



## NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 20

MARCH 1991



*Mr. and Mrs. Roswell Harding*



## THE 82nd FIGHTER GROUP ASSOCIATION

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# Business

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Oct. - Nov. - Dec.

### BEGINNING BALANCE:

Certificate of Deposit	-	\$16,656.64
Checking Account	-	864.16
Savings Account	-	11,270.13
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>\$28,790.93</b>

### INCOME:

Donations	-	\$ 10.00
Interest	-	823.42
Dues - Life	-	280.00
- Sustaining	-	255.00
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>\$ 1,368.42</b>

### EXPENDITURES:

Donations	-	\$ 4,000.00
Envelopes	-	11.05
Miscellaneous	-	135.19
Office Supplies	-	128.95
Postage	-	633.26
Stationery	-	20.05
Telephone	-	225.85
Printing	-	1,214.40
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>\$ 6,368.73</b>

### ENDING BALANCE:

Certificate of Deposit	-	\$17,330.34
Checking Account	-	2,000.00
Savings Account	-	4,460.26
<b>Total Net Worth</b>	-	<b>\$23,790.60</b>

Respectfully submitted,

*Roy E. Norris*  
Roy E. Norris

**ROY SAYS:** "Hey guys, keep those \$15 voluntary dues rolling in. Believe it or not - they are our bread and butter! Also, please remember to notify me as soon as possible of any roster changes that need to be made. We can serve you better only if we can know what is going on."



# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

The months roll by quickly and we'll soon be heading for Denver and a second helping of Ralph and Meredith's wonderful hospitality. Let's encourage those who haven't been attending our Reunions to turn out for this one — especially for the dedication of our Group Plaque at the Air Force Academy.

On another subject — if anyone had doubts about the fate of our Newsletter, they surely were put to rest with the last issue. For a guy who supposedly purged his files of all Newsletter material at the time of his announced retirement as editor, Dick sure found a lot of interesting material in a hurry. We are all happy that we will continue to see an 82nd Newsletter coming our way.

You will recall I promised, upon taking this office, that there would be a published mid-year accounting of the Association's financial status. Included in this issue of the Newsletter you will find Roy Norris' Financial Report. Roy does a superb job of looking after our financial affairs and in keeping track of our members. We all owe him a strong note of appreciation for his diligent efforts.

A REMINDER! This is the year for elections at our membership meeting during the Denver Reunion. I will soon be appointing a Nominating Committee Chairman who will then select others from the membership to serve on the committee. This committee will develop its recommendations/nominees for the positions of President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer. Your squadron/HQ representatives will no doubt be contacted by the committee for suggestions regarding nominees for the Association's Officers; so if you have any recommendations to make please contact your representative.

As noted in the December Newsletter, the Pinsons (Charlie & Bette) have developed a hard working committee in the St. Louis area and, after numerous conversations back and forth with me, it was agreed to lock things in for a St. Louis Reunion in 1992. This will give us centralized location with excellent access and I know the Pinsons will have a great program to offer the membership.

Then — looking ahead — at the Denver meeting we will be expecting suggestions and volunteers for 1993 — so some of you should do a bit of head-scratching and offer your area and personal services for our Reunion in '93.

Our 82nd "Family" has held its own over the past several months and, although we have lost some dear friends, we have gained some new members as word continues to get around. There is also no question or doubt in my mind as to this Association's unity and devotion to all that we hold dear. Our active Group demonstrated this kind of cohesiveness and loyalty to the world back in 1942 — 45; and it now appears to me that — even today — our individual and Association support of these United States shows just how strong and determined we still are in furthering the cause for freedom for all mankind.

**God Bless America and all those actively involved in the support of freedom everywhere; and may the world be at peace long before we meet again in Denver.**

Betty joins me in warmest regards and good wishes to you all.

— Will



# COVER STORY

The lead above is a pretty feeble way to introduce this unusual, remarkable and delightfully romantic happening. It was unusual because it isn't at every 82nd FG Reunion that a matrimonial seed is planted. It was remarkable because it was unusual and it was delightfully romantic because there are no other words that can so describe it.

We go all the way back to WWII with this tale when Guy Parker and Ros (for Roswell) Harding were crew chiefs in the 96th Squadron. This reporter has no idea of the degree of friendship that might have existed between the two but a good guess is that it would be reasonably strong because there was a special comradeship that existed among the crew chiefs. Coincidentally, Guy and Ros met in the Azores when Guy was passing through (found this last bit in the "Slugging Desert Jackrabbit II").

Ros entered into the bachelorhood fraternity via a divorce in 1982.

Guy and Lillian Parker attended the 82nd's Atlanta Reunion in 1986 but soon after that, Guy came down with a fatal illness (pancreatic cancer) and in May of 1988 we lost another good friend and soldier.

By now, you have guessed the rest of the story. Lillian drove over to Asheville from Rocky Mount, NC last September and joined our happy Annual Reunion festivities. Things really happened fast and before the second day the two appeared to be inseparable. During "tear time" at the Sunday Morning Brunch, I asked Ros what was going on. He narrowed his eyes and said, emphatically, "I like being a bachelor!"

One would say that someone changed Ros' value orientation. Which leads us to observe that "What always appears to be apparent - often just ain't so!"

HAPPY FLYING, LILLIAN AND ROS, IN THE DREAMY AIRSPACE OF

M A T R I M O N Y

- r.l.

## Nuptials Report

By Ted Latta

One night in December, Dorothy and I got a call from Lillian and Ros from Lillian's home in Rocky Mount, NC and Ros said he had just given Lillian an engagement ring and would I be his Best Man? I can tell you that Dorothy and I weren't a bit surprised and I couldn't have been more pleased to be Best Man. We made plans for the February trip to North Carolina.

The Wedding Rehearsal went well and the Rehearsal Dinner was wonderful. I gave a recitation on how Ros and I met in '41 and how Lillian and Guy had come into the picture at the Orlando Reunion. On the Wedding Morning, Dorothy, Ros' sister and I kept Ros busy and just as we were ready to go for lunch Arky and Paul Haman (note: Paul took the wedding pictures for you) drove in just in time to join us at a downtown Rocky Mount restaurant.

All the while Ros kept mumbling about fleeing to Canada but his Best Man kept him in tow and to the church on time. Ros recovered from a few attacks of vertigo and, at the altar, looked handsome in his gray suit and Lillian was quite beautiful in a pink mauve, street length dress. The church was prettily decorated with a candle in each window and greenery from Lillian's yard.

Dorothy and I attended the post-nuptial breakfast the next morning and then the B & G were off on their Honey-moon to the Florida Keys.



## Taps

Day is done, gone the sun  
from the lake, from the hill,  
from the sky.  
All is well, safely rest. God is nigh.

Thanks and praise for our days  
'neath the sun, 'neath the stars,  
'neath the sky.  
As we go, this we know. God is nigh.

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### F.R. "Dick" BARKER

Dick was a pilot in the 97th Squadron. Briefly, though, he did a hitch in the 96th. While we were preparing for the '86 issue of the "Slugging Desert Jackrabbit" we inadvertently sent him an invitation to submit a biog. He did and we quote from it for this obit.

Born May 3, 1921 in Bowling Green, Ohio, Dick later graduated from Belle Center High School in Belle Center, Ohio. He joined the 97th Squadron in Feb. of '43 and, at the end of his fifty, he had become a flight leader. He also had scored one victory.

Barker trained for a mechanical engineering career at Ohio State U. and wound up as a VP for the Lummus Co. in New Jersey.

Dick contributed to the 82nd's Newsletter with the first photo of the 82nd's memorial plaque at Wright-Patterson AFB. He attended our '88 Dayton Reunion.

Dick and his wife Eva had been married for 40 years and had two sons.

We have no details of Barker's death. The report came to us via the P-38 Association's Newsletter.

\* \* \*

### EDMUND KNUTOWICZ

(please refer to Dan Ford's letter in "Mail Bag")

\* \* \*

### PAUL KRUG

In a note sometime before this past Christmas, John Allen (96th) said he'd had a letter he'd sent to Paul returned with the word "deceased" on it.

Via "Directory Assistance" we got a number for Monica Krug in Glendive, Montana. Monica said Paul, who was her brother-in-law, had died of heart problems in November of 1988.

Monica said Paul had never married and had spent his life working on his family's ranch. She said Paul often talked of his military experiences in North Africa and Italy.

\* \* \*

### AL RAIMONDO

Al died of heart complications Dec. 10, 1990. At 85 he had been the 82nd Association's oldest member. His wife Mary contacted Ted and Dorothy Latta recently about Al's passing and she told them Al's health had been failing for several months.

Al was a special guy for the 96th. An armorer, he was always on the job and respected by his comrades. The quiet, unassuming and friendly paison was rotated back to the States late in '44. When Bob Dickason (96th Radio Section Chief) and I were on our way back to California in June of '45 we ran into Al in front of the RR Station in Kansas City. That was a noisy reunion.

I called Al about eight months ago to see how he was doing and Mary caught him as he was going out the door to go to his club to play pinochle. Al told me he couldn't make it to Asheville but he was planning on seeing us in Denver.

- RL

\* \* \*

### LOUISE SCHUB

(please refer to Solis Schub's letter in the "Mail Bag")

\* \* \*



## CURTIS D. WARE

Curtis died Dec. 3, 1990. He was a member of the 97th Squadron, had attended the Atlanta Reunion and was living in Myrtle Beach, SC at the time of his death. The phone at his residence has been disconnected. We have no other information.

\* \* \*

## FELICIA WARNE

Felicia died Christmas morning, 1990. Circumstances regarding her death are unknown.

She was the wife of our newly found member, Howard Warne, of the 97th. They had been married for 25 years.

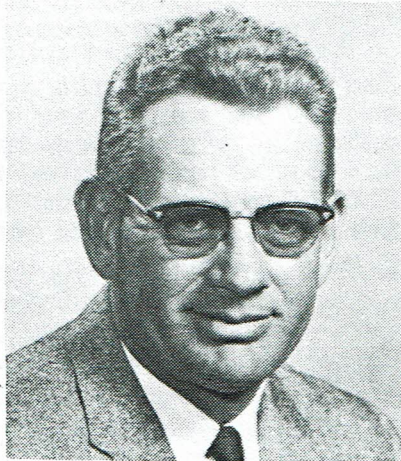
\* \* \*

## JESSE L. WOODHOUSE

Jesse, a member of the 97th, died Friday, Oct. 26, 1990 in Springfield, Colorado as a result of an on-the-job accident.

He was putting a garden tractor into the third floor of his shop when the tractor fell off the lift and he fell 22 feet. He died in transit to the hospital.

He is survived by his wife Clara and two children, Jesse P. Woodhouse and Lyla Day. He was 71. Jesse and Clara had attended four of the Association's Reunions.



JESSE LYLE WOODHOUSE

# Hear Hear ! SOME DENVER BUSINESS

You all should find Ralph Embrey's Denver Flyer tucked into this newsletter - along with a list of all the folks who have already sent in their declarations. Ralph wanted those of you who have not yet responded to see the roster in the hope that familiar names will help you make a positive decision.

Our people, of course, make our reunions the great, wonderful events that they are. There are other perks, though, that help make the time, effort and dough worth the while. So let us capsulize some of these opportunities for life-enrichment that Ralph has planned for you:

1. 82nd Plaque Dedication at the Air Force Academy.
2. A tour of the Air Force Academy.
3. President Hattendorf's Reception to honor & recognize first time attendees.
4. Golf at Lowry AFB.
5. A chance to meet Dixie Sloan.
6. A chance to see Air Force Academy Falcons play the Weber State Wild Cats.

And Finally -

7. The opportunity to meet all the beautiful ladies your ugly comrades managed to ensnare!

There just ain't very many ways you can beat a gatherin' like Ralph's Denver Bash!

As of today, March 16, the following folks will be attending their first 82nd FG Reunion:

John Aiken (97th)  
John Heller (97th)  
Travis Hoover (96th)  
Frank and Connie Hurlbut (96th)  
Charles and Ethel Lortz (95th)  
Mrs. Margaret Powers (Ralph - 95th)  
Bob and Nikki Randall (97th)  
Jack and Carmen Watson (97th & HQ)  
Carl and Dorothy Wood (97th)  
Louis and Angeline Zucal (97th)

Now, just in case you have lost the Denver Flyer, here is the address to which you should send your declaration to attend:

### MEMORIAL DEDICATION REUNION

7865 Mississippi, #1203  
DENVER, CO 80231



**Patti Romine**  
**And**  
**Mr. Bones**  
**Dancing the**  
**Cha Cha Cha**  
**In Asheville**



**KING'S CROWN GALLERY SALUTES ARMED FORCES**

The King's Crown Gallery of Tustin, California, in conjunction with "Eagles and Aces Productions", sponsored a one-day "debriefing" on Saturday, February 16, to honor American military personnel of Operation Desert Storm. Seven outstanding guest aviators, representing the Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy, spent the day with Gallery visitors and voiced their support for U.S. military operations.

The guest's credentials were immediately apparent, since Admiral Jim Stockdale, Colonels Bud Day and Bernie Fisher and Lt. Col. Ken Walsh all hold the Congressional Medal of Honor, while Col. Bill Ferrell and Commander Alex Veraciu hold the Navy Cross and Col. Jack Broughton holds the Air Force Cross. Those present at the Gallery were able to sit in on a wide open discussion as the guests assessed America's Persian Gulf posture in light of their own previous combat operations.

Gallery owner, Tom Shutt, who specialized in all forms of military art and collectibles, presented an impressive spread of books, lithographs, sketches, video tapes and original art by and about the pilots and their wartime exploits. A highlight of the event was the informal dinner held that evening at Nieuport 17 Restaurant.

**Editors Comments On The Above News Story:**

*It is right an proper for you to say to yourself or anyone else handy, "What's it got to do with the P-38 and the 82nd Fighter Group?"*

*Several things as a matter of fact. Bernie Fisher's CMOH came to him by way of a rescue of a downed pilot in enemy territory in Vietnam. I think you and I know of two of our pilots that shared the same experience in Rumania in 1944. That's one. The second would be the fact the rescued pilot, "Jump" Myers, had been a P-38 pilot. The third is the fact the pilot was a member of the 604th Air Commando Squadron in Nam, Col. Dick Willsie, C.O. (is that name familiar?). Fourth fact: The 82nd FG Newsletter's good offices "found" Bernie Fisher so he could be invited to Tustin. Bernie lives in a little farm community just 35 miles south of Boise. #5?: You bet! When Bernie Fisher reported to the Pentagon on the occasion of the presentation of the CMOH, his official escort was none other than the 82nd's own Walter Carper (96th)! Now doesn't this just beat all?*

*Incidentally, today (March 10) is the 25th Anniversary of the Nam Rescue. How did we know that? D.W. "Jump" Myers, of Spokane, WA, just so informed us via the handy little push-button telecommunicator!*





FROM GEORGE A. BOWERS

I had to send you this picture of "Mr. Bones" stretching out in our room at Asheville. You see, "Mr. Bones" has to travel in a suitcase - therefore, upon arrival - he likes to "unwind"! At the time the picture was taken his escort, Super Dave (Capt. Bryant of the 95th FTS) was at a local undertaker scrounging a casket for the old guy's comfort.

"Mr. B's" bone-sitters were Betty Medley and Joan Powers.

Most of you know Mr. Bones in his formal attire of Top Hat, White Gloves and Cane - but he also dresses to occasions such as Santa Claus and St. Patrick

Mr. Bones is quite a guy. He blends in at parties but it's only a rumor that he's been known to take a drink or two.

Anyway, he was part of the fun at Asheville and, hopefully, we'll all be together again in Denver.

Incidentally, Mr. Bones told us to tell all you 95th guys that he's tired of seeing us down at the bottom of the reunion attendance lists so "Move it you guys" and show up in Denver.

\* \* \*



The Hardings with Ted Latta - the 82nd's

BEST MAN



FROM GEORGE P. BROWN

Are there any copies of the 96th Squadron Insignia available? Please let me know if there is a place to purchase them.

*(Ed's note: Curiously, I don't know of any effort in the Association to make arm patches and other Squadron insignia available. In the 96th, Ted Kaufman has been doing some of these but I don't know what arrangements he makes. He may demand a first-born great grandchild for all we know. Maybe an enterprising member could step into the breach. Any suggestions for George?)*

\* \* \*

FROM MARTIN COLLIS

Your #19 Newsletter is almost as good as Charlie's (family, in-laws, outlaws, etc.) unbelievable best 82nd get-together since the 70s. The only black eye for you is leaving me and my bossy's names out of the list of attendees. If that blow-out had been average or worse I would have (verbally) crawled your frame. Believe me, I cherish the memory of Charlie's whing ding -- it couldn't have been better. He even provided me with grits like I dared him to.

Whatever happened to the 97th's Flight Surgeon from Bakersfield, CA? I was grounded for three missions one day in Souk el Arba for making him and the skipper hit the deck. I was checking engines and aileron operation. Was he Dr. Moore?

(continued on the next page)



How come there is so little written about the 82nd between Bertheau, Algeria and Lecce Italy? I can remember losing quite a few miscellaneous holes in aluminum - being scared when somebody told me those little white balloons coming up from flak positions were bullets and the wonderful way Catanians introduced their ladies to us because we were not "Boom Boom" pilots. Foggia was total 109 country to me - must have been fun as friendly territory.

*(Ed's note: I had to edit MC's letter pretty sharply. Not because of porn but because his spelling falls real short of the high standards of this rag. He blames it on his nurturing as a TEXAS AGGIE (he said one of his roommates studied five days for a urine test) - pretty sneaky.*

\* \* \*

FROM RUTH DONOHOO

Hear from the Simpsons (George & Mabel). He had surgery last year so they couldn't make Asheville. Recovery was slow so they were unable to attend the Reunion at Asheville as planned. George hosted the 82nd Reunion at Orlando

Mildred Terry had knee surgery and recovery is slow and painful but she is now able to drive again.

Enjoy life - stay happy and keep those newsy letters coming.

\* \* \*

FROM RALPH EMBREY

Enjoyed the latest Newsletter.

I note you are looking for a picture of "Charlie" Charlton's daughter dancing with Mr. Bones. It is herein enclosed. I got it from Ed Orr. He sent me a bunch of pictures he had taken at Asheville because he knew I had forgotten my camera.

I also got your letter regarding the 82nd F.G. History. Slick (Claude Morgan) tells me he thinks we will have enough money to get the project completed. Let's hope so and I hope it happens before the '91 Reunion here in Denver.

\* \* \*

FROM DAN FORD

I just recently learned of the death of Eddie Knutowicz of the 96th. Eddie and I were the instrument mechanics for the Squadron and as we worked together we became close buddies. We kept in touch through the years and while I do know Eddie died of cancer I don't know the details. He was 78.

I thought it would be nice if you put this in the Newsletter so the fellows could send a sympathy card to his surviving widow and family.

Mrs. Edmund Knutowicz & Family  
2226 Hudson Ave. 7  
ROCHESTER, NY 14617

\* \* \*

FROM MILES HOELZEL

Enclosed is an obit I received from a retired AF buddy who lived next door to Bill Vantrease. I hope this info is of some value to you.

On a personal note I underwent a stress test today (Dec. 14) with catherization to follow. There may be by-pass surgery in the near future.

Maggie is quite well and is hustling to finish a quilt that's been in progress for almost three years.

*(Ed's note: In a phone report Miles said the catherization didn't work because of clogged blood vessels. He has also nixed the by-pass because he understood it doesn't prolong life - it only changes the symptoms.*

The obit Miles sent for Bill Vantrease did not give a clue as to nature of death. It did, though indicate 31 years of active duty, including Korea and Nam. Bill and Virginia had two sons and four daughters - plus 8 GKs)

\* \* \*

FROM CHARLIE HORNE

*(Ed's note: Charlie's letter had so much in it, it's best to summarize it. - RL)*

- He had some information about Wm. McSpadden that I had asked for. He said the guys in the Radio Section called him "Jug" for the famous golfer of the same name. Perhaps this can remind other 97th EMs to come up with some more information. For example, could he be the guy who worked in the Link Trainer? Said he had a picture of "Jug" and Lembke.

(continued on page 10)





STANDING - BACK ROW: Capt. Waldrup, Schofield, Gunderson, Huss, Kemble, Richardson, Goodwin, Heinrich and Jack Duncan

KNEELING - FRONT: Lange, Sullivan, Solack, McCullagh and Coster

*This was taken in the summer of 1944. Some of these guys teamed up with the best of the 95th and 96th to make up the 82nd Fighter Group Team - which won the 15th Air Force Championship! Our pitcher was Ken Bauman and he threw bullets and was in complete control. Al Heinrich was the catcher. There was a hell of a large crowd at the game - and a lot of money was bet. - CHARLIE HORNE*

- Charlie described his trip home in August of '45 on the "Green Dragon" South American route.
- He included a picture of the 97th ball team - which should be printed some place in this issue.
- Said he liked the Newsletter

*(Thanks Charlie, for the super letter and the kind words)*

\* \* \*

FROM JERRY LOEWENBERG

*(This is a personal letter and I believe Jerry meant it for me and did not have the Newsletter in mind but this "Mister Eighty-Second Fighter Group" has two great attributes that should be shared within our family. These are: 1) A positive and determined outlook on life and 2) An inimitable sense of humor. - RL)*

Dear Dick and Jo Ann,

We very much enjoyed your lovely Xmas letter - from beginning to end (which I knew would ultimately come). You two really live life up to the hilt, which is as it should be. God speed to both of you.

I am spending my limited energy trying to live until, and through, the September Reunion in Denver. I've had to change my life style, though, from Meditation to Medication. The "Golden Years" are Fools' Gold!

We had an invitation to spend a month in Cuernavaca, Mexico but, at the last minute, our hostess died. She was in her 94th year and had had a full life. So we invited our son and his wife down for Xmas. The airlines had other plans, though, so Pat and I had Xmas dinner alone.

Next June I'm supposed to run the 60th reunion of my law school (Cornell) graduating class. I may be the only one there but, in such an event, I have worked out a program: I will call for the observation of a long period of silence!

*(continued on page 11)*



(continued from page 10)

If I don't stop here, my letter will exceed yours in length, if not in quality. Pax vobiscum - plus our best regards.

Jerry and Pat

(Editorial observation: For the last seven years now, I have been the beneficiary of Jerry's literary largesse. Scores of his letters occupy an inch-thick folder in my file cabinet. I treasure them - even as some of them castigate me for my fiscal irresponsibility. Likewise do I treasure the whole file drawer full of letters from other 82nd members as well as those from other military-related correspondents. All of you have vastly enriched these nether years of my life and I herewith thank you all. - RL)

\* \* \*

FROM JACK NEWMAN

(to Claude Morgan)

Thank you for your dedicated involvement in the 82nd History publication project.

I was most impressed with the excellent printed preview of the early chapters. It certainly stirred my enthusiasm to see more.

From what I have observed at the outset, there is a high degree of meticulous research and crisp writing clearly evident.

In short, it looks like good stuff and I wouldn't want to miss having it as a treasured part of the family legacy.

Congratulations for your good and selfless work on behalf of all who shared an unforgettable moment in time.

\* \* \*

MRS. VESTA C. NOTT - June 11, 1944

(From Frank Hurlbut via Steve Blake)

(Ed's note: We are, at this writing, involved in a small duplication of the conflagration in which the 82nd Fighter Group participated. Each time one of our pilots failed to return we - each of us - grieved in our own way. We could only faintly imagine, though, the kind of anguish suffered by the ones at home when they received the awful news. Because she was articulate Mrs. Nott is able to take us into her heart to show us the desperate hurt and emptiness when she learned of her loss.

Most of us have raised families and now know the deepness of parental concern and are able to empathize with all the Mrs. Notts in the world - even though we are unable to put those feelings into words as she has.

So, history repeats itself, and - again - hearts are being torn and wrenched as the letters and phone calls arrive. But we can reach out, in our own way, with some understanding.

I am thankful that Frank Hurlbut and Mrs. Vest Nott have shared this letter with us.

- RL)

Dear F/O Hurlbut,

This letter may surprise you but I hope and pray you will be kind enough to answer it after understanding why I write to you.

A letter came to me May 19 at Oregon City, Oregon from Lucien Madore, Group Chaplain in the 82nd Fighter Group, giving me more information as to my son's death. Chaplain Madore stated that you and my son, Kendall Nott, were on the same training flight over Cape Bon the day of my son's death and that you had returned to the U.S. and he gave me your home address.

Would it be asking too much for you to give me all the details of my son's death? Also tell me anything else you know about him over there, was he apparently cheerful and in good spirits? Did he mention home folks? Oh, anything your own mother would like to know about you.

Kendall was my only child and a wonderful son as you would know if you knew him for long. He was married only three months to a girl I barely knew. She might have brought some consolation into my life but influences of her relatives against the marriage to a boy without money have forbidden me the chance to love her or my son's baby (born Dec. 2, 1944) or even knowing if his personal belongings were ever received. Some of them would have been very dear to me.

All this is why I wrote to Chaplain Madore asking him for names of boys who knew Kendall. He gave me your name and that of 2nd Lt. Rudell Coursey of Birmingham, Alabama and I'm now writing to both of you.

I would also like you to tell about yourself and would like, some day, to be able to meet you.

(continued on page 12)



(continued from page 11)

I am a school teacher and have been teaching in the schools of Oregon City since last January. School closed Friday for the summer and I returned to Omaha, our home town, for a visit.

This losing Kendall has been tough to take because he was all I had. His father died eight years ago and if I keep moving about maybe time and God will help me to see the why.

Anyway, I am fighting hard to keep my last promise to Kendall - to keep my chin up and a smile on my face no matter what happened. I have never broken a promise to him yet.

But I do not wish to bore you with too much of me and my hardships. You boys are so fine and so brave and face so much, I bow my head in admiration. Please do find time to write me of all you know about my Kendall. Do not spare my feelings because Kendall would want me to know. You see, he had faith in his mother because he knew she came up the hard way and could take it. We were very close friends as many many of our close friends could tell you.

I wish I could see and talk with you and meet your mother. Won't you tell me I could do so?

Thank you for all you tell me. God bless and be kind to you for your friendship to my boy. And please forgive me if I have written at too great a length but it is difficult to be brief in my urgent need to impress you so you will write to me.

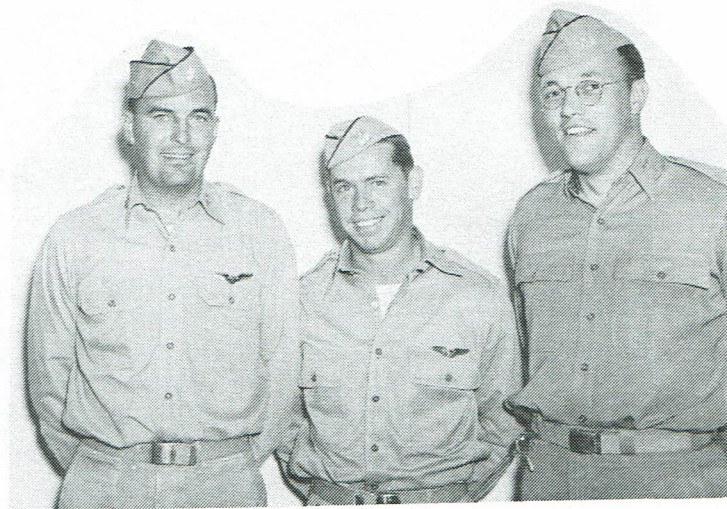
My best wishes to you.

\* \* \*



97th MOTORPOOL GANG

Harlan W. Raymond on right



97th Officers

Major Smith, CO; Capt. Barber, Capt. Bennett

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FROM SYLVIA OSTRONIK

Just wanted to keep you informed about the get-together the National P-38 Association had in Laughlin, Nevada. It was an informal "fun time" with about 80 people attending from Feb. 3 to 6.

Dick and I represented the 82nd Association but we met one of the "new" P-38 Association members and learned he had been in the 97th. His name is Howard Warne and we gave him some back issues of your newsletters and also a pep talk about our group and our Reunions.

We learned that Dixie Sloan will be in Tustin, California, April 9th & 10th, at the KING'S CROWN GALLERY. Please contact Dixie to get the details for our Newsletter.

We are just fine and we had a marvelous 4-month trip after Asheville. We spent Thanksgiving with Marlene and Hank Phillips in Ft. Walton, Florida. Dick had his first tennis lesson from Marlene (on a clay court) and he is now "into" tennis. Marlene said she would like to organize a tennis tournament in Denver.

In November we stopped by Tyndall AFB and had a V.I.P. tour by Lt. Col. Richard White. We enjoyed seeing "then & now" photos of some of our 95th guys. Saw one of Monty Powers who - like my Richard, used to have hair!

We were delighted to hear that Monty Powers has remarried and we are looking forward to meeting his new bride in Denver.

Hope all is good with you and Jo Ann and we look forward to seeing you in Denver.

With love and all good wishes.

\* \* \*



FROM SOLLIS "Jock" SCHUB  
(via Gayle Hasenplaugh)

Dear Dorothy and Gayle,

I'm grateful to you for the lovely card. My wife and children urged me to attend the last Reunion but I would have had to go alone. This summer the subject came up again with a trip to Denver as a goal for seeing you, Charles Miller and others who had been in our tent, as well as Bill Bean, Heber J.R. Stevenson and others.

Now there has been a disastrous change. Last July 29, Louise and I were swimming along the shore of a lake in the Berkshires. She, the tireless swimmer of the two of us, was a few yards farther out than I when a big, speeding motor boat swept by. After the wave subsided I couldn't see Louise. I shouted for help and then swam out to where she had been and found her floating on her back. I pulled her to the shore and we got her to the Medical Center but after ten days of expert care, we lost her.

Right now I'm not sure of anything. I've had calls and telegrams from hundreds of Louise's colleagues, former college students, and her French family.

I know time will help me to recover.

*(Ed's note: Jock's quiet maturity and gentle friendliness was shared with not only those in the 95th but also with HQ, 96th and 97th folks who were involved with the Group's Educational Program during the last months of the war. This editor was one of these.*

*When I found the Schub phone no. in a freshly received roster back in '83 I immediately put in a call to New York and had a very pleasant chat with Sollis and Louise. - RL)*

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FROM JACK WALKER

Greetings for the old and new year holidays! Gosh - so much sunshine and heat here in San Diego!! That's a joke, son, with all the cold you're getting.

I went to the P-51 Reunion at Santa Maria and 25 of those "span cans" showed up. I met the living Japanese Ace (68 victories). Also met Frantz Steigler - Me 109 Ace - who was on that Ju 52 shoot-out off Cape Bon. He lost 4 Me 109s and we lost 4 P-38s. I was there!

\* \* \*

FROM HOWARD WARNE  
(To Roy Norris)

Thanks for your letter. I am looking forward to meeting you sometime in the near future.

I graduated at Marianna, Florida from class of 43-D. Had Primary and Basic at Carlstrom Field, Bainbridge, Georgia.

I instructed from the back seat of an AT-6 for a year and finally got into P-40s, P-39s and then P-38s at Van Nuys, California. I joined the 82nd (97th Squadron) in the Fall of '44 and flew 43 missions.

I stayed in the Air Force and retired as a Major after 21 years.

I attended the P-38 Mini-Reunion in Laughlin, Nevada on Feb. 4 and didn't know of its existence until last year. I had seen notices of the 82nd Reunions in the Air Force Magazine but had never been able to attend.

I'll try to make Denver in August.

I noticed jackets, pins, etc. being worn at the National - where are they available?

\* \* \*

FROM VERNE YAHNE

Thank you for including the many letters from members.

In the last Newsletter #17 page 23 (No, I didn't lose Verne's letter - it was hiding up here in the paper jungle with me) regarding Wm. W. Connor. I was a witness to the accident in which Billy was killed. Billy was waiting to fly the aircraft I had just landed for the purpose of practicing aerobatics. Having just completed the same mission, I informed him that this particular P-38E was one that had not gone to March Field for the tail Mod (which was to change the "Angle-of-Incidence" of the tail). This change made a great difference in the aircraft's nose-down characteristics. The unmodified needed considerable altitude to pull the nose through. About an hour after take-off, Billy flew across Mines Field at about 1,500 - 2000' and attempted a "split S". His plane went vertically into the street that ran alongside Mines Field and very close to the North American Aircraft hangar. One of our 95th pilots escorted Billy's remains to his home in Texas.

The pilot we lost at Mines Field at about the same time was Eugene W. Babb. He and another pilot scrambled on a "Search and Identify" flight on a possible submarine sighting just off the coast of California and west of



L.A. The other pilot reported that they dove across the bow of a ship to identify it and Babb didn't pull up in time. His body was never recovered as I recall.

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## THE FALCONS PERCH

SPECIAL LETTER TO PRES. WILL HATTENDORF FROM COL. JAMES E. WILHELM, USAF (Ret), VP, DEVELOPMENT, ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES

Dear Mr. Hattendorf, 11/16/'90

On behalf of all current and future graduates of the US Air Force Academy, I am pleased to acknowledge the 82nd F.G. Association's gift of \$2,000 to the AOG Building.

We certainly appreciate the support of WWII groups and their strong commitment to General Doolittle.

Please extend our thanks to all members of the the 82nd Association for their support.

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## Operation 82nd FTW

ANOTHER LETTER TO WILL HATTENDORF FROM COL. KURT B. ANDERSON, COMMANDER, 82nd FIGHTER TRAINING WING, WILLIAMS AFB (excerpted)

Dear Mr. Hattendorf, 4 Oct 1990

I recently talked to Lt. Col. Dennis Austin regarding his attendance at the Association's Reunion. He was very enthusiastic about his experience there and is planning to organize a larger contingent for Denver in '91.

It is our hope, too, to make every visit to Willie by an Association member as pleasant as we possibly can.

We appreciate the special recognition you and the Group gave Major Terry Long and T/Sgt. Vicki Satre. The two are some of Willie's best and certainly deserve the recognition.

Also we hope, some day, to host one of your Reunions.

+ + + + +

## The Bulletin Board

### MEMBERSHIP

Roy Norris' sharp eyes picked out the following new 82nd members from the P-38 Association's new roster:

Everett B. Farnham  
9412 Rhea Ave.  
Northridge, CA 91324  
(unit unknown)

James R. Metcalf  
3502 44th Street  
Lubbock, TX  
(unit unknown)

Lynn Shubert  
5440 Lindley Ave.  
Encino, CA 91316  
(unit unknown)

Howard L. Warne (97th)  
479 Cumberland Road  
Burlingame, CA 94010

Louella M. Demers (95th Honorary)  
395 So. Bailey Street  
Fallon, Nevada  
(Ed's note: A former 95th pilot, Rudy "Pappy" Demers died May 24, 1988 of kidney & liver failure. I make frequent trips from Idaho to California and one of them took me through Fallon and I made an effort to locate Louella. However, a neighbor told me she worked during the day. I will make a better effort the next time, Louella. - RL)

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### SOME ERRATA

#### Poor Ident

Got a call one day from Ralph Embrey and, you know, that guy must have been a 1st Sergeant at one time in his career because he sure gave me what-for. You know what I did? I didn't acknowledge the 474th F.G. Association's proprietorship of the full page P-38 spread on page 19 of the last newsletter. Gadzooks! Whata dummy! Should have known all about that because it came from the back of the cards Ralph has been selling to some of us during the last two Reunions and which were printed

(continued on page 15)



for the 474th. I bought a couple of dozen and have been sending them all over the country.

Of course you all know I also err in that 1st Sgt. bit above and that the synonym for "gentleman" in our English is "Ralph Embrey". Am glad though he didn't notice we stuck in the wrong phone # for him on the signature page of the last N.L. - R.L.

#### Additions & Subtractions - Asheville Attendees

Mary Ryland was there!  
Terry Peplinski was not!

#### Shot of A Lifetime Not Reported

Amos Turner got a "Hole-in-One" during the Asheville Golf Tournament!

#### **SANTA ANA AIR BASE WING**

If any of you SA grads would like more information about its reunions you should write to Charlie Kiser, Santa Ana Air Base Wing, P.O. 1764, Costa Mesa, CA 92628.

#### **PINS, JACKETS AND OTHER P-38 ITEMS**

We have a whole folder full of info about where to buy certain items but we really don't have enough time to process orders anymore. I would recommend writing to the Air Force Museum Gift Shop and ask for a catalog. The address is: P.O. Box 33624, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH 45433-6518.

There have also been some requests for Squadron wind breakers. At the Reunions you will see 95th guys & gals wearing blue, 96th green & 97th red. These are available only here in Boise & they would be made up special for about \$20/ea. on an "at cost" basis. Sizes are sm, med, lrg, and extra lrg.

**ROUGH AIR** from the "LINK"



So, guys and galls, we're almost down to the end of another newsletter together. I would like to think there are fewer typos and other glitches in this one than in the 10 previous.

Have a couple of jokes on the old ed to share with you. Do y'all remember the "Gold Star List" we had in the Dec. '89 Newsletter? Well, if you harken back to it you will find the name "**Walter J. Blair**" on the KIA list! He had also been listed in the 82nd Association Roster for the last several years. How does your casket fit down there in Fullerton, CA Walt?

The other day I was fussin' around up in my attic. I noticed a strange looking box so I hauled it downstairs and opened it up and was I surprised - there were the beautiful squadron & HQ banners I had thought we had lost. You may recall I ran a little inquiry in the last issue for their recovery.

So things are looking up - have found two things already I thought we had lost.

I talked recently to another lost & found, **Lynn Shubert**, formerly of the 97th. He told me his wife had given him a special California license plate which read "**P-38 Flyer**" and one day, in a parking lot, he found a note stuck under his windshield wiper - "**I love you! - signed, former B-24 truck driver.**" Lynn has been a writer for the movie industry and he told me he once assisted on a script for Marilyn Monroe.

I have a bone to pick with you guys. I'm absolutely positive some of you out there are hurting and I'm not getting the information. How can I send you "get well vibes"? We need to organize some sort of system within our Association to get the information into the Newsletter. It is crucial, my friends!

**Steve Blake** would like your WWII 82nd COLOR photos. He believes some of you have them.

Also chatted with **Everett B. Farnham**, a newly found 82nd pilot. I asked him but forgot which squadron he was in. I used to live a couple of blocks from him in San Fernando Valley.

Well, time to batten this thing down and get it into the mail for you.

See you all in Denver!

- R.L.