

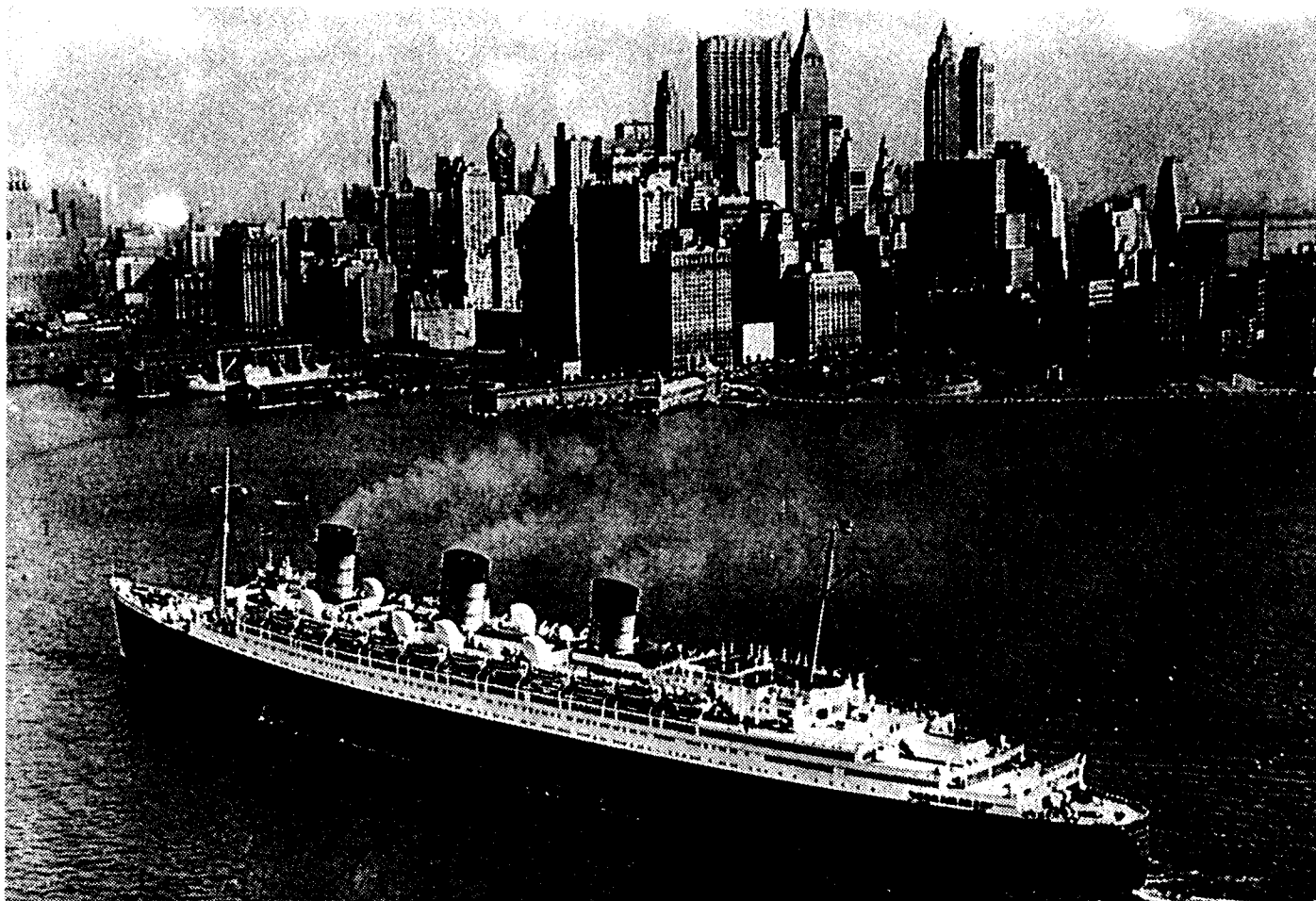
82ND FIGHTER GROUP ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 12

DECEMBER 1988



THE
QUEEN

THE 82ND FIGHTER GROUP ASSOCIATION

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* * *

FROM THE DESK of the PRESIDENT

It was a great REUNION! Dixie and Roy put on a fine three-day show for us and the Dedication Ceremony at the Air Force Museum was especially well done --- and very impressive. I know that each of us had some very special thoughts during the actual service.

The Dayton Reunion will also be remembered as "Retirement Time" for two tireless and very dedicated members of our Association. Harley and Jerry have done a tremendous job in guiding the organization over past years. The size of our roster and the excellent attendance at reunions are real tributes to these two men --- we thank them again for jobs well done.

Now - those of us who have recently inherited the responsibilities of leading the Association accept the challenge, and we look forward to working and relaxing with you all as we continue our Association activities. By the next newsletter it is anticipated that your officers and executive committee will have several items of interest to report. Hopefully, these will include a mid-year financial report, a review of each squadron's and headquarter's special items of note and a summary of decisions made by the executive committee at the Dayton Reunion --- plus follow-up actions since then as may have been appropriate.

Currently, we all need to give much consideration and planning toward joining John Hendrix on the Queen Mary next fall. John, like the Reunion Chairmen before him, is putting together a terrific package for us. So let's all head for the west coast and enjoy his efforts.

Who would ever have thought, way back in '42, that 47 years later we'd have the opportunity of again spending a few days on that great ship --- but under much improved circumstances.

My comments would not be complete without two special acknowledgements: 1) of the continuing fine job Dick has been doing with the newsletter. More and more it becomes the "tie that binds" from one reunion to the next. Keep up the good work, Dick --- we're counting on you; and 2) the constant updating of the Association Roster

(continued on page 5)

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

In the absence of a written or an oral account of the Saturday morning business meeting of the 82nd Association you will have to rely on the viscissitudes of a six-week old memory. This isn't all that reliable since that memory has been tattered and frayed by 68 years in the trenches of life.

President Harley opened the meeting and promptly asked the membership to accept his resignation and at the same time accept his appointment of Will Hattendorf as interim president.

It should be noted that the By-Laws call for general election of officers every other year and since the current set of officers had been elected in Boise last year any new appointment of officers can be for the balance of the two year period only.

