedham.