



List of
MIA's &
KIA's

NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 15

DECEMBER 1989

LONG LIVE THE QUEEN

by FRED MONTGOMERY

What a fantabulous reunion it was! The grand old lady welcomed us aboard as though we too were royalty. And that deluxe treatment was hard to believe when we remembered our first voyage aboard her 'way back in 'Forty-ought-two.

The old girl has withstood the abrasive sands of time a lot better than many of us ancient warriors. She is probably as deluxe now as in her glamorous prewar days. There weren't a whole lot of things that looked familiar to us except her tremendous size — and, of course, those bloody salt water faucets in the shower, which are no longer operative, the saints be praised! But we couldn't have asked for nicer rooms or better service. It sure was great to go First Cabin this time.

The entire four-day program arranged by host John Hendrix was super. For once the golfers didn't even get rained on, though we did hear that some had problems locating their drives in the fog.

The Universal Studios tour was literally "out of this world". Some parts were darn near too realistic, like the Earthquake and the Avalanche. That's as near the real thing as we want to come — ever! Anyway, all those close encounters gave us a healthy appetite for the ample and delicious picnic lunch that wound up the tour.

Adding to our enjoyment of the Universal tour was the sparkling commentary of our purty guide, Katie Allen. Purely by coincidence (?) she turned out to be the granddaughter of our editor and latter-day feather merchant, Dick Lingenfelter and his delightful lady, Jo Ann. We figure Katie inherited her good looks from Jo, and there's not much doubt as to the source of her gift of gab and long wind. Also, we understand that Katie's mother, Jane Allen, made the beautiful Group and Squadron banners that flew in the Reunion Registration Lobby during the week and behind the Speaker's Table during the Saturday Night Banquet.

The Spruce Goose is incredible, an unforgettable experience — but it was overshadowed by the P-38 fly-by on Saturday afternoon, which was promoted by Dick Willsie. Many thanks, Dick, it sure brought back a flood of memories.

Saturday's banquet was great, and so was the after dinner "entertainment". We could have listened to Tony LeVier's P-38 adventures all night; in fact, we darn near did! His experiences really are fascinating, and we hope to hear more of them someday.....His was a tough act to follow, but Dick Willsie topped it. Seems to us that he should add acting to his many-faceted resume. What a dramatic performance he gave us!

(Continued on Page 3)

ASHEVILLE, NC in '90

THE 82nd FIGHTER GROUP ASSOCIATION

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CANTON, GA 30114
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* * *

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* * *

— NEWSLETTER EDITOR —

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* * *

— 1990 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN —

WILFRED "Charlie" CHARLTON

12 Springside Drive
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THE PREXY'S PODIUM

To John and Phyllis Hendrix ---- Congratulations On A Job Well Done! The Queen Mary Reunion was unique, nostalgic, well executed and record breaking in over-all attendance.

Along with our Reunion Chairman, it must be remembered that several others gave greatly of their time, energy and talents in assisting with various segments of the Reunion activities: Dick Willsie for the many hours spent in arranging the P-38 Fly-By and for enticing Joe Kuhn and Tony LeVier into joining our banquet festivities; Ralph Embrey for the extensive coordination of in-put so the Association's By-Laws could be officially up-dated at the Business Meeting; Buddy Strozzer for assembling a nominating committee and then running the elections so the Association could, once again, have a full slate of officers; Pinkus Taback who again did an outstanding job handling the many details of a most successful golf tournament; and --- all of the many other volunteers who assisted at the registration desk and at the hospitality bar.

Our banquet would not have been complete without our Past President reading his up-dated version of "A Senior Citizens Lament". We also thank Harley for arranging for the Active Duty award plaques and for presenting during the banquet. These awards went to Capt. Randy Bright and S/Sgt. Corry Hart from Williams AFB and Capt. Phil Trish and T/Sgt. Russell Woolover from Tyndal. Again, congratulations to these four outstanding award winners. Appreciation goes to Col. Jerry Streklein, C.O. of the 82nd FTR Wing at Williams and his crew of "Battling Jackrabbits"; and to Col. Rich White, C.O. of the 95th FTR Squadron at Tyndal AFB and his associates for their continuing interest in and support of our Association. Having these fine Active Duty representatives of the Air Force share our Reunion experiences is a highlight we always enjoy.

As always, following each Reunion, there is speculation as to whether the affair ended up with a plus or minus financially. It should be noted, up front, that the logistics of running a reunion get rather complicated at times and budgeting for all activities and contingencies is not a simple task. John Hendrix is about to submit his final report

(continued on page 9)

A BLUE RIDGE MOUNT'N MEET'N

- Wed. Sept. 19: Check-In Radisson Hotel. Explore downtown Asheville. List of restaurants within 3-4 blocks of hotel will be available at Registration.
- Thu. Sept. 20: Leave 9:30 AM for the Biltmore Estate Tour & return 3 PM. Evening on your own.
- Fri. Sept. 21: Optional Tours and Golf.
7:00 PM to Bill Stanley's Barbeque & Blue Grass.
Walking distance from the hotel - or - a bus is available.
- Sat. Sept. 22: 10:30 AM Business Meeting.
6:30 PM Banquet & Ball.
- Sun. Sept. 23: 8:00 AM Farewell Breakfast

The Hospitality Room will be open Wednesday at 1:00 PM and will be closed during scheduled events. (Maybe!)

May I have your comments on:

- 1) The Ladies Shopping & Lunching at the Biltmore Village and a visit to the Folk Art Center on the Blue Ridge Parkway on Fri. instead of Sat.?
- 2) Farewell Breakfast starting at 8 AM instead of 9AM? On the QUEEN the hungry warriors were gathered in the Lobby at 7 AM -- waiting!
- 3) About Air Travel: Each previous Reunion Chairman thoughtfully provided information (and a place to call) on how to make plane reservations. In each case, MY local agency compared fares and found they could do better through its own contacts.

Send me your comments on a postcard (only 15 cents). SEE YOU IN ASHEVILLE!

Charlie Charlton

As always, the annual presentation of the Association's outstanding officer and enlisted personnel awards to the young men of the "new" 82nd gave us all a feeling of pride in the knowledge that our tradition of excellence in service to our country is being maintained by these wonderful young men. Truly, "Nothing can stop" the 82nd!

On behalf of all hands, we offer sincere thanks to our happy host, Cap'n John Hendrix, his lovely executive officer Phyllis, his first mate Dick Willsie and his excellent crew. They did a terrific job of planning, coordinating and achieving one of our best and most memorable reunions yet. Those of us who just go along for the ride really can't imagine the many hours donated by each reunion host and his volunteer helpers — purely for our enjoyment.

Their only reward is when the whole four-day whiz-bang clicks (with a minimum of glitches) and a lot of us shake their hands and let them know we had a ball and we appreciate their efforts..... Thanks a million to you, John and all your crew!

SQUADRON PHOTOS FROM THE QUEEN MARY

John Hendrix reports that these are still available.

Write to:

Queen Mary Special Services
Box N - Attn Chris Johnson
1119 Queen Mary Drive
LONG BEACH, CA 90897

Be sure to specify Squadron desired and remember to enclose ten bucks for each photo desired.

* * *

BANDAGE Aid Dept.

Carl Balucha is in cancer therapy

Bill Barr is fine as long he makes periodic visits to Racine, WI to get treatments from a specialist for his wayward bile duct

Freda Gerber is ill- we are ignorant as to the cause or nature

Bob Hildebrandt is ailing but the grape vine didn't give us all the juice

Bill Hooper is recovering from back and other problems. These kept him from continuing as VP of our Association

Jack Howard had a back operation

Ted Kaufman had a heart operation

Stan Kupcinkas gave us all a scare when he was removed from the Queen Mary by ambulance because of a supposed heart attack. He was detained by the doctor in Long Beach until the Wednesday following the Reunion. He is not sure now he had had a heart attack .