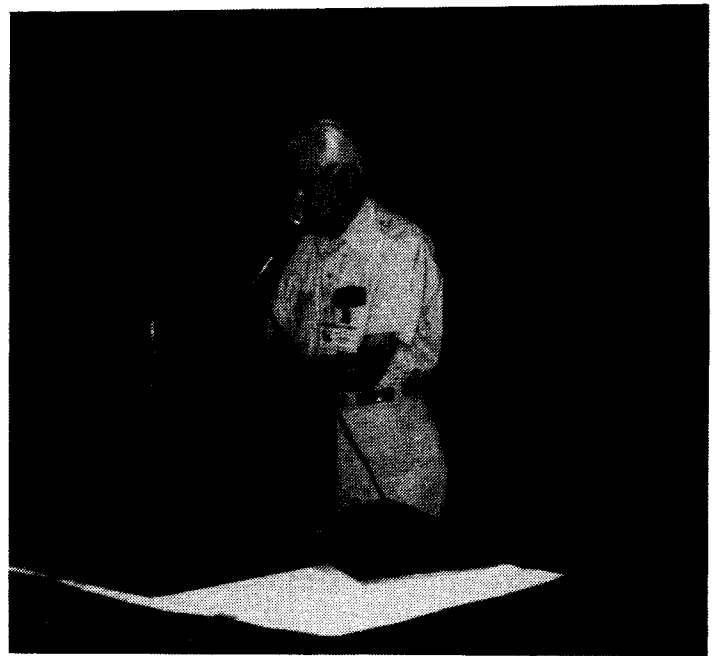
With the concurrence of the membership, in a magnanimous move, Harley immediately turned over the Presidency of the Association to Will.

Hattendorf's first official piece of business (if this reporter has the sequence of events in the proper order) was to preside over yet another resignation as Jerry Loewenberg brought his long tenure of service to the Association to an end (see more on Jerry ahead).

Will's next order of business was to present to the membership his appointment (not election) of two nominees to fill the Vice President's slot and the Secretary/Treasurer's slot. These nominees were, respectively, Bill Hooper and Roy Norris. The membership present approved Will's nominees.

Again, it should be noted that the Executive Committee, in planning for just such a contingency, had polled the membership -at-large for recommendations.

For the next, and very important piece of business, Hattendorf called on John Hendrix to present his proposal for the Queen Mary as the site for the Association's 1989 Meeting. After John's presentation, the membership, in a voice vote, unanimously approved (there were no nays) & accepted the Queen Mary site for '89 (see details elsewhere in this newsletter).



PRESIDENT WILL HATTENDORF
82nd Fighter Group Association

Hattendorf then turned the mike over to "Charlie" Charlton who proposed Asheville, North Carolina as the site of the Association's 1990 Reunion. Either Charlie is a good salesman or the membership is a bunch of patsies because they went for that too.

The meeting was clean and neat and was conducted with the skill and dignity that one would expect from a Will Hattendorf -- until, suddenly, he lost control of the mike to the Newsletter Editor. The pleasant tenor of the meeting quickly deteriorated. The membership began to file out to go get something to eat as they realized that the N.L. Editor was already out to lunch!

Joking aside, it was an excellent meeting and much was accomplished -- which is an indication that the 82nd Fighter Group Association has never been healthier. In adjourning the meeting, President Hattendorf summed up the feelings of all of us when he said, "WE ARE FAMILY!"

** *** **

* QUEEN MARY DATES *
* OCTOBER 4 THRU 8 *
* 1989 *
* *****

For Us To Remember

Our Thoughts, Concerns and Prayers go out to the Spouses, Families and Special Friends of Those who have left us.

We know that the World is a Better Place because of the Lives They have lived in it.

ROBERT E. GIERTZ

Bob was the quintessential 82nd FG Association member. Bob and Lola had intended to be with us in Dayton - even though, at the time, he was aware that he had lung cancer; however, their plans were changed because of another serious illness in the family.

Olen Medley (95th), who had become real close to Bob during a succession of reunions, reported to us that Bob's cancer travelled very fast through his system and that he was overtaken by the complications on Oct. 9. Olen also told us that Lola had said there was no pain.

Bob joined the 82nd on June 1, 1943 and, while he was assigned to the 96th, he spent his whole tour in H.Q. Administration handling payroll and other service records.

Bob was also a thorough-going Kansan. He was born in Kingman, raised in Gerard and graduated from Pittsburg State College.

He was known in the 96th as a cagey poker player and we know from experience that he was a well-versed bridge player.

Bob was 70.

HOWARD M. PRYOR

According to a note sent to us by his family, Howard died on July 14 of this year. We have no other information from the family.

Howard was a pilot in the 97th and was in the group that included Buonagui-

di, Carhart, Cook, Gadbury, Lauria, Neameyer & Randell -- so if any of you can fill us in with more details, it would be appreciated.

Apparently, Howard was unable to get to any of the reunions; however, we guess that he wanted to be identified with us since he ordered and we sent to him a 97th jacket.

UNCLE WALLY REYERSON

Wallace E. Reyerson died in his sleep 24 Sept. 1988. He would have been 92 on his next birthday.

Uncle Wally was buried in the Military Cemetery at Ft. Snelling, Minnesota.

Uncle Wally was the 82nd Association's first LIFE Member and he has been a big booster of the Association.

He will be missed by all the members of the 97th Fighter Squadron and by the many members of the other units in the Group who knew him.

Uncle Wally was a great influence in my life and was almost like a father to me.

- Jack Duncan

JOHN E. WATKINS

We quote a note to Jerry Loewenberg:

"Aug. 19, '88

John wanted so much to be well enough to go to an 82nd Fighter Group Reunion -- particularly the one to be held in Dayton next month.

This was not to be as John died of emphysema and complications on the 25th of April.

Sincerely,

Margaret Watkins"

LET US ALSO NEVER FORGET

ALL THOSE OTHERS
WHO HAVE GONE
BEFORE US!

The OBIT section of this newsletter had been completed when we got a call from Jack Duncan with the following sad news.

NORMAN BROWN

Norm, of Pickens, Mississippi and a former mechanic in the 97th FS, died of a heart attack at home on Nov. 7, '88.

As we understand it from Jack Duncan's report, Norm and his wife had been to a previous reunion (prior to '84) and his wife had died suddenly soon after that occasion.

Fortunately for all of us, Norman was able to get to one more reunion -- in Dayton -- before his last flight. His sister was also able to share that happy time with him.

** *** **

(Pres. Will -- cont. from pg. 2)

by Ralph Embrey and his periodic distribution of appropriate new copies. Dick couldn't distribute the newsletter without you, Ralph. Many thanks.

Betty joins me in wishing all of you a very Happy Holiday Season and a wonderful and rewarding New Year.

