

82ND FIGHTER GROUP ASSOCIATION

Officers

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4702 Congressional Dr.
Corpus Christi, TX 78413

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Vice-President
2015 Bermuda St.
Shreveport, LA 71150

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Secretary/Treasurer
4917 Ravenwood Dr.
San Antonio, TX 78227



Executive Committee

Ralph C. Embrey - 95th Ftr. Sq.
7865 E. Mississippi #1203 W.
Denver, CO 80231

B. A. Strozier - 96th Ftr. Sq.
1237 Barkley Ave.
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Jack Duncan - 97th Ftr. Sq.
309 Pecan Dr.
Schertz, TX 78154

NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 3.

NOVEMBER 1985

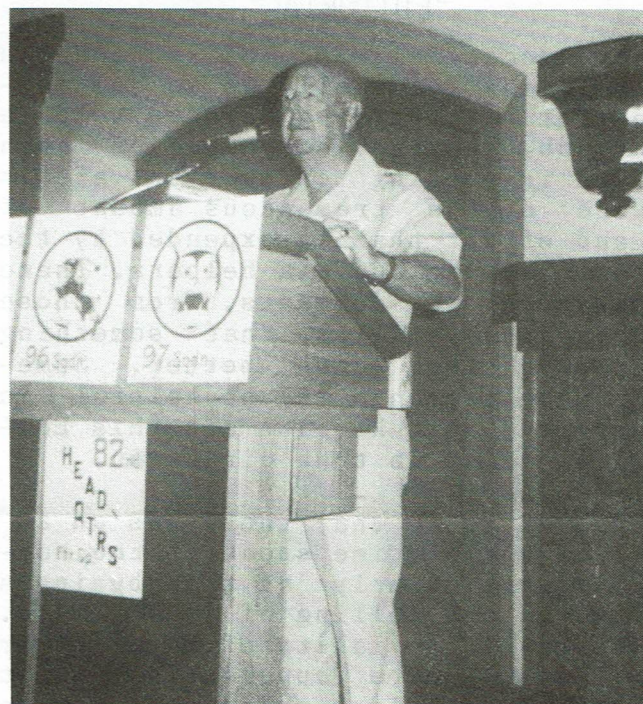
"THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER"

Again, I must thank the troops that put on the reunion in San Antonio. Tom Kelly, Jerry Loewenberg, Jack Duncan, George Marvin, Charlie Charlton, Dick Lingenfelter, Pincus and Harriett Taback, and all the others that helped make the reunion a huge success. It was great! Those of you that were unable to attend, we missed you and are looking forward to seeing you in Atlanta, GA. in 1986.

We were honored by having with us, members of the 82nd FTW from Williams AFB, AZ. and the 95th FITS from Tyndall AFB, FL. It meant a great deal to us to know that our old units are still young, strong and active. Our welcome mat is always out for members of these units. We'll "hanger fly" with you any time!

Our memorial at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. will be completed soon and we will set up a formal dedication and invite our members to join us in the ceremony. Art Smedley designed and carved the plaque, complete with a P-38, from which the metal plaque was molded. It is a beautiful piece of work which we all appreciate.

The 97th was proud to have had the most people attending the reunion. The 96th came in second with the 95th bringing up the rear. In Atlanta, odds are that the 95th and 96th will move into the lead. We'll see! Our membership is continuing to grow. Former members of the 82nd write to say that they had just found out about the Association and want to join. Many of the attendees at San Antonio had joined us for the first



time. It was real fun to see and talk to these friends we hadn't seen for 40 years.

We must also say how much we appreciate and enjoyed having the wives of our buddies who have "flown on ahead" attend. Liz Hague, Lilly Carr, and Penny Zubarik we love you. You're our family, so stay with us. Nita Woosley we missed you. See you in Atlanta.

In summation, I must say that I'm very proud to be a part of the 82nd FGA and to have been elected again as President. I will do my best to serve you well.

Harley C. Vaughn

"SAN ANTONIO REPORT"

82ND FIGHTER GROUP ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

PAUL F. JORGENSEN
849 E. ANDOVER DRIVE
BURBANK, CA. 91504
(818) 842-6505

"EDITORIAL"

Another successful 82nd FGA Reunion has been held and Tom Kelly is to be commended for his untiring efforts to do a proper job. Anyone who has ever been involved in putting on such an affair is aware of the tremendous amount of time and effort that is expended by the Reunion Chairman and his helpers. There are always a few comments, from those attending such affairs, that something could have been done better. Sometimes these comments may be helpful in planning the next Reunion and this Editorial is aimed in that direction.

It appeared to me that there was an abnormal amount of time spent at the banquet and particularly at the business meeting, in the telling of jokes, etc. This kept the joviality of the affair going. But - there apparently wasn't enough time to hold a memorial service for our comrades who had made their "last flight". We are the lucky ones to be able to gather with our living comrades and we should be able to find a few minutes to remember those that gave their all during the war and those that have passed on since.

PFJ

"SQUADRON'S RADIO CALL SIGNS"

Does anyone remember what the radio call signs of the squadrons were? If you have any information on this subject, please send it to the Editor.

Another successful Reunion has been concluded and hopefully all the folks returned safely to their homes or where ever they were going.

The Hilton Palacio Del Rio Hotel turned out to be everything that was advertised, although the parking left something to be desired. The location of the hotel on the San Antonio River Walk was most convenient for strolling, shopping, and many good restaurants.

Tom Kelly's preparations for Reunion registration were outstanding. He was assisted by Harriette Taback, Dick Lingenfelter, and Jerry Loewenberg at the desk. Also assisting was a member of the San Antonio Visitor's Bureau.

After checking into the hotel and picking up the Reunion registration packages, a trip to the hospitality suite was just the thing to get everybody in the mood. It must be mentioned right at the start that the operation of the bar in the hospitality suite was capably handled by George Marvin and Charlie Charleton with an able assist from "go-for" Jack Duncan who quite often, during the entire Reunion, seemed to be going out for more supplies. While on the subject of the bar, it must also be mentioned that several of the members who could not attend the Reunion sent checks to be used specifically to stock the bar. Some of these good folks were: Wally Reyerson, Bill Covington, Paul Harmon, J. Stadnicki, John Hendrix, F.W.(Bud) Starling, Dr. C. Mounce, and Edwin Scott. In addition, several of the members who were in attendance made gracious donations for the same purpose.

Some of the early arrivals on Thursday took advantage of the good weather and either went shopping or signed up for some of the tours of San Antonio. On Friday the touring and shopping continued and by the looks of the bags of clothes that the ladies brought back to the hotel, there must have been a few bargains? Also on Friday, the golf tournament got off to a good start with sixteen players on the course at Kelly AFB.

(continued on next page)

"BUSINESS MEETING"

Early Friday evening we boarded buses for the short ride to Lackland AFB where we were able to view a static display of aircraft. From there we went to the Officers Club for a buffet of hors d'oeuvres and dancing. During the evening's festivities, the winners in the golf tournament received their prizes. All the golfers came out with something, but the big winners were Roland Lynn with the gross best score and Marlene Lauria with the net best score. Many of the folks returned to the hotel early in order to enjoy the warm evening strolling on the River Walk.

Saturday was a full day of activities and while the ladies were shopping or touring in the morning, the Association members held their business meeting. (See separate article on the business meeting). On Saturday afternoon the hospitality room really got a workout. Seems like some of the folks were a bit pooped out and just wanted to sit (or stand) and enjoy conversation with their old comrades and newly found friends.

Saturday evening we gathered in the hotel ballroom for a grand banquet and dancing to the nostalgic music of the Skyliners. Association President Harley Vaughn did the honors for the evening by introducing Lt.Col. J. D. Leonard, Commanding Officer, 97th Flying Training Squadron, 82nd Flying Training Wing, located at Williams AFB, AZ. Col. Leonard presented plaques from the current organizations to the "old" 82nd and 97th. Harley also introduced six current pilots from the 95th FITS located at Tyndall AFB, FL. During the banquet, photographs of the attendees were taken by "Reunions With Class" and a book of photographs will be available for purchase at a later date.

Sunday morning found most of the troops in the hotel ballroom for a farewell breakfast before leaving for their respective homes or other destinations.

At 10 A.M. on Saturday, September 21st, Harley Vaughn, Association President, called the Association business meeting to order.

The podium was decorated with the insignia of the 82nd Fighter Group and the three squadrons prepared by Art Smedley. At the base of the podium was the memorial plaque, also made by Art Smedley, which will be placed on the 82nd Memorial at Wright Patterson AFB. Mike Radawec volunteered to deliver the plaque to the monument company in Dayton, OH.

An election of officers was held and Harley Vaughn was re-elected as President of the Association, Ralph Embrey as Vice-President, and Jerry Loewenberg as Secretary-Treasurer. An unusual motion was made that Ralph Embrey was to be elected as the future President after the expiration of Harley Vaughn's term. The motion carried and as a result the next Association President will be Ralph Embrey. As of press time a replacement for Ralph Embrey as the 95th Executive Committee member had not been announced.

Jerry Loewenberg, Secretary-Treasurer, gave a report that indicated that the finances of the Association were in good shape. Jerry also reported that our membership is now over 450 with 167 having paid their 1985 sustaining member dues of \$15. Inasmuch as dues are voluntary, this is indeed an indication of the great feelings that the members have for the Association. Many of the members have not only paid their 1985 dues, but have paid for one or two years in advance. The largest donation to the Association's activities came from "Uncle Wally" Reyerson who sent a total of \$125. (During the Reunion several of the veterans from the 97th made a mass telephone call to Uncle Wally and he sounded as feisty as ever). Also, part of his donation was used to purchase corsages for the widows attending the Saturday night banquet.

A suggestion was made to consider life memberships in the Association. This

(continued on next page)

idea will be turned over to the Executive Committee for action.

Jerry announced that members who had paid their sustaining dues would be provided, free of charge, a copy of the 82nd FGA membership roster. If you have paid your dues and don't have a copy of the roster, contact Jerry. For all others who desire a roster, the cost is only \$3.00.

It was noted that reunion sites should be selected two years in advance in order to provide the Reunion Chairmen ample time to make the best arrangements, both to location and cost. Will Hattendorf, Reunion Chairman for the 1986 Reunion in Atlanta, gave a report on the status of the arrangements. (See separate article on Will's progress for 1986).

A call was made for volunteers to host the 1987 Association Reunion. The only member to make a positive response was Dick Lingenfelter, who made a pitch to have the Reunion in Boise, ID.

Jerry Loewenberg introduced Steve Blake and John Stanaway who are continuing to work on the history of the 82nd Fighter Group.

A motion was made to the effect that most of the accolades had been going to the pilots, and that it was time to recognize the untiring efforts of the ground personnel, enlisted and officers alike. The motion was carried with a standing ovation. Also, all former POW's in attendance were asked to stand and be recognized.

Harley Vaughn proposed that some of the Association's finances be used to acquire a suitable award to be given to an outstanding current fighter pilot or to a current fighter organization. The proposal was accepted by the membership and it was suggested that the award be given to a person or unit of the current 82nd FTW. The C.O. of the 82nd FTW will be contacted for his suggestions as to whom and how the award should be made.

One of the members asked if there was any interest in making a 7 to 10 day trip to the area around Foggia in the next year or two. From a show of hands of those interested, it appeared that there was enough interest in such a trip that planning could start. (The name of the member behind this undertaking was not recorded and remains a mystery. If he will contact the Editor, his name will be acknowledged).

A question was asked whether anyone had knowledge of the Lockheed Corporation sponsoring reunions of P-38 veterans organizations. It was mentioned by a member that in 1977 Lockheed sponsored a gathering in Burbank, CA. for the 40th anniversary of the P-38. The program included a "slow" fly over of Burbank in a P-38 by Tony Levier, veteran Lockheed test pilot.

Paul Jorgensen was given a round of applause for his efforts in publishing the Association Newsletter.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, a one hour video tape of the bombing of Ploesti by B-17's, B-24's, and P-38's was shown. The provider of this VCR tape was Hugh Thompson. Many thanks to Hugh for this splendid presentation.



Lt. Col. J. D. Leonard, USAF
C. O. 97th Flying Training Squadron
Williams AFB, Arizona

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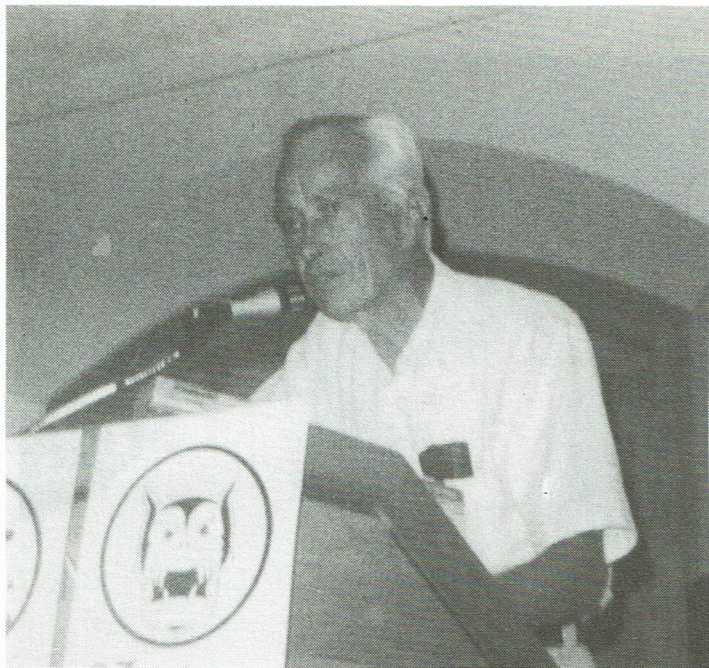
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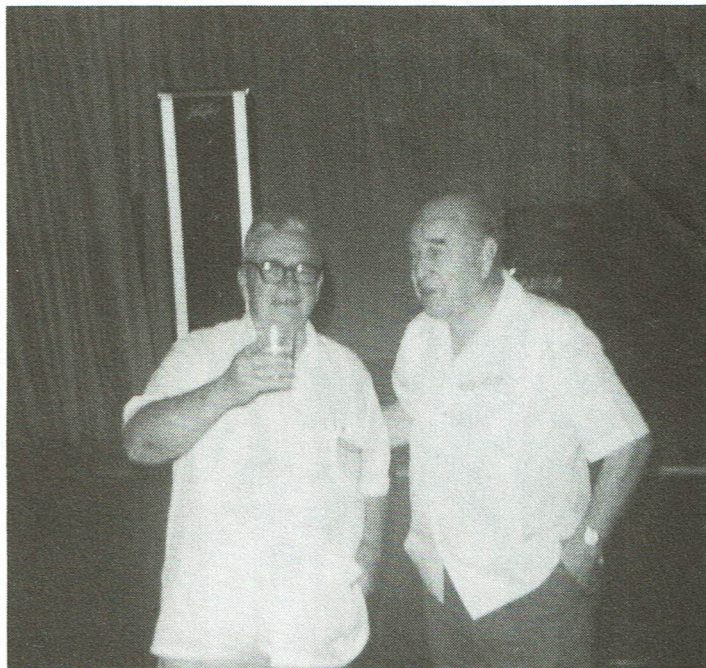
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Lt. Col. J. D. Leonard, USAF
C. O. 97th Flying Training Squadron
Williams AFB, Arizona



Will Hattendorf



Tom Kelly & Jerry Loewenberg

"ATLANTA, GA. - 1986"

Will Hattendorf, Chairman of the 1986 82nd FGA Reunion in Atlanta, GA., has provided the following preliminary information.

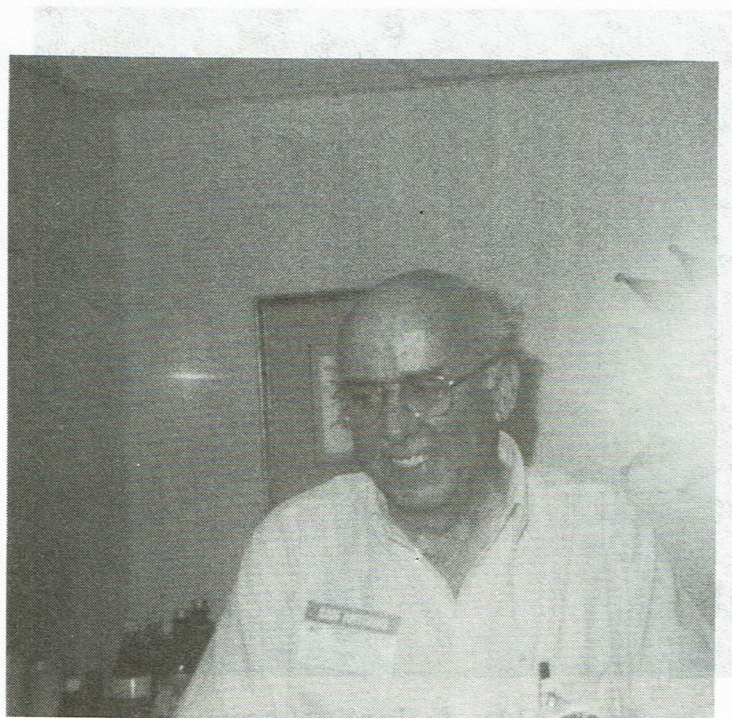
The Reunion will take place on October 9 through 12, 1986 at the very modern, nearly new Holiday Inn just off the I-285 perimeter highway on the northern edge of Atlanta. The room rate will be \$45 per room per night for the nights listed above. There will be adequate free parking for all and RVer's will be able to park at no additional charge, although it is expected that such individuals will naturally reserve rooms at the hotel.