Ted and Dorothy Latta are recovering from a variety of strange ailments

Phillip Lauria is rebounding from the installation of a new hip joint

Jo Ann Lingenfelter had arthroscopic surgery on her knee about a month ago and is walking around (carefully) now

Pat and Jerry Loewenberg are still recovering from some lengthy bouts with back other bone discombobulations

Betty Mason (Ben's wife) suffered a broken hip a couple of months ago and so Ben had to pass up the Reunion

Chip Norris, son of Jo Ann and Roy, had brain surgery soon after the Reunion. Recovery was good and so, after a couple of weeks, his doctor sent him home. Progress continued in the home atmosphere but he suddenly came down with a high fever. A spinal tap after he was rushed back to the hospital revealed he had spinal meningitis - apparently due to a microbe left in his brain after surgery.

Fortunately, after reopening his skull, the doctors were able to get the critter harnessed and Chip's recovery now appears to be thorough

Christine Paxton and her daughter Katie (9), daughter and granddaughter of Orson Osborne, suffered serious head injuries in a February auto accident. Orson had made a reservation for the Queen Mary Reunion but because recovery from the injuries hadn't progressed as expected, Orson found it necessary to cancel. During a recent phone chat Orson reported that encouraging progress has been made by both daughter and granddaughter

John and Betty Perrone were unable to join us at the Reunion because of Betty's illness

Jim Rudy's wife Dorothy is also ill

Again, we need to emphasize the importance of sending us information of those who are suffering injury or illness. I have many letters from people in our Association who have said the notes of concern they have received from our membership have buoyed up their spirits. In our Association you have an empathetic support group that is 1,000 strong. That is POWER - use it!

* * *



BUD STROZIER & BUD MONYHAN
A Pilot & His Crew Chief

The first order of business to come up before the members gathered on the Queen Mary, Saturday Morning, Oct. 7, 1989 was the election of officers.

The Nominating Committee presented the following slate to serve the Association for the following two years:

PRESIDENT - Will Hattendorf
Vice President - George Marvin
Secretary/Treasurer - Roy Norris

There were no nominations from the floor and a voice vote confirmed the election of the candidates.

One change was noted in the make-up of the Executive Committee as Olen Medley was selected by 95th members as 95th Squadron Representative.

Future Reunion Locations (We take them one at a time):

As noted in the Dec. '88 Newsletter, in Dayton the membership accepted Charlie Charlton's offer to host the 1990 Reunion in Asheville, North Carolina. The members reaffirmed the commitment to Asheville (see announcement elsewhere) and also accepted Ralph Embrey's offer to assist the Association in bringing the 1991 Reunion to Colorado Springs.

The assistance Ralph will provide will be in helping the Association contract with a professional who will perform all the menial tasks a member host usually assumes.

So, be advised, it is Asheville in '90 and Pike's Peak in '91 - or bust!

Reports of the Sec./Treas. & The By-Law Review Committee were read and approved.

There were a few minor housekeeping changes in the By-Laws that were recommended - mostly to assure the continuing smooth functioning of business of the Association (in light of the vicissitudes of advancing old age) during the coming years. The membership approved.

Sec./Treas. Roy Norris reported that the financial condition of the Association was in excellent shape.

Vote of confidence for the Association Newsletter.

In view of increasing printing and mailing costs (not to mention the uncontrollable verbosity of the editor), on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the membership approved an increase in the annual budget item for the Newsletter.

* * *

FIRST TIMERS

ROBERT W. BANNISTER & MARGE	(95TH)
ROBERT L. CARTER & RUBY JO	(95TH)
DON W. CORREA & BETTY	(96TH)
CHARLES CURRIER	(95TH)
ARTHUR E. GRAHAM & JEANNE	(95TH)
ROLAND W. GRAHAM & MARIA	(95TH)
CLAUDE W. GUSTAFSON & JULIA	(96TH)
JIM HALFORD	(95TH)
DONALD HEBERT & ALTHEA	(97TH)
GEN. STANLEY HOLTNER	(H.Q.)
TED (JABBO) JABLONSKI & CAT	(96TH)
ANDREW M. JANOSEK & RUTH	(95TH)
PETER C. KENNEDY & LOIS	(95TH)
N. JOHN KINGSLEY & MARY	(95TH)
KEITH G. LEACHMAN & EVELYN	(95TH)
AL LEMBKE & MILDRED	(97TH)
CHARLES W. LUKE & JAN	(97TH)
JAMES T. (BUD) MONYHAN & LOIS	(96TH)
C.A. MOUNCE (SAWBONES)	(96TH)
EDWARD A. ORR & THERESA	(95TH)
FRED RITTER & MARY	(97TH)
DON STOUTENBOROUGH	(95TH)
EDWARD SULLIVAN	(H.Q.)
ED T. (SHORTY) WATERS & BETH	(96TH)
SAM B. WILSON & WANDA	(97TH)

MEMBERSHIP FIGURES

(These figures are plus or minus 1% and are NOT official)

<u>Regular Members</u> -	484
<u>Sustaining Members</u> -	228
<u>Life Members</u> -	124
<u>Associate Members</u>	33

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THE GOLD STARS



The lists that follow include all those (as far as we know) who lost their lives and/or who were missing in action while assigned to the 82nd Fighter Group. There are two separate groupings: 1) Those who were KIA (Killed-In-Action), MIA (Missing-In-Action fate unknown & presumed dead), and KFA (Killed as the result of a flying accident not combat related) and 2) those who were DOI (Died of Injuries sustained at an earlier date).

(Note: It is the Editor's decision to indicate NO distinction between KIA, MIA & KFA because of the possibility of inaccurate observations. However, specific information is available on request.)

Group 1

June 25, 1942
S/Sgt. Rath (97)
S/Sgt. Willard F. Thacker (97)

August 29, 1942
S/Sgt. Wayne M. Winks (96)

December 16, 1942
2Lt. Scott K. Giles (96)

December 23, 1942
2Lt. Frank H. Henderson (96)

January 7, 1943
2Lt. Harrel B. Helton (96)

January 9, 1943
Lt. Col. Roy M. Loe (Hdqts.)

January 15, 1943
2Lt. Raymond M. Black (96)

January 21, 1943
2Lt. Ervin A. Lewis (97)
2Lt. Lloyd F. Luddington (97)

January 22, 1943
Captain Franklin P. Miller (96)

January 30, 1943
2Lt. Frederick J. Delahunt (96)
2Lt. Paul D. Winston, Jr. (96)

January 31, 1943
2Lt. William A. Knell (97)

February 2, 1943
2Lt. James Filkins (96)

February 3, 1943
2Lt. Edward B. Drompp (95)
2Lt. J. T. Duncan (96)
2Lt. James C. Johnson (97)
2Lt. Earl H. Wilson (97)

February 4, 1943
2Lt. Richard P. Grady (97)

February 8, 1943
2Lt. William J. Dunn (97)

February 21, 1943
2Lt. Louis A. Towson (97)
2Lt. Jack Washburn (97)

February 23, 1943
2Lt. Leon W. Bass (95)

February 28, 1943
2Lt. Dale L. Heffington (97)

March 4, 1943
2Lt. Harry S. Gasaway (97)

March 22, 1943
2Lt. Oliver B. Hays (95)
2Lt. Lloyd E. Atteberry (97)

March 25, 1943
2Lt. Donald H. Shearer (95)

March 31, 1943
2Lt. Francis M. Malloy (95)
2Lt. Joseph R. Sheen, Jr. (95)

April 5, 1943
2Lt. Lee H. Lawrence (96)
2Lt. William A. Hieronymus (97)
2Lt. Ernest E. McAnulty (97)

April 10, 1943
2Lt. William L. Riddle (95)

April 11, 1943
2Lt. Daniel T. Grinnan (95)
1Lt. Alex K. Hamric (95)
1Lt. Virgil S. White (95)
1Lt. William B. Rawson (96)

April 16, 1943
2Lt. Harry W. Baldwin (95)
2Lt. John J. Pyles, Jr. (95)
1Lt. Ora M. Wilkins (95) - *My plane over Bigeye on bombing mission*
2Lt. Conrad F. Bentzlin (97)

April 28, 1943
2Lt. Howell B. Coates (96)
2Lt. Ben C. Pyle (97)

April 29, 1943
2Lt. Charles R. Curran (95)
2Lt. James P. Reding (95)
2Lt. William P. White, Jr. (95)
2Lt. James F. Connors (97)
2Lt. Robert C. Delp (97)