-- Will Hattendorf

** *** **

MARVIN REALLY WANTS TO KNOW

WHO AMONG THE 82ND FG GROUP HAS THE LONGEST FIRST NAME IN THE ENTIRE U.S. AIR FORCE?

* * *

The answer is contained in this issue of the 82nd N.L. The best written response to this erudite question will receive an -- as yet unidentified -- prize.

* * *

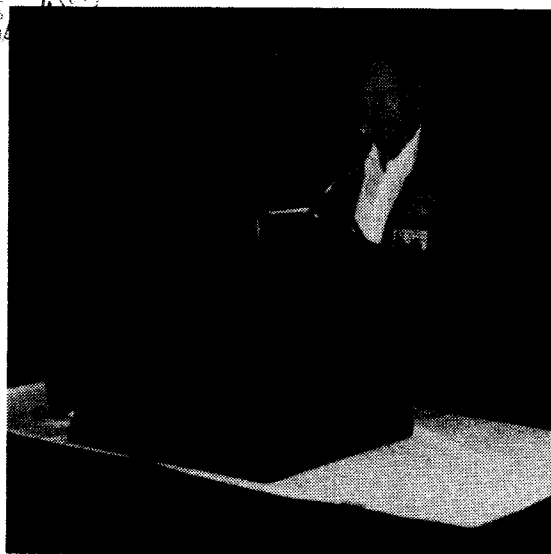
REUNION FIRSTTIMERS

The following Association Members attended their first 82nd Reunion in Dayton (brand new members will have an "N" alongside their names):

John A. Allen (with Annie)	96th
F.R."Dick" Barker (with Eva)	97th
William S. Bean (N)	95th
John Blumer	95th
George P. Brown (with Lyada)	96th
Lucien Chadwick	96th
Gene Chatfield (with Jeannie)	97th
T.M. Coleman (with Ginny)	96th
Dick Curran (N) (with spouse)	95th
Cornelius M. Dilauro	95th
Albert Flick (with Elizabeth)	96th
Michael Focareto (with Helen)	96th
Daniel Ford (with Marie)	96th
Gordon W. Fuqua (with Kaki)	97th
William Hancock (with Lois)	97th
Eugene Jackson (with Virginia)	96th
Richard Kerley (N) (with Anita)	97th
Paul Kimmel	97th
Charles Koman (with Mary Ann)	97th
G.T. Lewis (with Jackie)	97th
Albert Luetzow (with Barbara)	96th
Roy Norris (with Jo Ann)	96th
John Reid (with Andree)	97th
Ralph Simpson	95th
Irving Swenson (with Margaret)	96th
Verle Tilley (with Vivian)	97th
Arnold Grover (with Phillis)	96th

GOOD SHOW!

** *** **



This is a Picture of an Old Fighter
Throwing in the Towel!
But Whata Towel! & Whata FIGHTER!

82nd's Day at the A.F. Museum

Any report of the '88 Reunion has to start with the trip to the AIR FORCE MUSEUM. Not only was it the first item on the program but, by a long ways, it was the most outstanding.

While walking through the Museum's cavernous exhibit halls, the guys would see things which would bring back to them those days during which they were engaged in a deadly mission. Bitter sweet memories those — which were brought into focus again by the host of memorabilia — of planes, — of armament, — of all the ancillary equipment needed to mount an air war, — and of all the other impedimenta that military folk drag around with them.

For their part, the ladies could begin to relate, whilst walking through the museum, to some of the things their husbands tried to describe countless times through the intervening years — albeit unsuccessfully (because how can wives interpret wild arm wavings?).

A very popular part of the Museum was the Memento Sales Counter — which is strategically located near the main entrance. Our guys and gals wiped out almost their whole P-38 inventory. You can imagine that the folks in the 1st Fighter Group Association were plenty ticked when they learned that the 82nd had beat them to the front and had hauled off all the spoils.

We only heard one complaint about the Museum Day — there just wasn't enough time allotted to spend in the museum.

** *** **

KUDOS

I'm sure that all who attended the DAYTON REUNION will agree that KUDOS are due Dixie Sloan and Roy Norris for the great job they did in organizing, running and bringing it to a successful conclusion. This observer saw nothing but happy faces during the whole four days.

So, DIXIE AND ROY, we S A L U T E you!!

** *** **



DIXIE SLOAN
Completing the Official Dedication
of the 82nd's Memorial Plaque
AIR FORCE MUSEUM, DAYTON, OHIO
September 15, 1988

The Dedication and Presentation Ceremonies for the 82nd FG Association's Plaque, which was placed in the Air Force Museum's Memorial Grove two years ago, were conducted at 10 AM, Sept. 15, during the Thursday tour of the Museum.

The event was prefaced by the presentation of the Colors by a Wright-Patterson AFB Color Guard after which Wright-Pat dignitaries welcomed our Group and made other appropriate remarks.

Association President Harley Vaughn gave a very short Dedication and Presentation talk in which he poignantly emphasized the significance of the sacrifices and the heroic deeds that were embodied in the Plaque.

The ceremony was appropriately completed as Dixie Sloan removed a black velvet cloth from the Plaque.

** *** **

Saturday Night Banquet

Those of you who have never attended an 82nd FG Association Reunion should know that the piece de resistance of each Reunion is always the Saturday Night Banquet. The Dayton "bash" was no exception to the four previous ones I have been priveleged to attend.

One of the highlights was the pinning of corsages on all the ladies by members of the 95th Fighter Training Squadron from Tyndall AFB in Florida and of the 82nd Fighter Training Wing in Williams AFB, Arizona.

President Will Hattendorf emceed the program following the dinner. Introductions and speeches took their turn as did a well-received poem by Harley Vaughn. Finally, Dixie singled out Jerry Loewenberg and presented him with a T-Shirt which, on the front, read "Jerry Loewenberg, The Greatest Secretary/Treasurer in the World".

+ + + + +
 + QUEEN MARY RESERVATIONS +
 + Write: RESERVATIONS +
 + HOTEL QUEEN MARY +
 + P.O. BOX 8 +
 + LONG BEACH CA 90801 +
 + Phone: (213) 435-3511 +
 + + + + +

MORE PICTS

Within the last four months I have received about 100 excellent pictures from Jack Watson. Most of these are of the Foggia area and most of the personnel depicted are from the 97th as that is Jack's squadron. I took the picts to Dayton and collared as many 97th gents as I could for identification purposes. I will include some of these in the newsletter as space permits.