The 1986 Reunion will be the time to bring any and all kinds of memorabilia, pictures, etc. for display. The hospitality area will be double the size of that at San Antonio and will have an area for display tables, racks, bulletin boards, etc.

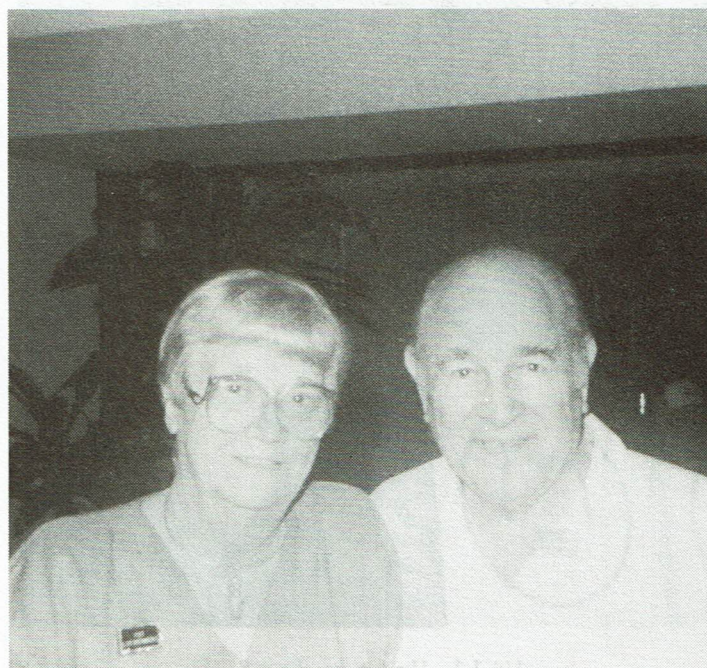
Further details will be forthcoming in the February 1986 Newsletter, but in the meantime, mark your calendars, contact your buddies, and start collecting items to bring to the '86 Reunion.



Calvert Wilson



George Marvin



Jerry & Pat Loewenberg



Will & Betty Hattendorf



Martin & June Collis



Burbank, California 91520 (818) 847-6452

Roy A. Anderson
Chairman of the Board

August 29, 1985

Harley C. Vaughn, President
82nd Fighter Group Association

Dear Harley:

It is a privilege to write to you on the occasion of the 1985 reunion of the 82nd Fighter Group Association. I am gratified that your members still share strong memories of Lockheed's P-38 Lightning. It is a testament to both the proficiency of the squadrons that flew it and the young company that produced it.

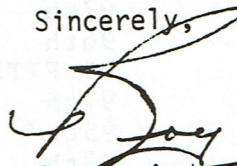
Few of us can even think of the war without envisioning the distinctive twin-tailed shape of the P-38 locked in combat with German Messerschmitts and Focke Wulfs. It is an image etched in the mind of even those who did not live it. Just the mention of the P-38 carries with it a sense of the dedication, risk-taking, and courage of those perilous yet exciting days.

While Lockheed was pushing P-38 production to as many as five per day, reports of the successes of your fighter group and others provided the best incentive possible for the round-the-clock assembly crews in Burbank to keep up their frantic pace. They heard of your exploits from newsreels and newspapers, and saw the colorful names and adornments you gave your new birds. Some of the 82nd's more famous missions, such as the bombing raid on Ploesti and Italian strafing attacks, helped change the course of the war.

