

June 1994

AN EXCITED YOUNG MAN - We had a call about a month ago from Bozeman, Montana. The young man said he had received a copy of "Adorimini" from a friend (at the moment the friend's name escapes us) who, before he sent the book, had marked a page (page 36). When Ray opened the book at that page he found a picture of an uncle whom he had never known! The uncle was Lloyd Atteberry! (Ed's note: Since Lloyd was from nearby Wilder, ID, we have made an effort to locate folks who may have known Lloyd but to no avail) More details later.

GROUND SUPPORT TROOPS HONORED - To its everlasting credit the Board of Directors of our great National P-38 Association had the perspicacity (I love that word and it ain't even near kansascity) to dedicate the Houston meeting to all the ground pounders that kept our beautiful P-38s in the air. To go along with that the Association published a booklet entitled "**Keep Em Flying**" which had the stamp of Joe Kuhn's superb editorship. The booklet was included in the Houston Meeting kits.

Joe's two Staff Writers were John Stanaway and (we got goose bumps when we started to type this) our very own Fred Montgomery.

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THOMAS HAMPEL -- Tom lives on Beethoven street in Kalten Kirchen, Germany and he wrote us recently to ask how to order our ADORIMINI. We suggested he contact our East Anglia dealer and save postage. Another letter came today thanking us for the info. He had another question - he wanted to know how we raised the money to print our book. Shall we tell him we hired the Chicago Bears to go around the country to beat the dough out of you guys? **NO!** Okay.

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N O R M A N D Y: As you probably were, we too were glued to the tube over the Normandy Weekend switching channel to channel. It's easy to forget those horrible days even when one is trying not to (out of respect for those who paid the ultimate price). We don't remember a 50th Anniversary celebration of the Nov. 11 Armistice but it's good we still remember the day.

We watched the Charlie Rose show last night and he was interviewing George Mitchell, our U.S. Senate's Majority Leader. George said that at no time in recorded history has a nation welcomed, or even asked for, occupation by friendly troops from another country; and yet we find many nations today that now have or would like to have peace-loving U.S. troops within their boundaries. Our guess is that this phenomenon had its beginnings on D-Day!

Ken and Betty Herrick from the 82nd attended the June 6 ceremonies in Normandy. We also think Ralph and Meredith Embrey were there. Any others? We would like a report of such of there were any.

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DICK WILLSIE: What can we say about this guy that all of you don't already know? He (with some staunch support from Ben Mason and his team in Houston) pulled out all the stops to make Houston the center of the world for four days in May and he succeeded. There were happy faces all around.

Following the Saturday Night Banquet, Dick extolled the unnumbered virtues of the men who "Kept 'Em Flying". For emphasis he singled out his 96th Crew Chief, Dixie Walker (now deceased), and testified that not once during his tour in the 82nd was there a mechanical problem with his airplane.

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BETTY BARDWELL - Came up with a super idea. How about all you guys and gals bringing your "**Adorimini**" with you to San Angelo and then we can have a great, humongous A u t o g r a p h i n g bash. Maybe the Kit Kat Klub in downtown San Angie will furnish some dancing gals for the occasion?? Sounds like a winner to us.

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**Roy loves to find those \$15 chks. in his mail box!**



**ROY NORRIS : The Treasurer's Report**

|                                |    |           |
|--------------------------------|----|-----------|
| In the Checking Account --     | \$ | 397.00    |
| In the Savings Account --      |    | 2,326.00  |
| In a Certificate of Deposit -- |    | 13,670.00 |
|                                | \$ | 16,393.00 |

(We have a suggestion:  
How about inundating Roy with a storm of checks and/or dollar bills as soon as you finish reading this.  
How about it???)

This represents quite a drop in our balance when compared to a few years ago when the amount was substantially above the \$20,000 mark.  
Four factors are involved in this drop:

1. Newsletter costs have increased considerably.
2. \$2,500 was advanced to the History Fund.  
(say "Aye" if you think it was worth it)
3. Some Reunions have been going in the hole.
4. (And we hate to keep harping on this, but) Our members are simply falling down on the job of paying the exorbitant amount of 15 bucks/year!!!

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YES YES

YES

YES YES

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**O S C A R P O I N D E X T E R :** While heading for Roanoke, VA we found ourself breaking out of the Piedmont area of North Carolina on I-40. We said, "Self, doesn't our old Homer Station (Backgear) buddy hang out somewhere in these here parts?" We answered, "Yup," and got out our roster and Rand-McNally map and found Clemmons high onto Winston-Salem and - by golly - found him. Asis our wont we arrived unannounced. Mrs. P. (Ruth) pointed to the back where O. was chopping wood. When we got his attention he looked at our 82nd cap, peered at our face, looked at our cap again and then broke out with a big smile -- "Dickie Bird!" It had been almost fifty years. We had a nice visit before we had to split for Roanoke (with his check for a Life Membership in our wallet).

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## A GALLANT WARRIOR

*We stopped in Crawfordsville, Indiana on our way back to Boise to visit Walter Carlson who is in a special care facility there. Because of a mysterious infection, Walt's lungs failed. As a result of that disaster he also lost the use of his arms and legs and he is totally immobile. All he can move is his head. He can talk only if his visitor places a finger over a hole in his breathing tube.*

*We gave him some news of the group and answered some questions and then he said, "Dick, tell the guys I'm doing Okay!" We went away feeling uplifted by that man's courage.*

*Walt's address is WILLIAMSBURG HEALTH CARE, Inc. 1609 LaFayette Road, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47922. He would love to hear from you.*

## What's All This "WE" Business?

As we look back through some of the issues of the NL we find too many "I"s. A newsletter should be objective and not an extension of the editor's "ID"! We like being "me" (that's fun) but as far as all of you are concerned we are a member of a great team and we are bright enough to K N O W that our inspiration for such comes from all of you (wives, sons, daughters, friends, etc. included) and we thank you. You are GREAT people!

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Arnie also has a request for anybody: "During my Foggia tour I recall reading a poem by a bomber pilot which was patterned after 'Twas The Night Before Christmas' and it started as follows: 'Twas the night before briefing - And all through the Group - The wheels and the big wigs were grinding out poop - The pilots were tucked all snug in their beds - While visions of milk runs danced through their heads - ???' Can anyone of you complete the verse for your old buddy Arnie?

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Which reminds us of an interesting incident that occurred on our way from Boise to Houston. We had stopped at a Motel 6 in Green River, Utah and after we had toted our gear to our room we went for a little walk to get the kinks out of our muskles (it was - like - 10PM). We walked around the corner of the building and, lo and behold, there was a guy walking in front of us with a big P-38 stenciled on his jacket. We shouted, "**SIR**" and he turned around. We said, "We'll bet you a G-Note you are headed for Houston!" "WRONG!", came his reply, "I'm headed for Denver and then I'm headed for Houston. Pay up!"

After the war we were back at the University of Idaho to complete our war-interrupted studies and Clark & Chasey Jennings were our neighbors and our little boys were playmates. Not only that but Chasey's brother, Don Chase, was a pilot in the 96th (along with Idaho tentmates Francis Chapman and Hank Phillips). It's a small world.

[illegible]

We are as puzzled as you are with "2nd 1  
Diners". It just happened! This short letter  
takes the place of the Aug. one. See you in S.A.!!  
Dickie

The heart and soul of the 82nd Asscn. are its  
**REUNIONS. So listen up podnuh!**



I N M E M O R I A M

Lester Heyting, 95th

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Jeanne Roy, Wife of Ellis P. Roy, 96th

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Clara Woodhouse, Widow of Jesse L., 97th

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**O B I T S   N O T E :** Bob Bannister called us regarding Lester's death earlier this year. We were happy to see Lester at our Reunion last year in Bellevue, Washington. We had first met Lester in 1987 at a Mini-Reunion in Everett, Washington

Ellis P. called here early in May to inform us of Jeanne's death as the result of heart failure a week or so earlier in April. Because of a scare the day before Ellis had taken Jeanne to the doctor who could find nothing alarming in the tests he gave her. Ellis said she went very quietly. We've got to confess here that we found Jeanne a lot friendlier than Ellis P. because it took an act of congress to get a pair of shoes out of the 96th's Supply Sgt. Roy. We first met Jeanne at the '84 Denver Reunion and enjoyed her Mississippi charm at the Sat. Night Banquet. Ellis P. frowned when we asked him to please pass the rolls (just kidding Ellis, just kidding).

Atlanta was Jo Ann's first Reunion and the first people we met when we got off the plane were Clara and Jesse Woodhouse. That was fortunate because they were both polite and friendly (and this is not to suggest that the rest of you aren't).

Though we are aware that death is a part of life we also know there is nothing that can assuage the hurt of losing a life partner or a loved one. As a close-knit family group we grieve in our special way for those who have been close family members and then, for whatever reason, move on to another kind of life. They are always truly missed but never completely dismissed. RLL

**"POSSUM, CLOVER & HADES":** Written by John Stanaway, this is the History of the famous 475 Fighter Group (Richard I. Bong's & Pete Madison's outfit). It has 330 pages in roughly the same foremat as Adorimini. John has done an excellent job with the text and photos and we heartedly recommend it. It lists for \$45 but " J A C K R A B B I T   S A L E S " will send it to you (allow about 6 weeks) for 15% off or \$38. The Prop. of JR Sales (Curly Straightarrow) shares our P.O. Box # 5541, Boise, ID 83705 so we can vouch for his honesty & dependability! Jo Ann says, "This is no joke, son!"

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**THE BEST SQUADRON?** Sorry Bones & Cats, but I'm just a reporter. A young, tall & clean cut gentleman stopped at our table in Houston wearing an A2 jacket with a "Slugging Desert Jackrabbit" patch on it. He didn't know me from Adam when I asked him, "What's with the patch?" He said, "Oh, I've made a study of all of them and I decided the 96th was the top Squadron in the W H O L E U.S. Air Force!" Believe me, I wouldn't mind at all if any of my beautiful granddaughters married 95th or 97th handsome grandsons! - 2



# OFF TO FLORIDA

ROY AND JO ANN NORRIS JUMPED INTO THEIR FLIVVER AND DROVE DOWN TO TYNDALL AFB TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BONEHEAD'S REUNION. ON THE WAY BACK THEY STOPPED TO VISIT WILL AND BETTY HATTENDORF -- AND THEN, WHILE DRIVING THROUGH MIDDLEBORO, KENTUCKY TO SEE THE PROGRESS IN THE RESTORATION OF ONE OF THE ICE-BOUND P-38s. INCIDENTALLY, AT THE HOUSTON P-38 MEETING WE SAW AN EXCELLENT PRESENTATION OF THE EFFORTS MADE IN GREENLAND FOR THE RECOVERY OF THE PLANE (OR PLANES).

## Welcome

We extend a warm and friendly welcome to the following new members: JOHN CAPPO (?), WILLIAM D. WEAVER (?), J.W. BURGESS (95th), JIM SCHELLIEN (95th) and ELWOOD HOWARD (95th).

We can't help but think that there's lots more out there waiting to be found!! Elwood Howard told us he had been watching the VFW Magazines for years hoping to see an 82nd announcement of some sort.

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TED AND DOROTHY LATTA (96th) are presently packing in preparation for a move to Columbus, Indiana. They are following their daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter there where they hope to find a climate which will be more friendly to the asthmatic problems they have had in humid eastern Michigan. As we understand it, their granddaughter already has a scholarship to a branch campus of the University of Indiana at Columbus. We all wish them God Speed in their quest for a new life.

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## A LITTLE BIT OF HIGH FALLUTIN' & (perhaps) THOUGHTFUL NONSENSE

Phone Call From St. Pete (tongue in heart): "Dingalingaling!"

"Hello, this is the 82nd Fighter Group's Baloney Slicer, how can I help you?"

"Dickie Bird, this is St. Pete and I just ---- "

"Hold the phone, hold the phone!" I'm not ready to go yet; I've got too many daggone things to do."

"No no, don't worry about that. Besides, I'm just a greeter - those decisions are made in another department. The reason I called is that I've been looking for John Tate because you had listed him in your last "IN MEMORIAM" box and I'm naturally concerned.

"Well I'm sorry about that. I just flat-out goofed and I've already gotten a lot of flak about that and I don't need anymore -- especially from upstairs."

"Now now, don't get all bent out of shape. I was just doing my job and checking up. I understand now that John's OK. Incidentally, you've been sending us a lot of fine folks and we appreciate it."

"Excuse me, sir, but the only folks we have in the 82nd are "fine" folks, and - if you will excuse a bit of impertinence - we are not "sending" them to you - you are "taking" them a n d we don't appreciate it. By the way, since we are on the subject, could you give me an ETA?

"Zounds, Dickie Bird, now you are really playing with fire! As I said before, that info is in another department; besides, if I was privy to that and divulged it to you I'd be busted so fast I wouldn't have time to pull the rip-cord. Up here there's no "1, 2 & 3 - and yer out" plan.

"Oops, gotta go, got company. See you soon!"

"HEY, W A I T !"

--- Click!!! ---

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