Jack joined the group shortly before the move from Africa to Italy. He was part of the rear echelon which escorted the group heavy equipment from Grombalia to Bougie for transshipment to Italy. Ye olde scribe went along for that ride, too.

** *** **



WARNER GARDNER
 95th Squadron Commander
 Being decorated by Gen. Twining

One day Major Gardner came into the Link Trainer building at Foggia 11 while T/Sgt. LeRoy Lee and I were on duty. I think he just dropped by to see what kind of shop we were running because he didn't stay very long - but I do recall that he looked just as trim and chipper as he does in the picture above. Lee was of the opinion that Gardner was one of the top fighter pilots in the AF; and he added, "And certainly one of the best squadron commanders."

-- RL

Unidentified GI
 Being Treated to Some Lemonade
 by our Favorite Red Cross Gal "Pat"
 at Foggia #11, Summer of '44



DAYTON ATTENDEES (except 1st timers)

Hdqts

MERV CHRISTENSEN
JUDSON HALLOCK
MILES HOELZEL & MARJORIE
JERRY LOEWENBERG
MIKE RADAWEK plus THREE
AMOS TURNER & MARY
STUMPY HOLLINGER & VIRGINIA

95th

CHARLES ADAMS & DOROTHY
BILL ARMSTRONG & DOROTHY
FRED BAUCOM & MARGARET
FRED BINGHAM
GEORGE BOWERS & JOAN
BOB CARPENTER & GERRY
GERARD CAVANAUGH
JOHN DUCKWITZ & RONNA
RALPH EMBREY & MEREDITH
BILL GLOWACKI & GAIL
GAYLE HASENPLAUGH & DOROTHY
WILL HATTENDORF & BETTY
DEXTER HENDERSON & BETTY
JOHN HENDRIX & PHYLLIS
HOWARD JOHNSON & NORMA
OLEN MEDLEY & BETTY
MEL MULLIN & VIOLET
HUGH O'BRIEN & LUCILLE
LARRY PEPLINSKI
MONTY POWERS AND BETTY
DEL RYLAND & MARY
BILL SCHILDT & MARTHA
GENE SIDWELL & PHYLLIS
VERNON TAYLOR
BOB WRAY & MIRIAM

96th

JOHN ALLEN & ANNIE
JIM BAKER & BETTY
BERNIE BARBER
JOHN BUCKLES
BOB CAMPBELL
WALTER CARLSON & S-I-L
FRANCIS CHAPMAN
ART DAWSON
TOMMY DONOHOO & RUTH
P.A. EWING
LEO FISHER
FRED GRAHAM & PEGGY
ARNOLD GROVER & PHILLIS
ROS HARDING
PAUL HARMAN & ARKY
KEN HERRICK & BETTY
BILL HOLEMAN & LEE
BILL HOOPER & SYBIL
HAROLD HOUSTON & MADELYN
BRYCE HUGHES & MARGO
BRUCE IRELAND & CURLY
GROVER JONES

BOB JONES
LINCOLN JONES & MIDGE
JOHN KANE
TED KAUFMAN
BOB KENNEDY & BETTY
MEREDITH KINGERY & JUNE
REUBEN KOIVUNEMI &
MARIE
JOHN KOSTYO & SARAH
HAROLD KROEGER &
CATHERINE
LEN KUCZMARSKI &
ELOISE
STAN KUPCINSKAS
GERALD LADD & MARIAN
TED LATTI & DOROTHY
DICK LINGENFELTER &
JO ANN
ROLAND LYNN & BONNIE
AL MARTIN & FRIEND
FRED MONTGOMERY &
ETHEL
REX ORIMANN
DICK OSTRONIK &
SYLVIA
LOUIS PAPE & VIRGINIA
HANK PHILLIPS
JOE PUETZ
FRANK ROGERO & MARIAN
PHIL RODGERS &
ELIZABETH
ROMEO ROUTHIER
ELLIS P. ROY & JEANNE
GENE RUSSELL & BETTYE
FEDELE SACCOMANO &
ALMA
ED SCOTT & PHYL
DIXIE SLOAN & MRS.
GEORGE CANIFF
BUDDY STROZIER
GARRETT THOMAS
LUTE THOMPSON & JACKIE
CLAYTON TILLAPAUGH &
SHIRLEY
JOHN URECH & LEE
BILL VANTREASE &
VIRGINIA
HARLEY VAUGHN & VI
FRED WOLFE

97th

CARL BALUCHA & BETTY
TOM CARHART & MAY
CHARLIE CHARLTON &
GINNY
MARTIN COLLIS & JUNE
BOB CONGDON & WILMA
BRYAN COOK & WINIFRED
RAY CRAWFORD
JOHN DAVIS & EMILIE
AL DE FORGE & CLAIRE
JACK DUNCAN & MERT

MARCELLUS ELLISON &
LUCILLE
DICK ELMENDORF & RUTH
DON FOLEY
DICK GADBURY & ZETA
TOM GRAY
BILL HALL & EVA
WALT HECK & ALICE
RICHARD HOOD
ED HUSS & JUNE
RAY ILES & EULALIA
PAUL JORGENSEN &
BETTY
DON KIRKHAM & FRANCES
LESTER KOCH & CARMA
GEORGE MARVIN
GLENDOR MC ADAMS &
MARGARET
EMORY MORGAN & FERN
LEN PRATT & BLYTHE
IRV REISMAN & SHEILA
GEORGE RIVEST &
CONNIE
MEL ROALSVIG
JACK SATTTLER & ETHEL
ED SAWICKI & JULIE
ED SIMS & ORA MARY
PINCUS TABACK &
HARRIETT
HARRY TERRY &
MILDRED
ANDY WALBERT
JACK WALKER
AMOS WIENBAR &
MILDRED
JOHNSON WILLIAMS &
JANIE
CALVERT WILSON
MARSHALL WREN &
CONNIE
WALT ZURNEY & MARY

STAND-IN

LYNN MAZURAK FOR
EUGENE

HONARARY & OTHERS

CARLO MARLOW
GRACE MAZUR
CAPT. JIM SWAERKOSE
82ND FTW
COL. J. VRETTOS
82ND FTW
4 UNIDENTIFIED
GALLANTS FROM
95th FTS

DAVID & FRANCES GAITSKILL
LINDA (Swanson) STEPHEN

Mess Hall Chatter

As you will note, T.M. Coleman is listed as one of the "First Timers" but he was plenty ticked when he arrived in Dayton only to find that his old tentmate, Charlie Pinson, had been ambushed in Indianapolis.