Other exploits of the 82nd still echo through the corridors of time. We can remember how you downed two Junker 88s over the Bay of Biscay even before you reached your base of operations in the Mediterranean. We recall how you felled 17 Luftwaffe aircraft on April 5, 1943, in a massive battle during which only four P-38s were lost. And we remember the escort mission to Cancellio, Italy during which 24 German aircraft were downed and the 82nd won its second Distinguished Unit Citation.

I salute you, therefore, not only for your past glories, but also for your efforts in keeping the legend of the P-38 Lightning alive and shining these many years. It is an accomplishment that we at Lockheed sincerely applaud.

Sincerely,



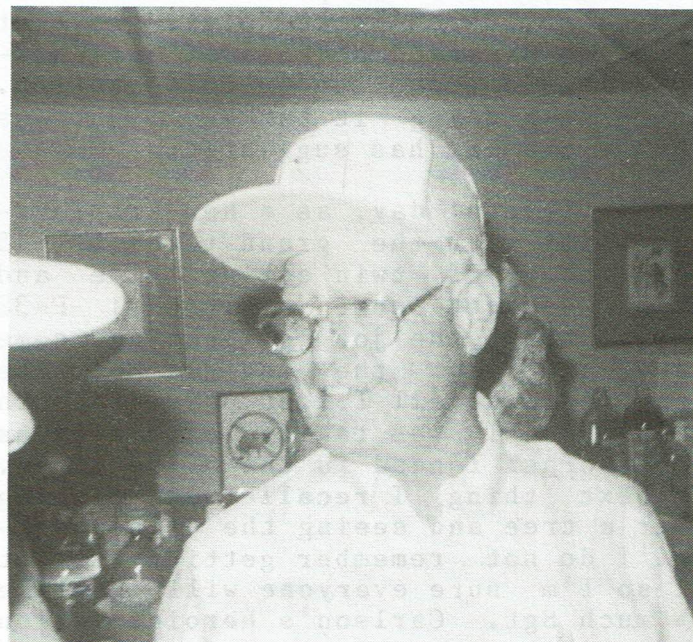
Roy A. Anderson

"SAN ANTONIO ATTENDEES"

