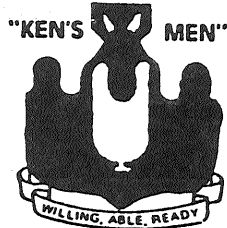


FORTY THIRD BOMB GROUP ASSN. INC.

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 Dale Barr, Vice Pres. 403rd
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 Max Axelsen 403rd Bob Butler 63rd
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Hdqrs & Hdqrs Sqdn



63rd Sqdn.



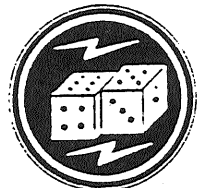
64th Sqdn.



403rd Sqdn.



65th Sqdn.



43rd BOMBARDMENT GROUP NEWSLETTER

31st EDITION - MAY 1989

FROM BILL WILSON

It's hard to smile this close to April 15th - INCOME TAX TIME - I tell MARY LOIS we really didn't do too good last year, then Uncle Sam says send a bunch - you had a great year. Oh well, we are still around and both in good health, so here goes.

We received HARRY and RACHEL URBAN'S book on Colorado Springs. If this won't get you signed up for our reunion, I give up. When this is all over, I'm going to get them to run my used car lot. They are real peddlers.

HARRY STALEY is very active in the National War Plane Museum in Geneseo, NY. They are having a real big air show 19th-20th August this year. It's called "Wing's of Eagles". Expect over 100 old birds to sign in by the 18th of August. That's about all the 5th Air Force could get in the air for the Bismarck Sea Battle. HARRY says call or write for more information - even going to let "Johnny Rebs" in Yankee land for this one.

DALE BARR, 403rd, says they are making progress on getting the old crew together (JEAN JACK'S). They found their radio operator, CARL AVERILL. He lives just 60 miles from MOOCH MANCINI. MOOCH and CARL got together and had a great visit. HARRY URBAN was bombardier on this crew - Big time coming up in Colorado Springs.

DALE BARR made a drawing of a plaque and sent it around to a lot of the fellows-many ideas later, we came up with a great Memorial Plaque based on DALE'S idea. This is being made in San Antonio, and will be sent to Colorado Springs to be placed on the Memorial Wall at the Academy. We are getting some extra ones made for other locations. Perhaps, QUEEN MARY - BANGOR - LANGLEY - 43RD BOMB WING, GUAM - Will decide at next reunion.

Had a phone call from DR. EUGENE AUSTIN, Flight Surgeon Hdqrs. He hopes to make his first reunion this fall. He asked about a lot of the fellows. Drop him a note and see if you can't get him to show up.

A special fellow to me, PAUL COBER, 403rd, writes in that he got loaded up on freeby work this year, but hopes to get some of it out of the way before long. Either way, he will be with us in Colorado Springs.

ALTON "DOUG" LEAMAN, 65th, sent in pictures of the Memorial Bench at Dayton, and also the Mareeba Memorial. Send DOUG \$2.50 and you get a real good picture of the Mareeba Memorial. DOUG was glad to hear about JOEL GRIFFIN, 403rd. DOUG'S address is 6666 Cornell Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46220.

Bad 2 Association, 228 W. Roosevelt Ave., New Castle, DE 19720 - It's an 8th AF group. - are having their reunion Sept. 21st-24th at the Minneapolis Marriott. Some of you folks from Minnesota stick your head in and see if they are doing things we may need to do - Worth a try.

EUGENIA RYAN, Research Correspondent, National Geographic, was delighted to get names of the fellows pictured on the B-17. A very special thanks to HARVEY BANCROFT and ED GAMMILL, both 63rd. The BLACK JACK story caused lots of inquiries, mostly, was one of those my Uncle, Dad, Brother, and so on. Now she can tell them. Thanks again ED and HARVEY.

ROBERT GIPE, 65th, came up with a good idea. He sent letters to all in Ohio who had not paid their dues, telling them how much we want and need them. Good work ROBERT. Your Wilson grandparents and mine were on different sides. I think mine were from Mississippi - Ask GEORGE WHITE, he knows all about that stuff.

JIM PETTUS, Hdqrs., wrote the Wall Street Journal in reply to Murry Graingers bad report on the B-24. Murry was in the 868th Sqdn., 13th AF. JIM told it like it was - the B-24 was a hell of a good bird.- Did a great job. Good on you JIM. JIM has asked General Frances "Red" Gideon to join us at Colorado Springs. The General has had a heart attack, but is coming along fine. Sir, we would love to have you. Along this line, while JIM is our only living WWII C/O, wouldn't it be swell to have an entire table of 43rd Commanding Officers at the Saturday night Banquet in Colorado Springs.

JOSE HOLGUIN, 65th, is having a big time writing to JOEL GRIFFIN, 403rd. If you recall from the last newsletter, they were POW'S together at Rabaul. Glad we could get you two back in touch. JOSE also got some Squadron and Group patches from LLOYD BOREN, 65th. He has them and gives good service.

GENEVIEVE and JOHN ROCHE, 64th, sent in thanks to LLOYD and HELEN, MARY LOIS and ME for the news letter. Yes, JOHN, it is a fair job, but a few nice letters like yours make it all worth while. JOHN reports KEN STEVENS, 64th Operations, had a stroke late February. He is coming back fairly well and wants very much to see us all in Colorado Springs. KEN and his wife ADELE have made many of the reunions. KEN loves the 43rd, and we love KEN. Let's show it. Drop him a note at 1900 Camille Drive SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506. Hey KEN, we can't start the reunion without you.

DR. LEE HOCKENSMITH, 65th, sent a clipping from the Sacramento Bee on a corporal Don Cervený, P-38 machine gun mechanic in Europe. Don has put in the last ten years hunting former Air Force people. He must be the best, lots of information - Need help, ask him. He may ask you to help him, That's the way it works. Address - Don Cervený, 5113 Sitton Way, Sacramento, CA 95823.

BURL HAMILTON, 64th, just sent in a list of names of fellows pictured in DOWN UNDER. Thanks BURL, when I get a chance I'll work on it.

CLAIR L WRIGHTS, 63rd, found out about us from RALPH DE LOACH. His address is 465 Warm Spring Rd., Chambersburg, PA 17201 - Phone 717-263-8260. Wants to hear from some of you. Give him a warm welcome. I've got his \$10.00 coming for '89 dues.

HENRY LEWIS, 65th, wanted to know more about the Life Membership. At Dayton, we approved Life Membership at \$100.00. Money is put in separate savings account with interest going to the general fund. Slightly over 50 have sent in their money since it was announced, and it looks like the program will be popular. Address labels, instead of showing PAID after the name, will read LIFE. HENRY is hoping a fellow in the 64th named HAYES shows up at Colorado Springs this fall. Sure looking forward to being with him. I think it's RALPH HAYES from Leesburg, FL. Next time send a given name. HANK is a lawyer - Hard to pin them down. Especially one from Texas.

MAX and MARGARET AXELSEN, 403rd, sent a nice letter. MAX made the 5th Air Force Assn. meeting in Austin for NEIL FAIRBANKS. He got SID LEE, 403rd, to go with him. The 5th Air Force Reunion is on for 10th-15th October, 1990. Lead Hotel is the Riviera Las Vegas - 3500 rooms - \$62.00 single or double. 2500 already spoken for. More rooms if these are all gone. Address by current Commander of the 5th Air Force - Tour of Las Vegas - Thunderbird Museum at Nellis AFB, and maybe a fly-by if the Thunderbirds are at home - Golf matches - lots more. More details as time goes by. 5th Air Force Assn. wants copies of films of trips back to Australia, New Guinea, Philippines, etc. Want to put together good show of the old places for 1990 Reunion. Send film to 5th Air Force Memorial Association Secretary, Howard E. Mac Donald, 2300 E. Stewart St. SP 59, Las Vegas, NV 89110. Phone number is 702-459-2737. We will reproduce film and return yours. Next meeting, Atlanta, GA November '89.

MICHAEL O'MALLEY, 63rd, (turned Judge), sent in Wall Street Journal story by Murry Grainger giving the B-24 a bad time. Also sends thanks for the newsletters. Glad you enjoy them.

FRANK and VIRGINIA HOHMANN, 65th, called. I was at the ranch, so he talked to MARY LOIS. Has a hard time getting his newsletter. Since he lives in New Jersey, I'm going to get GEORGE WHITE to deliver it. Let me know in Colorado Springs if GEORGE gets by.

ROGER VARGAS, 63rd, sent me a nice picture he took at Bossier City - It's GEORGE

WHITE, and me - Hey ROGER, let's try it again in Colorado Springs, but with another person, like with lots of pretty ladies.

DR. MILTON "BUD" GUSACK, 65th Flight Surgeon, sent in money for LIFE membership, plus a very nice Memorial Donation. A tribute to JIM PETTUS. A great idea from a very nice fellow. Take care DOC, see you in Colorado Springs.

JOE SOSNOWSKI, 63rd, had a tumor removed from his stomach in March. Getting along fine, just a little short on space for food. JOE, I'm going to follow you in the chow line. Take care of my boy, FLORENCE, see you all at the Reunion.

I'm having a hard time finding time to finish the newsletter, "BREEZY" (LLOYD) keeps calling and I'm not in - Gone to the ranch to check on the heifers. He's decided they must be two legged instead of four.

JOHN S. FAERBER, 65th, reports FRANK KRIVEC was killed in a mining accident in Boseman, Montana, not too many years back. FRANK was the big Master Sgt. in the 65th. He came over on the Mariposo in July of '42. JOHN was Stat/Clerk, and really hasn't changed much. Between the last newsletter and new roster, he comes up with 1440 names, and reports most of us are still married. He also sends in 26 names missing. JOHN, I'll try to get them back with us, as for the still married part, MARY LOIS, my wife, made one mistake, so I sure want to hold on to her.

JIM and SHIRLEY CONWAY, 63rd, sent in a super donation to the Memorial Fund. JIM says he is not much on writing, but may start calling some of the old bunch. Thanks BREEZY and me for the newsletter. Thank you, SHIRLEY and JIM.

WALTER HAYS, 64th, sent in money for dues and Memorial fund. Good show WALTER.

FRED MC ALISTER, Hdqrs. Medic, sent in a sure cure prevention for scrub typhus. Mix Water, GI soap, lots of bottles of insect repellent in a Barrel, and heat over an open fire, dip clothes in the brew, dry and wear. He gives DR. EUGENE AUSTIN credit for this secret formula. Results - Excellent.

BILL EATON, 403rd, sent in report on another RCAF pilot that ended up in the 403rd, Lt. DONALD D. MC EACHRAN. He turns out to be the pilot of the aircraft JOEL GRIFFIN bailed out of. All other crew members were lost. JOHN SCOTT, co-pilot, SUMMER BECK, navigator, MORTIMER SMITH, bombardier, RALPH THOMAS, engineer, JOHN BARRY, radio/oper., RODNEY EDWARDS, asst. radio/oper., OTTO RUSSELL and HOMER HARPER, gunners. Good report BILL. JOEL is receiving lots of mail. Reports from old friends, etc.

GEORGE and MARY JOE PUTNAM, 403rd, sent in nice donation to the Memorial fund in memory of S/SGT HOWARD J. BOGLE, KIA 29th August 1943 over Wewak. GEORGE also sent in solid word on the CIRCLING B-24. Pilot was WILLIAM GOWDY. Co-pilot was GEORGE "HIMSELF" PUTNAM - Plane was not "RIO RITA". On a 8-29-43 Mission which turned out to be a little rough. Plane was "RIO RITA" - Crew, pilot GEORGE PUTNAM, co-pilot, JOHN TAYLOR, navigator, KENNETH GISSONNE, bombardier, PHIL WOLF, rest of the crew, HOWARD BOGLE, CHARLES MARVEL, NELSON GUGGER, RICHARD MROWINSKI, MAURICE DIONNE. Damage - HOWARD KIA, three wounded - 2 engines shot out, nose wheel retracted, over 200 bullet holes. CIRCLING B-24 - Case closed. Thanks GEORGE.

RALPH and GENE DE LOACH, 63rd, sent in LIFE membership and best wishes to all. Says he is pretty well rested up from trip to New Guinea and filming of "BLACK JACK'S LAST MISSION", might even stop by Snyder and say Hi one of these days. I might even try and sell him a used car. Take good care, RALPH.

I share the newsletters with the President of our College. He sent a note after reading our last letter. Thanks for sharing the 43rd newsletters. It is great that those of you who were a part of the greatest adventure in U.S. History keep in touch. I am always impressed by the concern for one another that still exists among members of the 43rd. You and other members of the 43rd have my greatest admiration and respect. Maybe we didn't goof off all the time.

CHARLIE BELLOWS, 65th, called in March. He and GENEVA, were just checking up on MARY LOIS and me. Think they can make Colorado Springs. I sure hope so.

CYRUS "MIKE" MICHAELS, Hdqrs., writes in wanting more Squadron and Group patches. LLOYD BOREN still has some, \$10.00 each, also some Dayton caps \$5.00 each.

JIM REMBISZ, Associate member and little JOE SARNOSKI'S kin folks, still enjoys news letter. Reports all is going well in Pennsburg, PA.

MARCIA BRENNEMAN, Associate member, says her book on uncle WALTER BRENNEMAN won't be out until mid summer. She has been sick but is back in great shape.

GEORGE and ANNE WIECHLEIN, 65th, sent me good pictures of Dayton Memorial Also sent a set for KEITH SKELTON, 403rd. GEORGE says if he doesn't make Colorado Springs, it will be because his new Ford broke down.

STEVE BIRDSALL, Associate member, writes he is working on a deal with Confederate Air Force and others for U.S. marketing of the hour long cassette of "BLACK JACK'S LAST MISSION". Will let us know when it is available. Next, need help on some of RALPH DE LOACH'S crew. Maybe you can give us a lead - HERMAN DIAS, bombardier, San Francisco, CHARLES S. HAVER, navigator, Lee, Mass., JOSEPH WILSON, ball turret, Philadelphia, DANIEL CLINTON, waist gunner, Brockton, Mass., and JAMES PETERSON, waist gunner, Mason City, Iowa. STEVE also hopes the 63rd will make their picture for LARRY HICKEY'S book on the 43rd, MC CULLAR'S B-17 attacking the Jap Destroyer "HAYASHIO" on 24 November 1942. This was an absolutely undisputed sinking. B-17 vs. Jap Destroyer. They lost!. I'm sure that's what the 63rd wants to do. Reckon that outfit was as good as they think they were.

JIM and BERT HARCROW, 65th, sent "GUS" RAPISARDI'S name to HARRY URBAN for duty assignment on the reunion. JIM, HARRY has already got "RAP" going - Transportation I think. The HARCROWS are looking forward to Colorado Springs. As usual, JIM and BERT will get to reunion a couple days early and stay an extra day or two to help make it a big success for all. Our thanks to both of you.

HAYDEN CLARK, 403rd Port Moresby to Clark Field, has just found out about us. Drop HAYDEN a note and welcome him aboard. 20 Coachmans Lane, N. Andover, Mass. 01845, telephone 508-683-1291. He is a good Yankee, not like the one from Chatham, New Jersey.

MAX OSBORN, 65th, reports on a must reading, "THE JOLLY ROGERS". Not the B-24 bunch, but a Navy bunch flying P-4U Corsairs over Bougainville and Rabaul. Thinks FATHER SHEA may be staying home this fall because of Notre Dame and Air Force game. Come on Father, you can sit on one side the first half and the other the second half. MAX has also dropped his suit against me. Thinks Texans have had enough for now, like John Tower and Jim Wright.

CARL and MARY REUTINGER, 64th, are new comers. CARL is a geologist in Wichita Falls. Some of you may have an old girl friend at Sheppard Air Force Base. CARL will check em out if you ask. Looking for ART MULLIGAN and ROGER KETTLESON. With his new roster, he should already be in touch. Good to have you CARL.

LEE HOCKENSMITH, 65th, (turned PHD), reports on his thoughts as he and JOANN left and headed for Dayton for his first reunion. The DC-10 was his old B-24 slipped back in history 45 years or so, going on another mission, so much unknown, but this time will I know anyone. What will it be like to see one of my running mates after 45 years. Results, sent in LIFE membership and sign up for Colorado Springs. LEE, you said what we all think so much better than me, but you're a Doctor, and I'm a used car salesman.

DANIEL FERGUSON, 63rd, sent in a donation to the Memorial fund, and sends a big Hi to each of you.

RALPH SCOTT, 65th, sent in a good idea. Run the dues from January to January, not, reunion to reunion. Send return envelope, etc. Thanks RALPH, that's on the agenda for the Board meeting in Colorado Springs. Also, thinks of me as a cowman, not a used car salesman. Right again, I'm both - Try to get to the ranch once or twice a week.

FRED and MAURINE MC ALISTER, Hdqrs., sent in a nice donation to the Memorial fund, so did DUTCH and MARJORIE BENEDETTI, 65th, our other long distance runner. Hope to see both of these guys at Colorado Springs.

JACK FAERBER, 65th, from Newport, RI, says they have had little snow, but lots of rain. Need to pipe some of it back to West Texas. We are sure dry. Also reports nice Easter with his family.

ALLEN B. CHRISMAN, 65th. Another new find. Was over in '44 and '45 on YOST'S crew. Nice to have you ALLEN. Also, DANIEL B. MAHONEY, 63rd, of Boulder City, NV. He was there in '44 and '45.

ED ROTH KRUG, 63rd, July '44 to May '45. ED, also did some work in N. Africa. He is looking for his pilot, GEORGE C. WELCH. Lost a B-24 in the Jungle of Mindoro. Has any one seen plane or crew? ED'S address, 5303 Brinkmar, Amarillo, TX 79106.

ED, if you had only crashed in the water, GEORGE WHITE could find that B-24.

PAUL HERBERT, 65th engineer from March '44 to March '45. Wants CLINTON BRASSER, JOE GALLO, WALT WEBERG, and JOE SKELTON to drop him a line. You have a roster, PAUL, get in touch with them.

STEWART R. BROWN, 403rd, is looking for JOHN C. JONES, EDWARD T. WAGNER and LEROY T. REISER. His address is 175 Price St., Lockpoint, NY 14094. STUART'S New York license plate is "5AF43BG". About as bad as "BREEZY", his Texas Plate is "43RD". When you see them, at least honk.

WILLARD A. HEATH, Personal officer 403rd in '43, writes that the high point of his overseas duty was a mission on 18 May 1943 in "DINAH MIGHT". The B-17 crew was BONNER, DURBECK, HALLOCK, URBAN, ELPHINGSTONE, MOELLER, WALTMAN, HUTTO and KIRK. WILLARD worked in customer relations United Airlines. He was the fellow you gave hell to when your luggage got lost.

We regret to inform you that Sgt. STANLEY A. MARCHUT, nose gunner 63rd Squadron, passed away.

BILL WELCH, 403rd, reports something different. Ran one tour as C/O of the 403rd in B-17's, then ran a second tour as C/O of the 403rd in B-24's. Likes both aircraft. The B-24 could do more work than he really liked. Leading 64 B-24's over Rabaul Harbor in daylight with plenty of P38's. Beats the hell out of skip bombing in a B-17, same place, at night, at about 250 feet. Say, tell MURPHY, that's where you pick up those 20mm holes in case he has forgotten.

JOSEPH ABBAS, 64th. At 73, he is our second oldest runner, next to DUTCH BENEDETTI. JOSEPH runs the 10K in 64.42. He got the new roster and used it to call ROBERT IRELAND, his pilot 44 years ago. It was a great treat.

ROBERT E. LEY, Vice President of the 19th Bomb Group Assn., says their reunion this year will be in Dayton 3rd thru 5th August 1989. They will dedicate a Plaque at the Museum. Contact BOB at 3574 Wellston Ct., Simi Valley, CA 93063, telephone 818-703-7717, or JAMES A KIRACOFE, 274 Quinn Rd., West Alexandria, OH 45381, telephone 513-839-4441.

MARION, FRED NICKEL'S wife, reports his passing 27th November 1988. FRED was a pilot in the 63rd. They were stationed at the Air Force Academy for a while and sure were looking to the reunion this fall. MARION wants to thank all of you who have made the reunions so good over the years. She has signed on as an Associate Member and we are glad to have her. She says try to make the "GOLDEN BEE at the Broadmoor, it's lots of fun. Sing along and all. MARION, why don't you come and lead the singing. This is BOB BUTLER'S thing, he will help you.

ART and DOROTHY CURREN, Hdqrs., are settled in at Port Townsend, Washington. Have lots of plans for the next few years - Build a new house on a ridge of Olympic Mountains - Finish boat works - Cruise West Coast of Canada - Keep sailing his sail boat, etc. Good program. Have fun! Me, I think I see a dust storm coming.

HORACE "ACE" CAREY, 403rd, recalls duty roster for Christmas Day 1944, Leyte, PI, where all volunteers and all ranking NCO's, just for the fun were KP's. The KP's were, CAREY, BAISCH, GALIDA, CRAIG, HARBOUR, HUEBNER, WRIGHT, and TRINKO. Must have been a good Christmas after all, not white, but still good.

JIM and AUDREY DIEFENDERFER, 63rd, just signed on for LIFE membership, think its a bargain. They are going for 100, bet they make it. They got to see VIRGINIA and BILL "RADAR" HOOVER the other day. Have big plans for Colorado Springs. See you there. Be sure and get the HOOVERS too.

RICHARD SCHULTZ, 65th, was in the 43rd in 1948. 7th December 1941, he was in the Navy at Pearl Harbor aboard the USS New Orleans. He is President of the Pearl Harbor Association in Texas. 29th May 1989, he will place a Plaque at the Capital in Austin. Hopes some of the 1948 43rd fellows will drop him a line.

BILL KISILUK, 65th, The Lucky Dice Squadron, remembers JIM PETTUS and DOC GUSACK. He wants to find some of his crew, PAUL HANSEN, pilot, BATES, co-pilot, ED WHITE, navigator. PAUL HANSEN later became C/O of the 65th. BILL and VIVIAN, are packing for Colorado Springs. See you there.

HAROLD BARRETT, pilot 403rd, says STEVE KUBASEK was his ball/turret gunner. They joined the 403rd at Clark Field in April 1945. They bombed Japan from Ie Shima, and were over Nagasaki two days after the atom bomb. I think HAROLD is selling cotton in Tahoka, Texas now.

WELDON H. "DON" YOST, 65th pilot, and wife TRUDY are getting a group together for the reunion - Maybe ALLEN CHRISMAN, his navigator. WELDON, has made contact with his flight engineer CLINT BRASER.

PAUL J. BLASEWITZ, 63rd, got us an official list of crew on "BLACK JACK'S" last mission. Got help from STEVE BIRDSALL and the War Department. Pilot - RALPH DE LOACH, Co-pilot - JOSEPH MOORE, Navigator - CHARLES SHAUER, Bombardier - HERMAN DIAS, Flight engineer - DELBERT SMITH, Radio operator - GEORGE PRESIOSO, Ball turret - JOSEPH WILSON, Waist gun - DANIEL T. CLINTON, Tail gun - PAUL BLASEWITZ, Waist gun - JAMES R. PETERSON. The flight was covered by General Order #197 dated 15 September 1943, Fifth Air Force. Thanks PAUL for your help. When the 43rd does it, we do it right.

CHARLES "CHUCK" RAUCH, 63rd, was reading the February newsletter and noticed WELDON YOST'S name, turned out to be his Fraternity Brother. They are all set for Colorado Springs Reunion. Small world. Also looking for members of W.F. "BILL" CROFT'S crew. Let CHUCK or BILL hear from you.

JOHN T. ROLLO JR., reports the passing of his father, JOHN ROLLO, 403rd, on 23 February 1989. JOHN had a heart attack while watching T.V. May his soul rest in peace.

JACK A. CARYLE, 403rd, received a copy of "B-24 LIBERATOR IN ACTION". Thought it was the best ever. Publisher, Signal Publications, Inc., 1115 Crowley Drive, Carrollton, TX 75011. JACK and ELVIRA have missed the last three reunions. Running a cafeteria for Vo-Tech School in Rapid City. Ready to help if we ever have a reunion there. Thanks for the offer.

PHYLLIS PATTERSON, widow of GEORGE PATTERSON, Hdqrs., sent in dues for their son, Col. DOUGLAS PATTERSON to become an associate member. DOUG flew 42 missions in Vietnam. Same as his dad did in WWII. Like father like son. We are honored to have your family, PHYLLIS. Should have a new roster by now, if not, let LLOYD know.

DOMINICK V. ANGERAME, 63rd, sent in \$10.00 for a 63rd patch. Has never made a reunion, but feels like he has had a visit with each of us through the newsletters. Thanks for the kind words DOMINICK. Makes the job of writing it much easier.

JOHN "JACK" FAERBER, 65th, sends an invitation to all 43rd folks, if you are going through Rhode Island - Stop by or call - He left the light on for you.

JEANNETTE STRINGFIELD, widow of JAMES P. STRINGFIELD, 64th bombardier, would like those who remember JIM to write to her. JIM was on RAY HOLSEY'S crew. Went over on the Mount Vernon, same as me. Got shot up pretty good in Battle of the Bismarck Sea. Stayed in the reserves and retired as Bird Colonel. Was Superintendent of Public Schools, Seminole, Oklahoma. 3 Great kids and a nice wife.

TOM ROFE, 63rd, sorry he was sick and couldn't make our meeting in November with the Colorado Springs people. TOM and GEORGIA are ready to help HARRY and RACHEL URBAN where needed. I'm sure HARRY will assign you duty when he needs you, if nothing else TOM you can help us with our luggage. See you in October.

BOB LEFT, 65th, sent in \$100.00 for LIFE membership. Says its too hard to remember to send \$10.00 every year. Yea, and getting harder. BOB was on "MAC" MC CREA'S crew, says they were a little late getting there and enjoys reading of the early days. Wants to know what crew belly-landed "RUM AND COKE" #827 at Ie Shima in August or September 1945. It wasn't GEORGE WHITE, BREEZY, or ME lets see some hands.

RITA LITT, widow of DALE LITT, 65th, reports that DALE passed away 19th July 1988. RITA expressed DALE'S love for the 43rd and requests that he be remembered. This we will do. Also, some of you that knew DALE, drop RITA a line. She would like that.

FRED and HELEN EPPLEN, 63rd, are living in Aurora, CO. FRED, being a true navigator, has sent all kinds of things for the Colorado reunion and vacation. - 1st National Car Rental is giving 20% off daily or weekly rates. It's called the "43rd Bomb Group Special", phone 303-321-7990, address 7070 Smith Road, Denver, Colorado 80207. Air fare may be cheaper to Denver. Colorado Springs is only 80 miles south. Tell National if you want to pick up car at Denver or Colorado Springs, etc. -- Next -- Call 1-800-433-2656 for Colorado's official State Vacation Guide or mail request to the Colorado Tourism Board, P.O. Box 38700, Denver, CO 80238. Then get a copy of "COLORADO GETAWAY" from Rocky Mountain AAA,

4100 E. Arkansas Ave. Denver, CO 80222 or KCNC - Channel 4, P.O. Box 4444, Denver, CO 80204.

Final report on FRED and HELEN, they were last seen with BILL and CLEO CHURCH on the Royal Princess going through the Panama Canal. I'll bet it beat the hell out of the Queen Mary, Mount Vernon, and the Argentina.