We are almost positive that some unmedical healing occurred in Indianapolis when T.M. appeared at a certain hospital bedside. He and Charlie hadn't seen each other for 44 years!

Tell us some more about the "raison d'etre" of the 82nd Fighter Group Association!

? ? ? ? ?
? "Waiter, there's a fighter pilot in ?
? my QUEEN MARY soup!" ?
? ?
? "Golly! There sure is — boy, and ?
? look at all those campaign rib- ?
? bons!" ?
? ?
? ? ? ? ?

John Chatmas, officer in charge of the 96th's radio section, is now listed in our "Who Do What?" department as the Mayor of Marlin, Texas. As such he joins the Public Service Division and is in company with Mayor Bill Hooper of Luling, Texas, Judge Jack Sognier of Atlanta, Georgia and former State Legislator John Kane of Exeter, New Hampshire.

We have a question! Where do we put Bob Pflueger of Ortonville, Minnesota? We understand he married the daughter of the Governor of the Gophor State.

Also, can we get in? We used to play bridge with Spencer Lawson, the Mayor of Spencer, Idaho. Of course the only other people in town was the Station Agent, the Forest Ranger, the Barkeep and the Town Drunk!

*

Got a call today from Bill Bridgeman with the news that he had finally gotten some information on a former 95th buddy, Earl H. Bumgarner. Earl had been one of those chosen for the cadre that went to the CBI.

Bill said that after coming up short on several different leads he tried the Veterans' Administration and it, at least,

was able to tell him that Earl died in 1972 but could supply no other information.

*

One of the many neat things at Dayton was the reunion of the "FOUR 'F's". These were (in alphabetical order) Leo Fisher, Al Flick, Michael Focareto, & Daniel Ford. Not only had they been tentmates through North Africa and Italy but they hadn't seen each other since they broke up tent-keeping in June of 1945! Leo promised me a picture - but I haven't seen one yet.

*

Also received a call from John Perrone who wished to share a touching and warm experience with us. He said that before boarding the Queen Mary in '42 seven new pilots joined the Group. Each one, he said, was lost in action and the last of these was Lee Lawrence, one of his tentmates. John said he has had a phone call, a letter and then a visit from Lee's nephew, Byron Lawrence, of Wisconsin. Apparently Byron had been trying for years to establish some link to a long lost uncle.

*

Fred Selle sent us a news account of his ride in "Lefty" Gardner's White Lightning. He wanted us to tell you all, "Eat your heart out, guys!"

*

One of the rewarding things about being an editor is to see things happening in an organization and then being able to write about them.

I have reported elsewhere that our new President, Will Hattendorf, said that our Association is "Family". This statement is not unique with Will as I have heard others use the same word — Jerry Loewenberg for one.

Three things happened in Dayton that brought this "Family" thing into focus for me.

The first of these (only because one has to be first) was initiated by Ed and Julie Sawicki when they brought Grace Mazur to the Reunion with them. Grace is the widow of John Mazur who died in 1980. John had been a mechanic in the 97th until gasoline poisoning transferred him to dayroom duties.

*

(continued on page 10)

(continued from page 9)

The second happening involved a pretty gal from Olympia, WA. Linda Stephens is the daughter of Hope and Harold Swanson of Lopez Island, WA. Some of you may remember that Harold had to bring oxygen with him to both the Atlanta and Boise meetings and you may also recall reading Harold's obit in the March issue of the Newsletter.

Hope has written that she wishes to carry on an activity that meant so much to Harold and that is to continue to attend the 82nd Reunions. In keeping with this resolve she made plans to attend the Dayton Reunion and sent Dixie a check.

Fate stepped in, though, and forced her to cancel as a week before the Reunion she had an emergency appendectomy!

In this game of life, however, I've learned that one can never call a good woman out! Hope sent an emissary -- a cute one. Linda joined us at the Museum and then at the Saturday Night Banquet -- where Walt Carlson took over as official escort (Linda said, "He was a neat date.").

*

About a year ago I received a letter from Mrs. Frances Gaitskill which was postmarked Mt. Sterling, Kentucky. I was immediately interested because, while traveling from Connecticut to California in 1952, I and my little family (Jo Ann & four real little ones) spent a pleasant night in a neat little motel in Mt. Sterling. It was a bright spot in an otherwise rather hectic trip (112° F in Needles, CA at midnight).

Mrs. Gaitskill wrote that her brother had been in the 82nd Fighter Group and that she had read about our reunions. She indicated that since her brother, Graham Jones, had been killed during a mission she would like to attend a reunion so that she could possibly meet some of the pilots that were with and knew her brother.

There was more correspondence between Mrs. Gaitskill and the officers of the Association and, in time, she became one of us in Dayton. Her post-reunion letter follows:

"Dear Dick & Jo Ann,

It was a wonderful experience for David (husband) and me to attend the 82nd Fighter Group Reunion in Dayton.

We were so pleased to get to meet eleven members of Class 42-C, Curtis Field, Brady, Texas, of which my brother was a member.

Those we met were Ralph Embrey, Bernard Barber, Roland Lynn, William Schildt, W.J. "Dixie" Sloan, Emory "Slick" Morgan, Leonard Pratt, Irving Swenson, Pincus Taback, Bill Vantrease, and Fred J. Wolfe.

My husband David was an engineer-gunner on a B-17 in the 351st Bomb Group, 508th Squadron and flew out of Polebrook, England. He was shot down over Berlin on his 24th mission and spent 13 months in Stalag 17B (Austria). We visited both places this summer.

It will certainly be a great trip to visit the Queen Mary -- if we can get there next year.

*



Three former S/Sgt. pilots: Edward Braddock, Graham Jones, & Arthur Broadhead. The picture was furnished by Mrs. Frances Gaitskill and is dated 2 Dec. '42, Frances is not sure of Ed & Art's identities.

*

These are marvelous vignettes in the life of our Association and they are on the flip side of a record which says "A Bunch of Guys Getting Together to Swap Lies and Trade War Stories". B o r i n g !

(continued from page 10)

Notice that the one strong theme that runs through the above accounts is spelled

W O M E N

and let's face it, guys, it's the "lady" factor that gives our organization depth, warmth and sparkle. And I'll bet you \$100 that if I get in trouble with the hierarchy because this newsletter is too long -- the gals will bail me out!

-- RL

** *** **



DID SOMEBODY SAY "S P A R K L E"
Sylvia Ostronik & Jo Ann Lingenfelter

M A I L B A G

FROM CARL WOOD

Really enjoyed your short visit. The names and events brought back many pleasant memories. I called Gerry Rounds and chatted with him for 45 minutes. He sure sounded good and really enjoys the Utah mountains. Guess it takes someone like you to light the sparks in us procrastinators.

* * *

FROM CHARLIE CHARLTON

The power of the press! The local newspaper did print the press release.

(using an idea from Leo Fisher, press releases were furnished each reunion attendee. These were to be completed and delivered to local newspapers)

A copy is enclosed if you want to highlight the importance of the p.r. idea to give our Association needed exposure.

* * *

FROM FRED GONG

I was with the 82nd only a short time (Nov. '44 to April '45). I had been a lead bombardier with the 483rd Bomb Group (B-17 "Red Tails") when 15th Fighter Command needed a size small to fit into the nose of a "Droop Snoot".

Thus, when I had completed my tour of duty (my last eight missions) with the 97th -- the whole squadron dropped on my signal. The results were always devastating. Walt Zurney flew the plane so steady I just couldn't miss. General Strother awarded me the DFC for proving that the P-38 could do the job of a medium bomber at a much lower cost.

Walt got in touch with me about a year ago by way of the 15th Air Force Assoc. I almost fell out of my chair when I heard his voice on the phone. We've exchanged photos and found little change in 44 years.

Can't make it to Dayton (483rd's dates) but will see you all on the MARY -- a half hour's drive for me.

* * *

FROM RALPH "Monty" POWERS

AS 95th Rep I want to express our thanks and appreciation to Dixie Sloan, Roy Norris and to all those who made our Dayton Reunion such an outstanding success.

Appreciation also to the active duty people who took time out from their duties at Williams and Tyndall AFBs to come to our reunion. Their participation really upgrades our meetings!!!

Thanks also to Harley, Jerry & Jorgie for all the effort and concern they have shown for our Association for so many years.

Gerry and I brought up the name of Clarence "C.O." Seltz. Remember that I told you C.O. used to sit on his hands and rock. Well he also liked rum real well -- in fact, that was the reason he didn't go overseas with the 82nd and ended up in the 14th. He did come back to the 82nd from the 14th and after proving he was no longer a rum-drum he had a real good record. Like Gerry, Visscher, Zubarik and I, Seltz was a Michigander.

* * *

(continued on page 15)

NEW ("Old") PEOPLE

THE FOLLOWING FORMER MEMBERS OF THE 82ND FIGHTER GROUP HAVE BEEN LOCATED SINCE THE DAYTON REUNION. WE HOPE THAT EACH ONE WILL FEEL WELCOME AND WILL ENJOY THE REASSOCIATION OF LOST OR MISPLACED FORMER COMRADES:

1. HEBER M. BUTLER
(FORMER S/SGT. PILOT - 97TH)
13600 N 5920 W
GARLAND, UT 84312
(801) 257-7837
2. MONSIGNOR PHILIP J. KEARNEY
(TOOK OVER AS GROUP CHAPLAIN
FROM FATHER MADORE)
31 ACAWAN ROAD
QUINCY, MA 02169
3. CLARENCE SPRADLIN
(CREW CHIEF - 95TH)
8268 LAFAYETTE ROAD
NEWARK, OH 43055
(614) 967-1871
4. BILL WEBB (95TH PILOT)
2541 APPLE LANE
OXNARD, CA 93030
5. DAVID A. WILLIAMS
(PILOT IN THE 97TH)
3056 No. TOWNSHIP ROAD
YUBA CITY, CA 95991

* * *

In order, these names were located as follows: 1) Name was spotted in the Air Force Association Magazine; 2) Name furnished by Al Deforge; 3) Name was furnished by John Hendrix; 4) Bill located Will Hattendorf; and 5) Name was furnished by our Historian - Steve Blake.

There's still more out there, guys, so keep your eyes and ears open.

** *** **

MEMBERSHIP

This is as good a place as any to explain the Association's Membership Policy. Membership is contingent only upon the indication of interest and not upon the payment of dues. If the prospective member indicates disinterest, then and only then is his name removed from the roster and the mailing list. It's as simple as that.

Years ago, the Membership of the Association set dues at \$15 per year with the proviso that no one should ever be dunned for non-payment of same. To our knowledge, no one has been dunned and no one will be.

However, a little gentle reminder to those of you who have a tendency to procrastinate a wee bit here and there and thus bury your good intentions -- how about whippin' out that old checkbook and get on our books with your dues?

Our newsletter costs us about \$3.00 per year for each name on our active roster. When 25% of the roster are non-payers an extra load is put on the bank account.

It should be emphasized that all officers and workers in the organization are volunteers. There are no inflated expense accounts -- everyone pays his own way. Every dollar is spent in services to the membership.

Send your checks to Roy Norris, Sec./Treas., 6636 Plantation Way, Cincinnati, OH 45224. Tell him Ol' Dick bugged you a bit.

** *** **

\$ = \$ = \$ = \$ = \$ = \$ = \$ = \$ = \$
= Notice ALL VOLUNTEERS =
\$ FOR THE QUEEN MARY RE- \$
= UNION! Send all your =
\$ Credits Cards to John \$
= Hendrix immediately! =
\$ = \$ = \$ = \$ = \$ = \$ = \$ = \$



