



43RD BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION, INC.
"KEN'S MEN"



NEWSLETTER 128th EDITION OCTOBER 2014

PRESIDENT

SUSAN CLARK LANSON
10460 ROOSEVELT BLVD. N
SUITE 273
ST. PETERSBURG, FL
33716
727-641-1332

VICE PRESIDENT

NANCY SOLOMON
8971 HUNTINGTON PTE
SARASOTA, FL
34238-3207
941-966-9212

TREASURER

FREDRICK J. LLOYD
16C ALPINE DRIVE
WAPPINGERS FALLS,
NY 12590
845-549-3697

SECRETARY

EDWARD L. GAMMILL
5337 E. EARLL DR.
PHOENIX, AZ
85018-8045
602-301-7224

Website: www.kensmen.com

DIRECTORS

James C. Diffenderfer
Robert W. Cooper
Ralph D. Grubb)
James W. Eide
Samuel F. Commons
George O. Anderson

PAST PRESIDENTS

Robert Butler 1981-1984*
George L. White 1985-1987*
William H. Wilson, Jr. 1988-1991*
Dale F. Barr, Jr. 1992-1993*
Max Osborn 1994-1995*
James T. Murphy 1996-1997*
Samuel F. Commons 1998-1999
Max M. Axelsen 2000-2001
Roger T. Kettleon 2002-2003
Charles Rauch 2004-2005
Jim Cherkauer 2006-2007
James Thompson Jr 2008
Eldon "Bud" Lawson 2009-2010*
Arvid J. Hougum 2011*
Robert R. Richardson 2012-2013

*=Deceased

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Many of us have just returned from Washington DC, the host city of our recent reunion. As always, it is wonderful to see and everyone of you. I am sure it is the same for you, to renew old friendships and make new ones.

I would to thank **Nancy Solomon, Rick Lloyd, and Ed Gammill** for their help and of course, **Michael La Vean**. There could be no reunion without them.

I would also like to thank **Jimmy Dieffenderfer** once again for his unfailing generosity in the sponsorship of our cocktail parties. A sincere thank you from us all Jimmy!

Of course no reunion would be complete without ourguest speakers and this year was no exception.

Tom Clavin, who along with his partner **Bob Drury**, is writhing a book about the 43rd Bomb Group in the years 1942 and 1943, spoke to our group about what it takes to put a book together. He was most charming and still wishes for your input. Later on in the newsletter you will see a request from him for what he specifically is looking for in regards to this current book.

Doug Walker, along with his group **Rick Dunn, John Kries and Vance Tiede**, made an excellent presentation on the

events leading up to the disappearance of Doug's father, **General Douglas Walker**, who's aircraft went down in January 1943 off the coast of **East New Britain, Papua New Guinea**. To my knowledge this is the first public presentation, **Member Douglas Walker** has made to our group. We urge you, who know of this event, to submit it to Douglas, for the search remains active to find the crash that took the lives of ten men.

After Doug's presentation, the membership voted to support his efforts by issuing a letter to **JPAC**. The letter will be an endorsement of and the encouragement of the continued search for General Doug Walker's aircraft, the **San Antonia Rose**.

Justin Taylan, a regular contributing historian and supporter of the 43rd Bomb Group, made wonderful presentations on two consecutive days. While Justin is currently working on assignment for **JPAC**, the **Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command**, he took two days of his short time off, from assignment in Papua New Guinea, to not only record our event but to also speak during the reunion. Thank you Justin!

Last but not least, our guest speaker was **General Judith Fedder**. General Fedder and husband **Chuck Fix**, joined us for our final activities Saturday evening. During which, she presented the veterans with the **WWII Victory Medal**. General Fedder was not only gracious in taking her time to join us, but wonderful when she pinned the medal on each man. In lieu of normal protocol (hand shake and/or salute) she also gave each **Kensmen** a hug and kiss on the cheek! She was a delight and a highlight of the reunion for us all.

History was made that night as well, for I heard **Garrett Minnick** tell her "The last time, I shook a General's hand was **General Kenney** in 1944!"

We didn't venture out as much as usual during this reunion, but we did make it to both the **White House** as well as the **Hazy Air & Space Museum**. It made for a long day but was well worth the effort. Creating many memories for all!

Open MIC night, as always, brought lots of surprises and once again, I thank all of you for your participation. **Joe Snyder** gave a very interesting and detailed explanation of the work that is required in the making of his gorgeous canes. He is a true artist!

Ed Gammill filled in a piece of missing history, by explaining that it was no accident that bombs were dropped into the volcano in Raboul Harbor. **Bob Cooper and George Anderson** always contribute interesting stories about their adventures. Special to **George Anderson, JR.**, who with extensive military background, made some invaluable contributions. Thank you all!

Something equally rewarding, of this reunion, was the turnout of what I refer as our next generation. We are coming out in droves!

Scott and John Dieffenderfer, you are invaluable! I was able to spend time with you this year and learn so much. Thank you for the support of this group and our efforts.

Gayle McCay and Gwen Capodiec (George Anderson's daughters) and George Jr. and **Florence** you are amazing. I appreciate your participation and thank you very much!

Victoria and John Calder, can't wait to see you next year. **Louise Terrell**, WOW, the data you put together is astounding! It would take a whole page to explain!

One more new generation joining us this year and that is **Walter "Buck" Buchanan**. He is on a search for information about his father, who served with the 403rd Squadron. He has become a member and is coming up to speed very fast in his research. He was lucky enough to

sit with **Justin Taylan** and have many of his questions answered. His father had been involved in a 1943 aircraft insentient. While unhurt, there were a lot of unanswered questions. Justin was able to answer his questions and to produce photographs of the crash site along of photos of his father he hadn't previously seen.

Our next reunion, 2015, will mark the 75th Anniversary of the formation of the 43rd Bomb Group within a few months. With that in mind, it is fitting that we attempt to have our reunion at its formation site, Langley AFB. There are many people to be involved and plans to be made. The initial indications are favorable. The ultimate goals, for each one of you, are to have a great experience while learning what happened to our men in the Pacific as well as enjoy each other's company.

However, I will fill you in on one event already in the works. A Time Capsule! One of the reunion goals, for the 2015 Reunion, is to create and bury a Time Capsule.

I would love to offer each veteran, or posthumously a family member, the opportunity to place an item in a 43rd Bomb Group Time Capsule. Details are in the works, there is nothing for sure, but how exciting! The chance to lock down some memories that will be seen by future generations that we can only imagine. Details to come!

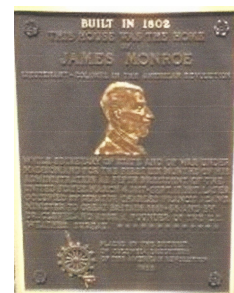
And let me end on a very **Happy Birthday** to **Garrett Minnick!** A young **99 years old** on October 12th!

Susan Clark Lanson

*****THE WASHINGTON, DC REUNION*****

August 26—After an uneventful flight, my daughter and I arrived at Hotel Lombardy. A quaint facility that is in a neighborhood that is obviously in the National Register of Historic Places! The Plaque in the building next door was the home of James Monroe, fifth US President. It was built in 1802.

After we had settled in to our room, it was to the Bar and meet Susan and Michael. Had an excellent evening, dinner/drinks and review of the next days program.



*****BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING*****

August 27--After a full day of activities, at 7:00 PM, the 43rd Bomb Group Association conducted it's annual Director's meeting in a prepared meeting room in Hotel Lombardy, 2019 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20006.

ATTENDEES: Susan Clark Lanson, President; Nance Solomon, Vice President; Fredrick Lloyd, Treasurer; Edward Gammill, Secretary and **DIRECTORS**—Robert Cooper, Jim Dieffenderfer, James Eide and George Anderson.

Members and guest: Joe and Sally Snyder, John Dieffenderfer, Hazel Gammill Lundin, Operator of the recorder and photographer.

President Lanson called the meeting to order and asked for the reading of 2013 Board Meeting minutes. A motion to accept the minutes as published in the January 2014 Newsletter was passed.

The Secretary reported that the 43rd Bomb Group Association BY-LAWS should be amended to reflect two items approved by the voting members during previous General

Meetings. President Lanson volunteered to have her attorney accomplish the revision.

Unfortunately, **Dan Knickrehm** could not attend the reunion due to being on another tour of duty over seas. He submitted his final financial status via mail to Treasurer Lloyd.

43rd Bombardment Group
2014 Reunion
Funds Accounting

Item	Deposits	Debits	Balance
43 BG Deposit	5,000		5,000
Holiday Inn Bordeaux		2,720	2,280
Bus Transportation		1,975	305
Air Force Ball (27 Attendees @ \$20.50)		553	(248)
Registration Receipts (30 Attendees @ \$135)	4,050		3,802
Totals	9,050	5,248	3,802
Total Cost to 43 BG after Receipts			\$1,198

Dan returned \$3,397 to the Treasurer. **Dan** you and **Roxanne** hosted a wonderful reunion. Thanks

TREASURER'S REPORT March 31, 2014–October 1, 2014

Balance March 31, 2014	18383,90
<u>2014 REUNION</u>	
Income	10613.00
Expenses	9451.30
Net Return from Reunion	1161.70
Dues Income	80.00
Total Income	1241.70
Total Expenses - Checking Printing	45.80
Ending Balance October 1, 2014	19579.80

This a partial year report, for I took over in March . Fredrick Lloyd

The remainder of the day was spent in greeting friends and visitors as they arrived for the reunion.

*****GENERAL MEETING*****

Minutes of the General meeting @ 9:00 AM, Thursday August 28, 2014 in Hotel Lombardy, 2019 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20006.

President Clark Lanson called the meeting to order and welcomed all members and guest to the general meeting. She reminded all attendees of the voting privileges, only members and their descendent could vote on the business of the Association. She then asked for the various

officers and committeemen to report the past years activities.

REPORTS

1-The Minutes of the 2013 General Meeting were accepted as published in the January 2014 Newsletter.

2-Fredrick Lloyd presented the Treasurer's Report , see above in the Director's meeting minutes.

3-The Membership Committeeman reported four new members and the loss of fifteen, resulting in 468 members.

The status of many members is unknown, for we have lost contact. The response to the letter that was issued to all on the Active Member List was successful. 90 letters were return to sender. These lost members will be removed from the Member Listing.

4-Susan and Fredrick Lloyd reported the reviewed the Snyder Bank. After much discussion via mail and phone. The decision is to keep the account in the Snyder Bank with two Association Officers cleared to write checks.

If you have ever tried to change a banking operation and especially move an account to another state, you understand why this decision was best.

NEW BUSINESS

1-Susan gave a review of George Mason's activities. It is requested that you continue sending material to be placed in 43rd Bomb Group archive. Louis Terrell and Susan suggested that we, individually donate to George Mason University.

October 3-Susan has added; "Many of you asked me how to donate to George Mason University and the www.pacificairwar.org web site that is housing our Kensmen history and interviews, as well as for instructions on how to donate to Justin Taylan and his nonprofit efforts. Remember, even ten or twenty dollars makes a difference in preserving our history." The following is the means of sending a contribution to these organizations.

Mrs. Sharon Leon– % Rozenweig Center for History and New Media, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, MSN - 1E7, Fairfax, VA 22030

Justin Taylan–<<http://www.pacificairwar.org>>

All donations are 100% non profit and tax deductible. You will receive a receipt for your taxes from both parties.

2-For their next book project, **Bob Drury** and **Tom Clavin** ("Halsey's Typhoon," "Last Men Out," etc.) are hoping to connect with family members of men who were members of **Jay Zeamer's** crew on their June 16, 1943 mapping and photography mission. Those crewmen were **Lt. Sarnoski, Lt. J.T. Britton, Sgt. Johnnie Able, Sgt. William Vaughan, Sgt. Herbert Pugh, Sgt. George Kendrick, Lt. Ruby Johnston and Sgt. Forrest Dillman**. If members of the a 43rd Bomb Group knew any of these men or can connect the authors with a family member, please contact Tom at Beachreading@gmail.com or call (631) 255-6970.

Doug Walker, Rick Dunn, John Kries and Vance Tiede reviewed the status of the search for his father, **General Douglas Walker, Commander of 5th Bomber Command**. The purpose of Mission 4L and what is known about the flight is an attachment.

Bob Drury, who was to be our guest speaker, was late due to DC morning traffic. I asked Susan if I could give the message I planned for the open MIC night. She agreed, so I was able to report the fate of my first B-17F. The report for many years has been that S/N 41-24402 was lost via a crash that occurred at Iron Range, where the 63rd Squadron had men on temporary duty.

I received the attached e-mail from **Michael Musumeci, Life Associate Member**. He is a member of the group that is accumulating data to record the Marreba Airport history during WWII.

"402" was lost while performing transport duty 16Nov42. The aircraft was overloaded- 17 men (mechanics, cooks and office personnel) and their equipment which was not properly located or secured. As Lt. Sogaard attempted landing, the loose equipment shifted aft. As the landing proceeded, the aircraft became uncontrollable and did a tail first belly flop. Resulting a total loss of "402"

So after 72 years, we now know what happened to "402"

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1-Larry Hickey and I have had much correspondence via e-mail and phone. I have sent him a copy of our current Membership names/addresses and a list of known deaths.

Larry's expects to issue the B-17 volume before Christmas. My advice to you is: SEND HIM YOUR PRESENT ADDRESS, include a copy of your payment if you did so many years ago. Larry's latest status report is included as an attachment.

August 29—Most of the attendees went on the White House Tour, I did not go, for I was in much trouble during the 2011 Reunion for taking photographs. Was severely scolded, but not thrown out.

Believe-or-not they now hand out an offer for a professional photographer to photograph you in the Presidents chair at his desk in the Blue Room!

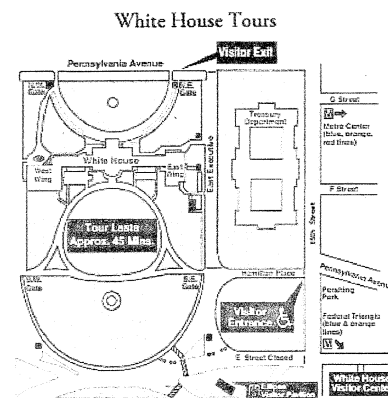
All of attendees enjoyed the visit and thought that life in the White House would be very interesting and comfortable.

I understand that the security was extensive and time consuming, which is understandable. The only personal comment I heard was from my son, Powell—"What, you did not attend and maintain the Gammill reputation of White House Photographer?"

The afternoon was spent in the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum. When we entered the museum, we were given guides and material to assist in viewing the aircraft and special displays. If needed wheelchairs were provided. So we roamed around seeing the many aircraft and space vehicles. The IMAX Theater was visited by several of our group.

We had a wonderful experience in the museum. Saw aircraft from Piper Cub to the SR-71 Blackbird and space craft from the Mercury one man capsule to the Space Shuttle.

The only negative comment I heard was about the display of a painting and the description of Jay Zeamer's flight which resulted in Medal of Honor recipients. It was full of errors, several of our ladies informed the museum staff and were assured that correction would be made. To make sure, I have written a letter informed the museum of the problem.



After returning to the hotel we finished the day with our usual tall tales and I can assure there were some good ones. Jimmie D. and George Anderson, Sr. were on Prime Time. Wade Kehr displayed his wood carving.



August 30—Prior to the arrival of our guest speaker, the Memorial Service was conducted. Chaplin Lloyd offered the following---“We commemorate and celebrate, with humble reverence, the memory of absent comrades, friends and family members. While we revere and cherish the memory of those who came before, we are reminded to support our Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen who are currently serving.

“As we remember those who have passed and weigh the selfless devotion of our fallen and what they have given, we are obligated to look hard at who we are and aspire to become the best we can be.” Nancy sang **“How Great Thou Art”**

Reading the names of our friends and members who answered The Final Role Call this passed year –Ed Gammill-63rd Squadron, Bob Cooper-64th Squadron, Sam Commons-65th Squadron and Wade Kehr-403rd Squadron.

<u>63rd SQUADRON</u>	<u>64th SQUADRON</u>	<u>65th SQUADRON</u>	<u>403rd SQUADRON</u>
Edward J. O’Brien, Jr.	Francis X. Labie	Weldon (Don) Yost	Howard Cook
John Landt	Mario Barsotti	Eldon E. “Bud” Lawson	Haydon Clark
Malcolm Perry, Jr.	Robert E. Ostrander		
Harold T. Newton	Frank Remaniak		
Raymond Gates	Wallace W. Munson		
	Wendell W. Jones		

In closing, Nancy asked all to join-in and sing **“God Bless America”**

John Dieffenderfer read:

MISSING MAN TABLE

Table: set for one, is small, symbolizing the frailty of one isolated prisoner.

The table is usually in the range of the entrance to the dining room.

Table is round to represent everlasting concern on the part of the survivors for their missing loved ones.

Tablecloth is white, symbolic of the purity of their intentions to respond to their country’s call to arms.

Single red rose in the vase, signifies the blood that many have shedding sacrifice to ensure the freedom of our beloved United States of America. This rose also reminds us of the family and friends of our missing comrades who keep the faith, while awaiting their return.

Yellow ribbon on the vase represents the yellow ribbons worn on the lapels of the

thousands who demand with unyielding determination a proper accounting of our comrades who are not among us tonight.

Slice of lemon on the plate: represents the bitter fate of the missing.

Salt sprinkled on the plate: symbolic of the countless fallen tears of families as they wait.

Inverted glass: represents the fact that the missing and fallen cannot partake.

Candle: Reminiscent of the light of hope which lives in our hearts to illuminate their way home, away from their captors, to the open arms of a grateful nation.

Empty chair: the missing and fallen aren't present.

Our guest **Lieutenant General Judith A. Fedder** and her husband **Chuck Fix** arrived and was introduced by Susan.

After an excellent dinner, General Fedder gave a review of the present day USAF and recognition of the 43rd Bomb Group and the present day 43rd Airlift Group. She ended with a big surprise.

Each Kensmen present was asked to come forward and receive the WORLD WAR II VICTORY medal. After she pinned the medal--- not a salute or a hand shake. It was a **HUG** with a **KISS** on the cheek! Bet this is the first time any of you were kissed by a Three Star General.



Finished the evening with music by the **Steve Thomas Duo** (mellow Sax and Key Board).



The duo was to my back, a big surprise. We heard this sweet/mellow voice singing “**I Could Have Danced All Night.**” As I turned around, there was our Nancy, a cabaret singer! Nancy, you must do this more often.



August 31-Check out and headed home. An uneventful trip.

*******EDITOR’S AND MEMBER’S REPORTS*******

Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.

Henry David Thoreau

You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.

C S Lewis

The following is repeated so you may easily obtain the current newsletter.

At the 2013 General Meeting, the attendees were made aware of the Association’s financial status, after which, the **Membership voters present, voted to reduce the cost of publishing and US Postal mailing the newsletters. Therefore, to all members, please note that you can read or download any Newsletter by logging on to**

<http://www.kensmen.com/newsletters.html>. This is the URL where the newsletters are located on our website. All one has to do, is type that into the browser window to find all newsletters listed by date and number. **Follow these instructions to easily obtain 43rd Bomb Group Association's newsletters from #-1 thru the current issue.**

During one of **Joe Snyder’s** travels, he met three Vietnam veterans who were probably having a mini reunion. Being impressed with them and their story, Joe gives a review of his new friends:

Al Suche--A good friend and a navy veteran in Vietnam. Joe carved Cane #44 for Al’s father!

Perry Keeton—A friend of Al Suche's a Vietnam veteran who was awarded the DFC. He was a S/Sgt. in the 6900th Security Squadron. He received Cane #45

Larry Mills—A highly decorated Vietnam veteran and a friend of Perry Keeton. Larry is married to **Mikie** who lived on the island of Miyako, which is south of Okinawa.

They have two children, son Rickey who is now a full Colonel and a daughter Gina who is a Lieutenant Colonel. Larry was awarded the DFC and the Air Medal with 32 oak leaf clusters! Larry received Cane #48.

Joe passed on the check, he received from Larry, to our Treasurer with the request that these three men become **LIFE Associate Members** of the 43rd Bomb Group Association. Welcome aboard, you are now **Kensmen!**

Cane #49 was delivered to our Web Mistress **Tracy Tucciarone**

By-the-way, Joe displayed Cane #50 during the 2014 Reunion gathering. It is the **Joseph W. Snyder, 403rd Squadron, Gunner Cane!** A beautiful masterpiece in wood! It is about time, Joe!

August 19--**Jo Bachi** called to inform of a change in address—**458 Discovery Blvd., Cedar Park, TX 78615-2222**. She has moved out of her beloved OK and is now in an assisted living home near her daughter.

Unfortunately Jo is not doing well and is quite upset. She would appreciate calls from some of her Kensmen friends.

Received a letter from **Nancy De Angelis Hartman**—"My father was **Tony De Angelis, 63rd Squadron, Maintenance Crew Chief**. The enclosed photo has come to me through my parents. Mom, **Virginia**, is still living and is quite vital at 89. We lost Dad in 2007 and remember his stories and pride in his service. My brother **Chris** has corresponded with you before.

As this appears to be an official portrait, you probably already have it. However, just in case you do not, I am sending it along.

Regards,

Nancy Hartman

Dear Nancy, your mother and I have exchanged Christmas Cards since the start of the Association! Chris and I correspond when something comes up. Tony was a very good friend, the whole De Angelis family participated in many reunions. We had some good times and meetings.

The man in the photo is **S/Sgt. George Dirr, 63rd Squadron, Asst. Flight Engineer**. Dirr was a member of **Ken McCuller's** original crew who arrived, with our first B-17F aircraft in August 1942 in Torrens Creek. November 15, 1942 Dirr became a member of **Staley's** crew. Thanks, I will add the photo to the B-17 ERA collection.

October 9—Received from **Coral Strong**: "I'm writing to inform you **Joe C. Strong, 64th Squadron** passed away in April 2013. He was 90. We enjoyed many years of the reunions. I am sorry to be so late.

Sincerely **Coral Strong**

I received an extensive amount of data from Sam Commons. Sam, sorry but installing some of your data creates a document that is too large for my computer to e-mail to Tracy. Therefore, I will send all of your material to George Mason University.

*******SENIOR MOMENTS*******

You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.

C J Lois

From Max Alexsen

Grandma's Home Remedies

“For better digestion, I drink beer.

In case of appetite loss, I drink white wine.

In case of low blood pressure, I drink red wine.

In case of high blood pressure, I drink scotch.

When I have a cold, I drink schnapps.”

“When do you drink water?”

“I've never been that sick!”

From Jim Eide

As we Silver Surfers know, sometimes we have trouble with our computers. I had a problem yesterday, so I called Eric, the 11 year old next door, whose bedroom looks like Mission Control. I asked him to come over and give me a hand.

Eric clicked a couple of keys and solved the problem. As he walked away, I called out to him, “So what was wrong?” He replied, “It was an ID ten T error.”

I didn't want to appear stupid, but nonetheless inquired. “An ID ten T error? What's that? In case I need to fix it again.”

Eric grinned — “Haven't you ever heard of an ID ten T error before?” “No,” I replied.

“Well write down,” he said, and I think you'll figure it out.”

So I wrote it down. ID10T

I used to like Eric, the little shit head.

*******43rd HUMOR*******

This one has been around before. Since I found it again in my search for humor. I must repeat it. This has to remind you of **Charley Parker**, now deceased, but fondly remembered as our tobacco chewing and NC maker of fine white lighting.

Fifty-one years ago, Herman James , a North Carolina mountain man, was drafted by the Army. On his first day in basic training, the Army issued him a comb. That afternoon the Army barber sheared off all his hair. On his second day, the Army issued Herman a toothbrush. That afternoon the Army dentist yanked seven of his teeth. On the third day, the Army issued him a jock strap. The Army has been looking for Herman for 51 years.

Okay Ladies more Blond Man Jokes

An Italian tourist asks a blonde man. “Why do scuba divers always fall backwards of their boats?” To which the blonde man replies. “If they fell forward, they’d still be in the boat.”

A woman phoned her blonde neighbor man and said. “Close your curtains the next time you and your wife are having sex. The whole street was watching and laughing at you yesterday.” To which the blonde man replied: “Well the joke’s on all of you because I wasn’t even at home yesterday.”

This newsletter is published four times a year - **January, April, July and October.** Send items for the Newsletter to **Ed Gammill, 5337 East Earll Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85018-8045** or via e-mail to **Edgammill@aol.com.** Any material receive after the 15th of the month prior to the publishing date probably will not appear in that publication.

Collecting annual dues has been discontinued. If you wish to become a member of the association we ask you to become a Life member. When making application for Life Membership send **application** and **payment** directly to **Treasurer Fredrick J. Lloyd, 16 C ALPINE DRIVE, WAPPINGERS FALLS, NY 12590.** Remember that Life Membership is \$100.

*****ATTACHMENTS*****

- 1-2014 Reunion Attendees
- 2-General Fedder’s Biography
- 3-Mission 4L---General Walker’s MIA Flight, 3 pages
- 4-Michael Musumeci’s e-mail B-17F S/N 41-24402 crash, 2 pages
- 5-Larry Hickey’s report, 2 pages

REUNION ATTENDANCE

63rd SQUADRON

Ed Gammill
Hazel Gammill Lundin
Jim Dieffenderfer
John Diefenderfer
Scott Diefenderfer
Alfred Hagen
Anne Ewers

64th SQUADRON

Bob Cooper
Van R. Cooper
Linda Cooper (Russell)
Garrett L. Minnick
Sally Jo Mitchell
James "Duke" Mitchell
Louise Terrell (Voght)
Joyce Rodella
Deb Fox
Douglas P. Walker

65th SQUADRON

James Eide
Steve Eide
Victoria Eide Calder
John Calder
Sam Commons
Donna Marchese
Rachel Commons

403rd SQUADRON

Joe Snyder
Sally Snyder
Michael La Vean
Susan Lanson
Gayle McCay
Brian McCay
George Anderson Sr.
George Anderson Jr.
Gwenn Capodiecici
James Capodiecici
Andrew Capodiecici
Florence Anderson
Nancy Hughes

Solomon
Rick Lloyd
Patty Way
Walter Buchanan III
Mark Morris
Wade Kehr
Lugia Kehr

GUEST

Justin Taylan
Lieutenant General Judith A. Fedder
Chuck Fix
Rick Dunn
John Kries
Vance Tiede

AUTHORS

Tom Clavin

REUNION ATTENDANCE

63rd SQUADRON

Ed Gammill
Hazel Gammill Lundin
Jim Dieffenderfer
John Diefenderfer
Scott Diefenderfer
Alfred Hagen
Anne Ewers

64th SQUADRON

Bob Cooper
Van R. Cooper
Linda Cooper (Russell)
Garrett L. Minnick
Sally Jo Mitchell
James "Duke" Mitchell
Louise Terrell (Voght)
Joyce Rodella
Deb Fox
Douglas P. Walker

65th SQUADRON

James Eide
Steve Eide
Victoria Eide Calder
John Calder
Sam Commons
Donna Marchese
Rachel Commons

403rd SQUADRON

Joe Snyder
Sally Snyder
Michael La Vean
Susan Lanson
Gayle McCay
Brian McCay
George Anderson Sr.
George Anderson Jr.
Gwenn Capodiecici
James Capodiecici
Andrew Capodiecici
Florence Anderson
Nancy Hughes

Solomon
Rick Lloyd
Patty Way
Walter Buchanan III
Mark Morris
Wade Kehr
Lugia Kehr

GUEST

Justin Taylan
Lieutenant General Judith A. Fedder
Chuck Fix
Rick Dunn
John Kries
Vance Tiede

AUTHORS

Tom Clavin



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

LIEUTENANT GENERAL JUDITH A. FEDDER

Lt. Gen. Judith A. Fedder is Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Installations and Mission Support, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C. General Fedder is responsible to the Chief of Staff for leadership, management and integration of Air Force logistics readiness, aircraft and missile maintenance, civil engineering and security forces, as well as setting policy and preparing budget estimates that reflect enhancements to productivity, combat readiness and quality of life for Air Force people.

General Fedder is a 1980 distinguished graduate of the ROTC program at Michigan State University. A career maintainer, she has served as officer in charge of numerous aircraft maintenance units and as Chief of Logistics Management at the Combined Joint Task Force Headquarters for operations Proven Force and Provide Comfort at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey. Her commands include the 46th Component Repair Squadron and 46th Equipment Maintenance Squadron at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.; 31st Logistics Group at Aviano AB, Italy; 65th Air Base Wing at Lajes Field, Portugal, where she also served as the Sub-Unified Commander of U.S. Forces Azores; and the 76th Maintenance Wing at Tinker AFB, Okla. She has served as Deputy Director in the Office of Legislative Liaison, Secretary of the Air Force; and as the Director of Logistics for Air Combat Command. Prior to this assignment, the General was the Director of Logistics, Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Installations and Mission Support, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.



EDUCATION

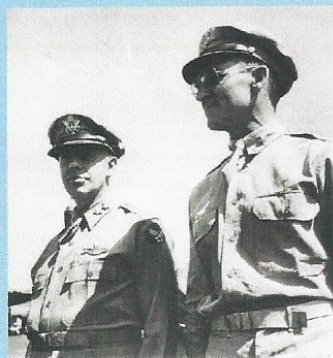
1980 Bachelor of Science degree in dietetics, Michigan State University, East Lansing
1984 Master of Systems Management degree, Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne
1984 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
1992 Distinguished graduate, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
1996 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2003 National Security Management Course, Maxwell School, Syracuse University, N.Y.
2009 National Security Studies Program, Elliott School, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
2011 Defense Policy Program, Elliott School, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. November 1980 - April 1981, student, Aircraft Maintenance Officer Course, Chanute AFB, Ill.
2. April 1981 - May 1984, officer in charge, Maintenance Branch, 1st Equipment Maintenance Squadron; assistant officer in charge, 94th Aircraft Maintenance Unit; and officer in charge, 71st Aircraft Maintenance Unit, 1st Aircraft Generation Squadron, Langley AFB, Va.
3. May 1984 - July 1984, student, Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.



Dawn or Noon?: Mission 4L, 5 Jan 1943 Target Rabaul



MG General Kenny & BG Walker

SAR Working Group
43rd Bombardment Group (Heavy) Association
Washington, DC, 29 August 2014

II. Mission

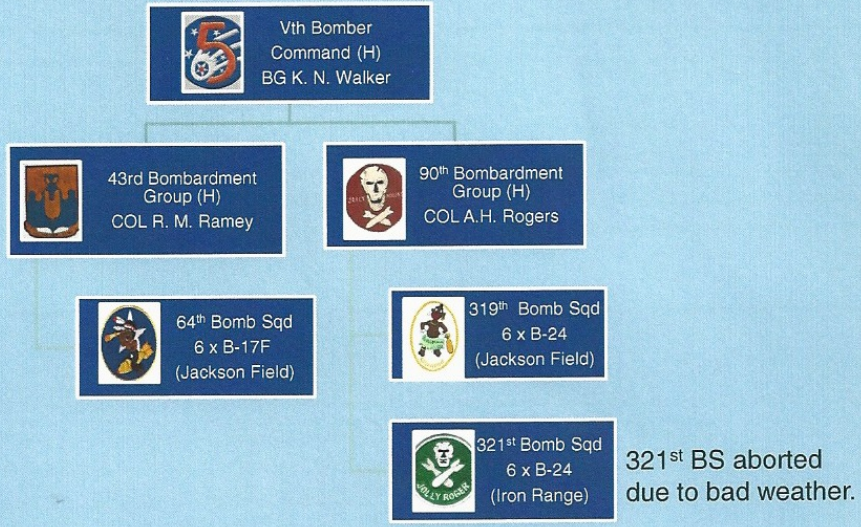
Vth Bomb Command/Vth USAAF will bomb Japanese shipping in Simpson Harbor, Rabaul, East New Britain, 5 January 1943/Time on Target (ToT) **0600L** to reduce threat of enemy amphibious offensive operations in theater.

BG Walker changes ToT to 1200L to ensure rendezvous with 320th BS over Hood Point, PNG.

(cf. William Whitacre, *Diary*, 5 Jan 1943)

Task Organization

Mission 4L, 5 Jan 1943



Decision Matrix

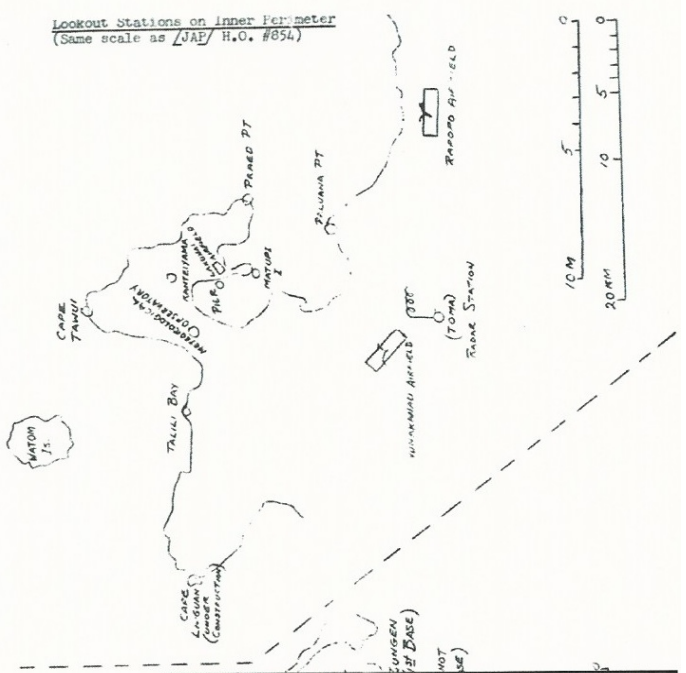
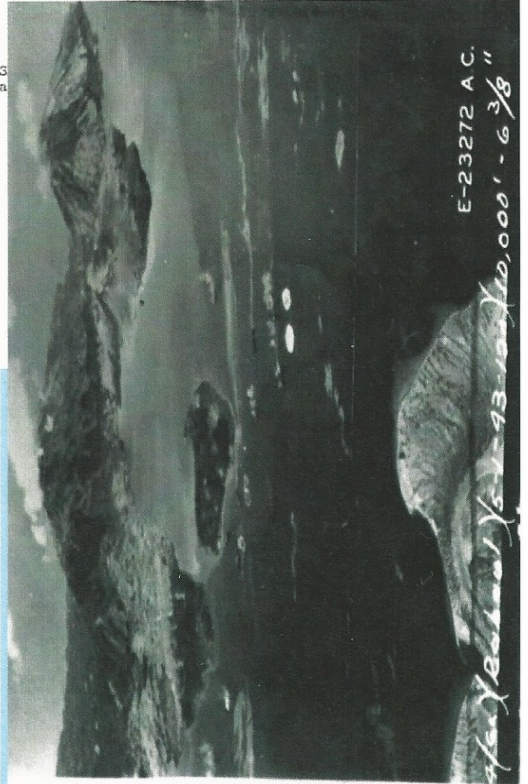
Mission 4L, 5 Jan 1943



Relative Weight #	Planning Constraints				Row Totals	
	1	2	1	1	7	
Relative Weight %	14%	29%	14%	14%	29%	
Course of Action	Weather	En Air Defense	Navigation	Target Visibility	Cmd & Control	Score
COA 1 (Dawn)	25	75	20	40	25	41
COA 2 (Noon)	75	25	80	60	75	59
Column Totals	100	100	100	100	100	100
Remarks	Rain	Radar & LP/Ops	Time on Target	Limited Training		
	New Moon	A/A & Fighters	0600 vs. 1200	Flying Formations		

Decision Matrix Algorithm

- Step 1: List Course of Action options as rows
- Step 2: Determine important Planning Constraints
- Step 3: Assign relative weights to each Constraint
- Step 4: Score (0-100) each COA by Constraint
- Step 5: COA Option with the highest score should be considered



Ed

Thankyou so much mate. From my research, and tracking down the original reports etc, have a read of the following that is below - This information came from the actual crash reports, and the reports that SOGAARD and WARD completed. As far as I know there are no casualties. When you read the WARD report he states *The mission was to return with as much personnel and equipment as safely possible*
The date could be wrong, the plane too, but I can only go on the records.....

What are your thoughts?

Mick

B 17F Flying Fortress

43rd Bombardment Group (H)

63rd Bombardment Squadron (H)

Plane name: not known

Serial No 41-24402

Date of Crash: 16th November 1942

Location of crash: Mareeba Airfield

Crew

1st Lt Folmer J. Sogaard	Serial No 0-399577	Pilot
2nd Lt Merrill T. Ward	Serial No 0-725385	Co-Pilot
1st Lt W. A. Lindsey	Serial No 0-433017	
1st Lt J. Stentz	Serial No 0-428937	
1st Lt W. E. Ward	Serial No 0-725386	
2nd Lt W. Kryzwicky	Serial No 0-854566	

T/Sgt J. P. Kelley	Serial No 6886149
T/Sgt J.J. Ondris	Serial No 6853667
T/Sgt P.H. Jones	Serial No 13018729
S/Sgt A.E. Dow	Serial No 11016764
S/Sgt M.A. Hardin	Serial No 6971991
Sgt C. E. Green	Serial No 6954857
Sgt J.P. Allen	Serial No 17027299
Sgt W. D. Pearce	Serial No 6146550
Cpl C. P. Huff	Serial No 12029150
Cpl R. Plumb	Serial No 33007183
Cpl M. J. Merighi	Serial No 31053135

Subject: Update on "Ken's Men Against the Empire" Volume I: The B-17 Era.

From: Larry Hickey <larry@irandpcorp.com>

Date: 8/20/2014 11:39 PM

To: Edgammill@aol.com

CC: Madison Jonas <madison@irandpcorp.com>

Ed,

As I told you on the phone a few days ago, we're finally wrapping up Vol I of the 43rd History. I'm confident that both books on the 43rd will be enduring classics in the history of air warfare. Right now I'm finishing final go-over of the massive text before we complete the page indexing. We've already created the index itself and all subject entries, and now just have to drop the page numbers in once I've finished the final editing go over. Everything else is finished, including many maps and aircraft-cut aways. There will be many hundreds of photos in each volume, around 800-900 in total over the two volumes. While I'm tied up wrapping up the final go-over for the first volume, my small editing staff is working ahead on final text of Vol II. That volume on the B-24s has long been written, but we've got new text and photos we're in the process of adding to that volume and working out the interface between the two volumes. That one will be published as quickly after Vol I as we can, within a few months at most. All the artwork, aircraft color profile paintings, and the other items in the color section will all appear in that volume. The two volumes are each going to retail for \$75.00, plus \$8.50 shipping and handling. Everyone who has pre-ordered a book will get both volumes, even though we originally envisioned only a single volume. Each pre-paid order covers both volumes. There will be no additional charge for the second book or shipping.

We have never digitized all the orders from 43rd BG members before now. This has just been completed and I've attached a copy of this for your review. This was done under the supervision of our project director, Madison Jonas, who will be communicating with you as we go forward. At this point, since we're very close to final publication, we need to immediately get an updated roster from the 43rd Association so that we can figure out where we are going to stand in getting copies mailed to those on the list or their next of kin. I have no idea how many of these people are still alive or for which you have current addresses for them or their next of kin. Madison will match up your roster against the pre-order lists so we'll soon know where we stand on that.

There will obviously be a large number of people for whom we don't have current addresses, or addresses for their descendants. We're hoping that with the use of your newsletter, your members and our website postings, we can locate as many of these people as possible. There are a number of options as to how to handle the pre-paid books for those we can't locate after a reasonable search effort, but we'll resolve that later. The important thing is to get the books into the hands of all who have books coming, and whom we can locate, as soon as possible.

We're all overwhelmed here in the last weeks of getting this to press, but Madison will work closely with you on everything regarding the distribution of the books and the preparations for that.

All for now.

Warm regards, and thanx for your incredible patience.

Larry Hickey

Subject: Website Address
From: Larry Hickey <larry@irandpcorp.com>
Date: 8/8/2014 11:21 AM
To: Edgammill@aol.com
CC: Madison Jonas <madison@irandpcorp.com>

Ed,

Following up on our phone conversation, the website address is:

<http://airwar-worldwar2.com>

The 43rd BG Project is on that website at:

<http://irandpcorp.com/current-projects-2/>

Click on the covers of each of the two 43rd book covers and there will be detailed text describing them.

<http://airwar-worldwar2.com/products/43bg1/>

<http://airwar-worldwar2.com/products/43bg2/>

Further report to follow this weekend.

Regards,

Larry