That's about it for now, but if you get a chance, say thanks to your Squadron Board Member. I keep them pretty busy with 43rd business. Hdqrs. is CYRUS MICHAELS, 63rd is BOB BUTLER and GEORGE WHITE, 64th is ROGER KETTLESON and ROBERT COOPER, 65th is JIM HARCROW, 403rd is ODIS CLEERE, PAUL COBER, and MAX AXELSEN.

Then one of you stat fellows count the names again, maybe more than 1400 this time. Hope the newsletter brings pleasure, fond memories, maybe a tear, but mostly a smile. if so, all the work will have been worth while. BILL.

FROM LLOYD

SEVERAL IMPORTANT ITEMS

Make your hotel reservations early, we have a block of 250 rooms reserved, but the hotel has a cutoff date of September 15th. After that date, they will take your reservation on a space available basis only.

We have had some problems with some of the members being told that the Marriott is full for the reunion dates when they call. DO NOT CALL THE MARRIOTT 800 TOLL FREE NUMBER. Call the hotel direct at 1-719-260-1800 to make your reservation. Be sure to tell them you are with the 43rd Bomb Group. If you call the toll free number you will be told that the 43rd has the whole hotel sewed up, and they will simply refer you to me. The hotel is \$56.00 a night single or double. We have attached a reservation card for the hotel in this mailout. You must include either a credit card number or check for the first night.

Your reunion cost of \$75.00 per person plus \$17.00 per football ticket (if you ordered) should be sent to 43rd Bomb Group Reunion, % Harry Urban, 1602 Cresta Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80906. These should be sent as soon as possible so we can get some idea of how many to count on for the various functions that your \$75.00 covers. The football tickets will be sent to Harry Urban about 10 days before the game, and will be available when you arrive at the reunion.

Harry says that the weather at that time of year is usually in the low 70's during the day, and down to the 50's at night. Very pleasant weather, however, come prepared, it has turned much colder at times. Figure about 6000 ft. altitude, and of course, much more if you take the Pikes Peak tour.

BILL ETTER and LLOYD HAYS, both 64th, are looking for their other crew members, see if you can help them, notify BILL ETTER if you know the whereabouts of any of the following members of LLOYD HAYS crew: FRANCIS S. ZEBRIS, navigator, last known, Boston, Mass., CLYDE TAYLOR, nose/gun, Oklahoma, ROBERT BROWN, engr. and top/gun, Odessa, TX, ROBERT T. SNIDER, waist/gun, Dallas, TX, RHODEN, tail/gun, Texas, RYAN, waist/gun, Milwaukee, Wis., HORACE GETTMAN, radio, Los Angeles, CA.

Received a card from ART TASSONI, 64th. He called MIKE (SLEPKO) DENEGAN the other day and was told by his wife SIGRUN that MIKE died February 19th this year. MIKE will be missed by many. He and SIGRUN were regulars at the reunions. Our condolences to SIGRUN. MIKE and ART were close friends in the 43rd.

CLETUS ANGERMEIER, 64th, has had a rough time this year. Lost his wife, CHARLIE MAE, in January, then wound up in the hospital himself. He is out now, and doing well, and fully intends to make the reunion and not lose track of the 43rd. Best of luck CLETUS.

Received a letter from RICHARD D. KING, 3228 NW 60th St., Corvallis, OR 97330, phone - 503-752-8628. He is doing research on the 403rd Sqdn., and in particular, trying to locate all of the crew members of one of the 403rd's planes. The plane was # 44-41074 - B-24J - Pilot, AL BEYERLEIN (located). The following crew members have yet to be found: Engineer, ROBERT F. MILLER, Radio, WILLIAM T. MILLER, Nose gunner, ARTHUR J. HILLESHEIM, and Ass't engineer, EUGENE E. HIRT. If any of you can help him, contact him direct.

PAUL L. MEYERS, 65th, writes about a reunion he had recently with LINUS WALKER and JOHN BORTELL, also 65th. They were on AL TURNER'S crew. AL has since passed

away. LINUS retired from the Pennsylvania and Washington D.C. school systems, and moved to Eustis, FL, where they all met. JOHN BORTELL, whom PAUL hadn't seen since OWI, stayed in service and moved to the Chicago area. PAUL keeps in touch with CLIFFORD MILLER and LEE MC GOWAN, also of the 65th. He recalls being a part of a music group at Nadzab. Found a piano at the Officers club, and ARTIE MARCUS, from PETERSON'S crew, 65th, played sax, TERRY TERISCINO, Hdqrs. played drums, JEFF (last name unknown, but he was either in Operations, or the Orderly room), played piano. PAUL played trumpet.

I am including several inserts later in this newsletter, one courtesy S.L. FLINNER, 63rd, concerning a package deal to travel to the reunion and back for those in Pennsylvania and Ohio, or nearby. Another in the form of a long questionnaire from LARRY HICKEY, and last, HARRY URBAN sends a couple pictures and some more information on Colorado Springs and surrounding areas. In addition to these, I am enclosing a reservation card which you may use for the Hotel. Once again, get those reservations in early, this is going to be the largest crowd we have ever had.

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS TO YOUR ROSTER

63rd SQUADRON

WILLIAM KEENEY 8507 Tougega Pt. Rd. Rome, NY	RAY HURLBUT P. O. Box 334 York, NE 68467	DANIEL R. MAHONEY 642 Mt. Bona Way Boulder City, CO 89005	ROY F. PERRY 1447 Jura Lane Anacorta, WA 98221
FELT LAIR 3300 Colfax Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55408	CLARENCE BROKKE 104 E. 7th St. Superior, WI 54880	EDWARD ROTHKRUG 5303 Brinkman Amarillo, TX 79106	JOSEPH CALLEWAERT 2625 Wisconsin St. Sturtevant, WI 53177

CLAIR L. WRIGHTS
465 Warm Springs Rd.
Chambersburg, PA 17201

64th SQUADRON

VERNON L. GRIMES 5525 Grimes Lane Larkspur, CO 80118	JOE MANTIGLIA 69 Hall Dr. Orange, CT 06477	E. W. MOSS 131 Davenport Ridge Dr Stamford, CT 06903	M. L. WEISEL 299 Donner Ave. Ventura, CA 93003
HARRY MOODY 2904 Covert Ft. Worth, TX 76133	LYLE GOLDNER 210 Langton Dr. San Antonio, TX 78216	LES HAYS 10135 Sage Ct. Houston, TX 77089	PAUL BAGANZ Weatherford, TX

