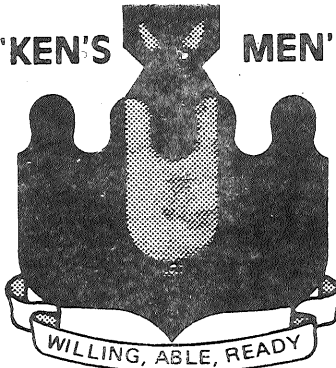


OCT. 1987

"KEN'S MEN"

43rd

BOMB GROUP



ASSOCIATION

- Hds.
- 63rd
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43rd BOMBARDMENT GROUP NEWSLETTER

PAGE 1

25th Edition - 63rd, 64th, 65th, 403rd, Hdqs Squadrons - October 1987.

FROM GEORGE WHITE

The 43rd Bomb Group is on a hot streak. Each reunion is a little better than the one before and we have rolled three sevens in a row. Bossier City was even more interesting, exciting and fun than the Chairman, Mayor BOB BEAUDEAN, 64th said it was going to be. Here are the highlights of the social events enjoyed by almost 200 members and their wives.

On Tuesday, the early arrivals were treated to a reception and chicken gumbo feast at the home of BOB and LILLIAN, and a great time was had by all. They are not pumping \$10.00 oil in Louisiana, but they are producing gallons of other liquids. On Wednesday morning the registration desk was off to a fast start with BOB BEAUDEAN, GENEVIEVE and JOHN ROCHE, 64th, ADELE and KEN STEVENS, 64th, and TROY MC CONNELL, 64th, checking everyone in. DON BAKER, 65th, opened the store and started doing a brisk business selling caps, bumper stickers, buttons, patches and T shirts.

The golfers took off on Thursday morning and played the course at Barksdale AFB. We have a new champion but only because someone arranged for a B-52 to fly over whenever our two-time victor, JIM HARCROW, 65th, was putting. Congratulations to the following:

LOW NET	ELDON "BUD" LAWSON, 65TH
LOW GROSS	RAY REDMOND, 63RD
MOST LAID BACK	MAX OSBORN, 65TH
LONGEST DISTANCE FROM ANY HOLE	CHARLIE BELLOWS, 65TH
LONGEST DISTANCE RUNNER UP	ODIS CLEERE, 403RD

NOTE - Both drives were measured from California.

BUD LAWSON'S name will go on the 43rd traveling plaque. HARRY STALEY, 63rd, is arranging for trophies that will remain in the possession of each year's tournament champion.

Thursday afternoon everyone gathered for a wine tasting session in the hotel lounge. Most of us had small glasses. KEN BECKSTROM, 63rd, brought his own goblet.

While the men attended squadron meetings Thursday night, the ladies attended a Beauty and Fashion Show. MARGARET BLAIR, who came all the way from Australia with her husband FRED, won the grand prize - a beautiful afghan handmade by LILLIAN BEAUDEAN. It has been suggested that next year the wives have squadron meetings and the men attend a weight watcher's meeting.

Friday was a day packed with activity. Following the continental breakfast, all our hopeful bettors examined tip sheets, attended a handicapping seminar and boarded buses to Louisiana Downs Thoroughbred Race Track armed with a last minute tip from BOB BEAUDEAN. The second race was a 43rd Bomb Group (Trophy Presentation) race and sure enough BOB was on the money. Horse number four, TAI THE SCORE, ridden by a young jockey Debbie Barbazon, came in at a good price. The horse had been fed BEAUDEAN'S chicken gumbo for breakfast; no wonder it was hot.

Another thoroughly enjoyed Friday daytime event was a cruise on the stern wheeler river boat RED RIVER ROSE. With a lot of help from 43rd navigators, we traversed the river and managed to keep several members from falling overboard.

Friday evening the huge quadrangle enclosed by the Sheraton Bossier Inn, the best hotel in the area, provide the setting for the BAR B STOMPERS SQUARE DANCERS, a super southern barbeque dinner and a Louisiana Hayride show featuring A.T. and GEORGIA; all under a full Louisiana moon arranged, no doubt, by BOB BEAUDEAN.

Saturday morning the women were treated to a full breakfast and enjoyed the story of the Constitution delivered by a young student who has received honors for her paper.

In the afternoon, the troupes departed for a bus tour of Barksdale Air Force Base. This is the home base of the 2nd Bombardment Wing, the largest bomb wing within Strategic Air Command. The wing is equipped with the B-52G, KC-135, and the KC-10 aircraft. The wing also hosts Eighth Air Force Headquarters, 1st Combat Evaluation Group and the 917th Tactical Fighter Group (AFRES). The base is now on a 24 hour alert status but we were permitted to walk around the static display area to view a number of planes including a B-24 and a B-17.

In the evening we enjoyed a cocktail hour preceding the 7th Annual Dinner Dance. A color guard from the local VFW post paraded and posted colors. Following our salute to the flag, FATHER SHEA gave the invocation and after that a lovely young lady, Miss Shreveport of 1987, sang American Trilogy.

Following dinner, we introduced our honored guests including Lt. General EUGENE TIGHE, retired; Major General WILLIAM E. EUBANK, JR., retired, both of whom served with the 43rd and two active duty officers, Col. BRETT M. DULA, Commander, 2nd Bombardment Wing and Lt. Col. EDWARD A. PETERSON, Eighth Air Force Director of Public Affairs. After dinner we had the pleasure of listening to the 8th Air Force Base Combo Show Band Orchestra and dancing to the music of Cass & Co. Dixieland Band.

At the close of the Sunday Brunch, FATHER SHEA conducted a memorial service.

I think CARL HUSTAD, 63rd, Edina, MN., summed it up pretty well in a note he wrote to Lloyd: "The reunions are getting better each year. Thoughtful and well planned. The guys are going to be spoiled rotten pretty soon."

And now to the business part of the reunion. The Thursday night squadron meetings are mostly for fun, frolic and fantasy. Many stories are told and the main target of opportunity was Sydney. The 63rd Squadron sank more ships, shot down more Zeros and broke more hearts in two hours than the rest of the Group combined; but that was the only meeting I attended.

The Saturday morning Group meeting was well attended by all the men including more than thirty members attending their first 43rd reunion. DALE BARR, Chairman of the Reunion Sites Committee reported that the 1988 reunion will be held in Dayton, Ohio, the home of the Air Force Museum near Wright-Patterson A.F.B. The dates and hotel will be announced later in this newsletter. The site of the 1989 reunion is under study and our committee would welcome your suggestions. Our 1990 reunion will be in Las Vegas, Nevada in conjunction with all the other 5th Air Force reunion organizations.

NEIL FAIRBANKS, 403rd, our unit trustee in the 5th Air Force Memorial Foundation, reported that the 5th AF Memorial, which is in the final stages of construction at the Air Force Museum in Dayton, will be dedicated at 2:00 P.M. FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1988. Those of you who wish to attend this function are welcome to do so. Planning is not complete, but scheduled events will probably include a reception on the night of the 23rd and a flyover. The foundation has reserved a block of 70 rooms at the Dayton Marriott Hotel for the 23rd through the 25th to accommodate individuals who plan on attending. If you would like to participate, please advise LLOYD and the 5th AFMF, P.O. Box 764, Columbus, N.C. 28722.

Now that the main project of the 5AFMF is reaching fulfillment, the 43rd Bomb Group is turning its attention to the 43rd Bomb Group Memorials. At the Group meeting we were fortunate to have a slide presentation by DICK BAUGHMAN, Public Affairs Officer for the Air Force Museum. In the Memorial Park adjacent to the museum, many groups, squadrons and other units have erected memorials ranging in cost from \$2,500 to \$30,000 and more. We voted to place a memorial at the park and are going to finance it by contributions to a Memorial Fund separate and apart from our general funds. Our 43rd Bomb Group Memorial Committee, headed by NEIL FAIRBANKS, will not be able to do any detailed planning until they know what we can afford. If every member kicked in \$10 we would have \$12,000. Some will give more, others will give less. At the reunion FRED BLAIR, 63rd, Harbord, Australia, started us off with a \$100.00 contribution, and at last report, the fund totaled \$700. Let's all get behind this effort by sending our checks to the 43RD MEMORIAL FUND % BILL WILSON (address at the end of this newsletter). DAYTON BLANCHARD, 65th, San Antonio, has come up with a terrific idea for the Memorial, and it is in the hands of our team in Dayton now.

We have talked for years about the desirability of a complete history of the 43rd Bomb Group from Langley Field in 1941 to at least Ie Shima in 1945. While there is a lot of expertise within our membership, it became clear that we could not do it on our own; we needed professional help. We have been approached by a number of writers and publishers most of whom wanted substantial up front money and minimum sales guarantees. I am pleased to announce that we have found the right man for the job. LAWRENCE J. HICKEY, President of International Research and Publishing Corp. and renowned author of "WARPATH ACROSS THE PACIFIC" - the history of the 345th Bomb Group - has agreed to undertake the assignment. The 345th, better known as the Air Apaches, was the B-25 outfit that accomplished so much in our area of the war. In a book review in "Airpower" it is called one of the most exhaustively researched, brilliantly illustrated and trenchantly told accounts ever read by the reviewer. LARRY attended our reunion, made a presentation, received 100% approval from the members and started right in interviewing and collecting information. Included in this Newsletter is a questionnaire and I urge you to respond to it at an early date. LARRY will be seeking a co-author to assist him on the project, so if you are interested in helping to write the book, please let him know.

The final order of business was to elect our leadership for the next two years. BOB BUTLER, 63rd, presented the following slate which was unanimously approved by the members present:

PRESIDENT BILL WILSON

VICE-PRESIDENT DALE BARR

DIRECTORS FOR THREE YEAR TERM - MAX AXELSEN, CY MICHAELS, GEORGE WHITE

DIRECTOR for remaining two years of DALE BARR'S term - PAUL COBER

In case you don't know BILL and DALE, let me just say we are lucky to have two such friendly, enthusiastic and willing workers head us up for the next two years. We are indebted to our retiring directors FOLMER SOGAARD and ROGER VARGAS for the time and effort they gave to the Group.

Following the close of the Group meeting DICK WOOD showed a video tape of the trip some of the members took to Australia and Port Moresby in April. I would encourage those of you who are thinking of visiting the land down under to contact DICK. Like KEN'S MEN he is willing, able and ready to do it again.

At the last two reunions MATT HOLOHAN, 64th, manned the photo table and watched over the albums and other items brought in by the members. MATT could use some help not only at the reunions, but also help in locating men who served in the 43rd. MATT lives in Florida and needs fellows in other areas of the country who would be willing to write a few letters and make a few phone calls. Send him a note at 7737 91st St. North, Seminole, FL 33543.

Now let's get to some items of interest that have come in during the last few months.

<sup>WILSON</sup> LSON KING, Hdqrs., Canyon Lake, TX, asks if anyone remembers the words to a song that was written on the Queen Mary entitled "The Aussies and the Yanks are here".

DONALD PATTERSON, 65th, Decatur, GA, is a Pastor at Large in the Presbyterian Church. His work takes him to the Southwest Pacific from time to time and he says he gets a weird feeling when flying over some of the targets that are still very familiar.

PAUL MEYERS, 65th, Bradenton, FL, was a radio gunner and recalls that when he joined the squadron at Port Moresby in 1943, he learned that ALVIN ROWE, a radio gunner he knew from his home town, went down on a Rabaul strike on Sept. 2, 1943.

WALTER BUTLER, 63rd, Calistoga, CA, and BOB WHITEHEAD, 63rd, Las Vegas, NV, got together on July 4th at WALT'S home in the Napa Valley wine country.

ED DALY, 65th, Ormond Beach, FL, is one of many who could not get to the reunion, but is already planning on Ohio in 1988 and I don't mean "Over the Hill in October"; our theme song at the Louisiana maneuvers in 1941. In 1984 ED and his wife LIL took their daughter PATTI and her husband ALLEN to New Zealand and Australia. Here is a quote from his letter: "We visited Bondi Beach where we swam in 1944 and 1945 or R&R. But this time it was a Topless Beach. Nice! LIL said, "I'm glad it wasn't in 44-45."

<sup>JAMES</sup> JES "OLLIE" OLIPHANT, 63rd, Bossier City, LA, is another one of our members who was at Davis-Monthan in the 50's. He recalls that in addition to its historic flight around the world, Lucky Lady II went to Scullthorpe, England in 1949, and the Queen Mother visited the plane.

Our oldest living Group member, J.A. Holt, Hdqrs, Riverside, CA, was one of several who told us about the death of BILL NANCE reported in the July Newsletter. BILL was assigned to the 43rd when it was formed in 1941 and took J.A.'s place as Sgt. Major in Sydney when J.A. left the Group. J.A. was not able to get to the reunion because his wife, FAYE suffered a fractured spine in July.

Everybody's friend, JOHN "RED" HANLON, 65th, Larchmont, NY, underwent major surgery in September. You will be glad to know that he is back home and doing well. Also, two more of our members were forced to miss the reunion, both because of heart surgery. MIRON DUKES, 403rd, Bartlett, TN, and GUS RAPISARDI, 65th, Colorado Springs, CO. We wish them speedy recovery and are looking forward to seeing them at Dayton next year.

One of our loyal associate members, MARCIA BRENNEMAN, Goshen, IN, is a teacher and this year's reunion was too close to the beginning of the school year, so she had to pass it up. The first one she has missed since attending the Queen Mary reunion in 1983. MARCIA sent in an ad for B-24 Video Cassettes which are available from American Sound Corp., 25133 Thomas Drive, Warren, MI 48091. Send to that address for their listing.

Sticking with B-24s, THOMAS JAMISON, 65th, Ojai, CA, wants everyone to know that a B-24 Liberator 50th Anniversary Reunion celebration is in the planning stage. There has been some

conflicting information about the date, but the latest official poop-sheet gives the place and time as Fort Worth, TX, May 17-21, 1989. We will try to keep you posted as things develop. July 1985, DICK WOOD, 63rd, Saratoga, CA, picked up the ball and 31 of us plus 16 wives had a mini reunion at the 50th B-17 Anniversary Party at Boeing Field in Seattle. Here is an opportunity for our B-24 fans to do the same.

One more B-24 item comes to mind. At the Bossier City Reunion, HELMER JOHNSON, 64th, Fort Worth, TX, showed a VCR tape he created only 2 months ago from a 16mm color film he shot in 1945. It shows a Formosa bombing mission, camp life at Clark Field and the daylight action on an R&R at Sydney. We hope he will bring it to Dayton in 88 and to all our future reunions. By the way, HELMER proved to us that he can still fit into his A-2 jacket.

When I sent the July Newsletter to LLOYD for printing and mailing, I said in my cover letter, "Here it is - not as long as usual and not very good but there didn't seem to be much to work with." ROBERT BAHL, 403rd, Sunset, UT, agreed with me. He said, "Reading this letter was about as exciting as watching paint dry". He would like to see more items about the 403rd Squadron. All I can say, BOB, is that when I'm watching grass grow in Chatham, NJ, I try to think of what would be considered exciting in Sunset, UT. Old Buddy, we are hungry for stimulating news; so if your only letter in three years did not exhaust you, send in a recollection of the past or current activity and we will be more than pleased to include it.

The July Newsletter was interesting to REGGIE TATRO, 65th, Greenfield, MA, who wrote as follows: "The part about finding the 65th Enlisted Men's Club entrance foundation at Seven Mile Strip Port Moresby brought back many memories. I well remember the day it was conceived in the minds of Sgt. HERBERT BILLINGTON and myself. It occurred one day when BILLINGTON and I went up on the hill above the squadron to watch the one hundred (100) plane Jap raid on the Moresby area. We noted the excellent view the ridge provided of Seven Mile Strip area plus the cool breeze blowing during the heat of the day. We decided this would be a good place to build an EM Club.

As BILLINGTON had a tremendous imagination he said, "with a little help we could have the best club in New Guinea." We obtained permission from 1st Sgt. CUMMINGS with the understanding all work would be on a volunteer basis, but the Squadron carpenter (and I can't remember if he was Sgt. Wilson) could help us if it didn't interfere with his squadron duties. He was to be the architect/construction foreman as well as carpenter with our help. BILLINGTON had grandiose ideas; wanted hardwood floors, screen and sheetmetal walls, a mahogany top bar with a blue-mirrored back bar, a walk-in refrigerator and lounge chairs and sofas. The sqdn. gave us some nails and a few pieces of plywood, about enough to build a 12 holer, not a club! Armed with a requisition for a few pieces of plywood and a roll of window screen, BILLINGTON and I took a six-by truck and went to the Army Supply Depot in Port Moresby. The legitimate requisition gained us admission to the depot and two bottles of the good stuff got us out of the depot with a full truck load. These procedures were repeated several times until the club was completed.

Having the best club was one thing but, having a well stocked and supplied club was something else! Here again, the "Great Procurer" BILLINGTON came through. BILLINGTON had several contacts known only to him in Sydney and during the time I remained at Seven Mile, our club was always well stocked.

I have a photograph of the four of us working on the early stages of the club, however, I can't identify the three working with me, 45 years has been a long time. I feel sure this reminiscing on my part will bring back memories to early members of the 65th Squadron and will be of interest.

REGGIE also has a trivia question for us: "If ROBERT E. HANKS of the 65th Squadron designed the 65th dice insignia, who designed the earlier 65th insignia showing the Blue Moose?"

ED TROCCIA, 65th, Poughkeepsie, NY, tells us that the October 1st issue of Yankee magazine will contain a short story about Capt. HARL PEASE of the 93rd Squadron of the 19th Bomb Group who went down on a Rabaul strike Aug. 7, 1942. ED and LLOYD BOREN, 65th, (93rd Sqdn. 19th BG at that time) were both about to board that plane replacing crew members who were sick when the regular members showed up and bumped them from that mission. Needless to say, ED and LLOYD are still with us due to that stroke of fate.

It was good to hear from a new member who spotted LLOYD'S reunion notice in the D.A.V. magazine, but too late to make arrangements to get to Bossier City. ALEX WYSOCKI, 63rd, Chaddsford, PA, joined the 43rd at Clark Field as a ground crew member and went by way of Subic Bay to Ryukyu Islands. He was flown to Japan in August 1945 and became a member of the 3rd Airdrome Squadron. He would like to hear from any whose military service followed the same path.

CHUCK QUINETTE, 63rd, Riverside, CA, did not get to the reunion but remembered to send in \$10 dues. CHUCK was a first pilot on one of the "Scott Project" crews. He remembers that FRED

Bill R, an old hand, flew with him on his first mission out of Seven Mile.

From time to time we receive requests for information from relatives of deceased members. They know dad was in the war but he never said much about it; so now they are trying to fill in the information gaps. We hope that our Group history, when finally printed will be of help to future generations. Meanwhile ARTHUR RITENOUR, JR., son of ARTHUR "BILL" RITENOUR, who died in 1981 would like to be in contact with anyone who knew his dad during his time in the 63rd as a flight engineer in late 1943 and 1944. Sounds like a B-24 man. Contact ARTHUR JR. at 198 So. Hampton Dr., Harrisonburg, VA 22801, Phone 703-433-1892.

Author STEVE BIRDSALL was forced to delay his film project, "Black Jack's Last Mission", and thus had to cancel his planned visit to our reunion. It now appears that the delay in production is temporary and STEVE and his crew might be here sometime next year to shoot some interview material.

WILLIAM O'BRIEN, 63rd, Sun City, CA, was the pilot who flew B-17F 41-24521 from Hamilton Field to Australia where they were first assigned to the 403rd. A few weeks later they were transferred to the 63rd under Major BILL BENN and the plane went to KEN MCCULLAR who named it BLACK JACK. A few weeks later, O'BRIEN got a new "F" 41-24537 which he named TALISMAN. Can BRUCE HOY tell me what became of 537? It's worth a six pack of Fosters.

Speaking of BRUCE HOY, we were all disappointed to learn that he had to cancel his trip to the U.S. Let us hope he gets to Dayton in '88.

JOHN COOP, 403rd, sent in a long letter from his home in Sydney, Australia. JOHN was with us in April at the luncheon at David Jones Department store in Sydney. Naturally he had no idea that the navigator on his crew, CHUNKY WILFERT, was sitting at the other end of the table. Needless to say, they had a lot to say to one another. JOHN recalls he went over in September 1942 on B-17F 41-24522 and joined the Group at Torrens Creek and then up to Iron Range. 522 didn't have a long life and probably never got a name. According to JOHN, it was destroyed when a B-24 of the 90th Bomb Group blew up on take-off right opposite where 522 was parked. The complete rear fuselage section of 522 disappeared and left the remainder sitting back on the wing trailing edge with the nose pointed to the sky. I wonder if anyone has a picture of that disaster. I note in LOUIS LEBLANC'S 63rd Squadron history that 522, a 403rd plane flew a few missions and the pilot's name was SMYTHE. Is he the JIM SMYTHE, 403rd, from Lafayette, LA who is on our roster? JOHN COOP would like to see any of you who visit Sydney. He is at 5 Rhodes Place, Kellyville 2153, N.S.W. Australia. Phone 629-2804.

DAVE HASSEMER, Hdqrs, San Antonio, TX, wrote a long letter in response to questions asked by CHRIS LIND, an Australian, who stumbled across one of our planes that crashed on take-off from Mareeba on Sept. 14, 1942. According to DAVE, he flew that plane, B-17F 41-24391, from Hawaii to Australia in August '42. His crew had named it Hoomalimali (Ho-o-mali-mali) which is a hawaiian word meaning "Kid 'em along". Now for the human interest part. DAVE had flown 391 on a reconnaissance mission the 13th and was to fly that plane in the early A.M. of the 14th. However, that night he and his crew were replaced by Capt. HENSON'S crew. Because DAVE'S name had remained on the mission board, the casualty list got to Hawaii before it was corrected.

HARRY STEVENSON, 64th, San Diego, CA, was not able to get to Bossier City but he and his crew are looking forward to Reunion 8 in '88. We need more men like HARRY; he not only sent in dues for three years, he sent in a good suggestion for Squadron charts designed to show periods of time served in the 43rd. This would enable reunion attendees to know who was over there at the same time they were. We will pass this idea along to next year's reunion team.

We have a nice long letter from WARREN ADAMS, 63rd, Springfield, IL, who was real happy to learn the 43rd is still alive. He was alerted by another new member, M.R. "SHORTY" HAMILTON of Pleasant Hill, MO. WARREN was one of a group of radar men at Boca Raton who were assigned to the Scott Project and scheduled to join the outfit at Langley Field. A change of orders was sending them to March Field, but on the way there on a commercial plane, they were pulled off at Salt Lake City and sent to Kearns, Utah for overseas combat training. The popular saying was, "Germany has its concentration camps, America has it Kearns." They survived Kearns and went to Sydney on the S.S. America, to Brisbane by train and then in a convoy to Moresby in a coal-fired Dutch scow with a Javanese crew; a real cattle boat. WARREN and his radar gang went all the way with the 63rd; Dododura, Nadzab, Wakde, Owi, Tacloban, Clark Field and Ie Shima. They were in the gang of 5000 that returned home from Okinawa on the U.S. Grant.

I have read a number of letters from men who have taken the time to try and set forth the things that they remember from "those days". One of the best was from ROBERT MC VEIGH, 403rd, St. Petersburg, FL. It is too long to repeat here but I am sending a copy of it to LARRY HICKEY because I think it has human interest aspects that should be included in our Group history. I don't know the numbers, but for every man that flew, there must have been at least five or ten



men who made it possible for the planes to fly and the Group to exist as a unit. BOB joined Group at Nadzab and hit all the stops to Ie Shima. He has a great sense of humor; here are a couple of examples: "I joined the 43rd at Nadzab and was grabbed off the truck by Sgt. FRANK LALLY, records clerk of Hdqrs. Squadron, because of my special knowledge - I knew how to operate a mimeograph. Within a week I made my mark by nearly burning down the officer's latrine and setting a fire in the garbage dump that the Japanese would have been proud of. When the Group began to use Wakde Island as a jump base, I was sent up to help service any Squadron ships that might need to stop there. Wakde was never intended as a tourist attraction and 403rd planes avoided it like plague. The only plane service I performed that I can remember was when a 64th Squadron B-24 frazzled a wing tip on a P-38 prop and the boys of the 64th and I made a quick switch by borrowing one off a nice new 90th plane that had been left on the strip unguarded."

We regret to report the following deaths and extend our deepest sympathy to relatives and friends:

WAYNE BROOKS	403rd	Sacramento, CA	
ELBERT MATHENY	403rd	Bobalusa, LA	July 20, 1987
GEORGE PATTERSON	Hdqrs	St. Helena, CA	July 12, 1987
ALBERT STAGE	65th	Cumberland, WI	
ERWIN ZASTROW	403rd	Elkhorn, WI	June 27, 1987

A long illness prevented Erwin Zastrow from becoming a member of our reunion group. He was prominent attorney in Wisconsin service as a district attorney, county judge and circuit judge. BOB ROTH tells us he was also a fine B-24 pilot.

This is the eleventh and last Newsletter I will have written since I became Chairman at Virginia reunion three years ago. I hope you have enjoyed reading them as much as I have enjoyed writing them. I appreciate the support I have received from the Board and particularly from LLOYD BOREN, who spends some part of every day working on your behalf.

Aileen and I greatly appreciate the farewell gifts given to us by the Group at the reunion.

Keep 'em flying -- GEORGE

FROM BILL WILSON

Well, I guess we have gone full circle. We started with Col. BOB BUTLER, a very prim and proper lawyer, then I think we backed up a little when we got a Yankee Insurance Salesman, George White, but we sure "goofed" when we ended up with a Used Car Salesman from Texas. Bob and George have both done a great job as our C.O. and I don't think they are going to give me enough slack to screw up too bad.

Needless to say, I will be trying to keep this outfit the best around and with your support we've got it made.

On the 7th of this month, Breezy, Dale Barr and myself flew up to Dayton to meet with a group of the members and their wives from Ohio. Present were; WALTER GILLESPIE, DICK AND JANE HENNIG, WALDO AND MARY SCHAUWECKER, FRED NICKEL, JERRY AND VELL SNYDER, DALE AND ANN HUEY, JOE AND FLORENCE SOSNOWSKI, AND BILL AESCHBACKER. WALT GILLESPIE is to coordinate the activities, DICK HENNIG will act as Treasurer and will also be our local contact for the Memorial. WALDO SCHAUWECKER secured the Officers Club for our Saturday nite doings, FRED NICKEL will back up any of the above. All the rest have offered to serve at registrations etc. We secured the DAYTONIAN HILTON HOTEL downtown within walking distance of various cafes. The hotel has given us a rate of \$50.00 single or double. The dates will be Wed October 5th '88 through brunch Sun October 9th '88. We are expecting a larger than usual turnout so secure your reservations as early as possible. The Hilton has 219 rooms. More details about the reunion in the next issues.

DAYTON BLANCHARD, 65th, San Antonio, drew us up a wonderful plan for our 43rd Monument. We took this to Dayton with us, and left it with DICK HENNIG who will contact DICK BAUGHMAN at the Air Force Museum. The plan was for a walkway to be laid on top of one of the pads going up to a monument and tree. The design would be laid out in Colored Terrazo showing a map of the Southwest Pacific. At each one of the stops of the 43rd, there would be an imbedded bronze star. At the top would be a bronze B-24 with a bronze B-17 at the bottom. More on this when we hear from DICK.

FROM LLOYD

First a word of thanks to George and Aileen for a job well done, it takes a very understanding wife to put up with the constant pressures that accompany the job of President. The job is anything but easy, and throughout his term, George has kept his sense of humor and always been

and when anything needed to be done for the Group.

Helen wants to thank those who sent their best wishes and get well cards, they were appreciated. Hopefully she will be walking by Thanksgiving.

Let me give you a brief introduction to our new President, BILL WILSON. BILL started out as a pilot with the Royal Canadian Air Force, then switching to the U.S. Air Corps and joining the 19th Bomb Group in Mareeba. In addition to his flying duties, BILL was also Supply officer for the 65th at Seven Mile Strip in Guinea. After the war, BILL and his lovely wife MARY LOIS went into the car business, or as BILL likes to put it, he became a used car salesman. This is only partially true. Actually when he isn't punching cattle, he is supervising two Ford dealerships they own. BILL and MARY LOIS live in Snyder, Texas, which, as BILL puts it, is about 80 miles from anything in any direction. BILL has always been a loyal supporter of the 43rd, never missing a reunion, and has been on the Board of Directors since we were first incorporated. He is the immediate past Vice President. We can look forward to the same fine management we have had in the past with BILL at the helm.

The following is a list of the members and wives present at the reunion.

#### HEADQUARTERS

ART CUTLER, MAJ GEN WILLIAM E. EUBANK JR., JOE GREENWELL, HUGH HIME, TONY IAMPIETRO, WILSON KING, EDMUND MATEZAK, RED AND MAURINE MC ALESTER, CYRUS MICHAELS, RUSS AND CLYTIE SEDERBERG, FR. THOMAS SHEA, LT GEN EUGENE F. TIGHE JR., HERB TOTTON

#### 403RD SQUADRON

PERCY AND JUANITA ALEXANDER, GEORGE AND JEAN ANDERSON, HERBERT AND MILDRED ANDRESS, MAX AND MARGARET AXELSEN, DALE AND MARY BARR, GEORGE AND GOLDIE BARTA, PAUL AND JACKIE BAUER, JOE AND EVELYN BEVIL, WALTER E. BILL AND MELISSA, HARRY AND ESTHER BRADLEY, BOB BYRNE, ODIS AND BARBARA CLEERE, PAUL & CAROLYN COBER, KEN AND CHICHI DAWSON, LLOYD DEMMY, CHARLES AND MILDRED DOWNER, BILL AND MARY EATON, NEIL AND MARLYS FAIRBANKS, BELFORD AND LILLIAN FRISBY, TALBOT GARNER, JOE AND CLARA GOSSEAU, ART HANE, PAUL HART, HAROLD AND PHYLLIS JOHNSON, WADE AND BURNELL KEHR, WALTER AND FLORENCE KICHURA, LAVERNE AND RITA KINSLER, SID LEE, FRED AND JANET LLOYD, DENNIS LOMBARDI, LELAND LOUGHREY, MARTIN AND FAY MC BEE, RICHARD MROWINSKI, JOHN AND MARGIE PERKINS, JAMES PRATHER, JAMES PRESTON, GREGORY AND VERA ROSS, BOB AND ARLENE ROTH, JERRY SNYDER, JOE AND SALLY SNYDER, AL AND PENNY SYLVIA, JOHN AND ELEANOR TALLITSCH, WAYNE AND BERTHA TARKINGTON, STAN AND LILLIAN TULIG, RICHARD AND BERNICE WILLIAMS, JACK AND MARY WOODRUFF

#### 63RD SQUADRON

LLOYD ANDERSON, MICHAEL BACHI, BOB BACON, DON BANCROFT JR., TYSON AND MARIE BARNES, KEN AND MARGREEN BECKSTROM, FRED AND MARGARET BLAIR, CLIFTON AND MAXINE BOWEN, RAY BRIMBLE, BOB AND DORIS BAKER, STANLEY CASEY, FRED CHEUVRONT, WILLIAM AND CLEO CHURCH, RAY AND DOROTHY CRAWFORD, BOB AND JANE DE WITT, GEORGE AND MARY CATHERINE DIRR, RUSS AND DOT EDWARDS, KENNETH EIDEN, FRED AND HELEN EPPLER, ALBERT AND CHARLOTTE FISCHER, FRANK AND PAULINE DENAULT, RAYMOND AND BETTY GATES, ERL AND ALMA HANSEN, ROBERT AND JEAN HIGGINS, WM "RADAR" AND VIRGINIA HOOVER, CARL AND VIRGINIA HUSTAD, HENRY JAMES, ZIGMONT AND RUTH JANOWSKI, JOHN AND MARIE LANDT, RODGER AND NORMA LITTLE, WILLIAM AND JUNE MC MURRAY, LEWIS AND HELEN MIKLOS, HAROLD NEWTON, FRED AND MARION NICKEL, BILL AND HELEN O'BRIEN, HERB AND BONNIE PFLUEGER, RAY AND RITA REDMON, FRANK REMANIEK, WILLIAM REESE, ATTELIO ROSATI, MICHELL SERENUS, JOE AND FLORENCE SOSNOWSKI, HARRY STALEY, CHRIS AND LOTTIE SUNDERMAN, JOE AND STELLA TINSMAN, BERNIE AND MARION USSET, ROGER AND OLGA VARGAS, GEORGE AND AILEEN WHITE, J.C. "CHUNKY" AND CLARA MARIE WILFERT, DICK WOOD, CHARLES WOODS

#### 64TH SQUADRON

RED AND NELLIE ALMAND, CLETUS AND CHARLIE ANGERAMI, WALTER AND DORIS ANDREWS, NICK AND SHIRLEY ARABINKO, BOB AUGUSTINE, PAUL BARBUS, BOB AND LIL BEAUDEAN, KEN AND ROSEMARY BROWN, BILL AND LORA BROWNE, RUSS AND JANE BURNETT, JOE "SHEP" CHEPULIS, LES COFFMAN, ROBERT AND JEAN COOPER, O.K. COULTER, JAMES DALY, LARRY AND PAT DE HAVEN, MIKE AND SEGRUN DENEGAN, JESSE AND DOTTIE FULTON, FALCNOR AND GOLDIE GIFFORD, ROBERT AND EILEEN GOODWIN, ALVIN HAAS, DICK AND JANE HENNIG, MATT AND NOELLE HOLOHAN, DALE AND ANN HUEY, HELMER AND JANE JOHNSON, GEORGE AND ANN JUOPPERI, ROGER AND AUDRY KETTLESON, HENRY LASH, GEORGE AND MARJORIE LYNCH, TROY AND EVELYN MC CONNELL, BOB MILLER, ART AND BEA MULLIGAN, MARSHALL NELSON, BILL AND VERTA LOUISE PEAKE, JOHN PLOCKERING, VERNON REEVES, JOHN AND GENEVIEVE ROCHE, JOHN AND MARGE RUNA, BILL AND JEANE SMITH, KEN AND ADELE STEVENS, LUCKY STEVENS, ART AND PATRICIA TASSONI

#### 65TH SQUADRON

BOB AND CAROLYN ANDERSON, DON BAKER, MILTON AND IMOGENE BASS, DAVID AND LOU BEASON, CHARLIE AND

GENEVA BELLOWES, DAYTON AND ANN BLANCHARD, LLOYD AND HELEN BOREN, HERBERT AND MARIE BRUNE, FRED COOKE, BEN AND JANE DAMRON, A.L. AND NELL DAVID, AL AND JEANNE FAIR, EVERETT HAM JR., JIM BERT HARCROW, HARLEY AND PAT HAYDEN, KEN AND MAY HAYDEN, ARNOLD HUSKINS, TOM AND KATHLEEN JAMISON, GREG JOHNSON, RUBY AND BETTY JOHNSON, HAROLD KAHLER, ELTON "BUD" AND BETTY LAWSON, HENRY LEWIS, JAMES "MAC" AND CLARIE MC CLURE, DON AND SHIRLEY MARSAGALIA, JOE NIECE, MAX OSBORNE, FRED AND HILDE RADTKE, JOHN AND MARGIE ROBERTSON, CLAUDE AND CLARICE ROBINSON, CLAUDE AND OPAL SACHSE, EDWIN STUELAND, CHARLES AND PAT STENGLEIN, LEWIS AND DOROTHY SUTTON, CLETUS SWEIGARD, DON AND LUCILLE WATKINS, BOB AND IRENE WATSON, GEORGE AND ANNE WEICHLEIN, BILL AND MARY LOIS WILSON, HAL AND MAUDE WINFREY, ALBERT AND RUTH ZACK

Another reminder about dues, they are due now for next year (88). Dues are due from reunion to reunion, so, if you did not pay your \$10 dues at or after the reunion in Bossier City, you are due now for 88. This will enable you to receive the updated roster as only dues paying members will be sent one. The next roster will be sent out with either the April or July newsletter. We still have less than half our members who pay dues, and when you consider it costs about \$5.00 per member to print and mail out the newsletters and roster per year to over 12000 members, its no wonder that the pressure is getting heavy to leave everyone on the roster but drop non-paying members from all mailouts.

Some late breaking news, I have heard from DICK HENNIG in Dayton. DICK had presented DAYTON BLANCHARD'S plan for the memorial to DICK BAUGHMAN at the Air Museum, and it seems that the use of concrete slabs ( or pads ) has been discontinued. This means that the plan as we envisioned it was not acceptable. However, after talking with DICK BAUGHMAN by phone, we could still incorporate the design into a vertical monument. DICK also said that most of the groups were putting in a small plaque and a tree. MAX AXELSEN, 403rd, San Antonio, will fly to Dayton along with our chairman of the Monument committee, NEIL FAIRBANKS, on the 27th to try to work out a suitable theme for the monument that would be acceptable to us and follow the guidelines set by the Air Museum. While there, they will also meet with the Reunion Committee to keep them abreast of the latest developments, and advise them of our agreed on prices and dates so they can finalize plans for the reunion. Incidentally, in talking with NEIL FAIRBANKS, it seems that his ideas for the monument were along the same lines as the plan drawn up by DAYTON BLANCHARD.

Since this years caps have the group emblem on the front, I ordered more than usual. We have some left at \$7.00 first come first served. Also, one of our good members had some 64th embroidered patches (the 5" size for the jacket front) made up and donated them to the group. These are \$10.00, and are very limited in number. This is the Indian with spy glass riding the bomb. If there is enough demand for these patches, we may try to get a supply for all the Squadrons.

Please make the following changes in your rosters:

Change from Squadron Unknown to 63rd Squadron: STEVE YANICK and PAUL LEDGER.  
 Change from Squadron Unknown to 65th Squadron: LEO A. CARLIN and ED DAILEY.  
 Change from 403rd Squadron to 63rd Squadron: RAYMOND E. REDMON.  
 Add to Headquarters Squadron: DONALD CANN, 43RD CSG + OT, APO SAN FRANCISCO, 96334  
 Add to 403rd Squadron: LARRY D. HOLMES, 635 GRANT ST., PACE, FL 32570  
 EDMUND KISELICA, 71 HERBERT ST., WARWICK, RI 02886  
 LYMAN L. WOODMAN, UNIT 8, 3001 WIDGEON LANE, ANCHORAGE, AK 99508  
 RAYMOND BRYANT, 107 N. MOUND, PRATT, KS 64124  
 HAROLD G. THOMPSON, 408 MADEIRA DR. NE, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87108  
 GEORGE CLAIR, 14013 STARBOARD DR., SEMINOLE, FL 346446

Add to the 63rd Squadron: ELMER E. HANSEN, RT 1 BOX 207, THORNDALE, TX 76577  
 BOYD E. VORSE, 1206 HATHAWAY ST. W., GIRARD, PA 16417  
 THOMAS H. MULL, 828 N. PLUM ST., LANCASTER, PA 17602  
 PATRICK KELLEY, 10725 CALLE VAQUEROS, TUCSON, AZ 85748  
 CLAYTON FARNSWORTH, 1427 TURQUOISE VISTA, TUCSON, AZ 85710  
 FRANCIS T. JEFFERSON, 6550 E. 12TH ST., TUCSON, AZ 85710  
 HUGH W. LONGMOOR, 11210 JANET LEE, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78230  
 HERBERT C. PFLUEGER, 414 CARROLL ST., PARIS, TN 38243  
 JOSEPH B. KOHLBRENNER, RT 1 KIRKLAND HILL, CLINTON, NY 13325  
 EARL C. DILLINGHAM, 4621 RAVENWOOD AVE., SACRAMENTO, CA 95821  
 S.L. FLINNER, RD 1, PROSPECT, PA 16052

Add to the 64th Squadron: LELAND MERRITT, 501 E. LAWTON, TUCSON, AZ 85704  
 A. T. FACHETTI, 1551 W. 41ST ST., ERIE, PA 16509  
 BOYD B. WHITE, 2725 S. 1200 WEST, PERRY, UT 84302  
 MILTON H. COLLIER, 526 S. CATALINA AVE., TUCSON, AZ 85711  
 VERNON REEVES, RT 1 BOX 134, CANEY, OK 74533  
 JOSEPH F. REGAN, 4280 TIDEWATER DR., ORLANDO, FL 32086  
 WALTER PENNICK, 1412 E. COOPER ST., TUCSON, AZ 85719



HERBERT E. BAIR, 4049 BALFOUR ST., MEMPHIS, TN 38127  
 GEORGE F. HOUSTON, 6025 ANTHONY DR., ORANGEVALE, CA 95662  
 SAM TUCKER, 4846 S. LINCOLN, ENGLEWOOD, CO 80110

Add to the 65th Squadron: ROBERT MC MULLEN, RT 1 BOX 1155, HEFLIN, LA 71039  
 LIAM H. PARK JR., 329 BRIDGE PK., W. SACRAMENTO, CA 95691  
 ALBERT FLORIO, 510 S.E. 25TH AVE., FT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301  
 WILLIAM R. GAFFNEY, 102 GREEN RD., MADISON, IN 47250  
 EDWARD A. DALY, 116 ATTWOOD LANE, ORMAOND BEACH, FL 32074  
 GERALD A. GREGOIRE, 2700 KINGS WAY #2, LAS VEGAS, NV 89102  
 FRED FETZER, 767 W. AVON RD., AVON, CT 06001  
 VITO DELFINO, 472 REDSTONE HILL RD, FORESTVILLE, CT 06010  
 DORWIN W. GRAHAM, 215 FERNWOOD DR., EVANSVILLE, IN 47711  
 BOB WATSON, 12574 BARRETT LANE, SANTA ANA, CA 92705  
 JACK F. CAPERTON, 7524 PRAIRIE RD., ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87109  
 WILLIAM H. TRUE, P.O. BOX 806, LAKE PLACID, FL 33852

Add to Squadron Unknown: HOMER E. KAUFMAN, 5666 EDITH, HOUSTON, TX 77081  
 WILLIAM R. JACKSON, 320 BLOOMINGTON ST., GREENCASTLE, IN 46135  
 GEORGE M. LOCKHART, 3703 CAMERON MILLS, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22305  
 JOSEPH TOSNEY, 117 PROSPECT ST., WEST NEWTON, MA 02165  
 EUGENE F. HUNT, 7315 HEDGES, RAYTOWN, MO 64133  
 N LEWIS, 1928 S. 900 E. BOUNTIFUL, SALT LAKE CITY, UT  
 ROBERT B. LANGLEY, 4734 BELLUE ST., CARMICHAEL, CA 95608  
 WILLIAM F. BARKER, 1507 W. GREENLEE ST., TUCSON, AZ 85705

Add to Assoc. Member: DONALD H. BANCROFT JR., 816 CRESCENT RD., SHREVEPORT, LA 71107  
 MUND MATEZAK, 24 WOOSTER RD., TARIFFVILLE, CT 06081

Wishing you all the best for the coming holidays,

WILLIAM "BILL" WILSON and MARY LOIS, PRES.	LLOYD and HELEN BOREN, Sect, Trea.
DRAWER M	102 BEECHWOOD
SNYDER, TEXAS 79549	SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78148
915-573-6784	512-658-5978