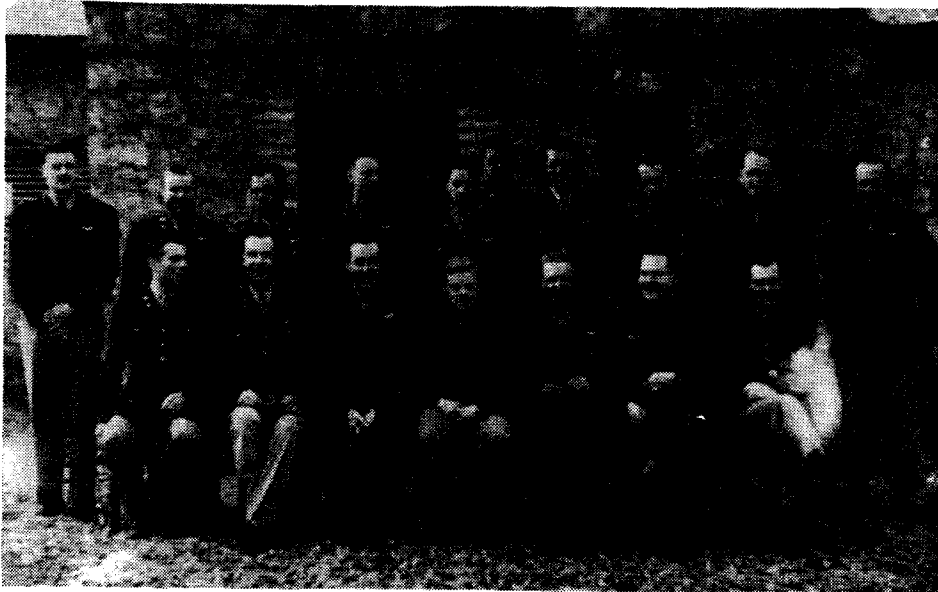
97th OFFICERS

BACK ROW

Sherer, Neameyer, Anderson,
Andrews, Pfleuger, Amundsen,
& Randall

FRONT ROW

Law, Dolan, Visscher,
Kelly, Marvin, Lauria,
& Waldrup



BACK ROW

Bordon, Ellison, Dohrn,
Dobson, Garrettson, Muir,
Engebretson, Luke, Bonnick,
& Edwards

FRONT ROW

Macbane, Bouroughs, Carhart,
Gadbury, Cook, Rudd,
& Sweichert



BACK ROW

Smith, Croker, Colvin,
Buonaguidi, Pryor, Miner,
& Gosnell

FRONT ROW

Mayotte, Thompson, McCormick,
Tyndale, Warne, Powell
& Wright

**COURTESY of
JERRY POWELL**

LOST PICTURES?

The old fable about a picture being worth a thousand words is a bunch of hog wash (a good, old, run-of-the-mill GI could express this much more colorfully)!!! The bare-faced fact is that there is no way words can replace a picture.

This preamble leads up to my shamed face because over the last five years many of you have sent in pictures that might be used in publications - and - many of them weren't identified as to the sender. The shamed face is because I have forgotten who sent them.

So, please, you guys -- if you have sent photos to me that you wanted to be returned but weren't -- give me descriptions of the prints you wish me to return to you and I will do my best to comply.

-- Dick L.

** *** **

FROZEN LIGHTNING

Many of our members have sent in news clips regarding the progress being made by the group that is attempting to rescue six P-38s from a Greenland deep freeze.

In the event there are some uninformed members, the said Lightnings were ditched on an ice cap in July of '42 when the navigator of the lead B-17 got lost on the Iceland leg of the shuttle to England.

The crews of the two B-17s and all six P-38 pilots were rescued by dog sled. Later, dog-sledder, Norman Vaughan, went to the site and rescued the Norden bomb sights before the Germans beat 'em to it.

Vaughan is one of the members of the deep freeze venture (in which our Association has invested \$1,000).

** *** **

A BASH IN ASHEVILLE

Charlie Charlton writes that the 1990 82nd Fighter Group Reunion will be held in Asheville's Downtown Inn on the Plaza -- Sept. 19-22. So put that in your calendar. Pictures at 11:00.

** *** **

82nd HISTORY

We have been in communication with Steve Blake, our 82nd Historian (along with John Stanaway).

Steve (an eight-hour/day postal worker) is on a crash program to ready our history for publication in time for the Queen Mary Reunion.

A strong candidate for publishing the history is the printer that put out Stanaway's book "Peter Three Eight". Other possibilities are being looked at.

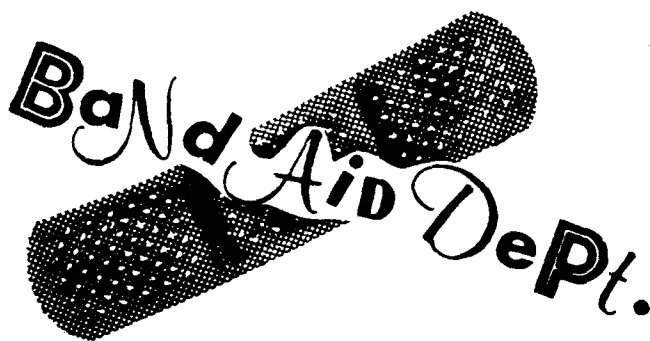
Tentatively, it appears that a first printing of 3,000 copies will retail for about \$20 per copy. One wrinkle in here is that if the printer has to do the financing we will get a soft-cover book of medium quality. However, if members of our Association can participate financially in either or both of two ways we could obtain a top quality, hard cover book of which we all could be proud.

These two ways would be 1) Prepurchase of a book or books, and 2) purchase of a share (as yet undetermined) or a block of shares in a fund for the express purpose of printing the History of the Eighty Second Fighter Group.

It should be emphasized that this is a news report that may be of interest to the membership. The Association can take no official position in any sort of profit making venture. We cannot and will not "hype" the publication -- as much as we are interested and excited about it. Any questions should be directed to Steve Blake and not to the Newsletter Editor.

** *** **

* WHAT! MORE BUMPS AND BRUISES? *
* We just learned yesterday (Nov.19) *
* that Reuben Koivuniemi has recently *
* been in the hospital for a bleeding *
* ulcer. The operation was a success *
* and recovery has been good. *
* Koiv said it came on like gangbust- *
* ers with no advance warning & he *
* was shipped 35 miles to Petoskey by *
* ambulance. Doc said, "No more as- *
* pirin for the rest of your life!" *



Generally, things in the aches and pains category seem to be reasonably quiet. We will reiterate our August plea to you members, however, to keep your squadron reps notified of situations that should be reported in the Band Aid Department.

We have no new cases to list herein (good news) so we'll just give you a progress report:

Robert O. Brower did make it to the Reunion and he seemed to be getting along OK with a cane.

C.O. Johnson seems to be about the same. Jo Ann and I stopped for a short visit on our way back to Boise from the east. C.O. seemed real pleased to have heard from so many of you -- especially the long phone call from Tinker (Humphries).

Tommy Donohoo was at the Reunion and seemed to be in reasonably good health.

Jerry Loewenberg had an operation on his back within three weeks after his return from Dayton. Jerry's wife Pat told me on the phone later that the surgery was a success but that, somehow, the sciatic nerve had been bruised and as a consequence Jerry was in terrific pain. She did indicate that the effects of bruising were temporary and that things looked reasonably good.

Jerry sent us copies of some of the notes he received from his 82nd "family" and we just wish we had room in the newsletter to reprint some of them. He said he was overwhelmed.

Notes do reach out and heal folks.

John Perrone is still mending and he and Betty are planning to be on the MARY with us.

Ellis P. Roy feels so good that he has enlisted in the Lower Slobovian Air Force. Jeanne now has to carry oxygen to keep up with him.

We don't know if Harley Vaughn has had his food processing machinery fixed or not. The last we hear was that someone saw him running down I-10 hollaring, "Whoopee, Whoopee, Whoopee".

This all brings us to Charlie Pinson. Charlie and Bette were on their way to Dayton when they were flagged down in Indianapolis by some belligerent blood clots. There was more surgery and a stay in the Indy hospital, so it was touch and go for a while.

A November call found them back in St. Lewy and planning to leave Thanksgiving week for their Florida pad. They will be at 5321 Maynard, Ft. Myers, FL 33905; Ph (813) 694-6299.

** *** **

THINK MARY

(continued from page 11)

The same for Will, Bill and Roy because we know that our leadership will still be in good hands.

* * *

FROM LT. COL. WILLIAM G. "Bill" YANTISS

Dear Monty,

What a great weekend! The 82nd Fighter Group Association is a class act and I join my guys in a heartfelt "Thank You" for the friendship and hospitality everyone showed us.

We're glad the slide show went over so well and delighted the 96th & 97th wanted to join in. We love to show off the Bonehead history, especially to those folks who are such a big part of it.

We've settled, tentatively, on 10-11 Mar. '89 for our Bonehead Reunion here at Tyn-dall. There will be displays, tours & golf. So, hope to see you all here in March.

* * *

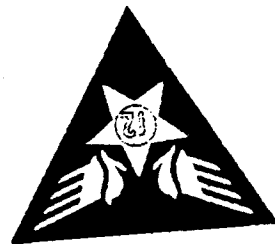
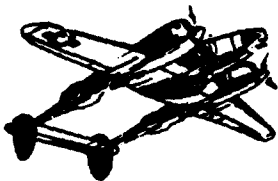
FROM M.S. "Ole" OLSON

Dear Monty,

Thanks and More Thanks -- not only for encouragement prior, representation during and communication after. Appreciated Bonehead news and the snapshots of Bowers and Duckwitz.

So sorry to have missed the Reunion and I pledge attendance in '89. Good to see some new (old) names in John Blumer Gene Sidwell and John Duckwitz -- each of whom I remember well.

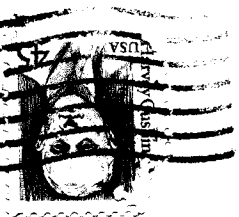
* * *



OLEN MEDLEY
12001 CAMELOT COURT
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
73120
LIFE

95

82ND FIGHTER GROUP ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER
P.O. Box 5541, Boise, ID 83705



FIRST CLASS



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LETTER

Dear Friends.

Happy Hannukah, Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

NOW WE CAN GET DOWN TO BUSINESS!

1. The cost of this flyer is not being charged to the Association. The reason for this explained in #2 below.
2. The Executive Committee informed me that the Association cannot officially condone the sale of mementos such as the jackets, wine glasses, pins, T-Shirts, etc. This is because of the possibility that such would jeopardize its tax exempt status.

I was assured that the Committee had no objection to the continuing of the service to the membership as it was obviously providing fun and giving pleasure to a large number of our members.

3. In all probability, Ol' Dick's P-38 PX is winding down anyhow -- simply because we have probably reached a saturation point.
4. So, all things considered, Jo Ann and I would like to ease out of the active pursuance of punching the memento business. It has been fun, though, to have been involved and it is gratifying to have seen so many of you get pleasure out of all that stuff. Mind you -- this is not a total sign-out -- we will continue to take your orders for jackets and T-Shirts but we can't afford to carry an inventory.
5. Just off the top of my head, there are about 500 jackets out among all you folks, 550 wine glasses, and a couple hundred crazy T-Shirts.
6. Right now we have 28 jackets on hand and 22 T-Shirts. This represents a deficit for us of about \$600 so you can understand that we would like to reduce this as much as possible. Please understand -- we're not moaning about this -- no one asked us to take on the job -- it just sort of grew on us.
7. For your information, Jo Ann & I (mostly Jo Ann) sold over \$1,700 worth of mementos to the 82nd Reunion folks in Dayton. It should be emphasized that all sales are at cost -- which includes tax, postage & packaging.
8. We have a sales catalog for the Air Force Museum Gift Shop in the event any of you would like to inquire about certain items.

SO HERE'S WHAT WE HAVE:

<u>Jackets</u>	small	medium	large	extra large (48-50)
95th	2	7	8	
96th			2	
97th	2			
HQ		2	1	3

T-Shirts

Regular (Group Shield on Front with Regular Sq. Insig.)

95th	1		2	
96th			1	
97th	1	2		1 - XXL (52-54)

Light or Whimsical (Old Mr. Bones, Old Rabbit, Old Cat)
- these turned out to be most popular at the Reunion -

95th			2	
96th		5	7	3
97th	(none)			

(note: we didn't have any thing made up for HQ people --
but we can if you'd like)

PINS -- We will have some pins but, lately, it has been difficult for us to get a great deal of satisfaction from our supplier (Lockheed Employees Recreation Club) so we can't promise gold, silver or enamelled. From here on in, send \$3 per pin and we'll send what we have.

You are all grand folks and a delight to do business with. Jo Ann and I really do wish you all a Joyous Joyous Holiday Season!



More Americans are habitually high on alcohol and narcotics than in Prohibition days. Cigarette sales are at an all-time high.

How high the moon? We've been there. Kids are high on hang gliding and sky diving. High blood pressure is one of our more popular killers. High-rise buildings are the hallmark of our era.

But there is one universal high we can never duplicate. For nearly 2,000 years its benign influence has guided the footsteps of untold millions along the perilous pathway of life. Its brilliance transcends that of the sun and the moon, and the proudest accomplishments of man pale into insignificance under its radiance.

There is no "high" to compare with that induced by the Star of Bethlehem shining in the East, leading ever upward those who will follow. Let its reflected light shine from your heart into the lives of all you meet in the coming year.

Have a truly joyous Christmas!

The star shines on

THE ULTIMATE HIGH! ...

These are indeed high times, Prices, taxes, wages and crime are higher than ever before in our history. Our standard of living is at its highest level, yet so is the number of people whose only home is the street.

Among those of us who put words together for other folk to read, there are few who are more skilled than Fred Montgomery. The above appeared last Christmas, in the Kingman, AZ newspaper. You will find more of Fred's word artistry in P-38 Newsletters and in our 82nd FG History. My good friend's writing inspires me!