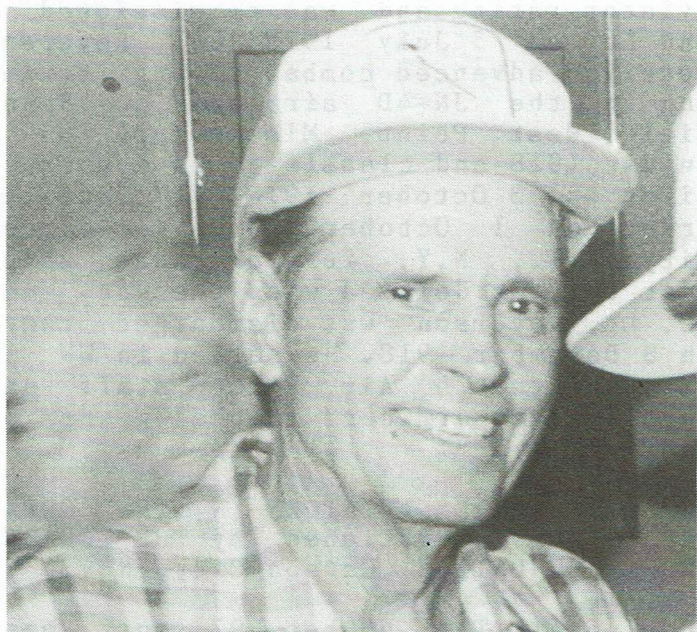
Ales & Katheryn Abna Jr.	97th	Wayne Jorda	96th
Robert & Vysta Adams	95th ✓	Paul & Betty Jorgensen	97th
Charles & Dorothy Adams Jr.	95th ✓	Jack & Ruth Keller	95th ✓
William & Dorothy Armstrong	95th ✓	Tom & Genie Kelly	97th
James & Betty Baker	96th	Allen & Betty Kennedy	96th
Carl & Betty Balucha	97th	Meredith & June Kingery	96th
Charles & Betty Bardwell	96th ✓	Don & Frances Kirkham	97th
Fred & Margaret Baucom	95th	Lester & Carma Koch	97th
Steve Blake	*	Stan Kupucinkas	96th
George & Joan Bowers	95th ✓	Gerald & Marian Ladd	96th
Robert Campbell	96th	Ted & Dorothy Latta	9th
Joseph & Doice Cardimona	96th	Phillip & Marlene Lauria	97th
Tom & May Carhart	97th	Lt.Col. J. D. Leonard	97 FTS
Walter Carlson	96th	Eddy & Vivian Light	96th
Lilly Carr	Wid.	Dick Lingenfelter	96th
Roy & Bertha Carter	?	Henry & Ruth Litchfield	97th
Gerard Cavanaugh	?	Jerry & Pat Loewenberg	HQ
Francis & Bonnie Chapman	?	Glen & Rachel Loveless	95th ✓
Charlie Charlton	97th	Roland & Bonnie Lynn	96th
James Chase	96th	2nd Lt. Dan Mammola	95 FITS
Mervin & Mary Christensen	HQ	George Marvin	97th
Martin & June Collis	97th	Ben Mason	HQ
Bryan & Winnifred Cook	97th	Eugene & Evelyn Mazurak	97th
Bernise & Carmen Craft	95th ✓	Olen & Betty Medley	95th ✓
Rex & Virginia Curtis	95th ✓	Alphons & Anita Mikes	96th
John & Emilie Davis	97th	Fred & Ethel Montgomery	96th
Alva DeForge	97th	Harry Morris	97th
Lisa Deshetler	*	Martin & Frances Moseley	97th
Thomas & Ruth Donohoo	96th	Martin Moseley Jr.	*
Jack & Mert Duncan	97th	Melvin & Violet Mullin	95th ✓
Richard & Ruth Elmendorf	97th	Francis Murphy	95th
Bill Erwin	97th	John Nikodem	96th
Richard & Zeta Gadbury	97th	Hugh & Lucille O'Brien	95th ✓
Robert & Lola Giertz	96th	Louis & Margaret Pape	97th
Bill Glowacki	95th ✓	Norman Partridge	96th
Fred & Evelyn Graham	96th	Henry & Marlene Phillips	?
Thomas & Mildred Gray	97th	Charles & Bette Pinson	96th
Elizabeth Hague	Wid	Leonard & Blythe Pratt	97th
William & Eva Hall	97th	Joseph Puetz	96th
Gayle & Dorothy Hasenplaugh	95th ✓	Mike & Albina Radawec	HQ
Will & Betty Hattendorf	95th ✓	Irving & Sheila Reisman	97th
Marvin Haw	HQ	Phillip & Betty Rogers	96th
Dexter & Wesley Henderson	95th ✓	Robert & Emma Roper	?
Jesse & Graciela Hernandez	97th	Romeo Routhier	96th
1st Lt. George Hitchins	95 FITS	Ellis & Jeanne Roy	96th
William Holeman	96th	Eugene & Bettye Russell	96th
Richard Hood	97th	Marcel Sauber	97th
Bill & Sybil Hooper	96th	Edward & Julie Sawicki	97th
Charles Horne	97th	Harold Scharlau	96th
Bryce & Margo Hughes	96th	William Schildt	95th ✓
Capt. Craig Huise	95 FITS	George & Elaine Scott	96th
Edward & June Huss	97th	Gene & Phyllis Sidwell	95th ✓
Marshall & Zola Hyde	95th ✓	Edwin & Oramary Sims	97th
Raymond & Aeulalia Iles	97th	Samuel Simunic (& Sister)	96th
Bruce & Emma Ireland	96th	Art Smedley	?
David & Norma Johnson	95th ✓	T.O. & Mar-Jo Spence	96th
Lincoln & Midge Jones	96th	John Stanaway	*

(continued on next page)

Buddy & Jean Strozier	96th
Capt. Scott Swanson	95 FITS
Pincus & Harriett Taback	97th
Harry & Mildred Terry	97th
Wilson & Freida Thomas	97th
Lute & Jackie Thompson	95th ✓
Hugh Thompson	96th
Edward Tinker	97th
Amos & Mary Turner	HQ
Harley & Vi Vaughn	96th
Andy Walbert	97th
1st Lt. Stu Warren	95 FITS
Alfred & Dorothy Weigler	97th
Johnson & Janie Williams	97th
Calvert Wilson	97th
Dennis Winand	97th
Fred Wolfe	96th
2nd Lt. Rick Womie	95 FITS
Marshall & Margaret Wren	97th
Adelbert & Irene Yager	97th
Penny Zubarik	Wid
Walter & Mary Zurney	97th



Ed Tinker



John Tate



Marshall Wren

"LETTERS"

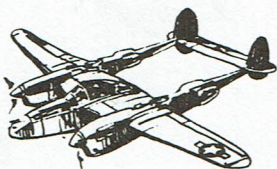
From Robert Schultz, 4241 Rolling Oaks Drive, Winter Haven, FL. 33880.

Guess what - I'm the pilot of the P-38 that crash landed in the olive grove at Lecce and survived because of Sgt Walter Carlson's prompt and heroic action. Let me help bring it back to light as Stan Kupcinskis has suggested.

On that fateful day, as a new replacement pilot with the grand total of 15 or 20 hours of twin engine time and anxious to get some additional P-38 time, I took the job of putting some "slow time" on the engines of the plane. As I recall I lost power in both engines as I was taking off and as result crash landed in the olive grove. The next thing I recall was sitting under a tree and seeing the plane burning. I do not remember getting out at all so I'm sure everyone will realize how much Sgt. Carlson's heroic action meant to me.

Spent a few days at a hospital and returned to the squadron. There was an investigation of some sort as I was called in for a full report of what happened and given a "after crash" piggy-back flight by the C.O. Did not hear anymore about it.

Walter and I have kept in touch over the years and enjoyed talking to him on the telephone a few months ago. To all that knew of Walter's prompt action in saving my life and for those that don't, let me say: "Walter, thank you again and I'm mighty glad you were there".



"LETTERS"

From Joseph Shannon, 4316 Linwood Dr., Birmingham, AL. 35222:

This was a well kept secret. Wallace Reyerson was Intelligence Officer of the 97th. So far as I know, none of the pilots of the 97th knew that "Uncle Wally" was a WW I aviator!



Reyerson, Wallace Eugene, 2nd Lt. U.S. Air Service. Born on 1 August 1897 in Dawson, Minnesota. He enlisted in November 1917 at Chicago and graduated from University of Illinois School of Military Aeronautics on 27 April 1918. Cadet Reyerson received preliminary flying training in the JN-4 airplane at Chanute Field, Rantoul, Illinois, 27 May - 15 July 1918 when he was ordered to Camp Dick, Texas to await assignment. He received his Reserve Military Aviator rating and was commissioned a 2nd Lt. on 5 July 1918. Lt. Reyerson received advanced combat flying training in the JN-4D airplane at Payne Field, West Point, Mississippi on 8 August 1918 and classified as a pursuit pilot on 3 October 1918. He received orders on 1 October 1918 to Garden City, L.I., N.Y. for overseas shipment but was delayed when the war ended. Lt. Reyerson was discharged there on 8 December 1918. He served in WW II as a Fifteenth Air Force staff air intelligence officer in the grade of Major.

(From AMERICAN AVIATORS IN THE GREAT WAR 1914-1918 Published by THE GLASEBROOK FOUNDATION, Carson City, Nev.)

(Ed. note: The number 97 must mean something to Uncle Wally. The above article appeared on page 97 of the book, and of course he was in the 97th during WW II).

"LETTERS"

From Ted Latta, 29021 Brittany Court,
Roseville, MI. 48006:

As a result of the letter by me that you included in the past issue of the Newsletter, I had a letter from my former pilot Lt. Ed Scott. I hadn't heard from him since he left Italy. So you see your Newsletter brings friends together again. For that one letter I owe you a lifetime of gratitude.

I am enclosing a couple of photographs of the Droopsnoot P-38 that we put together in the 96th. I was the crew-chief. That's me in the picture helping the pilot and passenger get situated in the plane. I don't have the identification of the officers involved. Perhaps someone could come up with the names.



Ted Latta and the Droopsnoot P-38

"THEIR LAST FLIGHT"

Brig. Gen. Clarence T. "Curley" Edwin-son, USAF (Ret), who commanded the 82nd Fighter Group from August 28 to November 22, 1944 passed away on June 10, 1985 in Austin, TX., and was interred in the Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery.



Leon Scrydloff passed away on August 12, 1985 in Encino, CA. A memorial service was held on September 29th at the Van Nuys, CA. airport. The Condor Squadron, led by Dick Sykes, and flying four of their AT-6s, scattered Leon's ashes over the Pacific Ocean and then flew a missing man formation over the airport. Leon was from the 97th and Paul Jorgensen was asked to deliver the eulogy.