65th SQUADRON

DON WILLITS 1361 E. Puente Covina, CA 91724	ALLEN B. CHRISMAN R.R. 1 Box 186 Meredosia, IL 62665	PAUL J. HERBERT 21712 Woodcrest Ct. Farmington Hill, MI 48024	MARCUS CARRELL 10219 Raritan Houston, TX 77043
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403rd SQUADRON

KELLER "JAKE" BONDS 3300 COLCO Rd. Waco, TX 76707	CHARLES W. DAVIS 1022 E. Franklin St Hillsboro, TX	WARREN B. MAUPIN 143 Cochran Mesquite, TX 75181	WILLARD "BILL" HEATH 3369 Whitman Dr. Boise, ID 83705
CHARLES W. STRONG P.O. Box 164 Decatur, TX 76234	CLYDE R. TURNER 12316 Holt Dr. Dallas, TX 75218	BRYAN FLATT P.O. Box 6507 Gulfport, MS 39507	CARLO W. KESSEL 3013 Ave L Ft Worth, TX 76105

P. HAYDEN CLARK
20 Coachmans Lane
N. Andover, MA 01845

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

MONTY HAYS
12353 Beamer # 701
Houston, TX 77089

SQUADRON UNKNOWN

WALTER S. LYON
325 King St Condo 4K
Anacorta, WA 98221

REUNION UPDATE FROM HARRY AND RACHEL URBAN

Katherine Lee Bates, a poetess and Professor of Literature at Wellesley College, Mass., described the beauty of Colorado and the rest of America eloquently in writing the words to "America the Beautiful" after her trip to the summit of

Pikes Peak in 1893. I would not dare to presume that I could embellish her words.

However, I can tell you of ways you might enjoy the beauty of Colorado and see other interesting sights/activities all within a 40-50 mile radius of the Marriott Hotel, reunion headquarters. We have lived in Colorado Springs for 17 years, and have 4 or 5 places we always take friends/relatives when they visit:

1. The Air Force Academy with its magnificent chapel, buildings, and grounds.
2. The Flying W Ranch for an old time Western Town environment, dinner and authentic Western show.
3. The summit of Pikes Peak to really see "America the Beautiful"
4. The Royal Gorge at Canon City, Colorado - Topped by the highest suspension bridge in the world. The Royal Gorge provides one of the most breathtaking sights in Colorado with the Arkansas River winding 1,055 feet below. An aerial tram glides across the spectacular chasm, while the world's steepest incline takes you to the bottom of the gorge. 45 miles from Colorado Springs.
5. Victor & Cripple Creek, Colorado - 1880-1890 gold mining and ghost towns. Much of the wealth that built Colorado Springs came from this area. At the Molly Kathleen mine in Cripple Creek, visitors are guided 1,000 feet into the earth for a view of an 1880's era working gold mine. Told mine tailings and abandoned mine shaft structures dot the area. 40 miles from Colorado Springs.
6. Garden of the Gods - Spectacular Red Sandstone Monoliths. Formations are over 300 million years old. Once considered sacred grounds by the early Indian settlers.

There are many, many other places of interest within a 5 - 10 mile radius of our hotel. For example:

1. The world famous Van Briggles Pottery Plant conducts free guided tours and demonstrations of pottery making. The native stone studio was originally a railroad round-house. Also on display, one of the finest selections of Oriental artwork in the Southwest. 7 miles from the Marriott.
2. The Mobil 5-star Broadmoor Resort (3 separate hotels) with three 18-hole golf courses and the International Ice Center where World Ice Skating champions such as Peggy Fleming have trained. When Presidents visit Colorado Springs, they stay at the Broadmoor as President Bush did recently. The main hotel even has a movie theater where first run films are shown nightly.
3. Cheyenne Mountain Zoo - It's the only mountain zoo in the United States, nestled on the side of Cheyenne Mountain, it has gained worldwide recognition for its diversified collection of exotic wildlife. The zoo is on the Broadmoor grounds as is the Will Rogers Memorial Shrine - A story in itself. About 6 miles from the Marriott.
4. Manitou Springs - Rich in history and a haven for local artists and sculptors, it was revered as sacred land by the Ute Indians, mostly because of the natural mineral springs located there. The Indians called the area "Manitou" (Great Spirit). 6-7 miles from Colorado Springs. The Pikes Peak Cog Railway starts its ascent to the Pikes Peak Summit from Manitou.
5. Peterson Field - Hdqrs. Air Force Space Command. Peterson has a small but interesting Space museum. About 8 miles from the Marriott.
6. Fort Carson - Home to approximately 20,000 infantry troops. Carson has an interesting museum that houses weapons from the Revolutionary up through the Vietnam War. About 7 miles from the hotel.
7. North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) is located at Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Base, Colorado Springs. The entire complex is enclosed in Cheyenne Mountain. We did not attempt any activities there as tour set-up is complicated, and they could only handle a very small percentage of the group at one time. 8 miles from the hotel.
8. The 36 acre United States Olympic Complex, home of the United States Olympic Committee and 20 national governing sports associations. The complex is on the grounds of former ENT AFB. 9 miles from the hotel.
9. The Flying W. Ranch is an actual working cattle and horse ranch - yet visitors can enjoy the atmosphere of an old western town with over a dozen completely

restored buildings filled with memorabilia of the Old West. It exemplifies the old western live in its chuckwagon suppers and traditional brand of Western Entertainment. Shops are available for purchase of antiques and Western memorabilia. You can even watch the Flying W blacksmith shoe horses and enjoy the aroma of the chuckwagon dinner biscuits while you watch them being baked in open Dutch ovens.

Space precludes me from listing the many other attractions available. Now for some specifics on scheduled events:

The golf tournament will be Wed 11 Oct. around 11:00 AM, probably either at the Academy or Peterson AFB.

The ladies program will be Wednesday evening while the squadron meetings are being conducted.

The 43rd Plaque Dedication at the Academy Cemetery Memorial Wall will be at 10:00 Thursday 12 Oct. An optional lunch will follow. The Officers Club will be available for a fixed lunch (\$3.50 - \$4.00) or a fast food is available at the Visitors Center. Bring your military I.D. if you have one - 20% off on everything but food at the Visitors Center with the I.D. card. Souvenirs galore. Please let me know your preference for lunch when you remit your registration fees. I will have to let the Club know in advance how many to expect. After lunch the Academy tour will begin.

Thursday evening - Pay As You Go - buffet at the Marriott. After the buffet, Chuck Asay, the noted editorial cartoonist of the local paper - The Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph, will present a program. This should be enjoyable to all.

Friday afternoon/evening 13 Oct. we will go to the Flying W Ranch. Enroute to the Flying W we will tour the Garden of the Gods. Afterwards we will visit the Flying W for sightseeing, a chuck wagon dinner, and a great Western Show.