May 3, 1943
2Lt. Bladorn (95)
2Lt. James D. Hamm (95)
Captain T. H. McArthur (95)
1Lt. C. D. Powell (95)
2Lt. Charles W. Price (95)

May 5, 1943
2Lt. Allen E. Ellerbee (95)
2Lt. Edgar L. Weddle (95)
2Lt. Robert E. Beatty (97)

May 6, 1943
2Lt. Paul J. Lehochey (95)

May 14, 1943
2Lt. Charles J. Raineer (95)
2Lt. John F. Smoot (95)
Capt. Francis C. Truesdale (96)

June 15, 1943
2Lt. E. W. Halverson (96)

June 18, 1943
2Lt. George E. Wehman (96)

July 3, 1943
1Lt. Douglas E. Crichton (96)

July 4, 1943
2Lt. John P. Stover (97)

July 9, 1943
1Lt. Graham E. Jones (95)
F.O. John J. Netzer, Jr. (95)

August 7, 1943
2Lt. Richard J. Drayton (96)

August 19, 1943
F.O. Robert H. Smidt (96)

August 20, 1943
2Lt. Erwin E. Antilla (97)

August 25, 1943
2Lt. Paul I. Paskiewicz (95)

August 27, 1943
F.O. Melvin A. Sheets (97)

August 31, 1943
F.O. Kendall C. Nott (95)

September 2, 1943
2Lt. Gerald E. Moore, Jr. (95)
2Lt. Harold M. Farrell (95)
2Lt. Jack E. Amberson (96)
2Lt. Frank W. Dennison (96)
2Lt. William T. Francke (96)
1Lt. John L. Schlener (96)
2Lt. James E. Zoeter (96)
2Lt. George E. Karam (97)

September 4, 1943
2Lt. John L. Winney (95)
2Lt. Ernest J. Westine (96)

September 5, 1943
2Lt. Clifford L. Ragland (95)

September 18, 1943
2Lt. James A. Lippert (95)

September 26, 1943
F.O. Richard R. Massengale (97)

October 4, 1943
2Lt. Stanley S. Hand (96)

October 8, 1943
2Lt. James P. Shawver (95)

October 14, 1943
2Lt. Harold I. Smith (95)

October 18, 1943
2Lt. John Homan, Jr. (97)

October 25, 1943
2Lt. Robert B. Williams, Jr. (97)

November 5, 1943
1Lt. Harold S. Diel (96)

November 14, 1943
2Lt. Hurst (95)

November 19, 1943
2Lt. William R. Ackalusky (95)
2Lt. John H. Tennery (95)

November 21, 1943
F.O. Oliver O. Coleman (96)

December 2, 1943
1Lt. Marc E. Strumpell (95)
2Lt. William T. Wheeler (95)

December 8, 1943
2Lt. Joseph A. Porterfield (95)

December 10, 1943
2Lt. Harry L. Downey (97)

December 12, 1943
2Lt. N. W. Dube (95)

December 21, 1943
Lt. Col. George M. MacNicol (HQ)

December 25, 1943
2Lt. Robert M. Croddy (95)
2Lt. Carl E. Grebe (95)
Major Hugh M. Muse, Jr. (95)
2Lt. Hiram C. Pitts (96) } *Sad day*

January 14, 1944
2Lt. Robert T. Voelker (Hdqts.)
2Lt. James T. Rogers (97)

January 30, 1944
Major Charles L. Spencer (97)

February 2, 1944
F.O. Earl L. Greeno (97)

February 22, 1944
2Lt. Preston E. Conner (97)

February 23, 1944
2Lt. Maurice C. Morrell (95)

February 24, 1944
2Lt. George M. Gearhart (95)

February 25, 1944
2Lt. David A. McNamara (95)
1Lt. Louis C. Champion (96)

March 7, 1944
2Lt. Frank E. Moxley (95)

March 18, 1944
2Lt. David V. Weber (97)

April 6, 1944
1Lt. Clifford V. Lord (95)

April 13, 1944
2Lt. Robert Joley (95)

April 17, 1944
2Lt. Phillip J. Christensen (96)

April 25, 1944
2Lt. Myron R. Malaise (95)
2Lt. Stuart A. Munson (95)

May 2, 1944
2Lt. Robert L. Emory (96)

May 5, 1944
2Lt. Robert L. Klos (96)

May 17, 1944
2Lt. Dean P. Reinert (97)
Capt. James A. Force (97)

May 29, 1944
2Lt. Robert F. Clark (97)
2Lt. Lawrence M. Jones (97)

June 10, 1944
1Lt. Charles C. Laugenour (96)
2Lt. Charles E. Welch (96)
2Lt. John F. Cannady, Jr. (97)

June 16, 1944
2Lt. Francis P. Hanlon (95)
2Lt. Robert S. Carpenter (95)
2Lt. Chesla W. Roberts (95)

June 22, 1944
1Lt. Melvin E. Wiedbusch (95)

June 26, 1944
2Lt. Ray W. Allen (95)
2Lt. Allen J. Wisner (95) *MIA POW*

June 27, 1944
2Lt. William W. Dana (97)

July 13, 1944
2Lt. Lester J. Henry (95)

July 16, 1944
2Lt. Walton L. Aldridge (97)

July 20, 1944
2Lt. Earl L. Hughey, Jr. (96)
1Lt. Homer A. Spence (96)

July 22, 1944
2Lt. John R. C. Griffin (97)
2Lt. Andrew F. McPhie (96)

July 26, 1944
1Lt. Robert C. Griffith (97)
Aug 3, 1944 (Name?) - My plane crashed in Foggia on training flight.

August 10, 1944
2Lt. L. H. Kinard, Jr. (95)

August 14, 1944
2Lt. Donald G. Walrath (97)

August 17, 1944
2Lt. Elbert W. Creech (95)
2Lt. Robert Y. Haller (95)
2Lt. Joe Lake (95)
2Lt. William A. Weir (97)

August 19, 1944
2Lt. Donald G. Vial (95)

August 21, 1944
2Lt. Raymond A. Davis (95)
2Lt. John H. Hayden (95)

August 29, 1944
2Lt. John L. Baker (96)
Sept 7, 1944 Lt. Stefani - My plane crashed on bombing training mission near Foggia

September 22, 1944
F.O. Melvin O. Fernow (97)

November 1, 1944
1Lt. William J. Hawthorne (95)

November 7, 1944
2Lt. Philip Brewer (95)
2Lt. Eldon E. Coulson (95)

November 15, 1944
2Lt. Lindsay L. Bowen, Jr. (95)

November 20, 1944
2Lt. Robert W. Black (95)
2Lt. Harley N. Sutter (95)

December 7, 1944
1Lt. Fred Phillips, Jr. (97)

December 10, 1944
2Lt. Richard F. Fleischer (95) *BC my plane crashed into mt. @ Foggia*

December 20, 1944
2Lt. Lawrence C. Zellman ()

December 24, 1944
F.O. Robert F. Corey (95)
F.O. Densmore D. Leone (95)

January 8, 1945
F.O. Winfred A. Garmon ()

January 12, 1945
2Lt. Jerold A. Cookson (95)

February 9, 1945
2Lt. Glenn Davies (96)

February 14, 1945
2Lt. Martin F. O'Callaghan (96)

February 15, 1945
2Lt. George A. Bertram (95)

February 17, 1945
1Lt. Carl G. Graham (97)

February 22, 1945
1Lt. William B. Lassiter (96)

February 27, 1945
1Lt. Eugene G. Ismert, Jr. (95)

February 28, 1945
2Lt. William L. Smith (96)

March 4, 1945
2Lt. Thomas H. Lockridge (97)

March 13, 1945
2Lt. Robert W. Bortner ()

March 19, 1945
1Lt. Wilburn R. Brookman (95) *My plane*
1Lt. Robert E. Berry (96)
1Lt. Howard B. Thrall (97)

March 25, 1945
2Lt. Adrian C. Edwards (95)

April 2, 1945
1Lt. Walter J. Blair (95)

April 8, 1945
2Lt. Thomas G. Morris (95)

April 14, 1945
Capt. John W. Smith (97)

April 21, 1945
2Lt. Elvin D. Tyler (95)

April 22, 1945
2Lt. Ernest L. Anderson (95)
1Lt. William C. Garretson (97)

GROUP 2 DIED OF INJURIES

Nov. 19, 1943 2Lt. Donald N. Pollack

(95)

Nov. 15, 1943

2Lt. Keller

(95)

* *** ***** *** *

PRISONERS OF WAR

* Escaped before end of war
** Released before end of war.

Date	Name	Squadron
Jan. 15, 1943	2Lt. Milo Rundall	(96)
Jan. 17, 1943	2Lt. Keith K. Lund	(97)
Jan. 30, 1943	Capt. Art Smedley	HQ
Jan. 31, 1943	2Lt. Harold R. Decker	(97)
Jan. 31, 1943	2Lt. Leonard E. Pratt	(97)*
Feb. 4, 1943	2Lt. John E. Doddridge	(97)
March 3, 1943	2Lt. George W. Scott	(96)
March 22, 1943	2Lt. Lemuel D. McDaniel Jr.	(97)
Apr. 5, 1943	1Lt. Claude R. Kinsey Jr.	(96)*
May 24, 1943	1Lt. Charles J. Zubarik	(96)
June 15, 1943	2Lt. Richard F. Kenney Jr.	(95) —
July 10, 1943	2Lt. George T. Fitzgibbon	(96)
Aug. 20, 1943	2Lt. Paul K. Van Oordt	(96)
Aug. 20, 1943	F.O. Richard M. Butler	(97)
Aug. 25, 1943	2Lt. Eugene F. Phillips	(95)
Aug. 25, 1943	2Lt. James R. Rudy	(95)
Aug. 25, 1943	2Lt. Warren L. Singer	(96)
Aug. 26, 1943	Major Kelly W. Mitchem	(HQ)*
Aug. 27, 1943	2Lt. Louis E. Curdes	(95)
Sept. 2, 1943	2Lt. James W. Padgett Jr.	(96)**
Sept. 2, 1943	2Lt. Louis E. Pape	(96)
Sept. 29, 1943	2Lt. Jack C. King	(97)
Dec. 20, 1943	2Lt. George M. Mitchell	(96)**

Dec. 20, 1943	2Lt. John W. McLendon	(97)**
Dec. 20, 1943	2Lt. Edward E. Tinker	(97)**
Dec. 25, 1943	2Lt. Jules J. Hymel	(95) —
Dec. 25, 1943	2Lt. William R. Downing	(96) —
Jan. 8, 1944	2Lt. Ralph E. Norsworthy	(96)
Jan. 24, 1944	1Lt. Tom Judd	(96)**
Jan. 24, 1944	2Lt. Robert E. Schultz	(97)**
Mar. 18, 1944	1Lt. James R. Blackman	(97)
April 17, 1944	2Lt. Cecil O. Lewis	(95)
May 29, 1944	1Lt. Garrett R. Thomas	(96)
June 10, 1944	1Lt. Thomas Hodgson	(95)**
June 10, 1944	Capt. Elwin H. Jackson	(95)**
June 10, 1944	2Lt. William H. Jefferson	(97)**
June 10, 1944	2Lt. John P. McGonegal	(97)**
June 11, 1944	2Lt. Leonard Wood	(95)**
June 11, 1944	2Lt. Dan H. Wylie	(95)**
June 22, 1944	2Lt. Donald W. Tolmie	(97)
July 7, 1944	2Lt. Charles C. Walker	(95)
July 22, 1944	2Lt. Earl G. Freestone	(96)
July 26, 1944	1Lt. Charles H. Pinson	(96)**
Aug. 4, 1944	Lt. Col. William P. Litton	(HQ)**
Aug. 4, 1944	1Lt. Thomas W. Vaughan	(HQ)**
Aug. 4, 1944	2Lt. Alfred E. Ellison	(97)
Aug. 7, 1944	2Lt. Albert J. Campbell	(96)
Feb. 5, 1945	2Lt. Arthur D. Lewis	(95)
Feb. 13, 1945	Major Stephen A. Stone Jr.	(97)
Feb. 19, 1945	1Lt. Ernest F. Benkowski	(96)
April 22, 1945	2Lt. Pren G. Hollingsworth	(97)*

WOUNDS & INJURIES WHICH NECESSITATED SEPARATION FROM THE GROUP

Dec. 23, 1942	2Lt. Theo S. Miller	(97)
Feb. 3, 1943	2Lt. Soren E. Anton	(96)
March 25, 1943	2Lt. Thomas A. White	(97)
April 16, 1943	2Lt. Steven E. McReynolds	(97)
July 5, 1943	2Lt. Marvin R. Jones	(96)W

Aug. 18, 1943	2Lt. Charles N. Fagan Jr.	(97)
Dec. 10, 1943	2Lt. George M. Magee	(95)
Aug. 15, 1944	2Lt. Howard R. Cole	(97)
Nov. 7, 1944	Capt. Charles King	(96)
Feb. 20, 1945	Capt. J.D. Stoutenborough	(95)

EVADERS

Shot down over enemy territory but avoided capture and returned to allied control.

Dec. 23, 1942	2Lt. Robert D. Green	(95)
Oct. 8, 1943	2Lt. Clayton A. Bennett	(55)
Oct. 14, 1943	2Lt. Stephen A. Plutt	(95)
Dec. 6, 1943	2Lt. Edwin R. English Jr.	(96)
July 14, 1944	2Lt. John N. Girling	(95)
Aug. 13, 1944	2Lt. Elwood L. Howard	(95)

PREXY'S PODIUM (CONT.)

to our Sec/Treas, Roy Norris. John has indicated to me informally that the Reunion ran close to budget until near the end and then a sudden, unexpected late surge of attendees carried his reserves well into the black. He will be adding approximately \$2600 to the Association's Treasury! This will further assist us in maintaining our great newsletter, the roster, the award plaques, By-Laws and other activities.

Our Association is a great organization and I sincerely urge each of you to encourage others who have not attended a Reunion of our Group to do so in '90 and again in '91.

I appreciate the opportunity of being your President during the months ahead and I'll do my best to maintain the spirit that has moved the Association forward to this point.

The holidays are again upon us and I can't help but recall that same season 47 years ago - as we slogged around in the mud of North Africa. Perhaps it was all worthwhile after all --- for it truly is a much brighter and more peaceful world today.

Betty joins me in Warmest Season's Greetings to you all.

-- Will

* * * * *

John Hendrix reports that movie goers can see scenes in the recently released movie "Back To The Future #2" that were on the route of the Universal Studio Tour the Queen Mary Reunioners took in October

MEMBERSHIP ITEMS

Definitions:

1. Regular Members -

Any person who was assigned to the 82nd Fighter Group during WWII and whom we have located (Note: such a person may choose not to be listed in the Association's Roster)

Such Regular Members are not required to remit Annual Dues (presently \$15) in order to remain on the Roster or to receive the Association Newsletter and other mailings)

All Regular Members may vote

2. Sustaining Members -

All Regular Members and Life Members who pay voluntary dues into the Association

3. Life Members -

Those Regular Members who choose to pay \$100 - thus exempting them from further payment of dues

4. Associate Members -

Widows of Regular and Life Members are automatically Associate Members

Any other person who did not serve with the 82nd Fighter Group during WWII but who is a friend of the Association and supports the Purposes and Objectives of the Association may be approved by the Executive Committee upon recommendation by any Regular or Life Member.

Associate Members do not have voting rights.

* * *

LIFE MEMBERS

It has been the Newsletter custom to list the names of those who have paid \$100 for a Life Membership in the 82nd Fighter Group Association. Life Members are then exempt from paying dues henceforth and hereafter:

Albert L. Campbell	Hugh O'Brien
James Hebert	Edward Orr
Bryce Hughes	Jesse Woodhouse
Philip Kearney	Glen Woodward
Melvin Mullins	Wilson Thomas

La CREME De LA CREME

ATTENDEES (except 1st timers & guests) AT THE
QUEEN MARY REUNION

ADAMS	Bob & Vysla	95th	BOLEMAN	Bill & Lee	96th
ARMSTRONG	Bill & Dorothy	95th	BOOD	Richard	97th
BAKER	Jim & Betty	96th	BUGHES	Bryce & Margo	96th
BARR	Bill & Audrey	95th	BUMPIES	Jim and Jean	96th
BAUCUM	Fred & Margaret	95th	ILES	Ray & Eulalia	97th
BEAN	Bill	95th	JACKSON	Gene & Virginia	96th
BICKHAM	Fred	97th	JOHNSON	Art & Lois	97th
BLAIR	Wall & Mary	95th	JOHNSON	Burl & Florence	95th
BLURCKE	Bill & Edna	95th	JOHNSON	Howard & Norma	95th
BOWERS	George & Joan	95th	JONES	Earl	96th
BRIDGEMAN	Bill & Betty	97th	JONES	Linc & Midge	96th
BROWER	Robert O.	96th	KANE	John	96th
BUGLES Sr.	John & Raquel	96th	KELLY	Kelly	97th
BUNAGUIDI	Aido & Barbara	97th	KENNEY	Richard	95th
CAMPBELL	Al	96th	KIMMEL	Paul	97th
CAMPBELL	Bob	96th	KINGERY	Meredith & June	96th
CARLSON	Wall	96th	KOGI	Lester & Carma	97th
CHAMWICK	L.J. & Mary Ann	96th	KOLVONTENI	Reuben & Marie	96th
CHARMAN	Francis & Bonnie	96th	KOLMAN	Charles & Mary Ann	97th
CHARLTON	Wilfred (Charlie)	97th	KOSTYO	John & Sarah	96th
CHRISTENSEN	Merv & Lynn	(1K2)	KUCZAWSKI	Len & Eloise	96th
COLEMAN	T.M. & Ginny	96th	KUPCINSKAS	Stan	96th
COLLIS	Martin & June	97th	LADD	Gerry & Marian	96th
CRAFT	Bernise & Carmen	95th	LINGENFELTER	Dick & Jo Ann	96th
CRAWFORD	Ray	97th	LOEWENBERG	Jerry	(1K2)
DAVIS	John & Emilie	97th	LUND	Keith	97th
DOLEZAL	Clarence & Margaret	96th	MALEJKI	Joe	96th
DONCHOO	Tommy & Ruthie	96th	MARVIN	George	97th
DUNCAN	Jack & Merv	97th	McDONOGAL	John	97th
DURELL	Al	97th	MEDLEY	Olen & Betty	95th
ELLINGTON	Al & Roxy	95th	MONTGOMERY	Fred & Ethel	96th
ELLISON	Marcellus & Lucille	97th	MORGAN	Emory (Slick) & Fern	97th
EDENHOF	Richard & Ruth	97th	MULLIN	Mel & Violet	95th
EMBREY	Ralph & Meredith	95th	NORRIS	Roy & Jo Ann	96th
FISHER	Leo & Callie	96th	O'BRIEN	Hugh & Lucille	95th
FOLEY	Don	97th	O'GRADY	Terry	97th
GADOURY	Dick & Zeta	97th	OSTRONIK	Dick & Sylvia	96th
GLOWACKI	Bill & Gail	95th	PEPLINSKI	Larry	97th
GONG	Fred & Jean	97th	PERRY	Don	96th
GRAHAM	Fred & Peggy	96th	PHILLIPS	Hank & Marlene	96th
GRIESBACH	Bob & Jean	95th	PINSON	Charlie & Bette	96th
HALL	Bill & Eva	97th	PLAME	Howard	97th
HALLOCK	Jud	(1K2)	POWERS	Ralph (Monty)	95th
HARDING	Ros	96th	PRATT	Leonard & Blythe	97th
HASENPLAUGH	Gayle & Dorothy	95th	PRESS	Leo & Rhe	97th
HATTENDORF	Will & Betty	95th	REID	John & Andree	97th
HECK	Wall & Alice	97th	REISMAN	Irving and Sheila	97th
HENDERSON	Dexter	95th	RIVEST	George & Connie	97th
HENDRIX	John & Phyllis	95th	ROUTHIER	Romeo (Ruthless)	96th
HERRICK	Ken & Betty	96th	RUSSELL	Gene & Bettye	96th
HOLZEL	Miles & Marjorie	(1K2)	RYLAND	Del & Mary	95th
			SACCOMANO	Fedeale & Alina	96th
			SCHILDT	Bill & Martha	95th
			SCHNEIDER	Al & Gayle	97th

SCOTT	Ed & Phyl	96th
SCOTT	George	96th
SIMMONS	Bill &	96th
SLOAN	Dixie	96th
SPENCE	T.O. & Mar Jo	96th
STROZIER	Buddy & Jean	96th
TABACK	Pincus & Harriett	97th
TERRY	Harry & Mildred	97th
THOMAS	Wilson	97th
THOMPSON	Lute & Jackie	96th
TURNER	Amos & Mary	IQ & 96th
VAUGHN	Harley & Vi	96th
WALKER	Jack	97th
WEBB	Bill & Jean	95th
WILLIAMS	Curtis & Ruth	95th
WILLIAMS	Johnson & Janie	97th
WILLSIE	Dick	96th
WOLFE	Fred	96th
WOOLHOUSE	Jessie & Clara	97th
WOOLWARD	Glenn & Reva	95th
WRAY	Bob	95th
WREN	Marshall & Connie	97th
YAGER	Del & Irene	97th
ZURNEY	Walt & Mary	97th

CHIP CAMPBELL

During the yum Universal Studio's picnic lunch we noticed a dark, handsome young man, dressed in black, wandering among the tables and visiting with a group here and a group there.

It turned out he was the son of the 96th former pilot Al Campbell and that he was employed by the Studios as a stunt man for the Wild West Show.

It was coincidental, of course, but it was also neat that Chip Campbell and Katie Allen (Dick L.'s granddaughter), both employed by Universal Studios, would be entertaining their dad's and granddad's comrades of 45 years before.

* * *

A FINAL WORD FROM THE "MAIN DECK" OF THE QUEEN

I JUST HOPE ALL OF YOU ENJOYED THE REUNION AS MUCH AS I DID. IT WAS REALLY A PLEASURE TO SEE SUCH A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE COME FORWARD AND HELP. ANY TIME SOMETHING NEEDED TO BE DONE - THERE WAS SOMEONE THERE READY AND WILLING TO HELP. I'M SURE I'VE MISSED SOME BUT I'VE COUNTED 33 PEOPLE WHO HELPED ME MAKE THE REUNION THE GREAT SUCCESS IT WAS.

AND YOU LADIES! YOU GALS DO A LOT OF THE NUTS AND BOLTS JOBS BEHIND THE SCENES AND YOU ALSO STAND BEHIND YOUR GUYS TO MAKE OURS ONE OUTSTANDING AND UNSURPASSED ORGANIZATION.

IT MAKES ME TREMENDOUSLY PROUD TO BE PART OF AN OUTFIT THAT CAN PUT SGTS. AND COLS. SIDE BY SIDE AND MAKE THINGS HAPPEN. I SUSPECT THAT IS WHAT MADE THE 82ND A UNIT WE CAN ALL BE PROUD OF.

- - JOHN HENDRIX

* * * * *

MAIL BAG

(Ed's Note: While we were sailing together on the Queen Mary during our Association's recent reunion, Amos Turner handed me a copy of the V-Letter he wrote to his betrothed to be, Miss Mary Evans of Talpa, Texas. It is evident he wrote the missive while aboard the Queen during her historic September 1942 voyage to Scotland.

Amos should know his contribution to this issue of our newsletter is the first item to be put to type. - RL)

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND

Dear Mary,

12-2-42

Can't write a thing, the censor's to blame
Just say I'm well and hope you are the same.

Can't say where we started from,
Can't mention the date.

Can't even mention the food we ate,
Can't say where we are going.

Don't know where we will land,
Can't mention the weather and

Can't say if there's rain.
All military secrets must secret remain.

Can't have a flashlight
To guide me at night, and
Can't light a cigarette 'cept out of sight
And, can't have a diary, for such is a sin.

Can't keep the envelopes your letters come
In (there isn't any).

Can't say for sure just what I can't write
So I'll call this a letter

And close with GOODNIGHT!

- Amos

* ** *** ** *

FROM LEE AND JOHN URECH

(Ed's Note: I got the impression that we missed the presence of Lee & John on the Queen because of health problems. I am glad to report I was wrong. - RL)

It was a toss-up whether we would spend money to go the reunion on the Queen or on a big 50th Anniversary Party and the Anniversary won out.

