

MARCH 1983

43rd BOMB GROUP - NEWSLETTER

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6th Edition 63rd, 64th, 65th, 403rd, Hdqr. Sqds. March 1983

Dear 43rd members.

Your writer has been busy trying to wind up and retire from law practice, so you are due an apology for late newsletter and some inattention to 43rd business. Response to 5th edition in news and dues has been good, and "Andy" Anderson is making good progress on 83 reunion (more later on this).

My personal thanks to all who sent good wishes, dues and new prospects, the roster is now up to 575. When time permits, I hope to organize some regional mini-reunions, and plan to be in a small one in Phoenix around May 1st. Thanks to Lloyd Boren, who keeps roster on his computer and edits & mails newsletter, I am saved from court martial for neglect of duty. The July newsletter will be mostly an updated roster with addresses of all of our members we have found. In the meantime, you may contact either myself or Lloyd Boren if you need info. After July, we will probably weed out those who have not answered in any way, as we have no way of knowing about them except newsletters are not returned. The yearly dues for 1983 are \$10.00, and if you have not sent yours, they go to Robert H. Butler, 511 Forrest Lake Rd., Fayetteville, NC 28305. Dues are not a must to receive the newsletter, but you MUST write and let us know that you want to continue receiving the newsletter. Also include any news items you think we can use.

TAPS

C. F.B. VALENTINE - As the first CO of the 43rd GP, he brought the GP from Langley Field to Bangor, Maine in the summer of 1941, and until the GP sailed in Feb. 1942 on the Queen Mary for Australia.

HAROLD V. BAILEY, died on Jan. 21, 1983 in Stratford, Ct. He and his wife, Elizabeth, were looking forward to the QM reunion. (Mrs Bailey asked that we keep her name on our mailing list, and, when asked, we will do this.)

Robert W. Showers - Moses Lake, Washington

NEWS ITEMS

ROGER VARGAS, 63rd, and wife Olga have returned from a six weeks trip to Australia. While there, they ran into FREDERICK BLAIR who has lived in Australia for 4 years. Blair's address is, 11/69 Evans St., Harbord, New South Wales, Aust. 2096... JOE SHAPURA, a much decorated crew member of the 65th, is moving from Pinella Park, Fla. due to ill health; however, before he moved, he sent to the writer a treasure of 43rd history; 3 albums, copies of Yank and 1944 Air Force Magazines; Down Under, listing names of friends in 65th, and a copy of his pilot's, WILLIAM CRAWFORD'S, book "GORE AND GLORY"... FRED COOKE, 65th, navigator on Crawford's crew sent a good account of Joe Holguin's story which was published in Fiji Island newspaper... MIKE BACHI, in the art department, Central State University, Edmond, Okla. is preparing a banner for the 43rd, featuring honors and stations in WW2... Two brothers, HARLEY HAYDEN and KENNETH HAYDEN, served in the 65th as crew members from Queen Mary voyage until 1944... AL HAAS, 64th, plans to make 83 reunion. He was in stateroom # 122 on the 42 voyage... MAX "POKE" WOTRING, 403rd, is retired in Fresno, Calif. He has promised me some stories about the old days... EDWIN STUELAND, 65th, nose gunner is retired from John Deere in May 1982... WES ROWE, 64th, is working on a wood carving of the 43rd emblem. Hope he can bring it to Calif. reunion, where he will visit a daughter at Palos Verdes... LON WEYLAND, 64th, is in steel fabrication in Hot Springs, Ark. He sent me a clipping of recent recovery of B-24 crash victim recovered after 39 years in New Guinea... DOMINICK ANGERAME, 63rd, sent me a long letter and combat diary with picture of "TALISMAN", CLYDE FARRELL, crew chief, BROWNSTEIN, and LEN NYGARD. He also lists BILL LAIRD, DICK WOODS, TONY DE ANGELIS, and GERALD NEWMAN as great and dedicated mechanics... GEORGE ALLISON retired as SM/SGT in 1961, he sent name of another 403rd member CHARLES WILLOUGHBY, photo lab chief who lives in Naples, Fl... BILL MICHAELS, had recent visit with Hdq. buddies, TOM KELLEY in Colorado, and LOUIS ALPE in Arkansas... HAROLD BRECHT has recovered from heart surgery well enough to play golf in San Antonio with friend from 64th, RAY HOLSEY... BRUCE HOY, museum director in New Guinea, who has been a very good friend of this organization, sent a great article on 7 mile "JACKSON" strip, to CARL HUSTAD who lent it to

me. It is now the International Airport for Port Moresby. HOY is trying to raise support of a monument in Moresby dedicated to all members of the Air Force who fought there. In this regard, JOSE HOLGUIN, 65th, has chartered a fund to raise money for the monument. You may contact Jose at 3660 Amesbury Rd., Los Angeles, Ca 90027... M. L. CRABB, 403rd radio operator and waist-gunner, is Texaco and Goodrich dealer in Killeen, Tx... WALT SISMILICH, Mess Sgt. retired, has sent a complete list of data on Queen Mary Crew & stores. It will be good for our 43 History... CHARLIE MARVEL has retired after 41 years with the Long Lines Dept. of AT&T. He sent a good letter of his days in the 403rd and 65th with BILL SMITH, later CO of 65th, WALTER BRENNEMEN, who went down on Aug 3, 1943, also a close call Charlie had with GEORGE PUTMAN in "RIO RITA" 26 days later... ALDEN "HARKY" HARCLORODE called from Camp Hill, PA. that a recent visit to Queen showed him the ship is in first class shape, and will run... LLOYD BOREN'S wife Helen also paid a visit to the Queen in February and was impressed... WILLIAM M. EDWARDS JR., 403rd, is now in construction in Rockville, MD... HYMAN MARDER, 403rd, is in real estate and insurance in Phil., PA, sends best wishes to all members of 43rd... RUSSELL SEDERBERG, Hdq, retired from Bremerton Naval Shipyard in Wash... PHIL HOFFECKER, 64th had Christmas meeting in New Jersey with "E.P." "LUCKY" STEVENS, DON CROWE, and RAY CHRISTIAN... JOHN PARRON is retired in Fla., sailing, fishing and camping... JOE HIRSH, 63rd, would like to start a pot to reward the crew with the greatest number on board Queen Mary at reunion... MICHAEL J. O'MALLEY, 63rd, Judge in Pittsburg PA. has some good ideas about regional reunions of 43rd... C. "KELLY" O' CONNOR, 403rd and 63rd, is retired in Manchester, NH., has a son at Air Force Academy... JACK RHODES, 65th is in appliance business in Bakersfield, Ca... BRYAN J. BENNETT, writes the following quoted letter: Mr. Brian Bennett, who assisted Mr. Jose Holguin in locating B17E-41-2430 "NAUGHTY BUT NICE" near Rabaul, New Britain Island in 1982 would be interested in corresponding with any FIFTH AIR FORCE PERSONAL who participated in operations against Rabaul. He is particularly interested in association members who may have photographs, diaries, etc. relating to this period. If former personal are prepared to part with original material, they are assured that after xerox, it will be forwarded to the National Museum of Papua New Guinea. However, copies of negatives and xerox of other material will be gratefully accepted. Mr. Bennett would like to contact ground crew personal who may still have maintenance manuals relating to the B17. Any 5th Air Force people, especially 43rd B.G. types who may visit his area in the future, are welcome, and will be housed and toured with no expense. Contact address is: BRIAN J. BENNETT, P.O. BOX 338, RABAU, PAPUA NEW GUINEA... NORMAN FRIEDBERG, 64th Navigator, sent best wishes from La Mesa, Ca... ROBERT AUGUSTINE, 64th, was crew chief on "BOB'S HOPE", B24 which was christened by Bob Hope at Owi... JOHN "RED" HANLON, Sqd Nav in 65th is now an Attorney for Metropolitan Life in New York... P. D. ALEXANDER, 403rd maint. chief, retired in Dec, 80 as Manager of Mfg & Engr. for McDonnell Douglas Aircraft in Tulsa, OK... Good letter from BILL WELCH, 403rd, in Colorado, he cleared up some history on 43rd participation in first mass raid on Rabaul... WALDO SCHAUWECKER, 64th, is semi-retired, summers in Perrysburg, Ohio, and winters in Fla... WARREN "DICK" HASSINGER, 403rd retired in 1975 from Federal Govt. Service. He lives in Terre Haute, Ind... From GEORGE B. GREEN, a broadcaster in Oakland, Calif., a new name, JOHN B. RATEKIN, 65th, from Manteca, Calif.

A message from Lloyd. It would be a big help if as many of you as can, will bring your squadron and or group patches to the reunion. There seems to be quite a bit of controversy as to which INSIGNA belongs to who.

THE BEST TO ALL OF YOU,
BOB BUTLER

NOW THE BIG NEWS

THE 43RD. BOMB GROUP IS AGAIN BOOKED AS "PASSENGERS" ON THE QUEEN MARY!!

Plan now to re-live the great adventure this group experienced 41 years ago (1942). We now have a contract to hold our 1983 reunion on board the Queen Mary at Long Beach, California. The firm dates are:

Friday, September 30 Check in, registration, visiting with other squadron members. Some free time.

Saturday, October 1 Continued registration, morning meeting and afternoon visiting in the beautiful and spacious

Grand Salon. Some free time.

Reception, dinner, and dancing in the Flamenco Salon with our own bar outside the door on a private deck.

Sunday, October 2 An elegant champagne brunch at 10:30 a.m. in the Grand Salon or an early breakfast at the Promenade Cafe.

For those who can stay an extra day:

Sunday Afternoon Bus to March Air Force Base Air Museum or boat tour of Long Beach/Los Angeles harbors, the most active harbor on the West Coast. Both harbors share a common breakwater.

Sunday eve & Mon a.m. Just visiting with former squadron members.

For the ladies and other family members, no special activities need be planned. There are plenty of activities available. Tour the 1019 ft. long, 81,000 ton, 12 deck ship. Shop aboard the ship in the Picadilly Shops. Browse around the London Village adjacent to the ship.....Shop or have a lunch of fish and chips with tea or English beer. The Howard Hughes "Spruce Goose" flying boat is in a new domed exhibit building near the stern of the ship. This amazing airplane, still the largest in the world, has never been viewed by the public. The exhibit will be opened for the first time in May of this year.

Your hotel is over 350 former first class cabins aboard ship. The price is now guaranteed to be \$ 46.00 single, and \$ 54.00 double occupancy plus Long Beach city tax. The rooms are 1936 era but the beds are new and comfortable. Just remember the theme is "nostalgia" for this reunion. These accommodations were good enough for such persons as Winston Churchill and Clark Gable.....both regular passengers in years gone by. You will be sent registration forms. A check for your first night's stay must be sent to the Queen Mary with your reservation request.

If you are physically handicapped, you can still stay aboard ship. An elevator outside the ship will take you from your, car, bus, or taxi to the hotel level. The dining halls are reached by an elevator aboard ship. Those in a wheel chair or on crutches need not stay home. For those who are handicapped, if you will notify me of your plane schedule and flight number, you will be met at the Los Angeles or Long Beach Airport and escorted to the Queen Mary.

The Long Beach area is a great place to vacation. If you can come early, or stay over a few days, you can visit Disneyland, Catalina Island, Marineland of the Pacific, or other nearby attractions. Most all major airlines fly to Los Angeles. The airport is being enlarged and remodeled for the 1984 Summer Olympics. Those flying from Chicago or Dallas/Ft Worth would check out Air America with flights direct into Long Beach Airport. U.S. Air will begin twice daily flights from Pittsburgh to L.A. beginning May 15. For those who plan to come in a motor home or camper.....you may use the Queen Mary parking lot, but you will not be permitted to sleep in your RV. The nearest RV park is miles away, but if you need one, send me a note and I will supply information.

Do not hesitate to call or write for more information or to make your own suggestions for a great reunion:

HOWARD "ANDY" ANDERSON
15114 CHETNEY DRIVE
BALDWIN PARK, CA 91706
HP 213-337-4940
BP 213-225-1281

THE FOLLOWING NEW NAMES HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE ROSTER. SOME, WE HAVE SQUADRON LISTED, OTHERS WE NEED SQUADRON.

RICHARD BACHEDLER JR.
2180 S. MAIN
MANSFIELD, OH 44907

CHARLES DEWEES
3924 PELHAM RD.
FT WORTH, TX 76116

A.M. JOHNSON
4120 TERRACE
AMARILLO, TX 79109

TOM CARROLL
98 PARK ST.
UPPER MONTCLAIR, NJ 07042

JAMES P. HOLLORAN
1325 DERRN
CORPUS CHRISTI, TX 78415

STEVE KUBASEK
101 MADISON ST.
CHICOPEE FALLS, MA 01020

DON WALKER
4046 MARATHON DR.
COLUMBIAVILLE, MI 48421

ROBERT BAUMGARDNER
1007 REPPTO ST.
BROWNFIELD, TX 79316

WILLIAM H. SMITH
403 SAN JACINTO ST.
HIGHLANDS, TX 77562

EDWARD J. JOHNSON 63RD
P. O. BOX 317
STARKVILLE, MS 39759

C. W. HESS 63RD
THREE SPRINGS, PA 17264

WILLIAM C. BURNS 64TH
1007 STEWART DR.
ROANOKE, AL 36274

KENNETH HAYDEN 65TH
1005 MADDEN RD.
JACKSONVILLE, AR 72076

FRANKLIN "JACK" RHODES 65TH
2504 ELTON AVE.
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306

CHARLES H. WILLOUGHBY 403RD
108 SAN SALVADOR ST.
NAPLES, FL 33942

JOHN H. HANLON 65TH
98 N. CHATSWORTH AV.
LARCHMONT, NY 10538

MAURICE WHITWORTH
620 N. 3RD ST.
GIRARD, IL 62640

ROBERT J. MC COY
1729 W. SCHAAF RD.
CLEVELAND, OH 44109

CHARLES K. STEIN
13916 COMPSTON ST.
VAN NUYS, CA 91401

SAL RAMIREZ
1624 FIFTH ST.
FORT HUMENET, CA 93041

RICHARD W. MORIAERTY
WEST STREET
PETERSHAM, MA 01366

KENNETH M. SELLERS
2557 CAMBER ST.
SPRINGFIELD, MO 65804

GEORGE L. ABSHIER
BOX 156
DAISETTA, TX 77533

FORREST "TOMMY" THOMPSON
2401 LAKEVIEW DR.
HEBER SPRINGS, AR 72543

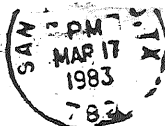
DONALD P. CROWE
52 CLOUGH RD.
WATERBURY, CT 06078

JAMES W. DUANE 64TH
9744 HOWE DR.
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66206

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4805 N W 35TH ST.
LAUDERDALE LAKES, FL 33319

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