Saturday, 14 Oct. - 43rd fans (200) will be at the Air Force - Notre Dame football game. If enough people are interested, we can "Tailgate" with the best Barbecue Ribs "West of the Mississippi". GUS RAPASARDI, 65th, can vouch for this. I would like a feel for the Tailgating when you remit payment for the football tickets.

Saturday evening, dinner/dance at the Marriott.

Sunday morning, 8:30 - 9:00, Memorial Service. 9:00 - 11:00 Champagne Brunch with check-out following for those departing.

FOOTBALL TICKETS

We still have some of the 200 block seats available @ 17.00 each. Please let me know as soon as possible if you plan to attend. Don't wait too long to order your tickets. Tickets are already getting scarce for the game. If we need more than 200, I must know QUICKLY.

My recommendations for optional events are: Pikes Peak tour Friday morning 13 Oct. The round trip takes approximately 3 hours on comfortable Swiss-made railway trains (each train costs approximately \$300,000). There is a 30 minute rest stop at the Summit House for picture taking, etc. Hamburgers, hot dogs, sandwiches and souvenirs galore available. If you don't have respiratory problems I highly recommend this trip to see "America the Beautiful". Pikes Peak is 14,110 feet. Bring cameras and warm sweaters. The trains make one morning trip that time of the year and can accommodate 200 plus. Please let me know in advance if you plan on taking the trip to the Summit so I can get an idea of the number of reservations required. A letter will do fine.

An optional trip to Royal Gorge, Canon City, or Cripple Creek/Victor on Sat. morning for those not attending the football game.

For any optional events you wish to attend, including Tailgating, Pikes Peak, Royal Gorge, etc., please let us know by letter or phone. This does not mean that you are locking yourself in concrete 6 months ahead of time - it's just to give us an idea for preliminary planning purposes - reservations for activities, transportation, and the like.

For the ladies, there are 2 malls with over 100 shops, each about 5 miles distant from our hotel, one north, one south.

I will be including a 1989 Colorado Springs brochure, also a Colorado Vacation Guide in your registration brochure hand-outs, but I highly recommend that everyone interested in optional events write or phone the Convention & Visitor Bureau, Visitor Information Center, 104 South Cascade, Suite 104, Colorado Springs, CO 80903, Telephone 1-800-88-VISIT, and ask for a free copy of the Colorado Springs brochure in advance so you will have an idea of things you may want to see. For example, the brochure has an excellent picture of the Swiss-made train that makes the Pikes Peak tour, and a good shot of the Royal Gorge suspension bridge (We advertise it as "The Royal Gorgeous". On the way to the Royal Gorge an interesting stop is "Buckskin Joe's", one of the Old West's largest theme parks with 100 year old buildings. The movies "Cat Ballou", "The Cowboys", and "True Grit" were filmed here along with several others. Virtually every other tourist attraction in the Colorado Springs area is described in the Colorado Springs brochure.

The Pikes Peak Tour Company (our transportation outfit) will have a desk set-up at registration to handle optional events.

If you just want to relax with old buddies and tell War Stories, the beautiful lobby of the Marriott with it's spectacular view of Pikes Peak can't be beat.

Quoting the Colorado Springs brochure, "Whether you choose to arrive in Colorado Springs via one of the 7 commercial airlines that service the Colorado Springs Municipal Airport or drive along one of our scenic highways, the Pikes Peak region is the ultimate Rocky Mountain experience."

If anyone is coming in a RV, please let me know and I'll recommend the best and closest park to the hotel.

Colorado Springs, with a population of 300,000, is located in South Central Colorado, 70 miles south of Denver. Denver is noted as the Mile High City whereas Colorado Springs is 6,010 feet. Colorado has 50 mountain peaks over 14,000 feet.

Last October the weather was beautiful - warm days and comfortable nights. We are predicting the same for this year.

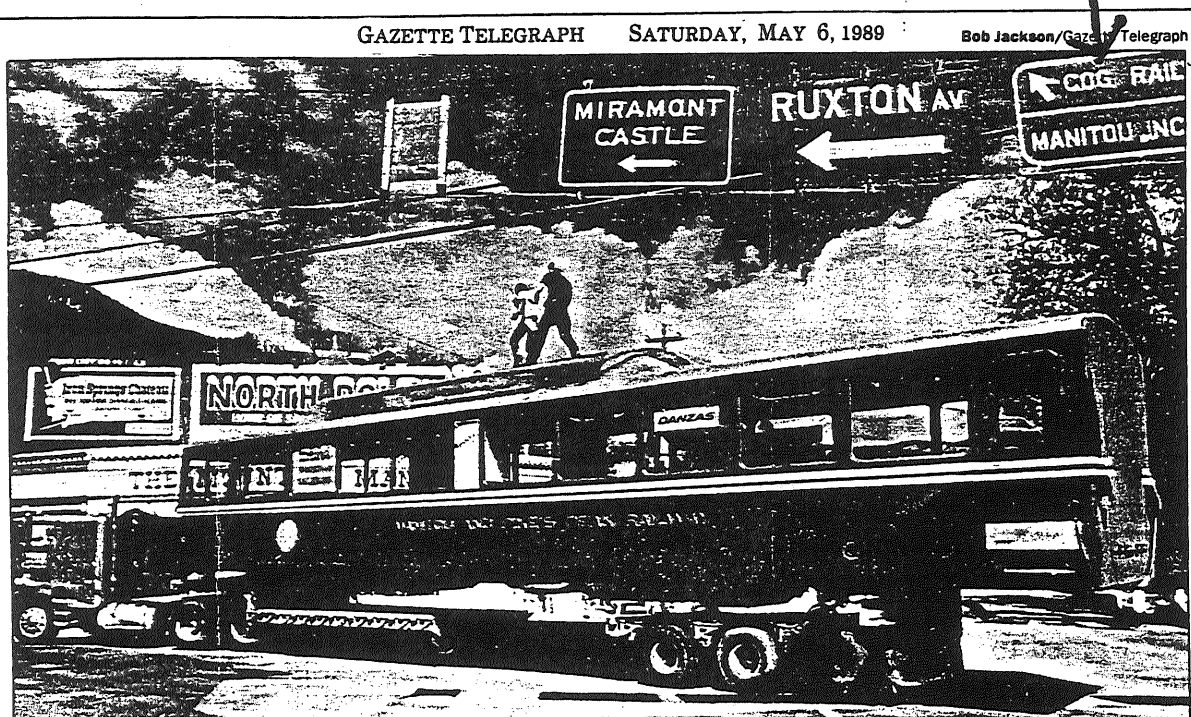
If you have any special requests for information/optional events, please write me and we will be happy to help any way we can.

A late bulletin: The golf tournament will be at Peterson AFB. Gents and Ladies.

COME TO COLORADO 43RD!! WE'LL GUARANTEE YOU A "ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH": COME SEE WHAT INSPIRED KATHERINE LEE BATES!!

HARRY and RACHEL URBAN
1602 Cresta Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
Phone - (719) 634-2917

CITY/REGION



Train cars arrive by truck

The Manitou and Pikes Peak Railway receives two new cars that were ordered in September 1987. The cars, made in Switzer-

land, were shipped to Houston and then brought by truck to Colorado Springs. Total cost for the cars was \$4 million.

43RD BOMB GROUP HISTORY PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE 5/89

The project to research the history of the 43rd B.G. in WWII has been progressing steadily with many responses from our last newsletter request. Bruce Hoy is building a new home in Australia and has been totally occupied with that recently but Larry Hickey has continued with voluminous correspondence and research on the project. Larry will be attending the Colorado Springs reunion to continue the project. Anyone with information, photos, diaries, recollections or answers to any of the below questions should contact him at International Research & Publishing Corp., P.O. Box 3334 High Mar Station, Boulder, CO 80307.

General

1. We must locate color movie film, slides or photos showing aircraft artwork, bases, missions, etc. for the 50-60 color photos planned for the color section of the book. Can you help?
2. We continue to need sponsors for the Squadron paintings being commissioned for the book. Contact Larry Hickey.
3. Working with the microfilm and records of the 43rd Group is most cumbersome. Has anyone printed out hard copies of any of the Group or Squadron records from the Maxwell AFB archives microfilms or have hard copies they obtained overseas with the unit? This includes copies of Group and Squadron historical reports.
4. Require details of construction of SQ clubs at Jackson Field early 43.
5. Urgently need copies of diaries, flightlogs, etc. to assist in full compilation of Group history.
6. The 63rd SQ maintained a SQ diary until the end of their B-17 operations. Does anyone know of the existence of squadron diaries for 64th, 65th and 403rd and for 63rd from Sept 43 to Aug 45?
7. Require eyewitness accounts of mid-air collision between Capt. Giddings and Capt. McArthur near Hood Point on 17 April 43. Also require the crew listing for the B-17s flown by Capt. Giddings and Capt. Salisbury.
8. Serial number required for the B-17 ditched by Capt. Jean A. Jack near Uras Island on 5 January 43. Require the name of the island beside which the ditching was effected.
9. Names of the crew required for the B-17 ditched by Lt. Ray Dau on 24 May 43. Pilot was Ray Dau, Navigator was 1/Lt. John Hanlon and the bombardier was 1/Lt. Max Mayer. Who were the others? Also need description of the ditching.
10. Need the current address for Byron Heichel who survived the loss of his airplane on 7 May 43 and was captured by the Japanese. Also Joel W. Griffin, sole survivor of his B-17 which was shot down on 26 June 43, 403rd B.S. Jack K. Wisener also survived being shot down on 13 June 43, last known address was Austin, TX, as a member of the State legislature. Paul F. Cascio is also believed to have survived his crash on 1 June 43. Contact with Mr. Cascio may assist the Army's recent re-investigation of the crash-site.
11. B-17E #41-2481 crashed on take-off at Seven Mile on 27 Aug 43, Clarence O'Connor being the pilot, equipment failure being the cause. Who were the other members of this crew? Aircraft was a veteran of the Java campaign, and will most likely feature as a profile in the history.
12. B-17E #41-9234 crash-landed near Wau on 8 Jan 43 following a mission to Wau. Did this airplane have a nickname?
13. The following 43rd B.G. B-17 nicknames are known but squadron to which belonged and tail #s unknown: THE VIGOROUS VIRGIN, CAROLINE, CHICO, STUD DUCK, SUPER SNOOPER, STRIP STRAFER, GONE FOREVER, CRAPS FOR THE JAPS, FRANK BUCK (19th B.G.?), and FLAGSHIP TEXAS II.
14. Photos of the following B-24s have been submitted by 43rd veterans but squadron assignments or tail numbers unknown. Many may not even be 43rd A/C: ARMED VENUS, . . . BLUE EYES, BAIL OUT BELLE, BARBARA JEAN, BELLE WRINGER, BEN BUZZARD, BIG TIME OPERATOR, BOMB WACKY WABBIT, BOMB BABE, CAROLYN MAE, COME AND GET IT, DEVIL'S DELIGHT, DOUBLE TROUBLE, DUCHESS, THE DUCHESS, FAT STUFF, FIRTIL MYRTIL, THE FLYING FIFEN, 4F, FURIOUS SAL, GALLANT LADY, GOLPHER GUS, HAND JOB, HELEN'S REVENGE, HELLS BELLE, IT'S HEAVEN, JUNE BRIDE, LADY FROM LEYTE, LOOSE LIVIN IV, LADY LYNN, I'LL BE AROUND, LONG DISTANCE, LUCKY PUPPY, MAG THE HAG, MAJORETTE, MANILA CALLING, MARIE, MISS GIVING, THE MISSOURI MULE, MODEST MAIDEN (TWO VERSIONS), THE MRS, NET RESULTS, OLD GEORGE, O.R. AKINBACK, THE PETER HEATER, PICKLED PEACH, THE PREGNANT WHALE, POM POM EXPRESS, PUG NOSE, QUEEN OF THE CLOUDS, REPUTATION CLOUDY, ROARIN ROSIE, SACKTIME UNLIMITED, SITTING PRETTY, SKY WITCH, SLIDIN, THE SLUT, SMOOTH SAILING, THE SNOOPER, SOOPER DROOPER, SPORT MODEL, STARFU, SWEET ROUTINE, SWEET TAKEOFF, TEMPTATION, TEXAS KATE, TWO TIME, UNTIMELY VISITOR, WHO'S NEXT, WILCO, WOLF, ZOMBIE, THE GOON. Need any info on these A/C.
15. By whom, when and at what base was the 63rd SQ "SeaHawks" emblem designed? What was the color scheme of this emblem as applied to the tails of the B-24 radar snoopers? When was this emblem first applied to the B-24 aircraft tails?

16. At some point, the night mission 63rd B-24s are believed to have been painted all black. When and at what base did this happen?
17. Can anyone identify the crew names, dates assigned, tail numbers, crew chiefs or artwork color details of the following known 63rd B-24s: AT EASE (955), ART'S CART, LADY LUCK, LIL DAISY CUTTER (666), QUEEN OF HEARTS, THE SACK WAGON (035), MISS LIBERTY (479), SHIRLEY ANN, SWEET SIXTEEN (394), and PITTI SING.
18. We've received several photos of a black B-24 with a scoreboard below the pilot's window of 18 ships sunk and 28 mission markers. We want to do a color profile aircraft of this, but need details of crew chief, tail number, nickname (if any) and stories of the missions it flew. Can anyone help?
19. We also want to profile the B-24 "QUEEN OF HEARTS" and need similar info. Was this an all-black aircraft?
20. We need similar info on ART'S CART, with full photos of the scoreboard.
21. Can anyone provide the dress color of the girl on the B-17 PANAMA HATTIE?
22. We are attempting to document a night anti-shipping mission in 1945 to represent the color painting for the 63rd Squadron. