



SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION JOURNAL



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SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION

September 1982

35th AND STILL GETTING BETTER

They tell me that if you age it properly, good wine becomes even better with the passage of time. So it has been with our conventions over the past 35 years — each year a little aged and better until this year which was the ultimate. The Nashville Convention was a thing of beauty and everyone I talked with who had been to previous reunions proclaimed it the best ever. Not ONE of the best, but THE best.

This is all possible because of the year long planning by Evelyn Cohen who always brings along a new twist to make the next one better than the last. I sincerely hope that she never runs out of ideas. It is getting to the point where no one who attends a convention/reunion wants to miss the next one. To prove my point there were several this year who, although they had signed up for the reunion dates only, arrived a few days early strictly on their own so they wouldn't miss anything. As it turned out they had every right to be eager and optimistic.

Registration this year was faster than it has ever been due to a unique system developed by Evelyn over the cold winter months. When registration commenced, the line extended back into the hotel lobby. Two hours later the line had vanished and those who came later were registered in not over two or three minutes. This allowed old friends to get together early and members attending for the first time to get into the swing of things without delay.

I would be remiss if at this point I failed to mention that the hotel accommodations were strictly first class (Evelyn will have it no other way) and every single banquet and meal of top quality. Service in the hotel was also excellent with every employee heeding our slightest request.

At the mini-reunions Friday evening, every Group had their own room, the first time that has ever happened, and after a gourmet dinner proceeded to conduct Group business. Vince LaRussa and Jordan Uttal visited each room with a sketch and a proposal for a project in our Memorial Room wherein all Groups would be recognized by means of a plaque. Jordan has fully explained this via his article elsewhere in this issue.

At our business meeting on Friday, we were fortunate to have

three guests from Norwich who are members of our Board of Governors — Tom Eaton (Chairman), Paul King (Vice Chairman) and David Hastings. Tom has attended 9 Stateside Reunions, David 2 and this was the first one for Paul. In short talks they all assured us that the people of Norwich are anxiously awaiting our return next year. After the business meeting, combat films were shown and there were some rare items that kept the viewers on the edge of their chairs.

The highlight of the evening came when our treasurer, Dean Moyer, presented Tom Eaton, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Memorial Trust, with a check for \$14,100. This amount was made possible by donations from our generous and caring members throughout the past year. Adding to this figure of \$14,100 was a donation of \$1,000 made by the members of the 467th Bomb Group. It will be added to the capital fund so that our Memorial will continue to live and grow. Thank you one and all.

Friday evening topped everything up to that point. The entire

contingent of 800 plus boarded buses that took us to the Opry Land Hotel where another gourmet banquet was enjoyed by all. The hotel is impossible to describe and has to be seen to be appreciated. After the banquet everyone left for the Ole Opry House for an evening of Country/Western entertainment. Everyone, that is, except four who returned to the hotel and collapsed from exhaustion. Evelyn doesn't want me to mention her name as being one of the four so I won't.



At the Grand Ole Opry (L to R): Rhoda Bandler, Jordan and Joyce Uttal, Paul King, Tom Eaton and David Hastings.

Saturday saw everyone taking a tour of the beautiful city of Nashville and around the countryside viewing the homes and estates of the Country/Western stars of today. Man have they got it made! After the tours it was a quick change into Sunday meeting clothes and on to our final night Gala Banquet. A Color Guard, arranged for by our new President, Andy Low, initiated the candle lighting ceremony which is always a solemn moment for everybody. After that it was enjoying a wonderful dinner, some speeches from the head table and dancing to a real live 1940 type orchestra. They sounded better than the originals, or is my memory getting dim. That's all folks — our 35th Convention/Reunion.

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President's Corner

Greetings to the total membership of the Second Air Division Association. At the Nashville Convention it was my good fortune to be elected to head the Association for the next year. I accepted this responsibility with gratitude for your confidence in me. I pledged my resolve to continue the leadership with vigor as my distinguished predecessors have shown the way. Let's keep up the momentum! Let's continue the outstanding support of the Memorial Trust. This will insure adequate resources to keep our unique American Memorial Room in Norwich Central Library a truly living memorial to our comrades-in-arms who gave their lives while serving with us. Let's never forget them. The world may, but we can not.

New initiatives for the coming year include expanding and up-dating our consid-

erable collection of Americana in the Library. With our guidance given at Nashville, the Governors of the Memorial Trust will move out promptly with a project to memorialize each of the Bombardment Groups, and the Fighters, in an impressive tableau on the Library wall. We hope to increase our efforts, both in England and the United States to tell our story of the Association and its Living Memorial more widely. There is much to be done. We welcome participation by the total membership.

And the high point of 1983 will be our return to Norwich and East Anglia. To rekindle the fires of our fond memories, to repeat a few unforgettable tales of long ago — and to remember.

See you there.

ANDY LOW

Report of Vice President

When Dave Patterson told me that I was the Nominating Committee's selection to succeed Andy Low as Executive Vice President, and asked me if I would serve, it was on the tip of my tongue to refuse. I thought I would justify my decision by explaining that I wanted to stay close to the 489th organization and that someone else could surely be found to fill the position.

But having asked for time to consider, I found it really took no time at all for the



right answer to come. This was not an "offer" to be refused; it was a call to serve, and if I wouldn't accept, how could I expect anyone else to do so? The truth of it is, I was being distinctly honored by an organization which has, in the eight years I've been a member, come to mean a great deal to me.

I'm happy to serve, and whatever the verdict might be after I've left office, I want you to know that you will not have found me lacking in either dedication or enthusiasm. For expertise however, I ask your help.

CHARLES FREUDENTHAL

Norwich 1983

If you are planning on making the 1983 Reunion in Norwich, please send Evelyn Cohen the following information which will aid in her planning.

- Group Air from various cities to Norwich and land package.
- Norwich — Land Package only

Time — May/June 1983. Exact dates to follow.

NameGroup

Spouse

Address

Phone.....Others in party.....

Even if your plans are very 'iffy' at this time, please send the above information to Evelyn. Remember, there is a long time between *Journals* and those who reply will be sent information when and as it becomes available. All replies to Evelyn Cohen, Apt. 06410 Delaire Landing, Philadelphia, PA 19114. Phone 215-632-3992 after 6 PM Philadelphia time.

The Fourth Annual 2ADA Golf Tournament 445th REPORTING

by Pete Henry (44th)

by Frank DiMola (445th)

The Fourth Annual Second Air Division Association Golf Tournament was held in Nashville, Tennessee July 1, 1982 at Harpeth Hills Golf Course. We had 21 men and one lady (Mrs. Edna Searls) participate and five won prizes, as follows:

| NAME | EVENT | AWARD |
|---------------------|-------------|----------------|
| William C. McGinley | Low Gross | 2ADA Plaque |
| J. Fred Thomas | Low Net | 2ADA Plaque |
| Mrs. Edna Searls | Third Place | 3 Golf Balls |
| George Washburn | Birdie | 3 Golf Balls |
| Herb Reinders | Most Honest | Putting Helper |



(l. to r.) Bill Searles, Edna Searles, Jim Gunnell, Eric Sherman



(l. to r.) Carl Kleeman, George Washburn, Pete Henry, Jack Parrish



(l. to r.) Chas. Weiss, J. Fred Thomas, Milan Grahovac, Bill McGinley



(l. to r.) A. Bert Crawford, Chas. Freudenthal



(l. to r.) Doug Eames, J. B. Maguire, Bob Witzel, Ed Brewster



(l. to r.) Herb Reinders, Vince LaRussa, Jim Kotapish, Bob Suckow

I would like to thank Rick Rokicki (458th B.G.) for providing the two plaques, Charles Weiss (93rd B.G.) for scoring the Callaway and Doug Eames (448th B.G.) for taking the pictures and getting them to me in time for the September *Journal*. I doubt that we will have a tournament in England next year, but I expect to have one in Palm Springs, CA. in '84 if we go there. Let's see some more ladies out for the next one.

Before I go on with my corresponding I would like to thank all of you who participated in my 'Searching' program for our lost and misplaced buddies. To those of you not familiar with this program I'll go over it once more.

First I mailed out about 75 notices to members in various parts of the U.S. I had the member send a prepared article to their local paper. Article contained a list of all the Groups in the 2nd Air Division and anyone serving in any of the Groups was instructed to write to the local member or me. I had very good results from this.

I also ran a three liner in the V.F.W. magazine for the month of May, 1982 and received many letters from men interested in the 2nd ADA. Beside picking up new members for our Group, I was able to forward names and addresses to other Group VPs. I hope they all joined.

I received a letter from Jimmy Stewart in response to an invitation from me to attend the Convention and he pointed to his heavy schedule as the reason he couldn't attend. He did mention that names and incidents bring back a lot of memories about the fine 445th Group. He maintains contact with Ramsey Potts and General Timberlake.

About the Nashville Reunion. It was well planned and executed with an attendance of over 800. You will find a list of those attending by Bomb Group on page 20 of this issue. Note that we were well represented.

John Bessell and Sam Miller shook hands. R.J. Campbell, Kurt Crouch and Bill Lace recalled a bit. Bob Brunst and Harry Fugate planned to meet in Nashville and they did. Carl Kleeman and Art Lunberg talked it up and Jim Evans, Hank Lively and Vincent Sinkewich just talked all day and night. The last time Jim and Hank met was prior to takeoff on a dark morning Feb. 24, 1944. During that mission they felt it was time to divorce themselves from their means of transportation as their means of transportation was about to divorce itself from them. As luck would have it they became guests of the German Government.

At the general business meeting it was voted that each Group pledge a sum of \$750. to design a mural and plaque of each Group on the wall over the shelves of books. I mailed each member a letter and an article showing the library and where the mural and plaques would be placed. Response has been outstanding. Thanks to all for the great show of generosity.

I also want to thank everyone for Re-electing me as your Group Vice President. I had a great publicity chairman in Dave Patterson. Thanks Dave. Our hostess Joan Patterson, and Evelyn and Charles Cooper, Florida were doing a great job. Now its REMEMBER ENGLAND IN '83.

BUNGAY BULL

446th BOMB GROUP
by
Vere A. McCarty



Topping the news this issue has to be the status of our Group History project. After three years and much correspondence it appears that a reprint is to be a reality. The Battery Press, located at Nashville, Tennessee, has been the only publisher I could find who would consider reprinting Ed Casten's "Story of the 446th Bomb Group" without a sizeable cash advance. Our reunion this year, being held in Nashville, gave me the opportunity to sit down with publisher Richard S. Gardner, and to actually get the ball rolling. Bill Davenport assisted with some of the final details and O.W. "Pappy" Henderson loaned his book to the publisher in order to get on with the project.

Mr. Gardner showed us other military history copies his firm had published. All had attractive hard covers which were actually more attractive than the originals. He indicated that the price would be determined after he could estimate how many copies might be sold, but in any case, under \$20.

The original book contains a roster of 446th Bomb Group personnel. Unfortunately, the roster is incomplete. Mr. Gardner regrets that the roster cannot be amended and updated. Editing of any kind would put the price out of reach. The reprint will contain only what appears in the original edition. All 446th Bomb Group personnel who are currently members of the Second Air Division Association will receive a card from Battery Press to be returned to them if you are interested in purchasing this reprint. Target date for publication is set for the latter part of November, this year.



(L to R): Henderson, Pilot; Howard, Copilot; McCarty, Bomb.; Dixon, Radio; Tannehill, Navigator.

Now back to the Nashville reunion . . . what a great one we had this year! I found myself caught up in a sort of science fiction "time warp". I was transported back to my twenties as I visited and reminisced with

Bob Tannehill, Jim Schreck, Phil Balcomb, Dan Hutto and John Kivlehan . . . all friends of so many years ago and all new members of their first reunion. After 38 years it was still difficult not to consider them as 20-year olds although the grey in their hair belied the fact. I am certain that everyone at the reunion experienced that "time warp" sensation, too.

Our largest crew was that of flight leader O.W. "Pappy" Henderson, with his copilot, navigator, radio operator and bombardier. Tom Brown, skipper of the "Brown Knowser", was there with his navigator, waist gunner and crew chief. Nino Federici, "Spirit of '77" pilot, his co-pilot and bombardier, had their special crew reunion. A list of all who attended is contained elsewhere in this *Journal* so I will not repeat them all here. But as I am writing, with one eye on the British Open, Hey Brothers Ice Cream, of Dixon, Illinois, flashed on my TV screen, evidently a good client of the insurance company . . . Jim Hey (who was pilot of "Heyride") and his wife, Roxy, were among the many first-timers this year.

Because of another commitment, it is quite unlikely that Marie and I will attend the reunion next year in Norwich. To cover the situation and to insure continuity of the 446th Bomb Group's participation in Second Air Division activities to the fullest, I recommended that we elect a Deputy Group Vice President. The recommendation was adopted and William F. Davenport was elected. And speaking of Bill . . . with Jean and son, Billy, he flew a Cherokee Warrior to Nashville and due to weather, stayed over a day before going on to their former home town, Indianapolis (where, by the way, Bill picked up a new member . . . 492nd BG).

After visiting with friends and relatives they returned to their home in Santa Ana, California. I asked Bill if he had any comments about the trip. He said, "It was bumpy all the way!"

The Nashville reunion will be a memorable one for John and Kay Faulds. They became grandparents for the first time right during the reunion. Congratulations!

At our group mini-reunion the 446th Bomb Group voted to support the proposed project to establish special group memorials in the Memorial Library in Norwich. We pledged \$750 toward the project. It was further decided that anything over that amount should go toward a

bronze plaque to be presented to the people of Bungay to be placed by them at an appropriate location as a local memorial. To date I have received \$355 which I have forwarded on to 2nd ADA secretary, Dean Moyer. I would encourage all who will contribute toward this project to send me their checks made out to Second Air Division Association, identified, "For 446th BG Memorial". Remember that these are IRS approved contributions.

I have been asked upon a number of occasions about my list of 446th Bomb Group aircraft. I have not abandoned the project but have been slowed down a bit. I keep running into situations of aircraft being transferred to another squadron or group and even to another Air Force. As an example, "Ronnie", one of the famous airplanes of the 704th Squadron, actually came overseas as a 706th airplane and flew its first missions with that squadron. It was named after Ronald Gannon, a waist gunner on Calvin Casteel's crew . . . 706th Squadron. So it appears that I shall have to go through the entire list of aircraft again, making appropriate footnotes where discrepancies appear. I am told that some of our planes were transferred to the 15th AF in Italy, too. A good wintertime project.



(L to R): Alex Garrison, Gunner; Tom Brown, Pilot; Tom Mason, Navigator; Ralph Glenn, Crew Chief.

I mentioned previously that many World War II records are now declassified. Missing Air Crew Reports are among them. I went through all the steps in obtaining such a report and I will pass the information along in case someone is interested:

I wrote a letter to the National Archives Trust Fund Board, (NNGR), Washington, D.C. 20408. I asked for the Missing Air Crew Report of aircraft B-24H 42-7577, 446th Bomb Group (H), 2nd Air Division, VIII Air Force, lost approximately 31 December 1943. This happened to be the airplane our crew named, "Buzz Buggy" and flew to the UK in November, 1943. After several missions it was transferred from the 706th to the 704th Squadron and was lost on a mission to southern France.

After sixty days or so, the National Archives let me know that they had identified the record and told me what the report would cost. I sent my personal check back with a copy of their letter and soon received the report. It consisted of the names and addresses of all crew members, the airplane

BUNGAY (Continued)

and military unit was identified, the target, route information, bomb load, etc. was given, as well as, interrogation reports pertaining to the mission. I would guess that if you had interest in any special segment of the mission, you would only have to include that in your request to obtain additional information. It also included data whether crew members were P.O.W., KIA, evaded, etc.

Several members asked about Hoke Shore at our San Antonio reunion last year. I have at last received word which I am sad

to relate. Hoke, pilot of Worrybird, 707th Squadron, was killed on a B-29 training mission out of McDill Field in July, 1945.

Contrary to a report that he had passed away, I find that Father Joseph B. Murphy is very much alive and resides at 20075 Sublette Road, Gilman Hot Springs, California 92340. Father Murphy is one of our newer members. Others who have joined since the last *Journal*, are: Joe L. Araisa, Charles Frascati, Charles A. Hay, Dana L. Jones, John A. Kinney, Lauritz S. Kulstad, Isador Markowitz, Louis J. Ostric and Charles Toth. Welcome to you all!

NOTICE

Anyone knowing the address of any of the crew members of "Princess Pat", 389th BG, 566 Squadron, please contact Bud Koorndyke, 867 Reynard St., Grand Rapids, MI 49507.

As a boy Dave Hastings, a member of our Board of Governors, was befriended by this crew and he would urgently like to make contact with any of the crew members prior to our Norwich reunion next year.

8-BALL-Y-HOO

by Pete Henry (44th)

Every 44th member of the 2ADA should have received a separate letter from me in August requesting donations for a 44th Bomb Group Memorial plaque to be erected in the Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich. If you did not receive a copy, please let me know. This will also be a good opportunity for me to check my mailing list.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

While on the subject of Memorials, your observer attended a reunion in Rapid City, South Dakota May 27-31 of the 44th BG/BW/SMW along with approximately 200 others. We toured Ellsworth Air Force Base, Mount Rushmore, The Black Hills, Deadwood, etc., and the weather was most cooperative except for the Ellsworth AFB tour. The Air Force people did a super job of arranging and conducting this reunion and in the past year or so collected over \$3,000 from 44th members for one Memorial which has already been erected at Wright Patterson in Dayton, Ohio and another to be erected in Shipdham next year. Joe Warth did yeomanship work on both of these projects and deserves much of the credit for bringing it to fruition.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Col. Goodman Griffin attended the above Rapid City reunion and served as Master of Ceremonies. Regrettably, "Goodie" suffered an aneurism shortly after returning to Florida from Rapid City but I am happy to report that he came through the operation with flying colors and is now at home getting his strength back. If anyone would care to send him a card, his address is: Col. (Ret.) Goodman G. Griffin, 626 Mooney Road, N.E., Ft. Waldon Beach, Florida 32548.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

General Leon Johnson attended the Rapid City reunion and was his usual charming self. I got a real good picture of the General wearing one of Dick

Bottomley's 8-Ball T-shirts, but he extracted a promise from me not to print it.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Getting back to our 2ADA convention in Nashville, we had almost 800 members there and surprisingly a large number of first-time attendees. When they all stood up at the Saturday night banquet, it looked like half the people there were enjoying their first visit to a 2ADA convention. Regrettably, the 44th Bomb Group attendance was down, probably due to so many going to Rapid City a month earlier. Evelyn Cohen advised at the Executive Committee meeting that we now have 429 44th Bomb Group members in the 2ADA, but just 50 showed up in Nashville with 29 staying for the Saturday night banquet.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Among those in attendance at Nashville were our old friends Elsie and Jim O'Brien who have been unable to attend recent conventions, but Jim retired not long ago and hopes to be with us for many more in the future. About two months ago, Jim sent me a story about visiting Ralph Ernst who was one of the best radio operators in the 66th Squadron back in 1941-42. He stayed in the Air Force for a 20-year stretch before retiring as a Master Sergeant, with a disability. Ralph and his wife, Flora, live in Jacksonville, Arkansas and he was an original member of the 44th Bomb Group activated at McDill Field 13 January 41. The following is quoted from Jim O'Brien's letter:

"Seeing each other on December 14, 1981, the first time in 38 years, was a real treat for both of us. For the first time we were able to straighten out our 'There I Wuz' story of May 14, 1943 when we had to part company out of the 'Rugged Buggy' after bombing Kiel Deutschland. Early that morning at the briefing, the 68th Squadron appealed to the 66th Squadron for a fill-in radio operator so Ralph willingly volunteered for what was expected to be a round trip on A/C 423819. To make a long story short it was a very rough ride through flak and fighter attacks (no escorts in those days). Ralph and I and the other surviving crew members had to hit the chutes over

Steinfeld, Germany. Richard Castillo had been knocked out of the rear turret by flak and with a badly mangled leg was helped out with his chute by the other crew in the back of the plane. Harold Van Oyen made the bail-out but drowned in Kiel bay before rescue, and Malcolm Howell was killed in his chute.



The 'Rugged Buggy', serial number 423819, was heavily damaged 27 Jan 43 and 27 Mar 43 and finally shot down 14 May 43 over Kiel.

"After capture the rest of us were split up all over Germany. Ralph, along with Norius Crisan, Kenneth McCabe, Jim MacCammond, and John Husselton went to Stalag Luft I at Barth and later to Stalag 17B at Krems. John Bledsoe and I went to Stalag Luft III at Sagan and later to Stalag 7A at Moosberg. Dick Castillo was hospitalized and exchanged for a German POW after a year. (I am hoping this account will bring some added comments or corrections from any other members of the crew who got back because Crisan, Ernst and I are the only ones in touch with each other. The others have melted into obscurity.)

"One additional footnote about Ralph Ernst. Those of us from the front flight deck who survived the bailout owe our lives to him.

"He crawled down into the flaming bomb bay and kicked open those sliding doors just enough for us to get out of a dying airplane before it popped. Needless to say, Ralph and the rest of us were a little singed when we got on the ground."

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The 48 members present at the mini-reunion voted to keep me in office as your Group Vice-President for another year. My thanks to them and to all the 44th Bomb Group members for your confidence in me.

392nd BOMB GROUP REPORT

by J. F. Thomas (392nd)

Some quarters of the year are more work than play in this 2ADA business, but we believe the past three months have rewarded us with enough enjoyment to reverse that situation. Although at times we were working and playing at the same time.

The 392nd group from Sacramento and adjacent area invited us back again this year to their annual mini-reunion. Bob and Marge Powers (Escondido) and we drove to Sacramento to attend the picnic hosted by Harry and Nancy White on June 6th. Others in attendance were Chas. and Helen

awarded the top spots in the golf tourney again, thanks to Bill McGinley who drove 400 miles from south of Little Rock just to join us for golf. It was great to see him again and we appreciate his being with us. We thoroughly enjoyed our mini-reunion. We had no strangers, everyone joined in, and in spite of the emcee, there were no lulls in the program. After dinner and a short business meeting, J. D. Long got the tales going and we heard some goodies, especially from the POW group. Get Odell Dobson to tell you about the capture of the German Commandant's cat. It's a riot. We

Robertie will have space to print. We won't take the space to list the names as we expect they will be listed on another page. I know most of them, but there are a few that I'm not sure of without the name plates.

And talk about culture "soaked up"! There was plenty available there about Nashville, especially if you are into Country and Western. We not only took in that afforded by the convention program, but the Powers, Whitfords, and we stayed over two days and "soaked up" more C&W, Andy Jackson's Heritage and plantation, and a dinner cruise on the river. From Nashville, we drove to Knoxville and two days at the fair. A lot of good information there re the energy scene. One can't absorb all that in two days, however. After the fair, we continued into the Smoky Mountains to Fontana, N.C. for three days of rest at the Inn. Beautiful country! While there, we drove over to Cherokee, N.C. to "soak up" the Indian culture at the museum and the surrounding area. We got a different report on Andy Jackson from the Indian's viewpoint. To sum it up, they say you can't make a silk purse from a sow's ear, but if we keep attending these conventions and taking those side trips, I will be one of the most cultured pigs you ever saw.

Back to the serious; at the convention the Library Board, et al proposed, and it was voted by the membership at the mini-reunions and the general business meeting, to install a memorial to all Groups of the Second Air Division on the wall over the book shelves in the American Reading Room in the Norwich Library. I'm sure it will be detailed fully in this issue of the *Journal*, however, we will add we believe it will make our Memorial Room more impressive, and a more meaningful monument to our dead. There will be no doubt as to which Division sponsors the memorial!



392nd Members at Nashville

Neundorf, Myron and Blanche Keilman, Bill and Vi Long, Bob and Jean Berger, Andy and Olga Sudia, Joe and Jinny Siegfried, Norris and Rosa Nilson, Ed and Lee Holmes, and Roland and Genevieve Sabourn. As one could expect, the afternoon was filled with good cheer, good food and drink, and lots of good stories. To top it off, we picked up three new members. Norris Nilson, Roland Sabourn, and Andy Sudia weren't members before, but Myron Keilman, in his salesman-like manner, sold them on the merits and rewards of being members of the 2ADA. We stayed over and on Monday, Myron K. and I contributed to the welfare of Chas. Neundorf and Harry White on the golf course; mostly because of chokitis by yours truly who three putted everything on the last few holes.

Less than three weeks later it was time to pack up and go to Nashville. Being sure the Convention will be detailed elsewhere in the *Journal*, we won't try, but from where we sat, we believe it rivaled any we have attended since our first one in 1978. The programs ran smoothly, the food was excellent, the service was good, and best of all, we heard no complaints — although there must have been a small one someplace. While we would have liked a greater number of 392nd members, (we had 23 men and 22 ladies) we had a good mix of old timers, first timers, and in-between timers as we are. To start off with, the 392nd was

will again express our appreciation for the camaraderie, cooperation, and general cheerfulness displayed by our members throughout the convention. We just regret



392 Members attending Sacramento Mini-Reunion. Left to right, front row: Chas. Neundorf, Myron Keilman, Bill Long, Bob Berger, Bob Powers, and Andy Sudia. Back row: Fred Thomas, Joe Siegfried, Norris Nilson, Ed Holmes, Harry White, and Roland Sabourn.

we weren't able to visit with them more, but we hope there will be many more occasions when we can. We attach a picture of the men who attended which we hope Bill

The cost to each Group will be \$750.00, and the job of collecting and getting that amount to the Association falls to your V.P. The 23 members and their ladies at

392nd (Continued)

the mini-reunion donated the generous amount of \$196.00. That means we need the other \$554.00 from the other 280 members of the 392nd. We hope they will be as prompt and generous as those at the convention. We can't expect contributions from 100% of our members, so we will need a little more than the average from those of you who do give. We would like to get this collection made without a general mailing; the postage for that alone would be \$50.00. At least one Group came up with their entire \$750.00 at the convention; we weren't able to do that due to our smaller number in attendance, but we are hopeful that the general membership of the 392nd will give us their usual fine cooperation so that we may meet our goal as soon or sooner than the other Groups in the Division. Please make your checks out to the Second Air Division Association and mark them to the 392nd memorial fund, and mail them to me as soon as you finish our article. We would like to get this collection behind us so we may go on with our search for new members.

Speaking of the search for new members, Odell Dobson has sent us about 90 pages of orders with the addresses of men who flew home from the 392nd at the end of the war. The addresses are those of 1945, but there is a wealth of potential members on those pages if we can just contact those men. At the moment we are at a loss as to how to go about mining that wealth; we are afraid to write to those old addresses as, no doubt, many of the men have moved long ago, and the Post Office isn't interested in forwarding mail as they used to be. If you have any suggestions as to how we might best use those addresses, please send them to us. If nothing else, we may mail some of the addresses to those of you who live in the vicinity of those we are seeking and ask you to do some searching for us. We will appreciate your help, and it will give you, with the time, a chance to play detective in finding these men.

We must thank Ben Wacker (492st) for his help with our Veynar poster work. Ben got a poster placed in the March AFB Museum at Riverside, Calif. We understand they hope for "The Air Museum of the West" at March AFB in the future. When they do have it, they hope for donations of WWII memorabilia. Perhaps you may be interested in donating something in the future. Ben also placed a poster at the Chino "Planes of Fame" museum. We hope you will visit these museums at your first opportunity when you are touring the area. When you do, contact some of the management and thank them for helping.

In closing, thank you all for your cooperation over the past two years. We have no illusions as to any great ability to bring to this job, but we try, and your friendship and camaraderie make it all worth while. We appreciate the numerous invitations to visit, golf, fish, rest, or whatever. You really tempt a man to give it up and run away from home.

Lt. Gen. William E. Kepner 1893 - 1982

The day after our convention ended it was with great sorrow that we learned of the death of General Kepner who had died the previous evening.

General Kepner had a long and storied career. Born in Maimi, Indiana he started his military career at the age of 16 with four years in the Marine Corps. He then joined the National Guard of Indiana and served on the Mexican border.

During WW I he commanded a company at Chateau-Thierry, spearhead of his Division, in the engagement which started the retreat of the German armies.

During the years between the two world wars he learned everything he could about airships and was so thorough he attended both Army and Navy airship schools and became a dirigible pilot. The early days of aviation proved to be an exciting era and General Kepner was getting his share of it. In June of 1936 he participated in an unusual flight. He escorted Major Ira Eaker when he flew blind in an experimental 2600 mile flight from the Atlantic to the Pacific, relying solely on his instruments. This was the first coast to coast instrument flight.

WW II brought many changes. Gen. Kepner was appointed commanding general of the 4th Air Force at San Francisco in 1943 and the following September assumed command of the Eighth Fighter Command in the European theater. In August of 1944 he was named commanding general of the Second Air Division of the Eighth Air Force and in the following year assumed command of the Eighth Air Force.

General Kepner attended every convention of the 2nd Air Division Association until age and illness forced him to discontinue this practice. Although he could no longer attend he always sent a message and it was no different this year, except that the message was never mailed. It was found among his papers and reads as follows:

Bill Robertie

"To all our brothers in arms who, like Cincinnatus, would have preferred to stay by their peace loving friends and homes:

We wanted to continue a life of peace and satisfaction. When the necessity arose to give all in defense of those we loved there was a willing, determined attitude to join with all who loved our country and humble homes and thus preserve the best things of life. It is with humility and with sincere professional pride I will always greet you by a message and the hope that we will meet many more times in the future. I have a severe illness, but I look ahead to another meeting whenever that may be.

Cheers,
W.E. Kepner"

In the midst of all his troubles, and they were many, he reached out to us. We shall not forget him!!!

Jordan R. Uttal
26 July 1982

NOTICE

Roger Freeman is out of his cage again and is now looking for a sketch map showing the hardstand numbers for the following 2nd Air Division airfields:

Shipdham, Hardwick, Hethel, Wendling, Tibbenham, Bungay, Seething, Horsham St. Faith, Rackheath and Metfield.

Such details appeared on the airfield layout sketch maps issued to pilots for marshalling purposes at the launch of a mission. They were also carried on tower, operations and briefing room wall maps and can sometimes be seen in photographs of these rooms. Anyone who can help please write to Roger Freeman, May's Barn, Dedham, Colchester, Essex CO7 6EW, England.

Report of 458th BG

by E. A. Rokicki (458th)

Jordan Uttal showed the artist's conception to utilize the north wall of the Memorial Room of the Library. The plan (unanimously approved by the membership) is to show the Bomb Group's tailfeather colors on a large sized vertical stabilizer, a bronze plaque underneath with the Bomb Squadron ID ec., for each of the 14 Groups and Headquarters. Each group and Hdq. assessment is \$750.00 to be collected from contributions by Group members to their Group Vice President.

Please contribute whatever you can towards this Bomb Group Identification Project and let the 458th be one of the first to fulfill its obligation. Please make out check to: 2nd Air Div. Assoc. and mail to E. A. Rokicki, 365 Mae Rd., Glen Burnie, Md. 21061.

MORE PLAQUES

by E. A. Rokicki

The new series of .50 cal. plaques was shown for the first time at the Nashville reunion. I was only able to take orders for 13 units because I had sufficient materials for only that limited amount. I am happy to report that I have just received another 100 rounds of the .50 caliber shells and I can make up to 25 more units.

The new and larger plaques are 6½x10 inches and one inch thick, solid, polished

walnut. Four .50 cal. shells and connecting links, a black enamel plate over a contrasting gold colored back plate. The plaque comes with either the pewter B-24 (bomb group tail colors as requested), or Airman's wings. Have Command pilot, Senior pilot or pilot wings, Navigator, Bombardier, Gunner and Air crew member wings. Name in Old English Script and seven lines of engraving can be put on the 5x3¼ plate.

Give me all the info you can and I will sort out what I think will go best. Name, rank (if desired), duty (Gunner, Mechanic, Photo Lab, etc.), Bomb Group, Bomb

Squadron, Location, Dates (from - to), Number of missions, Decorations, etc.

The original 6x9 walnut plaque with brass plate (no airplane or wings) is \$30.00. The larger 6½x10 with either the airplane or wings is \$39.00. Your 100% satisfaction is guaranteed or your money back.

The total contribution to the Second Air Division Association treasury to date, has been \$528.00 as a result of the sale of these plaques. Many thanks for your support of this venture.

Mail check to E. A. Rokicki, 365 Mae Rd., Glen Burnie, Md. 21061.



\$30.00



\$36.00



\$39.00



INDIVIDUAL GROUP MEMORIAL PROJECT

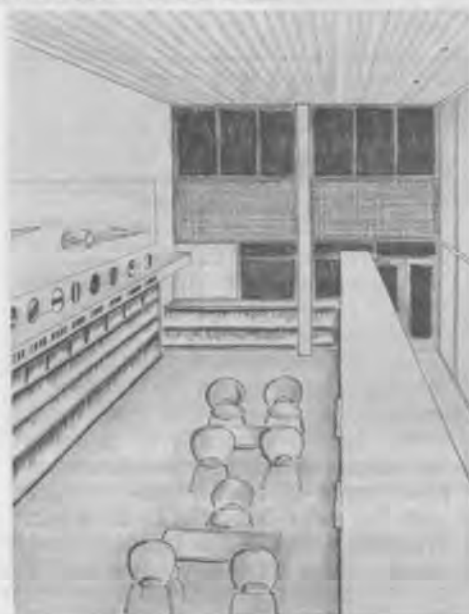
by Jordan R. Uttal

One of the most important developments at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors on 12 May 1982 was the adoption of a suggestion to offer all the groups of the 2nd Air Division the opportunity to have their own Individual Group Memorials within the body of the 2nd AD American Memorial Room of the Norwich Central Library.

Those of you who have already visited our unique Memorial know how beautiful a tribute to our fallen comrades this Room is. However after discussions with the Architect after the meeting, along with Roger Freeman, David Hastings and other interested individuals, the general format was conceived, and we were able to show preliminary color sketches at each Thursday evening (July 1st) Group Mini Reunion in Nashville. After explaining the project to each Group, we asked them to think about it and give their opinion at the business meeting on the following day. We are delighted to report that every group endorsed the project and we take this opportunity to outline it for you and to request your contributions to defray the modest costs.

The entire bookshelf area of the rear wall — almost fifty feet — is divided into 19 individual shelves or bays. As you can see

from the illustration, each individual bay will become the location of a group Memorial in the space above the bay. At the very top will be a four foot high blown up photograph of a flight of B-24s. This will cover most of the bays.



For each individual Group bay we start immediately under the photo, with the individual Group tail fin hand painted in actual color measuring 15" x 10" x 3/8". Underneath the tail fin will be a Group plaque (unfortunately omitted in the drawing) measuring approximately 6" x 6" showing the Group number and Station, i.e. 458th Bomb Group - Horsham St. Faith.

Underneath the Group plaque, as shown in the drawing will be four individual Squadron plaques — probably just showing the Squadron number, measuring 4" x 4" — also hand painted.

Finally on the very first shelf — the first space on the left will be an individual Group Roll of Honor listing the names of the members of the Group lost in action.

Maximum cost to each Group will probably be \$750.00. Any amounts collected over the \$750.00 will be accounted for to each Group at our next Convention, and the Group will decide the disposition, i.e. Donation to Capital Fund, Donation for Special Books, or films, or cassette, or whatever.

It is the aim of the Board to have this project completed by the spring of 1983, so won't you get your checks on the way now? The Individual Group Memorial wall will add further color and Life to the memory of our departed friends.

Thank you again for your support.



Elsie and Jim O'Brien attend first 2ADA Convention in several years.



If you think 800 plus isn't a crowd take a look. And that's only part of them.



Our new President Maj. Gen. Andrew S. Low (Ret.) (Andy to everybody) addresses the troops.



Dean Moyer (r) handing Tom Eaton check for \$14,100.



The Color Guard



Jordan Uttal explains new Plaque project by visiting all the Mini-Reunions.



Your exec. comm., it wasn't all play for them.



The terrible twosome — Bill Robertie and Evelyn Cohen.



Don't know his name but most of us met him — the bartender.



Lillian Cohen and Art Cullen hold forth at the bar.



Dave Hastings and Dave Patterson cooking up a wild scheme for next year in Norwich.



George Dong of "Witchcraft" fame. Probably the oldest there at 78.



Dean Moyer, Hazel Robertie, Milt Veynar. A rose between two thorns.



And the band played on — 40's style.



Evelyn & Charlie Cooper celebrate 34th. Band played "Anniversary Waltz."



Mary & Pete Henry — Pete officially retired first day of convention. Both show their delight.



Bob Felber, George Honeyman and John Altman, (44th B.G.) get together for the first time in 38 years.



Helen and Rockford 'Rocky' Griffith, he of the one-wheel landing fame.

A dream born from war's nightmare

by Joan Rice

Beacon Journal Staff Writer

Paris-born Charline Chable Rotondo's fondest dream is to meet one of the 32 downed American pilots she helped escape from the Nazis during World War II.

"It's the dream of my life," said Mrs. Rotondo, who after the war went on to become a widely known fashion designer while operating a salon in Taipei, Taiwan.

Every time Mrs. Rotondo travels to a different part of the U.S., her hopes soar. Even though 35 years have drifted by, she thinks fate has to be on her side: "Thirty-two people. They can't all be dead."

An ebullient woman with a halo of blond hair like spun sugar, Mrs. Rotondo has a hearty sense of humor and an equally hearty handshake.

But the ready laugh and the effervescent personality belie a background scarred with memories of German brutality.

When she was arrested because of her work with the French underground resistance movement, she was tortured and beaten. Parts of her body are tattooed by the scars left by burning cigarettes, the hot ashes sometimes searing their way to the bone.

The beatings were so brutal that years later Mrs. Rotondo needed surgery to correct the damage done to her jawbone.

She joined the underground after her beloved youngest brother was killed by invading Nazi armies over the Maginot line. Her voice rose to a passionate level when describing her feelings: "I wanted to kill all of them (the Germans) if I could have."

She began to aid the Americans who parachuted to safety after their bombers were shot down over France. She hid them in her home in Esbly, a small village on the Seine, about 45 miles east of Paris.

She would lobby for food at a black-market restaurant, provide clothing, new identification and smuggle them over the Pyrenees to Spain, England and freedom.

"They came to my country to help me to be free," said Mrs. Rotondo, who speaks English with a strong French accent. "It was my duty to help — to risk my life for them. They risked their lives for me."

For mutual protection, Mrs. Rotondo explained, she and the pilots did not exchange identities. She was known only as "Charline."

However, Mrs. Rotondo did get to know one soldier by the nickname "Little Harvey." He was the last soldier she sheltered before her arrest.

She stalled the German police long enough for Little Harvey to escape from her home. After the war she heard that he had escaped and was safe in America.

After six months in a military prison, Mrs. Rotondo escaped. Standing almost 5' 8", weighing 78 lbs. at the time of her escape. "I was given a pitcher of water and a ball of bread every four days."

Mrs. Rotondo was decorated with the Medal of Freedom for her rescue work by President Truman. She is the only woman who's not a U.S. Citizen to receive the nation's highest civilian award for bravery.

The citation, signed by Dwight D. Eisenhower, at the time commanding general of the U.S. forces in the European theater, reads:

"The President of the United States of America has directed me to express to Charline Chable the gratitude and appreciation of the American people for gallant service in assisting the escape of Allied soliders from the enemy."

The award was presented by Eisenhower in Paris in 1945, the same year she also was decorated by the French government for bravery.

Today Mrs. Rotondo lives in Salem, N.H., with her American husband, Alfred E. Rotondo, whom she married in 1976.

Mrs. Rotondo first came to the United States in 1971 to present a fashion show at a postmasters convention in Anaheim, Calif. She publicized her dream of meeting one of her rescued pilots at that time.

"I pray to God I will meet one of them someday."

OPEN LETTER TO 93RD BOMB GROUP

Charles J. Weiss (93rd)

The 35th Reunion is history and the 36th in Norwich will be the one all of us should set our sights on. The Brits. vow that it will be the best ever.

The reunion at Nashville brought out many new members. We had five new members from *one* crew — that's pretty darn good! Three from a second crew and a new member from a support group at Hardwick. I have many letters on file noting how other crews are trying to get their lot together — last year one crew had 6 members present. It can be done, it just takes a bit of effort. In each instance they all hadn't seen each other in 36 yers, but they all agreed that it was well worth the effort and leg work to get them together.

In all honesty I did feel that we should have had a larger contingent show up, especially those who lived only a hop, skip, and jump from Nashville. Oh well, let's now concentrate on Norwich — get those reservations in to Evelyn Cohen as soon as possible — Don't miss this one!

It's a great nostalgic shot-in-the-arm to meet old friends from the same Bomb Group — even though you didnt really remember them, they each had the same experiences and went through about the same fears and pleasures. Another plus about reunions is that you learn to know new friends (even if they come from the 44th, the 389th or one of those other less

famous groups!) Many of these became lasting friendships. You find yourself perusing the attendance lists to see if they made it to the reunion.

Explained elsewhere in the *Journal* are details of the proposed addition to the Memorial Room — a wall mural. I just want to remind you that our (93rd) contribution goal towards the cost of this addition is \$750.00. Some groups have already contributed their share. Please give consideration to this matter and send whatever amount you can manage to me. I will send them in all together. Make checks payable to: The Second Air Division Association and mark them for the Memorial Mural.

The next reunion, our 36th will be in Jolly Old England. Plans are being formulated and will appear in the *Journal* as they develop. Fortelling the future is not one of my strong points, but as a prognostication I don't think there will be many more reunions in Norwich — we ain't getting any younger. So what I am saying is try to make this one. The Brits have indicated that they're gonna do their darndest to make us mighty welcome!

One more comment about the England Reunion. I'm sure Evelyn Cohen will keep us informed, as she always does, on the travel arrangements, etc. She mentioned at the reunion that although the QE II and flight back were being arranged, that everyone should determine which method

would best suit their own particular case. In other words some plan to get there via the tour method, others by special charter flights, and one bunch in our group are even thinking about sailing over in a 60 foot sailboat. In any event, start now on your planning, give it an all-out-mission try to make it there — where it all started.

I get many letters during the year from 93rd types saying, "There's not much in the *Journal* about the 93rd." Well let me break it to you gently, most of the articles which appear in the *Journal* are from members just like you. You're the ones with the experiences. Let's have some of you send your stories in to Bill Robertie. He can usually find space to print 'em. At each reunion I hear some real interesting stories of experiences "Over there". Send 'em in.

This brings me to another oft asked question, "Where can I get a history of the 93rd?" There was a photo history published in 1946, which obviously is no longer printed. Various friends have copies. In this regard I would like to charge each of you especially those of you who live near Maxwell Air Force Base to motor over to the Albert F. Simpson Historical Research Center at Maxwell AFB, Alabama and extract (from their microfiles) the history of the 93rd BG. Any one out there interested? It would mean a lot of rewriting and putting the material into a readable format. He could then consider having it reproduced. I have seen the results of the 453rd effort and its a fine document.

Open Letter (Continued)

I have had a few requests for insignia, etc. One of our members supplied me with addresses of firms which custom make insignias, patches, medals, etc. So, if your interested drop me a line and I'll give you the addresses.

As soon as clearance is obtained from the owner and we iron out associated problems we may make video cassetts of the 93rd movie film which we have shown at two or

three past reunions. I'll keep you posted about the developments of this project.

Do you all know that the old 93rd is still going strong! Well it is and located at Castle Air Force Base, Calif. It is now a wing. One of the original sqdns is still there, 328th. Two other squadrons are at March AFB, Calif. I believe the 329th and 330th sqdns., the 409th I think is now an Air Refueling Sqdn.

In closing I leave you with these thoughts:

Think England for 1983 — Send in your reservation to Evelyn Cohen. Write articles for the *Journal*. Send our contribution for the Memorial Mural, and each member find at least one lost 93rd soul and sign him up. Oh yes drop your old Vice President for 93rd a letter now and then. I'd appreciate it! So for another year (I was reelected) good health and for those of you who don't feel so good, a speedy recovery for you — God bless.

467th POOP FROM GROUP

by Phillip G. Day

I am not going to rehash the Nashville convention here. Suffice to say all in attendance, including 48 veterans and 50 wives, children and friends from the 467th, enjoyed themselves immensely.

A highlight for the 467th was the presentation, of the mini-reunion, of a Certificate of Appreciation to Colonel Albert Joseph Shower for his leadership as our Group Commanding Officer from Sept. 1943 to July 1945 and as an expression of our appreciation for his personal interest and friendship for each of us.

The Group donated \$1,000 to the Memorial Trust Fund and an additional \$750 to the fund for installation of group oriented displays within the Memorial Library Room. These substantial gifts were made possible by, principally, the efforts of Vince LaRussa, Vice President for the Group from '77 to '79, Vice President of the 2ADA in '80 and President of the 2ADA in '81. Vince had republished Healey's *The 467th Bombardment Group History* and designed and had produced our Group patch. The sales of these two items allowed the Group to make these substantial contributions.

George Dong, recognized at the convention as being the oldest, in age — not spirit, veteran in attendance at 75 years, was the steward of the Group's successful project to procure a painting of the celebrated Liberator, Witchcraft, for donation to and display at the San Diego Aero-Space Museum. Displayed at our mini-reunion, the painting was greatly admired and an additional project of color reproductions of it was started.

I kept a poor diary during my service time but fortunately I did write regularly, to my girl friend-fiancee-wife, Miss Cille, and my family. And these letters saved all these years, my diary, class books, orders, records were used in 1977 to write, for my family, children, and grandchildren, *The Saga of a Reluctant Co-pilot*, not reluctant to fly or go to combat but to be a co-pilot when I knew I would have been the best twin engine bomber pilot to sit in the left seat.

As I wrote, I'd sent excerpts to the crew members I corresponded with for comments and suggestions. Harris Burstyn, navigator of our crew (William A. John-

ston Crew 99 in 791st BS and Crew 32 in 789th BS) wrote the following and I included it in Saga. I preface his story by saying that somehow I had become Squadron Petrified Toggleswitch Operator (co-pilot) and had flown with some crew on Dec. 30 and 31, both missions to the vicinity of Koblenz, the rest of Crew 32 had not flown these two days and this third mission in three days found me rather tired.

The Group History lists this as Guls and says GH excellent results. I do not find letters written home from 27 Dec. to 2 Jan. Quoting Burstyn's memo to me, "I recall the mission (1 Jan.) where we developed engine trouble. The navigators were given maps with emergency fields (before mission). After we developed engine trouble and were no longer capable of flying with the rest, Bill Johnston asked me for the closest field. I managed to get us to Brussels, but when we landed we darn near ran out of runway. No sooner had we stopped than a Jeep raced across the field and some flunky Major got out and lined us up. He wanted to know "who the Hell the Navigator was." I told him I was and he asked me if I knew "where the Hell we were." I very proudly said Brussels and named the field. The trouble was that when Bill called in for landing instructions he was talking to one field but landed at another. Seems there were two fields at Brussels and Bill landed at one for fighters. Then we were told that as soon as the engine was repaired to get out as the enemy would be delighted to find a grounded bomber. Do you recall the takoff on that short field? I used to perch myself between you and Bill on takeoffs and landing as I was not supposed to be in the nose (Navigator's compartment) at these times. At the end of the runway was a farm and a farmer sitting in a wagon full of hay. As we approached the end of the runway I'll never forget that farmer. It all seemed in slow motion but as we got nearer and nearer he began to dig himself down into the load of hay. I can well imagine that as we passed over the wagon all of the hay blew away and that poor guy found himself in an empty wagon. By the time we approached land fall (England) it was night and all the fields were blacked out. We had a different code (a color code displayed from a red, green and amber light in the bottom of the plane flashed in proper com-

ination and sequence) each day and only upon the proper code would the field lights come on. Can you imagine my relief when one of you gave the code and the lights came on. When we landed and got back to our hut they were beginning to collect our "personal effects" as they thought we had been lost.

I recall this as a British base but do remember that the field had been attacked that morning by the German Air Force and a number of planes had been set afire, wrecked, etc. This German raid, called "Der Gross Schlage," the Great Blow, by Hitler was a complete surprise to the Allies and caused considerable destruction at some bases in Belgium and Northern France. However it cost the Germans quite dearly as they lost planes and pilots in Allied Territory. My diary notes "out of gas" which could possibly have been a fuel transfer problem leaving an engine starved for fuel and hence Burstyn's "engine trouble." As to the collecting of our "personal effects," this too is dimly remembered, but again this was my third combat mission in three days and probably I was so tired that it just didn't register too well. I do not remember the plane being lost, but the Group History shows a crew missing in action this date.

I wrote on 2 Jan. that I had flown missions on the previous three days and was completely whipped and to tell Cille I would write her tomorrow. To Cille I wrote of the three days flying and complained in my letter that I had not been able to attend the New Years' Eve Party at the Officers' Club because I was scheduled to fly and that at 0300 when we had gone to breakfast the party was still going strong. Also that I was now eligible to wear a gold overseas stripe on the arm of my dress blouse as I had been overseas for six months.

So much for Saga, and now, maybe not a record but a good average. W.J. Martin, 522 12th St. NW, E. Grand Forks, MN, 56721 was Radio Operator on Lt. Wolf's crew, which was credited with seven enemy fighters destroyed and three probables while in the 492nd BG. He flew 29 missions with the 492nd, and 11 with the 467th. Then Martin rotated home and to the South Pacific where he flew 91 more missions. Recalled for Korea, he flew 115 missions in B-29s and after Korea, 2300 hours in RB-36s. That deserves some consideration.

**35th Annual Meeting
2ND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE
FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1982**

TREASURER'S REPORT

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by President, Vincent D. LaRussa.

Hathy Veynar read the minutes of the 34th Annual Meeting held in San Antonio, Texas, Friday, October 3, 1981. Hathy's assignment as special assistant to the American representative on the Board of Governors Memorial Library was explained by LaRussa. Minutes of the 1981 meeting were approved as read.

Dean Moyer gave the Treasurer's report.

President LaRussa asked if there were any questions from the floor. Question: Has there been a detailed report made on the expenses of these three units? Answer: Yes. As Dean Moyer stated, there will be a detailed account of expenses made by Evelyn and handed over to Dean Moyer and will be printed in the next *Journal*.

Question: Would it be less expensive to put wrappers around the *Journal* and send it 3rd Class? Bill Robertie was asked to address this question. Bill reported this method had been tried once. Experience was that this method was not satisfactory. Instructions were to mail the *Journal* 1st Class.

President LaRussa asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. It was moved, seconded and carried to accept the Treasurer's report.

The Membership report was given by Evelyn Cohen:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Membership as of 12/31/81 | 4,173 |
| Current | 4,413 |
| Gain (6 months) | 240 |
| Average gain per year | 500 |
| 467th B.G. largest gain (6 months) | @41 |

Evelyn reported on activities and happenings of the current convention. Plans for the banquet include seating by Groups — order of seating to be determined by drawing. There will be a color guard present and the candle-lighting ceremony will be conducted prior to our meal. The 1983 convention will be held in Norwich. Travel plans are not completed at this time. The 1984 convention plans call for an October meeting in Palm Springs, California.

Question: How many delegates are present? Answer: 784 delegates to this convention. Tan Tara, Lake of the Ozarks, MO, was proposed as a site for a future convention.

Question: Time of the 1983 convention? Answer: Last few days of May.

Question: Is it possible for a delegate to deduct his expenses incurred by attending this convention? Answer: Yes.

Bill Robertie reported on the *Journal*. Robertie reported that the *Journal* is alive and well. He thanked those who have sent him their experiences in the past and asked those who have not, to take time to send in accounts of their experience while in England. Software programs are not complete for the Apple 2@ at this time. Hope to be ready for September printing of the *Journal*.

LaRussa introduced Jordan Uttal, American representative, Board of Governors, 2nd Air Division Memorial Library. Tom Eaton, Paul King and David Hastings were introduced as English members of the Memorial Board of Governors.

Financial report of the Memorial Trust:

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Memorial Trust Funds | \$56,800 Ls |
| Appreciation | 3,070 Ls |
| Balance 5/4/82 | 59,870 Ls |

The Board of Governors of the Memorial Trust were presented \$10,000 American Dollars (\$5,400 Ls) in October 1981 at the convention held in San Antonio. Investments have earned 7.46% and 5.4% exclusively insuring a satisfactory appreciation. Balance as of 5/4/82 was 65,215 Ls. Income for the fund for the year was 6,618 Ls, expenses were 6,565 Ls — income exceeded expenses by 53 Ls leaving the operating fund in the black.

Contributions given at the time dues were paid amounted to \$1,500 There were 355 new books added to the stacks, four sets of slides depicting areas of the United States.

The Library Board is attempting to build an American experience cassette reference library. You are asked to put down your

| | | | |
|--|----------|----------|------------|
| SAVINGS FUND ACCOUNT - Citizens National Bank | | | |
| Balance June 30, 1981 | 1733.21 | | |
| Receipts: Interest 6/30/81 to 6/30/82 | 89.09 | 1822.35 | |
| Transfer to checking a/c-9/05/81 | | 100.00 | |
| Balance as of June 30, 1982 | | | 1722.35 |
| MEMORIAL LIBRARY FUND ACCOUNT | | | |
| Balance June 30, 1981 | | 12716.71 | |
| Receipts to June 30, 1982 - Donations | | 14801.00 | |
| - Interest Earned | | 803.48 | |
| Receipts and Balance | | 28321.19 | |
| Disbursements to Library Board 10/03/81 | | 10000.00 | |
| Balance June 30, 1982 | | | 18321.19 |
| GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT | | | |
| Balance June 30, 1981 | | 21835.56 | |
| Receipts: | | | |
| Membership Dues | 40671.67 | | |
| Interest Earned | 3836.74 | | |
| Sale, Decals, Posters, etc. | 191.00 | | |
| Refund b/Evelyn, Dep w/Grand Ole Opry | 2000.00 | | |
| Trans from Savings a/c Citizens Bank | 100.00 | 46799.41 | |
| Receipts and Balance | | 68634.97 | |
| Disbursements: | | | |
| Journal: | | | |
| Monthly Exp. (11 mos) | 1989.41 | | |
| Extra Help | 1364.90 | | |
| Addressing Labels | 970.00 | | |
| Deliver Journal to P.O. | 212.00 | | |
| Envelopes (Journal) | 907.20 | | |
| Printing Journal | 9100.63 | | |
| Postage Journal | 9023.52 | | |
| Honorarium | 1250.00 | | |
| Misc Prtg for Robertie | 609.68 | | |
| | | 25427.34 | |
| Membership: | | | |
| Printing | 724.15 | | |
| Postage | 1000.00 | | |
| Help | 400.00 | | |
| Honorarium | 250.00 | | |
| Prtg San Antonio Conv. | 889.85 | | |
| | | 3264.00 | |
| General: | | | |
| Roster Postage | 375.35 | | |
| Air Frt. (cnd/hld) San Ant. | 72.98 | | |
| Apple II Plus Computer | 3784.10 | | |
| Robertie Steno Chair & Typing Stand | 219.80 | | |
| Prtg. 300 2AD Certificates | 185.65 | | |
| Photo Exp. San Antonio | 120.00 | | |
| Treas. Bond (annual) | 46.00 | | |
| Printing Checks | 28.75 | | |
| Corp Filing Fee - Illinois | 8.00 | | |
| Exec Bd Mtg - Wash DC - Apr | 502.35 | | |
| Plaques/Trophy Shop (Rokicki) | 200.55 | | |
| Printing Ltrhds/Env V.P. | 837.02 | | |
| Postage V.P.'s | 1051.25 | | |
| Exp. Bd of Govns (Uttal) | 141.33 | | |
| | | 7573.13 | |
| Total Disbursements | | 36264.47 | |
| Balance General Fund Account | | | \$32370.50 |
| Balance Cash on Hand, All Funds, as of June 30, 1982 | | | \$52413.74 |
| 2 AD Association | | | |

Dean E. Moyer, Treasurer, 2 AD Association

experience while in England on tape and present these cassettes to the Library. This can easily become the finest example of American culture found in England.

Flags at the Library need to be replaced. We have an American flag, 8th Air Force flag and a 2nd Air Division flag. Uttal suggested Andy Low be in charge of securing the American flag. General Kepner has promised to secure an 8th Air Force flag. Replacement of 2nd Air Division flag remains a problem.

Hathy's title will be coordinator of the 2nd Air Division future planning. There will be a job description written and presented.

Jordan introduced Paul King, David Hastings and Tom Eaton to the audience. King and Hastings described their assigned responsibilities for the 1983 convention. Tom Eaton explained how the 2nd Air Division fund rejuvenated the Memorial starting ten years earlier and proceeding through today. Tom has attended ten 2nd Air Division conventions, seven of which have been held in the U.S.A. Tom concluding by stating that our money and other money will insure the preservation of the real purpose of our efforts, a "living memorial".

Jordan asked for a motion to indicate the feelings of the group on the idea presented by President LaRussa, Executive Vice President Andy Low and Jordan at the Mini-reunion on Friday evening. A motion was made by Phillip Day, 467th B.G., and

Meeting (continued)

seconded to complete the group identification murals on the wall of the reading room in Norwich Library. Motion carried.

Pete Henry reported results of the golf tourney held July 2, 1982. Henry gave instructions for seating groups at the banquet Saturday night. Order of entering the ballroom was decided by lottery.

The question was asked about expenses being tax deductible for delegates attending the convention. President LaRussa responded by stating all members in attendance were delegates. Expenses were tax deductible and the Code under which we operated was 501 (C) 19) with our identification number 25-1327743.

The president called on Dave Patterson, Chairman of the Nominating Committee to present the nominees. Dave reported the following slate of officers for the coming year.

PresidentAndrew Low, 453rd
Executive Vice PresidentCharles H. Feudenthal, 489th
TreasurerDean Moyer, Headquarters
SecretaryFrank Thomas, 453rd
Vice President, MembershipEverlyn Cohen, Headquarters
Vice President, JournalWilliam G. Robertie, 44th

Nominations from the floor were called for. There being none, it was moved that the nominations be closed and the slate of officers as presented by the nominating committee be elected. The motion was seconded and carried. J.D. Long auctioned a sweater made by Mrs. Jack (unknown). Proceeds were given to the Memorial Fund.

President LaRussa asked if any new business was to come before the group.

Jordan Uttal reported that the 467th B.G. needed to have their

history reprinted and that the Veteran Press had agreed to do the job for the 466th. Any group needing reprints or printing of their history could talk with Mr. Gorden from Veterans Press after the meeting is adjourned.

G. C. Merket reported on a Texas photo finishing studio that would reproduce slides at 50¢ each. It was suggested the 2nd Air Division Association purchase slides from this source and donate to the Library. Dean Moyer countered by stating slides should be donated by individuals and he opposed straining the treasury by buying slides.

Hathy Veynar was introduced again by LaRussa to explain her new assignment. Hathy stated the job contained more than she first thought and she would need help to satisfactorily achieve the goals set. Hathy pointed out the importance of members signing up sons, daughters, nieces, nephews and grandchildren in the association if we were to insure continued operation of the association and preservation of the Memorial Library. Hathy reported the needs of the Air Force Museum, Dayton, Ohio for World War II memorabilia in their furnishing of a Nissan Hut. Material must have been used by airmen during their stay in England.

A question asked from the floor was: Are the dues of the associate members the same as regular members? The answer was 'yes'.

Jim Kotapish asked for the floor to report there were many ways for members to obtain passage to England for the 1983 convention.

President LaRussa asked all executive committee members as well as all V.P.'s to meet in Room 4B at adjournment of the business meeting — old and new members.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

453rd LEADS THE DIVISION...AGAIN

by Don Olds (453rd)

Just like they did back in those dark days of 1944 and 1945, the 453rd came through when the chips were down. We had the largest gathering of 453rd people at a reunion since we started meeting and more than any of the other groups from the 2nd ADA. We had a glorious weekend but wished more of you could have joined us. As per usual a short account of our doings follows.

Thursday evening we occupied the entire Hugo's Gourmet Restaurant of the Hyatt Regency in Nashville. We had over a hundred in there for our 453rd banquet where we put away plenty of ribs and chicken. We auctioned off some items that some of the ladies had made and earned about \$800 for our 453rd Memorial at Old Buckenham.

Friday night we were bussed out to Opry Land and enjoyed another performance of the Grand Ole Opry's Friday night edition. I think most everyone enjoyed it. Some of those who threatened not to go were even caught smiling in the auditorium.

Saturday morning the 2nd ADA held their business meeting where one of our own, Andy Low, was elected president of the association. Another of our 453rd faithfuls, Frank Thomas was elected secretary. Combat films were shown in the early afternoon and our 453rd business meeting was held at 3 p.m. that afternoon. After a most undemocratic election, I'll be serving as your chairman for another year. Frank Thomas and Milt Stokes reported that \$19,864.53 has been raised toward our

453rd BG Memorial Room that will be built on to the present Old Buckenham Village Town Hall. It was agreed that \$15,000 should be sent at once so they can get construction underway. The rest of the money plus whatever is donated between now and Oct. 1st will be sent then. We are still about \$5,000 short of the \$25,000 that we had hoped to raise. So, if you haven't sent your donation to Frank as yet, try and do it soon. Charlie Parker, the artist in our midst, has individually hand printed 100 limited edition etchings of Attleborough Train Station which he will be giving to anyone who donates \$100 to the Memorial Fund. So send your check to Frank and receive a valuable piece of fine art. When these hundred are gone the plate will be destroyed or defaced. The prints are 11x14. Attleborough Station, where almost everyone departed one time or another for London and for that final time coming home.

Usually some sad news is learned at the reunions and this one was no exception. Jim Gunnell reported that Willard Jones, a waist gunner on Alphonse Prouhet's Crew was killed last July 11th in a traffic accident. Also, William (Red) McCrocklin one of the original pilots of the 733rd Sq., Crew ^21 passed away June 20th, 1982. This past spring George H. Johnson, Bombardier on the James Dyke Crew also departed this life. We extend our sympathies to their families.

Mike Benarcik is doing nicely on the pictorial history of the 453rd BG. Due to publisher the first of the year.

Elsewhere in this *Journal* you will read of the Library Board of Governors idea of placing plaques of each group tail marking replicas on the wall above the bookshelves to dress up and brighten up the library. At our meeting in Nashville we voted to participate and to raise our \$750 just like all the other groups for this project. Some of those in Nashville contributed already and a little arithmetic tells me that if all those that didn't go to Nashville would just send me three dollars we could make our \$750. Will you help? I hope you'll all understand that I won't be able to acknowledge receipt of the \$3 from each of you. When the \$750 is collected it will be sent on to the 2nd ADA treasurer, then on to the library.

Plans are being made to return to Norwich for our '83 reunion. If the 453rd is going to continue our good attendance tradition we must get our deposit in to Evelyn early to assure us a hotel. Every indication is that demand will outstrip supply on this one. So make reservations early. Until next time . . . CHEERS.

NOTICE

ATTENTION 44 BG

Members who were interned in Switzerland 1942-45 with information of camp life contact Forrest S. Clark, 220 Fairmount Ave., S. Plainfield, N.J. 07080. Seeking information about Camp Maloney, Adelboden, Wengen and Davos. Also crews and pilots interned.

458th COMMENTS

by George A. Reynolds (458th BG)

Almost 40 from the Group showed in Nashville, and all report a good time despite oppressive heat/humidity, (even the air conditioning got steamed enough to ring the bail out bell once). Seriously, it was great, and our reunion organizers deserve a well done!

Group business — at the mini-reunion, a nominating session was held to elect the vice president for 1983. Rick Rokicki was reelected by unanimous vote. Congratulations, Rick, you have and are doing an outstanding job for the 458th. We all appreciate it!

A proposal was received on erecting individual memorials to all Groups in the American Room at Norwich Library. Those varicolored ovals, along with squadron markings and roll of honor from each Group, will be a collection of plaques members of the 2ADA can be proud of. Gifts to this project are tax deductible — I've sent one, hope all of you will too.

Opinions in reference to the 458th memorial in the new Norwich airport terminal favor one similar to that at the present building except to double its size. This will allow more materials to be included. Dona-

tions promised so far: an A-2 jacket and 754th insignia. I'll try to obtain patches from each sqdn., probably a facsimile . . . Only the ground work has begun, and possibly more definite info will be available on the construction schedule on time for the Dec. *Journal*. I'll keep you posted as best I can, considering delays in corresponding back and forth to England with Mr. Courtney and some of the FOTE who will assist us with the project.



George Ferrell, Dick Gibson, Art Hendrickson and Mike Eagen of the 458th at the Opra Land happy hour. Bench? Look right behind you Art. . .

Dick Fairfield has uncovered another "lost" bird — "Stardust". Dick's friend is checking his records for the vital statistics. I'll pass these along later, but if anyone recalls this ship's history or disposition, I'd like very much to hear from you.

SWITZERLAND A HAVEN

by Earl L. Zimmerman (389th)

During the war the famous Liberator flew many colors, including the RAF, Australian, Canadian, Italian, Swedish, German and Swiss. Switzerland was a haven for many Liberators and it is unknown how many took refuge there during the war. For the Swiss it was a sensation to see the first Liberator as their largest plane was a DC-3 flown by Swiss Air. A P-38 is credited with destroying a Swiss Air DC-3 on the ground at Stuttgart during a raid.



B-24 H-25-DT S.N. 42-51106. 392th B. G., 576 Bomb Squadron. Picture shows CI-A after repair by Swiss during ferry flight to Dubendorf.

The Swiss took advantage of all the free B-24s and many ex-Swiss Air pilots were checked out on the B-24. In a propaganda film, the B-24 was called the Queen of the Skies and the worried Swiss were advised that their Air Force did not have control

over their own air space as many planes landed in Switzerland without their knowledge. B-24s that did not land at Dubendorf were painted in Swiss colors after they were repaired and flown to Dubendorf where the USAAF had a maintenance center.

After a raid on Munich on 11 July 1944, not one but two 392nd planes landed at Altenrhein which is near the German border. Both planes landed on a grass runway and both lost their nosewheels. Both planes were eventually repaired and flown to Dubendorf. One day after the 392 flew formation in Altenrhein, "Fat Stuff II", one of the survivors of the 6 March 1944 Berlin raid, landed. It was of course the final mission for "Fat Stuff II" and the plane traded its white star for a white cross.

On the same day a B-24 from the 389th landed at Baden-Birsfelden, it was EE-K, 41-28948. On 21 April 1940, the first plane of the war to land in Switzerland, at Baden-Birsfelden, was a Do 17 Z-3 of Kampfgeschwader 2, flown by Lt. Von der Groeben. It seems that the Lt. mistook Baden-Birsfelden for his own airfield in Germany.

The most colorful Liberator of the Swiss Air Force was a ship of the 455th BG, 15th Air Force (remember them) based at San Giovanni. It was painted with Swiss signs and had red and white stripes around the fuselage and wings.

Quite a discussion with "Mike" Egen on "Final Approach". He had read that her mission total was 200. However, the records show she was shot down over Munich 9 Apr 45 on her 113th mission with six KIA and four POWs from the crew. Can anyone confirm or correct?

Received another letter from John van der Maas in Amsterdam. He's progressing well with an account of the 6 Mar 44 Berlin mission, and promises to send the complete story by year's end. According to John, he has reports on the 2nd AD and 458th, with especially fine details on the latter, that Ethell & Price failed to include in their book, "Target Berlin". I'll get it off to the *Journal* ASAP.

Good to hear from Walt Cline in Tampa, new member Dave Stanfield of Tonawanda, NY and that Art Hendrickson recovered sufficiently to attend Nashville '82. Enjoyed seeing and meeting the reunion crowd, and can only say that I hoped the group photos would turn out better. Sorry, gang, few of them did. I need and will get more shutter practice before the next one, for sure — my brand new granddaughter is a perfect "target". Evelyn announced in Nashville that any associate members, mom, dad, brother, sis or kids, signed now, their dues would pay membership through 1983. How about it?

Listed below are some of the B-24s that carried the Swiss white cross.

B-24 H-10-CF — 42-64496, 453rd Bomb Group, 735th Bomb Squadron, down in Switzerland on 25.4.1944 after the Mannheim raid in Dübendorf. H6-X flew back to Burtonwood on 8.10.1945.

B-24 H-25-DT — 42-51106, 392nd Bomb Group, 576th Bomb Squadron, down in Altenrhein on 11.7.1944 at 12.55. CI-A flew back to Burtonwood on 15.10.1945.



B-24 J-90-CO, 42-100332, RR-E, Nickname "Galloping Katie". 389th B.G. Landed Switzerland 3-16-44.

B-24 H-25-FO — 42-95033, 392nd Bomb Group, 478th Bomb Squadron, down in Altenrhein on 11.7.1944 at 13.10. EC-X flew back to Burtonwood on 15.10.1945.

b-24 H-1-FO — 42-7591, 448th Bomb Group, 712nd Bomb Squadron, Nickname: "Fat Stuff II", Down in Switzerland on 12.7.1944 at 14.04 in Altenrhein/SG. CT-J flew back to Burtonwood on 3.10.1945.

B-24 H-20-DT — 41-28948, 389th Bomb Group, 565th Bomb Squadron, down in Basel-Birsfelden on 12.7.1944 at 14.25 after the Munich raid. EE-K flew back to Burtonwood on 15.10.1945.

B-24 L-15-FO — 44-49928, 455th Bomb Group, 742nd Bomb Squadron, 15th Air Force, down in Dübendorf on 27.2.1945 on 14.37. Aircraft flew back to Burtonwood on 29.9.1945.

LACKLAND DEDICATES MURAL TO 2ADA

Lackland AFB in San Antonio, Texas, has continued its special relationship with the 2nd Air Division. That relationship started when Clinton "Wally" Wallace initiated 2nd Air Division luncheons at the Lackland Officers Open Mess three times a year.



Artists (l to r): John Pournier, Conrad Jackson, Brian O'Day, Craig Willover. Not present: Richard West, Darrol Cox.

It hit an emotional high when division members attending their 34th annual reunion in San Antonio visited Lackland where a parade was dedicated in their honor, a deeply moving memorial service was held by the B-24 on the parade field, and an excellently served luncheon was enjoyed at the Lackland O'Club.

Along the way, members of Wally's luncheon group have worked to get a BT-13

donated to the parade field collection. The latest development happened Jan. 30. Retired Maj. Gen. P.D. Straw, vice president of the Broadway National Bank in San Antonio and deputy chief of staff for operations for the Confederate Air Force was the speaker. The general, a B-17 pilot

trainees, was dedicated.

The mural came about because SSgt. Lloyd Hartman, attended the reunion parade and memorial service. He decided Lackland should have something permanent that would continue to inspire trainees as they were that day when division members were there.

Six young airmen used all their spare time to do the job. They were Airman Basics Conrad Jackson, Craig Willover, Brian O'Day, and Airmen First Class John Pournier, Darryl Cox and Richie West.

The flight had already graduated by the time of dedication. However, one — Pournier — had remained at Lackland to attend the Security Policy Academy. Three others who were at Sheppard AFB, Texas, for technical training, flew back to San Antonio at their own expense to be present.

Wally helped defray expenses by billeting the three at his apartment, and attendees at the luncheon chipped in to pay for their meals.

The mural shows a flight of B-4s in "missing man" formation flying over an American flag. Painted on it are these words: "Freedom isn't free. Protecting it takes hard work, dedication and sometimes sacrifice. Dedicated to the 6,052 men of the 2nd Air Division who gave their lives in World War II."

The airmen-artists had already signed the mural. They asked attendees from the luncheon to add their signatures and the number of their bomb groups in which they had served.

For all those who participated, it was a beautiful and moving occasion.

389th BOMB GROUP MEMORABELIA

by Bud Koorndyke (389th)

As your Vice President for the 389th Bomb Group, I would like to make my first order of business a rousing THANK YOU for making our 389th mini-reunion at the 2nd Air Div. Assoc. annual reunion in Nashville such a wonderful evening. Our attendance was the largest of any previous get together totaling 84.

If I were to single out any individuals it would have to be widows who came in memory of their departed loved ones — Gaynell Clark, Loni Klinghoffer and Catherine McLaren. Then there is always the danger of not getting all the names of the first attenders. Trying to be a reporter, Emcee and meeting all the troops at the same time gets to be a bit hectic. My only regret is that we didn't make contact years ago.

The loyalty and dedication of our members was shown to the utmost by one of our gang, namely Bob and Shirley Nicely. Bob

and Shirley were just married and spent their honeymoon with the 389th. Now that's what I call real dedication. I should clarify my statement by saying they spent 'part' of the time with the 389th.

Following the luncheon, the group moved to the 3743rd Basic Military Training Squadron. There, a mural, honoring the 2nd Air Division and painted by basic



and Shirley were just married and spent their honeymoon with the 389th. Now that's what I call real dedication. I should clarify my statement by saying they spent 'part' of the time with the 389th.

What can I say about Ed Young who came to the mini-reunion with a flyable B-24 model. Ed made this prior to the reunion and graciously set it up in our dining area.

From the size of the model it was some accomplishment.

To conclude on the convention activities, I would like to report that I forwarded a check for \$180.00 to Dean Moyer. This money was received during the reunion toward our pledge of \$750.00 for a permanent memorial of the 389th in the Memorial Room in Norwich. This Memorial is explained more fully in this issue of the *Journal*. All members of the 389th can send their donations to me made out to the 2nd Air Div. Assoc. noting that the donation is for the Memorial Plaque. I will forward the checks to Dean Moyer.

Many thanks to Roy Jonasson for his tenacity in tracking down all members and feeding the info to me. I don't know how he gets the names and addresses. Many thanks.

All members working together will help us reach our goal of at least 100 new members this year. We are continually reminded that because of our age groupings there is an attrition rate of between 10 to 20% each year.

HATHY VEYNAR APPOINTED

When Jordan Uttal returned from the Annual Meeting of the Memorial Trust Board of Governors in mid-May, he discussed with me the expanded activities of the Trust with particular reference to future efforts to maintain our Memorial as a truly Living Testament to those who died in combat, and to the kinship and understanding that arose, and exists between the Association and the people of the Norwich area. These various activities in our opinion will require assistance and because of long-time familiarity of one of our most active and dedicated members not only with the nature of the projects, but also with the history of the Association, and our relationship with the Trust itself, he has suggested that Hathy Veynar be appointed to that position.

After reviewing the proposed projects, I concur in this request, and am happy to appoint Hathy as "Co-ordinator of 2 AD Association Future Planning Activities" working as assistant to and under the direction of our Representative on the Board of Governors, Jordan Uttal. Her current program on which she will work with Jordan includes:

1. Establishment of a Living History Program — i.e. Solicitation from the members of cassettes, diaries, photographs, and specially written articles in all W.W. 2 experiences in England, combat and non-combat personnel, military as well as social.
2. Coordination of 1983 Norwich School Lectures, and on the spot cassette and video recordings in conjunction with the Librarian and Dr. Roy Baker and Dr. Howard Temperly of the University of East Anglia.
3. Initiate a program to involve our sons and daughters, nephews and nieces in an effort to carry on the purposes, spirits and efforts of the Association with primary emphasis on a long term relationship with the Trust.
4. Creation of a written program to encourage bequests to the 2nd Air Division Association for the Memorial Trust to be used for either Capital Fund additions, Book purchases (all at once or on an extended program), or other Memorial Room physical needs (which must be in the name of the War Casualties as well as the Donor).
5. Fountain Stone Projects. Organize replacement of missing stones and creation of an inventory of replacements on the basis of information furnished by the Librarian.

PLUS — such other projects as assigned by our Representative on the Board.

It is with pleasure that I announce this appointment of Hathy Veynar with the

knowledge that she will be as devoted to this program as she has been to the multitude of her assignments over the last thirty odd years of her membership in our 2nd Air Division Association.

VINCENT LA RUSSA

by Hathy Veynar

That's quite a large order to fill and I hope that I will be able to fulfill all these obligations. Where to start. Logically at the beginning, so here goes. At the convention many of you offered your help so I will be depending upon you for all the assistance I can get and also from those of you who were not able to attend and we missed you. Hope we get to see you in Norwich.

1. Would you please take a few minutes out of your time to sit down and jot down some of your experiences while you were stationed in England, or just your thoughts. It can be typed or in your own handwriting. If you would send any diaries, photographs, or specially written articles to me as soon as possible then I will be able to start right away cataloging and preparing them for presentation to the library either before or at our convention in Norwich next year. We have not received what information is desired for the cassettes as yet. It will be published in the next issue of the *Journal*.

2. 1983 School Lectures in Norwich. At present I do not have a list of the topics that they would like to have speakers for, nor do I know how many. I would like to ask any of you who are planning on going to Norwich next year and would be willing to give a speech to please send me your name, address and telephone number on a post card so that I can contact you as soon as I know all the particulars. I can then set up a pool of speakers and/or back-up speakers. At least we'll be ready to go when the info comes in.

3. I have already started this project at the Convention in Nashville by suggesting that members enroll their sons, daughters, nieces, nephews and grandchildren as Associate Members so that they can keep abreast of the developments of the Memorial Trust through the *Journal*. There is one more thing I would like to ask of you and that is when you do enroll them as Associate Members that you denote how they are related to you so that we can keep tabs on them for the future when it will be necessary to change the By-Laws in order that they may become voting members. By making them Associate Members now, they would be eligible to attend the Convention in Norwich next year if they so choose and be able to see for themselves just how beautiful the American Room of the Memorial Trust is. Send their dues to Evelyn Cohen, Membership Vice-President. The dues will be the same as yours. I have already made my son and daughter Associate Members. This is something that we should all give serious thought to if the American Room of the Memorial Trust is

to continue to be a Living Memorial for many years to come. To our knowledge it is the only Living Memorial of its kind in the world and it would be a shame for it to lack our support here in America. It is truly a Living Memorial in every sense of the word. So don't hesitate. Do it today.

4. I have not had time to create a written program to encourage bequests to the 2nd Air Division Association for the Memorial Trust. It will require some thought and consultation and as soon as we think we have a workable plan, it will be published in the *Journal*. I do know that several of you told me at the Convention in Nashville that you have already made provision for this in your wills. I was very happy to hear this and I'm sure that there are more of you who also feel this way. If anyone has any special thoughts along this line, I would be more than happy to hear from you.

5. Fountain Stone Project. Due to the frequent cleaning of the Fountain in the courtyard of the Norwich Library several of our state stones have been lost. The last time we were over there we took some special adhesive so that the stones would not come loose, but we are still missing some. These stones are needed for each state star in the bottom of the Fountain:

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Georgia | Pink Granite |
| Kentucky | Fluorite |
| Maine | Rose Quartz |
| Maryland | Black Marble |
| Mississippi | Grey Quartz |
| Nevada | Gold Ore |
| New Hampshire | Red Granite |
| New Mexico | Jasper |
| North Dakota | Smoky Quartz |
| Oklahoma | Zincite |
| Pennsylvania | Serpentine |
| Utah | Zincite |
| Vermont | Jasper |
| Washington | Brown Jasper |
| Wyoming | Copper Dolomite |

The size required is about the size of a hen's egg. Don't worry if more than one of you send me a stone because the extras can be put in stock for future use. As we find more stones missing, we will send out an S.O.S. in the *Journal*.

Once again thank you so very much for your offers of help in these worthwhile projects. I am sure that I will be calling upon you for your help from time to time as the need arises in order to keep this Living Memorial up-to-date.

My address is:
Hathy Veynar
4915 Bristow Drive
Annandale, Virginia 22003

DECEASED

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Lt. Gen. William H. Kepner | Hdq. |
| Martha M. Merrill | 93rd |
| Willard Schaefer | 389th |
| George M. Keegan | 392nd |
| John Pfister | 392nd |
| George H. Johnson | 453rd |
| Stephen Gray | 445th |
| Ralph Jackson | 491st |

LETTERS

Dear Evelyn:

What a great reunion in Nashville!! Our first, but surely not our last. We plan to go to Norwich in '83, and will follow the procedures that I'm sure will be outlined in the next *Journal*.

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$30.00 — dues for associate membership for the following:

Elizabeth O. McConnell, wife
Capt. Stephen L. McConnell, son
James O. McConnell, son

For record purposes, as well as mail, please use the same address for all three: 721 Castle Kirk, Baton Rouge, LA 70808.

Carlton McConnell

Dear Bill:

The last few days attending the Reunion in Nashville have been most memorable ones. I do want to thank you all for the warmth of your welcome, your generosity and kindness. It has all been quite overwhelming.

I get the impression that the Association could not be in better shape and is moving through a dynamic phase of progression. At the same time the Library is flourishing as never before and its task is being made easier by the extraordinary generosity of you all. The Board of Governors are most grateful to 2nd ADA.

I am delighted that the proposed scheme for the erection of the plaques and aircraft tail markings at the Library has received such unanimous support at the Convention. This will enable us to put the works in hand without further delay.

David Hastings and I are looking forward to progressing the plans for the Reunion in Norwich next year. Rest assured that you will all be made most welcome.

I have been most touched by the freindliness of all your members whilst attending the Convention. Whilst some five thousand miles from Norwich I have felt entirely at home. We all share in this love and affection for Norfolk and Norwich.

Our Association is a unique body. May it continue to flourish and develop! I have great confidence that as the Association grows the work of the Library and its influence will become increasingly important.

With all good wishes to you and Hazel.

Paul King

Dear Mr. (Charles) Weiss:

I am doing research to write a book about the airwar over Rotterdam.

I would be grateful if you could help me get in touch with members of 93BG, who participated in the mission against the docks of Rotterdam on 31st March 1943.

My object for the time being, after I have done research in the town archives of Rotterdam during the last months, is to collect accounts, memories and photographs of men and aircraft of the group.

Of course any photograph that is sent will be returned immediately after reproduction.

I am an Associate member of the 8AFHS; the Society has been very helpful during the last four years when I wrote my latest book about the crashes of aircraft in our area.

I sincerely hope that you will be good enough to help.

Hans Onderwater
4, Gentiaan, 2992 VD Barendrecht
Netherlands

Dear Bill:

Your June issue arrived recently and, as all your issues, it was super.

Thank you for publishing my article on my crew's experience on the first napalm mission ever. I was sorry to see that you published the original version, not the corrected version sent you later.

The amended article corrected the date from April 14th, 1945, to April 15th and the target from Pointe de Grave to Royan. (I had flown the mission the day before to Pointe de Grave, just across the Gironde estuary from Royan.) Also, we flew with a six man crew, not a nine man crew. I had confused the two missions after so many years. The events reported, however, are otherwise accurate.

I have already received one phone call and expect you may receive a letter or two on the inaccuracies. Accordingly, I would be grateful if you would publish this letter for the record.

James G. Coffey

Dear Bill:

My sincere thanks to all the 2nd Air Division Association for such a memorable Convention at Nashville. You really spoil your English Governors and it was wonderful to meet so many old and new friends. The entire program was superb, but the final evening gave me memories which I will never forget.

We now look forward to planning the 1983 reunion here in Norfolk, and will do our utmost to make this a memorable occasion, for the County cannot wait to see the 2nd Air Division Association back once more to "The Little fields of America".

A final plea, and that is can any member help me find the Aircrew or Ground Crew of "Pugnacious Princess Pat" 566th Squadron, 389th Bmb Group at Hethel. Then my memories would be complete.

My sincere thanks once again, and see you in 1983.

David J. Hastings

Dear Vere:

I was very much interested in your article in the June 1982 issue of the 2AD *Journal* and the comments of Lt. Warren Blower. Most particularly I was saddened to hear about the fate of our aircraft "Little Max" on September 26, 1944. I was a member (Navigator) of the first 707BS crew assigned to that aircraft shortly after its arrival at Bungay early in 1944. We flew about half of our missions in "Little Max" with six members of our crew finishing our combat tours in it on April 29, 1944 on a final mission to Berlin.

I am enclosing a picture of our crew and aircraft taken in March 1944 shortly after the "Little Max" sign was painted on it. If I recall correctly the name was suggested by Lt. Madge, our Co-pilot, who was a fan of this pugnacious little character from the old Joe Palooka comic strip. I hope you may be able to publish the photograph and crew names in a later issue of the *Journal*. I have completely lost contact with the members of my crew and am hoping that one of your readers may be able to help me relocate some of them after all these years.



Back row: Cyril Kopecky (AG); Albert Cochran (AO); Thurman Spiva (N); Paul Sallee (E); Albert Pearson (P); Adrian Perrault (B);
Front row: George Blank (AG); Stanley Biggs (AG); (Crew Chief); John Madge (CP); Carl Salminen (RO).

Mr. Harold Jansen of Holland who is writing the book on this aircraft may be interested in the aircraft's earlier history. I will be happy to correspond with him on the subject if you will send me his address.

Keep up the good work. The association does a great job in promoting the activities of 2ADA and in furthering comradeship among its thousands of members who lived through this trying period in our country's history.

Thurman Spiva, Col. USAF (Ret)
8520 Hans Engel Way, Fair Oaks, Calif. 95628

Dear friend:

Please send me any information and membership requirements concerning the Second Air Division Association, 8th Air Force. I am a veteran of the 732nd Squadron, 453rd Bomb Group, Second Combat Wing. I have a number of pictures of that Group which might interest your membership, especially 453rd vets.

In 1975 and 1976 I visited the American Military Cemetery in Cambridge and the "Old Buck" airfield. I went alone on each occasion so that no one could see my tears. I could almost feel all those Libs roaring over my head! I try to tell my kids and now my grandkids what it was like when all those big B-24s formed up and that long column of planes headed for Germany. But you had to have been in it to feel what it was like. Someone said: "The sky was never still." That just about covers it!

I was with the 453rd from September 1943 at Pocatello until the group was disbanded at Fort Dix in July 1945. I have pictures of the Training periods at Pocatello and March Field; of the original officers of the 732nd Squadron and of the original 18 crews of the 732nd. I also have some shots of the Old Buckenham Air Base of Norwich, Cambridge and Attleboro, plus lots of action photos. I'd be glad to share them. My album is brittle and cracks easily, so I'll have to insist I cannot loan it out. But it is a pictorial history of the 453rd. What I wrote in my album, I am sure contains many inaccuracies, especially as to names. But I'll try to accommodate Second Air Division Association in any way that I can.

Frank Kyle (732/453)

Dear Ms. Cohen:

Recently a poster on the bulletin board at a Yankee Air Force meeting relating to the 446th Group in Bungay inquired "Were you or any relative here between 1942 and 1945?"

I was a B24 Navigator and along with my crew was assigned to the 704th Bomb Squadron of the 446th Bomb Group at Bungay and am interested in any information available. We flew combat missions from February 1945 to the end of World War II and while I stayed in close contact with most of my crew members, shortly after the war those contacts started falling off to where presently I have heard from none of them for many years. I might also add that several years ago, while touring Great Britain, my wife and I and daughter and son-in-law motored to Bungay and visited the old airfield and one of the surrounding pubs. The innkeeper mentioned that there was a group of former airmen that toured the area several years before we were there, so apparently there is still some active organization in existence.

I'd be pleased to share in the nostalgia.

Kurt G. Kersten

Hi!

Just wanted to write a short note and let you know that my address has changed again and to make the necessary changes to the mailing list so I can keep up with all the current news and information.

My current membership dues run out in December, but would appreciate you sending a form so I could renew early. I am an associate member, my father served in the 489th stationed at Halesworth and flew the B-24.

Really enjoy the news and items and must comment, that all of you do an excellent job at putting together a really informative newsletter, as I told Charlie I really hope sometime in the not to distant future to be able to attend one of the reunions and be able to meet you all.

Joseph P. Long SSgt. USAF
P.O. Box 536
Keesville, NY 12944

Dear Bill:

I am sending you two snapshots that were taken at the 392nd Bomb Group. The first is a picture of my crew right after we arrived at the Group in Sept. 1943.



Back row, L to R: SSgt. Stevens, Tail Gunner; SSgt. Roland C. Opsahl, Asst. Eng.; SSgt. Daniel R. Appar, Tail Gunner; SSgt. Alonzo Smith, Jr., Asst. Radio; TSgt. Howard Lawrence, Eng.; TSgt. Richard Bellerine, Radio Oper. Front row, L to R: Lt. Moore, Bomb.; Lt. Albert Long, Nav.; Lt. Willard Lidgard, Co-Pilot; Lt. Lynn G. Pecterson, Pilot.



The other picture is of me receiving the Air Medal from Col. Irvine Pendle, 392nd BG Commander.

I thought you might put them in the *Journal* and maybe someone would know our crew. We were shot down March 18, 1944 and Lt. Pecterson and Lidgard were killed. Sgt. Stevens had finished his 25th mission prior to this so he wasn't with us. Lt. Moore was MIA when he flew with another crew earlier in 1944.

I have enjoyed the *Journal* very much and hope to someday go back to Wendling for a visit.

Roland C. Opsahl
2425 E. Elmwood
Mesa, AZ 85203

Dear Mr. Robertie:

I feel I must write in reply to Mr. Lucien Albert's letter in the June edition of the *Journal*.

Bob Hume is a very good friend of ours and he was greatly touched by Lucien's very kind words — its typical of Bob to extend such a welcome, he really is a great character.

To your readers who may not have visited Norwich since those distant years, I would like to say how excellent the Memorial Library is; Lucien's kind contribution will be well used I'm sure. The Library is a haven of peace and a fine source of information on the U.S. — probably the finest in the UK?

I wonder what's wrong with our baron! Alan Long, the manager of the Hotel Norwich and myself may find out soon enough as we shall be attending the Best Western Hotels convention in Dallas this September — from what we already know we have quite an experience in store.

Those of you based at Seething may recall Brooke as the sleepy little village between Seething and Norwich — I doubt that much has changed since the 40's, certainly Seething is barely touched. A recent air show at Seething must have evoked some of the former glory, there was even a genuine Dakota (DC3/C47?) flown in together with a fly past of an original Spitfire and Hurricane, alas no B-24s!

We all look forward to seeing you in Norwich in 1983!

Peter Mackness
General Manager
Hotel Nelson, Norwich

Dear Pete (Henry):

Thank you for your letter advising of the need for funds for the plaque in the Norwich Library. Enclosed is a small contribution to assist. Please let me know if you come up short and I can help a little more.

Your letter is very timely as my wife and I just visited our lawyer earlier this week and, among other things, added bequests to our favorite charities. Among the gifts we established was \$1,000 to the Library in Norwich.

As I have gotten older I have become increasingly aware of how great has been the gift of having experienced life since those fateful days in '44 and '45. I suppose having such reflective thoughts is a sign of growing older.

We can all think of friends who's teens were spent in the poverty of the depression, their brief youth in battle and then it ended. Except for luck, fate, the grace of God, or what ever mystery of life controls, we could have suffered the same experience, but didn't.

I believe strongly in the kind of memorial we have established to these men, and hope that we can supply sufficient funds so that it will remain a perpetual memorial.

I would also like to thank you for your dedication and hard work on behalf of the 2ADA and the 44th.

Last year at the age of 57 I took up your game of golf in earnest. Maybe I can get good enough to join you and other 44thers at some future convention.

Jim Forrest

P.S. My wife and I recognize your address "Rossmoor" as the retirement community where an uncle of ours once lived.

Dear Pete (Henry):

Here is a small donation for the Plaque. A few of my old buddies names will be on it, I hope. I was just an old Grease Monkey with the 464 Sub Depot, but I guess we all did our bit.

Harry Lemond
41 Mountain Ave.
Hillburn, NY 10931

Dear Evelyn:

Congratulations on a SUPER convention. Never have I heard so much comment all on the plus side. I inquired of several who were at other hotels . . . but all said that that was only a minor inconvenience. What ever you did, you did it right. But don't you always!

At the banquet Saturday nite, Rita Kivlehan gave me some cash for John's 1983 dues. She said that she didn't know about John, whether he would remember to keep up his dues, but she wants to guarantee that he stays paid up. So this check is for John J. Kivlehan, 446th Bomb Group.

Another subject: Vince LaRussa met with George Shanks at Dayton, Ohio, relative to helping out in that area. Vince had a poster placed in the Air Force Museum and George will be a local contact.

George was at the Nashville reunion and while there was supposed to see me about getting some brochures with the application forms attached. By the time I was involved, the Registration room had been retired . . . also, I got too busy with other things to get to you to get the brochures for George, but I promised to have them sent. Will you please send about 50 . . . or whatever you estimate would be the proper amount . . . to:

George L. Shanks
43 Maylan Drive
Dayton, OH 45405

One last thing: Please send me a dozen or so for the later (March or June *Journals*) if you have any left.

Thank you for Marie and me for the things you did to make this Nashville reunion so special.

Vere A. McCarty

Dear Bill:

Since joining the Association several months ago, many dormant memories have been awakened via the *Journal*.

Enclosed is a picture of our crew taken before a mission. We were crew No. 3, 448 BG. The crew members are from left to right:



Front row — Capt. Wm. B. Brown, Pilot; Lt. Ken Barnett, Co-pilot; Lt. Fred Saltus, Navigator; Lt. Wm. LaBonte, Bombardier.

Back row — S/Sgt. O. L. Bidne, Radio Operator; S/Sgt. Herman Johns, Ball Turret Gunner; S/Sgt. Jacob M. Lebovits, Tail Gunner; S/Sgt. Wm. Duprey, Waist Gunner, Left; S/Sgt. Russell Flamion, Waist Gunner, Right; S/Sgt. Clarence (Gus) Schroeder, Engineer, Top Gunner.

Trained at Wendover AFB, Utah and Sioux City AFB, Iowa.

Best wishes to you and all members of the Association.

Jacob M. Lebovitz (Jack)

109 Ballard Drive, West Hartford, Conn. 06119

Dear Evelyn:

Just a few lines to thank you for a good time that Peggy, Janet, and I had at the reunion.

I especially want to thank you for making those last minute arrangements for daughter Janet. She enjoyed herself on her first "sortie" of the Second AD.

Thanks Evelyn, for all your hard work in planning and organizing that herculean task of the "maximum effort" at Nashville.

Have a relaxing summer away from all your "children" for awhile. Enclosed is just a small token of appreciation to you for the special weekend that took many hours of hard work.

Fred and Peggy Venables

Dear Evelyn:

Once again we want to thank you and congratulate you on your part in making the Nashville Reunion the great success it was. Joann and I had a great time and made some new acquaintances we are thrilled about. We are grateful to all those who have provided leadership through the years for the 2nd Air Division Association.

We are enclosing a check for \$200.00 as a deposit for the Norwich trip next year. We will be unable to travel by ship. Even traveling by air, I will have to take leave of absence for at least a week before our school is out.

If 2nd ADA runs chartered aircraft we would be interested in that, but only if we could fly one way to England. Since this is our first and probably our last chance to visit Europe, we plan several days on the continent after the reunion. If we are unable to arrange chartering over with 2nd ADA we will fly over on our own. If we could coordinate our arrival to travel with the group to Norwich — fine — otherwise we'll get to Norwich on our own.

We will be watching for further details!

Gordon D. Bishop
Joann Bishop

Dear Mr. Robertie:

A month ago I wrote you asking if your newsletter could help me find Mr. Robert G. Schmidt.

I am pleased to tell you that I have now heard from Mr. Schmidt.

Many thanks for any help you have given.

Mrs. Thelma J. Hearden
Norwich, Norfolk, England

Dear Bill:

Happy to see in the June *Journal* that "The Mighty Eighth" is again available. My check for \$16.50 is enclosed. Please send me a copy.

The end of this month makes ten years that I have been retired from Civil Service at Kelly Air Force Base. I participated in a lot of aircraft programs during my military and civilian Air Force years. Sure enjoyed them. My retirement is great, but do miss the old days.

Robert H. Baird

Dear Bill:

Please put this letter in the next *Journal*. I saw in the December 1981 issue the names of three people, one I know very well — served with him in the 93rd B.G. during WW II and after the War we served at MacDill AFB, FL and at Barksdale AFB, La. Name is Ellsworth Berlitz. Other two are Fred Jansen and Tom O'Grady. Fred may be Captain I served with in 306th Bomb Wing at MacDill 1948-1951 and Tom O'Grady maybe a gentleman serving under me in A Co. 3rd Combat Engineers, Schofield Barracks, Territory of Hawaii before the war, in 1941. Later he came to my squadron, 329th, 93rd BG. for low level attack on Ploesti. Don't think I saw him till I got out of Interment in Sweden in Aug. 44. I was there from 9 Oct. 43. Crash landed after a raid on Danzig. I'd like to hear from all three.

I'm doing fine in retirement, enjoying every minute. Have approximately 23 acres, a trout stream (stocked a couple times a season), a large pond and plenty of woods.

William M. Culin

Dear Bill:

Received my June 1982 *Journal* Vol. 21, No. 2, and was thoroughly enjoying the various stories and articles until I came upon a small piece on page 15, titled "A PUT ON", by Flyboy Anon, accompanied by a photo of some guys drinking coffee.

Where did 'Flyboy' (Head-up & Locked) get ahold of this photo? It was one of many publicity shots for the folks back home! The so-called 'Honcho of the Red Cross' is Lt. Richard Wilkinson (Co-Pilot); 'The short officer with a nice crease in his O.D.'s' is 6'1" Capt. Ken Hebert (Navigator); the man on the right is 6'3" T/Sgt. Charles Kimtantis (Radio Operator); the other fellows I do not recognize, except the one between Lt. Wilkinson and the girl appears to be Sgt. Herman Parent (Waist Gunner). How do I know? — because most of these guys were my B-24 crew members.

We were charter members of the 93rd Bomb Group, 409th Squadron, which was formed on March 27, 1942, at Barksdale Field, Shreveport, Louisiana. We soon were to be known as "Ted's Flying Circus", in recognition of our tight formation flying and Col. Ted Timberlake, our Group C.O. We arrived in England the first part of Sept. 1942 (The first B-24 Group in England). We bombed France & Germany when Hitler was at his peak and the Luftwaffe had air supremacy. We did not enjoy the protection of fighter escorts in those days. From the Lybian desert (where we were rationed a canteen of water a day — just to exist), we also pulled missions in North Africa, Italy and finally on the Ploesti Oil Refinery in Romania on Aug. 1, 1943. We were shot down and interned in Turkey. I later escaped but that's another story.

Now when 'Head-up & Locked Flyboy sans, "the 44th and 93rd had it made", I'd like to know where he gets that idea! Where was he and what was he doing when all this was going on? He might well be advised to check his facts before he goes off on another misinformed writing spree. As far as I'm concerned — expose him for the goof he is.

E. C. Baker

(ed: Cool it fellows. "Fly Boy Anon" was only kidding. At least I think he was. If he wasn't you won't have to kill him — I will!)

Dear Bill:

In response to Flyboy Anon, page 15 of the June 1982 *Journal*, our crew did not fly all Milkruns in Noballs. This picture was probably taken after a training or check flight. Our crew flew the regular and roughest missions of the 458th - 754th Sq. The officer with the crease in his OD's was the best Pilot in the 8th AF. Lt. Francis V. Hooven. The man in the foreground is our Top Turret gunner, S/Sgt. William F. Stuckey. The man in the background with the coffee cup is me, T/Sgt. Robert R. Mattson, Radio Operator. Possibly other two with helmets, on left maybe S/Sgt. Louis A. Rose and behind Stuckey maybe T/Sgt. Joe Wagner or S/Sgt. Charels C. Wright. Hope someone else can help with identification on others in picture.

Anyway it was good to see picture of some of our old crew.

Will write you later and possibly send two other crew pictures — Idaho and England.

Robert R. Mattson

Dear Evelyn:

The reunion in Nashville was terrific and Jack and I really enjoyed it.

We are very much looking forward to the trip to England as we were stationed over there in Fairfield in 1951-52-53. We lived in Wontage and Stratton-St. Margaret during that time and really got to know the English people.

Here is our check to assume that we will be making that trip. We prefer to go on the QE II, well I do and Jack is nice enough to go along with my wishes.

Mrs. Jack Parrish

ATTENDED REUNION Nashville 1982

Hdq.

Rhoda Bandler
Warren & Norma Burman
Evelyn & Lillian Cohen
Willie & Delos Elder
Earline Embrey
Milan Gra'Hovac
Jackie Hanify
Livingston & Tina Jones
Mildred Krivocic
Vare Christian Kubly
Dorothy Krogman
w/Caroline Marshall
Charlie & Madeleine Mills
Dean & Deanie Moyer
Sid Piper/Faye Bishop
Beatrice Puch
Jim Reeves
John & Janice Saunders
Ray & Ruth Strong
Lida B. Cowan Thompson
Jordan & Joyce Uital
Hathy, Milt & Caron Veynar
Gertrude Blue Wernldi
Joe & June Whitaker

44th

Bill & Violet Albert
John & Mary Altman
Joe & Louise Burress
Dom & Velma Canetti
Charlie & Virginia Cary
Paul & Margaret Corleu
Art Cullen
Quinnie & Martice Crews
Forrest & Ruth Clark
Bob & Catherine Eddings
Bob & LaVerne Felber
Al & Emma Franklin
Mike & Kaye Fusano
Rocky & Helen Griffith
Bill Hawkins
Pete & Mary Henry
Clarence & Martha Hines
Bob & Roberta Johnson
Marvin & Doris Kite
Ellis & Maxine Lebo
Odis & Mary Nelson
Jim & Elsie O'Brien
Bill & Hazel Robertie
George & Ruth Washburn
Joe Warth*
Jim & Norma Young

93rd

Joe & Peggy Bradley
Harold Burks
Guy & Doris Cheney
Tom Dowdy
Violes & Audrey Flanary
Bill & Benetta Gros
Paul & Nora Harwood
Paul & Martha Hood
John & Gloria Julian
Lou & Freda Koch
Bob Lee
Bob & Kristen Lent
Earl & Francis Long
Floyd & Dot Mabec
Tom O'Grady
Bill & Phyllis Orient
Jack & Mildred Parrish
Tom & Letha Scott
Ed Spencer
John, Bee & Rebecca Sullivan
Joe & Jo Thorley
Charlie Weiss
Jerry Wilson/Myrna Perry

389th

Harry & Lorraine Boos
Bob & Georgette Bousquet
Gaynell Clark
Jim & Ava Collins
Lyman & Geneva Crumrin
Charlie Dearing
Russ & Delores Dill
Ralph & Helen Fowler
Ray & Ellen Fry
Andy & Irene Friesema

Geb & Louise Gebhard
Ed Griffin
Al & Jean Hallett
Earl & Miriam Hawthorne
Russ & June Hayes
Neal Head
Don & Mary Hickey
Bill & Grace Holland
Reuben & Lois Hollenback
Roy Jonasson
Ted & Natalie Katz
Jim & Joanne Kissling
Lani Klinghoffer
Bill & Sara Klopfer
Bud & June Koordnyke
Felix Leeton
Howard Lyons
Leo & Betty McBrian
Hugh McLaren #2
Buff & Norma Maguire
John & Toni Morino
Gene & Hazel Motley
Bob & Rita Nicely
Dorothy & Alvin Norman
Bill & Geneva Richards
Alex & Betty Rolison
Ray & Peggy Shannon
Stan & Mary Shibovich
Howard & Hilda Streight
Russ, Reggie & Russ, Jr. Sciandra
Lloyd & Clara West
Hal Yates
Ed & Marguerite Young

392nd

L. D. Austin
Charlie & Eleanor Bader
Vern & Hulda Baumgart
Bill & Marilyn Barry
Ed & Pauline Brewster
Floyd & Roberta Bull
John & Wanda Conrad
Odell & Barbara Dobson
Al & Elizabeth Duff
Ray Dunphy
Art & Teddy Egan
J.B. & Lena Freeman
Herm & Bessie Garner
Howard & Helen Haywood
J.D., Emily, Philip &
Jeffrey Long
Paul MacDonald
Oak & Maxine Mackey
Bob & Margaret Powers
George Player
Lou & Delores Stephens
Bob & Frances Tays
Fred & Elva Thomas
Al & Audrey Venier
Don & Emily Whitford

445th

Pete & Beth Barnard
Bob Brunst
R.J. & Betty Campbell
Charlie & Evelyn Cooper
Buddy & Wanda Cross
Kurt & Freda Crouch
LeRoy & Merle Dabney
Frank & Betty DiMola
Ed & Iline Dittlinger
Easy & Valeria Eiseman
Elmer & Jean Fischer
Harry & Ruth Fugate*
Roy & Juanita Gardner
Carl Kleeman
Henry Lively
Eldon & Eileen Long
Art Lundburg
Carl & Betty McConnell
Carl & Betty Marino
Sam & Louis Miller
John & Dot Nortavage
Dave & Joan Patterson
Dan & Violet Patton
Henry Rogers
Vince Sinkevich
Bob & Shirley Suckow
John & Marie Vessels
John & Lee Woodley

446th

Phil & Virginia Balcomb
Sam & Ida Becker
Gordon & Joan Bishop
Tom Brown
Bill, Jean & Bill, Jr. Davenport
Julian & Sarah Dixon
Howard & Bonnie Edmunss
Gill & Judy Estevez
John & Kay Faulds
Nino Federici
Ralph & Audrey Glenn
Herb & Reba Gordon
Paul & Maryann Halecki
Alex & Jean Harrison
O.W. & Sappho Henderson
Jim & Rosy Hey
Dale & Virginia Howard
Dan Hutto
Howard Horton
John & Helen Kinney
John & Rita Kivlehan
Fred & Evelyn Knorre
Jim & Nancy Longstreth
Vere & Marie McCarty
Tom & Kathryn Mason
Warren & Rose Monaghan
Bob & Lorraine Moore
Lou & Alice Motts
Mitchell & Toni Reno
Jim & LaDonne Schreck
George & Grace Shanks
Eric & Ethel Sherman
Ed & Lois Sutherland
Bob & Betty Tannahill
Loren & Mary Van de Voorde
Paul & Ethel Wermuth
John & Mignon White

448th

Stu & Gladys Barr
Al & Jeanette Bishop
Harry & Bonnie Bonfield
Dwight & Shirley Covell
George & Hazel Dickinson
Jim & Margaret Donley
Bob & Virginia Drummond
Doug & Arlene Eames
George & Margaret Elkins
Frank & Lorraine Gibson
Bob & Zella Harper
Harold & Helen Ingebretsen
Gail & June Irish
Lou & Elizabeth Ladas
Joe Michalczyk
Milt & Ruth Nichols
Bob & Eloise Piccollo
Howard Pruitt
C.J. & Anita Pullen
Bill & Edna Searles
Walt & Juanita Smith
Dearl & Neha Whitaker
Bob & Marguerite Williams
Charlie & Iris Wingo
Ken & Luana Wheeler
Jay & June Young
John & Dot Zima
Joe & Wanda Zonyk

453rd

Will Adler
Bob & Evelyn Anderson
Junior, Jackie & Judy Austin
Wes Bartelt
Ed & Evelyn Bebenroth
Mike Benarick
Leroy & Gloria Berg
Sylvester & Virginia Bergman
Al & Claire Biel
Virginia & Ken Brubaker
Charlie Burton
Roy & Priscilla Carlson
Luther & Marie Clark
Seymour & Anita Cohen
Bob & Jane Cunningham
Al & Elaine Ek
Joe & Doris Felton*
Jim & Lucille Gunnell
Paul & Doris Harper
Russ Harriman
Ray & Millie Hunt
Clint & Dee Johnson
Gus & Gloria Johnson
Ray & Evelyn Jones
Bill & Helen Joyce/
Killian McAnaney

Jim & Betty Kotapish
Ed & Evelyn Limstrong
Andy & Helen Low
Guy & Norma Martin
Dorothy Middleton
Ed & Ramona Myers
Jack & Clarinda Nortridge
Don & Mimi Olds
Al & Jerry Orr
Tom & Nell Owen
Ulma & Clemmie Perry*
John & Hazel Phillips
Paul & Virginia Poitras
Herb & Bernice Reinders
John & Marie Roth
George & Evelyn Rundblad
Maxie & Betty Searle
Irv Shuffler
Milt & Lucille Stokes
John & Helen Talbot
Frank & Jackie Thomas
Glenn & Edith Tisher
Warren & Thelma Vernier
Bob & Isabelle Victor
Grier Wallace
Orris & Jennie Warrington
Del, Doris & Ernie Wangsvick
Bob & Johnnie Witzel/
Hattie Lewis
Lou & Catherine Wust

458th

Don & Doris Allen
Bob & Mary Armbruster
Harold & Virginia Armstrong
Boyce & Lucille Carrigan
Jim Egan
Dick Fairfield
George & Chris Ferrell
Newell Gibson
Ken & Emma Gorrell*
Stan & Dot Hammell
Art Hendrickson
Stan & Royna Johnson
Herman & Renee Mandel
Herman & Bertie Peacher
George Reynolds
Ed & Dot Robbins
Rick & Ceil Rokicki
Bill & Lucy Seaman
Tom & Alberta Walsh
Jim & Elaine Wedding

466th

Jim & Bernice Adams
Joe & Irene Arbaugh
Jim & Snooky Auman
Frank & Louise Bostwick
Margaret Calderalo
Mike & Pauline Hoover
Jim & Mary Lorenz
Gerry & Sammy Market
Elwood & Lucille Northstein
Bob & Sybil Pettersen
Jim & Elinor Russell
Art & Barbara Sessa
Lucian Smith
Hank & Edie Tevelin
Jack Travis
Fred & Peggy Venables/Janet
Vicki & Kurt Warning*
John & Mary Woolnough

467th

Ralph & Mary Jane Anderson
Charlie & Katherine Ball
Ray & Doris Betcher
Ray Bickel*
Arch & Helen Boisselle
Clyde & Pearl Burkhardt*
George & Catherine Church
Jim & Rose Ciancitto
Willis & Reid Cobb
Jim Coffey
Ken & Dot Darney
Bob & Evelyn Davidson
Phil & Cille Day
Lloyd & Rae Davies
Tony & JoAnn DeBasse
Bill & Vernice Dillon
George Dong
Bill & Helen Eastland
Bill & Delvera Eisele*
Ralph & Yvonne Elliott
Joe Flynn

Jeff & Terry Gregory
Paul Gourd
Ed & Anita Goldsmith
Joe & Florence Haenn
Dale & Eileen Hamilton
Duffy & Frances Hannafey
G.B. & Naomi Johnston
Jim & Audrey Johnston
Andy & Anna Kapi
Floyd & Eleanor Kingsley
Bernie, Phyllis & Joanne Kirschner
Vince & Gloria LaRussa
C.E. & Caroline McSween
Al & Teresa Muller
Will & Cecily Noden
L.T. & Ruth Piland
Ed & Dorothy Parsons
Roy & Edith Rainwater
Vern & Joan Rigsbee
Lyle & Betty Schrader
Carl & Mildred Shaut
Al Shower
Bill & Shirley Smith
Adam Soccio / Katherine Ricci
Jerome & Pat Spry
John & Lucille Stevens
Dave & Jackie Swearingen
Vince Siebern
Art Wicks

489th

Bob & Martha Angle
Chuck & Twyla Baker
Charlie & Mary Bouchard
Tom & Muriel Bouley
Bob & Alice Boyle
Bill & Julie Bunch
Bob & Teresa Cline
Marion & Elizabeth Cochran
Bert & Jean Crawford
Jim & Jean Davis
Bob & Margaret Dorriety
Bob & Viola Ellis
Charlie & Helen Freudenthal
Jim & Charlie Gilliland
Bob & Roena Gordon
Laverne & Dorothy Graf
Morgan & Helen Higham
John & Irene Homan
C.J. & Sally Jarvis
Weldon & Catherine Jones
Vern & Ruth Long
Ted & Gladys Maruschek
Fred & Loretta Meyer
John & Margaret Predgen
Bob Shipley
Julius & Jerry Vanerwegen
Lou & Irene Wagner
Ben Yodzonis

491st

Carl & Louise Alexanderson
Bob & Mary Dicken
Dave & Edith Dougherty
George & Lucille Dumitras
Mike & Margaret Fagen
Dudley Friday
John Hauger
Dave & Billie Hicks
O.L. & Camille Hicks
Ross & Vel Houston
Guy & Mildred McElhany
Will Mishler
Lloyd & Elsie Murff
Ted & Fanny Parker
H.F. & Jeanne Patterson
Stan Zak

492nd

Bud & Margarette Beasley
Bill & Maxine Clarey
Gil Green
Jim & Ruth Heddleson
Sy & Alyce Jarosz
Vernon & Bobbie Key
Jim & Jason McCroly
Jake & Helen Mink
Al & Judy Mohney
Art & Betty Raisig

Board of Governors

Tom Eaton
David Hastings
Paul King

*Not at mini-reunion