So we had everything we didn't have when we got married on Aug. 7, 1939. We had friends as far away as Holland to come and help us celebrate.

The stationary we are writing on was given to us by Joyce and Gil Green and was designed by one of their granddaughters.

John still golfs six days a week - weather permitting.

* **

FROM DON CORREA (to John Hendrix)

It was just a few months ago that I became aware of the 82nd Fighter Group Association (there's always someone who doesn't get the word!). Dick Ostronik, with whom I shared a tufa block hut in Foggia, gave my present address to Arnold Grover who, in turn, sent it to Roy Norris. Roy arranged for me to start receiving the newsletters.

I'm really impressed with the enthusiasm, thoughtfulness and good humor that I find in the newsletters, and were it not for a horrible case of procrastinitis*, I would have started a correspondence with the group a few months ago. As a matter of fact, I had that problem when I was flying missions for the 96th.

Having noticed that his bird was one of the last to taxi out for take-off, my Crew Chief (I wish I could remember his name**) salvaged the situation by saving me the time I spent scampering to the parachute shack, gathering up my chute and dashing for the airplane. He, bless his heart, started picking the chute up early and would have it neatly placed in the cockpit (when did they start called it the "flight deck?) all ready for me to leap into and have him help me attach the airplane to my bod.

This tendency for tardiness on my part was the direct cause of some experiences the Gang might find interesting in some future newsletter***.

My wife and I have spent all our lives in the Los Angeles area until we moved to Groveland, CA (in central Calif. a few miles west of the Big Oak Flat entrance to Yosemite N.P.) about a year ago. I graduated from L.A. High and then from U.S.C.

I am really looking forward to my first, but hopefully not last Reunion, and hope to share a drink with you and let you know, in person, what a really great job you're doing!

* We all suffer from this sin, Don, to a greater or lesser degree - you're in some pretty fine company

** Do any of you screw driver jockeys in the 96th remember Don? If so please drop him a note because you definitely qualify for the EDSM!

*** Be our guest. Our pages belong to all members in good standing (or sitting)!

* * *

FROM CHARLEY ELBERTY

Your phone call (after we found his name in the P-38 Association roster) was really appreciated. Shortly after that I received a letter from Roy Norris and then your newsletter followed. Right after that I got a letter and some pictures from my old crew chief, Dexter Henderson. I have often wondered, over the years, where he might be. I intend, now, to keep in touch.

Some history on myself: Graduated in Class 43-1 as a single-engine fighter pilot; flew P-47s on east coast defense; arrived in Foggia spring of '44 and was assigned to 95th; home in Oct. after 50; and taught Basic at Minter & Merced.

After hostilities worked for Piper on J-3 and then wound up career with Eaton Corp. in Massillon, OH as Engineering Head.

After retiring in '82 I joined the CAP and am now Group Flight Operations Officer and also Group Aerospace Education Officer.

Have to tell you a little story. This last spring our chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association went to Silver Hill, Washington, DC. I was wearing my P-38 Association jacket at the time and the people in charge there told me to look out for a certain airplane. I finally came upon a P-38L! This airplane had just been flown in from a military field in Oklahoma. It has a total of 250 hours on it and is in full flying condition.

I was told that if I could get it out of that building and over to Andrews in one piece - I could have it!

I've been sitting here at home trying to figure the whole thing out. Don't know what I would do with it because I certainly

couldn't afford to fly it; but at least I can dream. To be truthful - I would give my right arm CLEAR UP TO THE SHOULDER!

Have to get moving - we are stripping our group airplane for repainting and are bringing all avionics up to date as we have to get ready for any "search and rescue" missions this winter. Hope to see you in Asheville next September.

* * *

FROM GEORGE BOWERS Jr.

I am writing to you about one of my very best friends - before, during and after WWII. His name was Samuel A. Reeve, a sergeant in the 96th Squadron. Now here's the story:

Sam and I met in High School and became very close friends -- on our graduation trip to Washington, DC we roomed together.

Sam, being a year older than I, joined the Air Corps soon after graduation. A few letters went back and forth for a while and then - nothing.

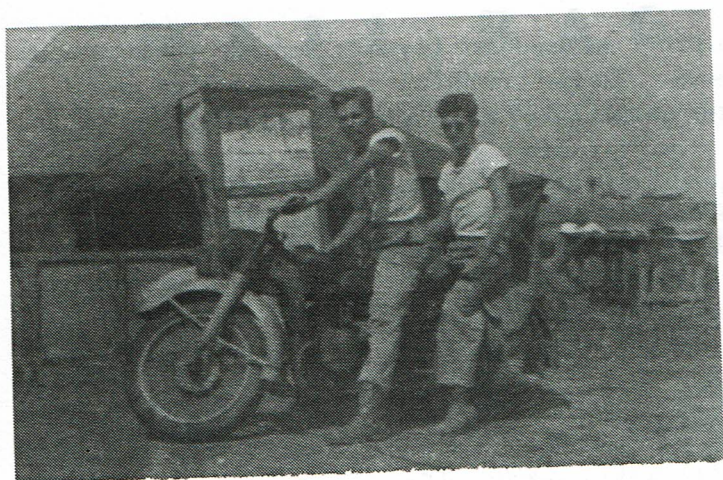
Later, I became an aviation cadet, graduated, trained in P-47s, went overseas to join the 15th AF and was assigned to the 95th Fighter Squadron.

On my first trip to the Group Shower in Major Gardner's jeep (first, last and only time I was able to get it) who should I see walking alongside the road but Sam!!!

Sam came over on the Queen and filled me in on all the history of the 82nd - and I mean ALL THE HISTORY. Later, I was able to obtain an old BMW motorcycle and with it Sam and I traveled all over the Foggia area and then some.

After the war Sam and I palled around together for five years. Then came misfortune and, out of a job, Sam went to the West Coast; but Sam and I kept in touch through the years by mail and phone.

Sam would always talk about the 82nd and P-38s and the sad part is that Sam passed away about a year before I discovered the 82nd Reunions (my first was Orlando). Until this date I haven't been able to find anyone who knew Sam but I know there must be some of our members who knew him.



GEORGE BOWERS & SAMMY REEVE
Two High School Pals
Meet In Foggia

(Ed's note: Unfortunately, (while at the Reunion) all fettered up like I was with newsletter monkey business, I was unable to hook George up with all the guys in the 96th that knew Sammy. I'm sure George would like to hear from each one of you that had a close acquaintance with Sammy. George's address is:

2915 Wolf Ave.
Pennsauken, NJ 08109
(609) 662-3906

FROM JIM SMALL

I received my first newsletter and it seems I have missed about forty years!

I am sending you a picture of 95th WHEELS - Gardner, etc. Sure brings back memories.

I flew the Droop Snoot - if you remember that one.

I'm enclosing a poem I've had since I was a co-pilot in 24s (The 449th Bomb Group).

(Ed's note: The poem Jim sent is the famous "And An Escort Of P-38s". It was printed in one of the early 82nd Newsletters but so many of you have joined our family in the past three years it makes sense to include it again.

During a phone chat with Roy Norris he said he had had a pleasant visit with Jim when the

latter was attending a Reunion of the 449th in the Cincinnati area. Said there were over 900 people attending that reunion!)

LETTER FROM TINKER HUMPHRIES TO JIM SUMNER

Just a note to let you in on a rumor. I heard there are going to be a number of bronze plaques placed on stateroom doors of GIs that were on the Queen Mary when she hit the British Corvette.

I had also learned your name has been selected but since you won't be there they will be honoring someone else. Tough!

Since Jean has never been to California we decided to take in this Reunion - will miss you.

SUMNER'S REPLY

Tinker old chum - It was a real surprise and a great pleasure to get your note. The rumor you mentioned is very interesting and exciting but I have a sneaking hunch it was dreamed up by you and our mutual buddy, Dickie Bird.

In any event, I would be tempted to go to Long Beach just to see you and Dick if it weren't for the fact we are leaving Sept. 30 to visit daughter Jamie in New York for ten days or so.

There is one thing you can do for me and that is to be on the lookout for Len Kuczmarski and L.J. Chadwick. Give them my best and please send me a report of the Reunion.

(Ed's note: Jim, there was such a lot of confusion about the bronze plaques they trashed that idea and decided to pick a name out of a hat and honor just one guy. So now, on the Queen's top-most mast, a pennant flies that reads: TINKER'S TOY!)

FROM JIM VanNostrand

All You Ham Radio Operators - ARISE!

I am a member of THE AIR FORCES FLYERS CLUB - the purpose of which is to find

former members of the U.S. Air Force through the good offices of other fellow Ham Operators.

I was a photographer-gunner with the 461st B.G. (B-24s) that was based near Cerignola and sure loved seeing those P-38s covering our tail.

My call letters are WA7IEF and I, and others of our club, monitor the 15 meter band (21.420) on Saturdays at 2PM; the 20 meter band (14.308) on Sunday at 9 AM and Mon., Tues., & Wed. at 8 PM (all MST).

You can reach me at P.O. Box 1121, Jackson, WY 83001. Ph (307) 733-2132

* * *

FROM JIM BAKER

Just received your latest newsletter on Friday. Always a kick to receive it and get up to date again. We are both waiting for our trip on the Queen Mary - even found my deck card.

You had a letter from Gongs in the N.L. Would you send me his address? I knew him real well along with Hornel (Mike Hornel & Bob Gongs crewed the 96th's B-25). Mike and I got together often after the war until his death from cancer.

Mike's wife died of cancer soon after the war and they had no children. Mike worked for Peter Kiewit & Sons Construction Co. (highways, bridges, dams, etc.) as a rock crusher operator and moved around the country a lot. His sister lived in Sheridan, Wyoming so I was able to keep track of him. He died of throat cancer in Sheridan around 1980.

I also kept track of John Sharp (we called him Long John) for several years. He worked at Williams AFB and made his home in Phoenix where he died of cancer in 1976. John and his wife had two daughters.

* * *

FROM T.J. (Jabbo) JABLONSKI

I was certainly pleased to hear from you and to receive all the literature you sent me about my squadron and group.

Life has been good to me over the years and I thank the Lord daily for my blessings.

The other night I had a great surprise and was pleased to hear from Ted Latta.

I was born in Minersville, PA and graduated from high school there in 1937. I was "Old Army" and was part of the cadre from Selfridge that formed the 96th at Muroc and was an armorer.

I retired from Parke-Davis Pharmaceuticals in Detroit in 1981 and I'm married to Catherine and we have Mike, Maureen, T.J. Jr. and three grandchildren.

(Ed's note: Jabbo and Catherine got to the Queen for their very first 82nd Reunion)

* * *

FROM EDGAR WOLF JR. (This a Hello and a G'by)

I had an opportunity to check my old records and found that from 8-21-42 to 11-8-42 I was assigned to the 82nd Fighter SQUADRON at the U.S. Naval Air Station in San Diego. The Squadron left there and headed east but I was accepted (had been working as ground crew on a P-38) for OCS and finished up with the ATC in the CBI as an Aircraft Maintenance Officer.

Thanks for the phone calls and the literature anyhow.

(Ed's note: We had picked Ed's name from the P-38 Association's roster where he was listed as being in the 82nd - a natural mistake but at least we should get an E for effort in trying to keep building up the 82nd roster)

* * *

FROM JAMES T. (Bud) MAXIMIAN

I'm a charter member of the 82nd and the 96th and I was a Crew Chief most of the time overseas but went to the Engineering Section the last few months at Foggia.

Fred Montgomery is one of my best and closest buddies - as well as Daniels, Fucciolo and Peebles. Sure sorry to hear the sad news on them.

I've hundreds, if not thousands, of stories about the guys and the goings on of the 96th. Unfortunately, I'm the world's worst at putting thoughts or words on paper.

(Ed's note: Bud lies. He's not the world's worst at writing. At least he sent us a letter. Funny, funny story about this guy. He was, as he said, a CC in the 96th - right! How in the heck, then, can he live five blocks away from his old Line Chief in Tucson, AZ for TWENTY FIVE years and not know it? That's a good story. A couple months before the Reunion Bud read a notice of same in the Tucson newspaper. He promptly wrote to Hendrix for more info and John sent back a note suggesting he get in contact with John Buckles. So they had a happy Mini-Reunion right there in Tucson.

One other guy was surprised, too, when he got to the Queen to find Monyhan there as Bud had been B.A. Strozier's Crew Chief)

* * *

FROM TED AND DOROTHY LATTA

Boy Oh Boy! Was this couple ever missed at the Reunion. From the letters, cards and phone calls we received it looks like we'd better get our act together and make it to Asheville next anno.

Thanks a heap for all your concern - it tends to make it all worth while.

Great news from the medics! I got some new medicine that has turned things around for me and Dorothy has also had a good check up.

Called the Hoopers and Bill seems to be doing better. Also heard from Kupcinskas and he feels better and is not sure he had had a heart attack in the first place.

Now to an important part of this here yarn. For my birthday in April my daughter Katie decided to bring a lump to her old Dad's throat by presenting me with a "Slugging Desert Jackrabbit" flag to fly on the pole at our abode. This old soldier boy is eternally grateful.

The flag is flown outside only on special dates garnered from the history of the 96th or when a visiting member of the 96th is in residence.

On the day it was first flown, it wasn't up thirty minutes before we had a phone call from Ed Scott (one of my pilots) and his wife Phyll.

Please know the Jackrabbit flag was flying high in St. Clair, MI early in October while our beloved group was sailing on the Queen Mary.

* * *

FROM MRS. COLLEEN GWYNN

I need your help! I am searching for the identity of a pilot who served with the 15th Air Force. No squadron, group or wing number is known; nor do we know if he was a fighter or bomber pilot.

He was born in New York in 1922, has brown eyes, dark hair and is an attractive & handsome 5'10". He may have resided in Indianapolis prior to military duty and may have returned there afterwards. He is acquainted with the Kreusser family.

He attended college for one year prior to the service. His military experience was described in 1945 as "A distinguished hero of the war" and he received much publicity.

He was wounded while overseas and has received 3/4 disability. His parents and a 17 year old sister were alive in 1945. He was a Presbyterian.

Please send any information to Mrs. Gwynn at 358 East 750 South, Farmington, UT 84025.

(Ed's note: Understandably, we receive a lot of requests from folks around the country for a variety of favors - most of which we dispatch to the round file because this NL belongs to YOU guys and gals and you do not need such. However, there's a slim chance the man in question is either known by one of you or may even be one of us)

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LETTER FROM DIKIE BIRD (To the guys & gals of the 95th & 97th Squadrons)

I DO NOT select the letters printed in the MAIL BAG department. If your letter isn't in here, it is because you never wrote it. Jo Ann and I would love to drive around the country and sit in each of your front rooms while you dictate your letters to us - but that wouldn't be very productive. So wipe the dust off your pens and pencils and crowd the 96th guys out of these pages!

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AN UNRENDZVOUS WITH H I S T O R Y

On July 7, 1944 Orson Osborne and Charlie Faludi had a rather interesting but unfriendly encounter - strictly on purpose with deadly intent: they were engaged in aerial battle over Hungary and Charlie lost!

Charlie bailed out and got back to his base for lunch while Orson was late for lunch when he got back to Foggia but had coffee and doughnuts with Patty.

That afternoon the 95th aired out another fighter sweep to Hungary and guess what? You are right! Charlie Faludi again - only this time Charlie Faludi won and Charles Walker lost. Walker bailed out and spent the next ten months in a POW camp.

Within a few years after the cessation of hostilities, Faludi decided his best opportunity for the good life was in Southern California and this is where our Historian, Steve Blake, found him and learned of his two tiffs with the 95th Squadron.

In time, Steve also found Walker but, understandably, he declined an invitation to a meeting with Charlie.

Osborne, the other corner of the triangle, was lost in one of the six million square miles of the lower 48 - until he attended a Rotary Club meeting in Boise and fell right into the lap of a reunion of his old outfit!

Subsequently, arrangements were made for all three principals to meet together during the Queen Mary Reunion - which, had it become an actual would have been an uniquely historic event..

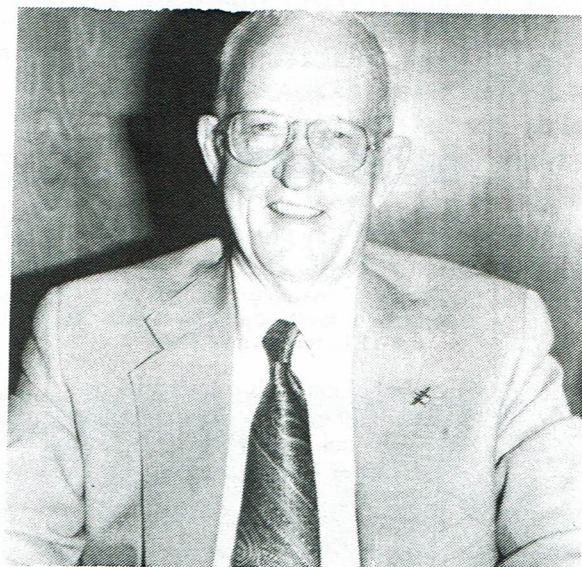
Osborne reports he will be in So. Calif. in the near future and plans to get together with Faludi and, hopefully, Walker too.

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**A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND A GREAT 1990
TO ONE AND ALL**

TONY LeVIER F A M O U S L O C K H E E D

TEST PILOT



From 1942 through 1945
Thousands and thousands of P-38s
The World over

Went to sleep at night dreaming about Tony.

*On the Queen Mary in Long Beach
Hundreds of P-38ers went to sleep
LISTENING TO HIM!*

THE CASE OF A FORTUNATE ERROR

(Ed's note: Actually not an error but an inadvertent oversight. I had seen Jane Sutter's name among the various papers John Hendrix sent me after the Queen Meet but didn't know where it belonged. Now you and I will both know: Via a letter from Fred Montgomery)

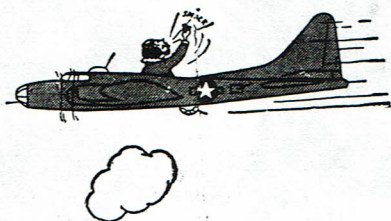
Dear Ding-a-Ling

Ethel and I were very happy to have had the company of Jane Sutter at the Reunion Banquet. Jane is the widow of the late Frank Sutter of the 96th Squadron.

Frank and I were best buddies through Aircraft Mechanics training and through all of our three years in the 96th. This is the first Reunion Jane has attended since Frank's passing in the year following the Denver Reunion.

(continued)

LIGHTNINGS IN THE SKY



Written by a Radio Operator-Gunner on
a B-17 in the African Theatre

Oh, Hedy Lamarr is a beautiful gal
And Madeline Carroll is, too;
But you'll find, if you query, a
different theory
Amongst any bomber crew.
For the loveliest thing of which one
could sing
(This side of the Heavenly Gates)
Is no blonde or brunette of the
Hollywood set,
But an escort of P-38s.

Yes, in days that have passed, when
the tables were massed
With glasses of Scotch or champagne,
It's quite true that the sight was a
thing to delight
Us, intent upon feeling no pain.
But, no longer the same, nowadays
in this game,
When we head north from Messina
Straits,
Take the sparkling wine—every time
just make mine
An escort of P-38s.

Byron, Shelley and Keats ran a dozen
dead heats
Describing the view from the hills,
Of the valleys in May when the winds
gently sway,
An army of bright daffodils.
Take the daffodils, Byron; the wild
flowers, Shelley;
Yours is the myrtle, friend Keats.
Just reserve me those cuties,
American Beauties,
An escort of P-38s.

Sure, we're braver than hell; on the
ground, all is swell—
In the air it's a different story.
We sweat out our track through the
fighters and flak;
We're willing to split up the glory.
Well, they wouldn't reject us, so
Heaven protect us,
And, until all this shooting abates,
Give us courage to fight 'em—and
one other small item—
An escort of P-38s.

We hope that Jane, and all the other
ladies who have survived our missing comrades,
will join us at every future reunion. We
assure them that they are always more than
welcome.

* * *

ROUGH AIR from the "LINK"

As I write this, THANKSGIVING is beating
its usual gastronomical retreat. Of course
I'm thankful for all those marvelous things
that we - who live the good life - can count.

Being of a philosophical turn I am most
certainly grateful I wasn't born in Lhasa,
Basutoland or Tlinglit (wherever that is).
You can also be assured I'm plenty glad I
wasn't created a fly that some dirty bedouin
in South Souk el Arba is about ready to swat.

I have taken a lot of wrong turns during
my hectic gallop through this life and I've
been dealt a lot of bad (and some miserable)
hands; but, in toto, I have had more than my
share of good luck - much much more.

All of this brings me to a great pivotal
stroke of good luck that came my way in July
of 1943 when I was transferred out of the
321st Bomb Group and into the 82nd Fighter
Group. You guys who were born into, lived in
and were discharged out of the 82nd FG don't
know what it means to have been in the
clutches of inept and misplaced leadership.

Every Thanksgiving since that event I give
a little wave of the hand to which ever Fate
it was that smiled upon my miserable brow and
dealt me a winning lottery ticket,

THANKS - Eighty Second Fighter Group for
being there and gathering me in.

- - - -

A Saga of The Typewriter, The Scissors and the
Paste Pot:

Once upon a now, there is a nutty News-
letter Editor who will, come next August,
move on to other ways of massacring the Great
American Tongue. There's no axe to grind -
just other words to mutilate. I see fuel in
the main tank running out and I simply need
to complete some other projects that also are
dear to my heart.

(continued)

I have already notified our President and some of you word mongers out there will feel his light but compelling hand on your shoulders.

Jack Duncan told me he is now an Honorary Member of the 96th FTS. (Harley Vaughn also went from the 97th into the 96th. Anybody else wish to try?)

Jack had stopped at Willy both comin' and goin' from Schertz to the Queen and back. He said he got the "Red Carpet Treatment".

Our Historian, Steve Blake, furnished the lists of KIAs, MIAs, POWs and other combat related mishaps. It is my view that the printing of these lists in this newsletter is the most meaningful - if not the most important - thing I've done during this editorship. In my mind's eye I see similar lists printed in other combat unit's publications; and the sum total of all the sacrifices of our brave and patriotic comrades ensured the freedoms you and I bask in today. It's one thing to not forget but it's another thing to keep memories alive.

An item in the lists Steve sent is KNFA (Killed in a non-flying accident) and 2nd Lt. Reid Fellows of the 97th was the only one listed. Whatever his accident was occurred on Dec. 7, '43. To our knowledge, two enlisted men lost their lives overseas. One was Cpl. Gilbert Green of the 95th in a jeep accident in Africa and the other, also of the 95th, was Sgt. Oscar Martin. Martin died of carbon monoxide poisoning while trying to repair a well pump at Foggia 11.

Here's another "Believe It Or Not" story. John Stanaway, our other Historian, was in Ontario, California soon after our reunion on the QUEEN to cover yet another P-38 Group (from England) reunion. It so happened that a coin collectors organization was meeting in the same hotel. One of the coin collectors drifted over to the P-38 gathering and struck up a conversation with John and mentioned that he had been a P-38 pilot.

John asked where. "In North Africa."

John asked what outfit. "The 82nd Fighter Group."

John asked his name. "Frank Hurlbut!"

John promptly went through the cieling and continued up through several more stories of the hotel - BECAUSE - he had been looking for Frank since he and Steve began writing the 82nd's history about 80 (really) years ago.

Frank, of the 96th, was the second leading ace in the Group with 9 victories. He currently lives in Costa Mesa, California which is just a hoot and a hollar down the coast from Long Beach.

Needless to say, Frank is our Association's newest member and we're mighty proud to have him. We can say is a retired Lt. Col. from the USAF.



KATIE ALLEN
OUR UNIVERSAL STUDIO TOUR GUIDE
AND ONE OF HER FANS

HELP!

Steve Blake claims only 90% accuracy with the KIA, MIA and POW listings. He needs your help in picking up errors and missing information. Please study the lists and notify Steve of errors, inconsistencies and missing information. Write to STEVE BLAKE, 24441 Sadaba, Mission Viejo, CA 92692.

Now, my good friends, I'm going to shut down this cotton picken typewriter, paste all this good stuff willy together nilly and go downstairs and have a root beer!

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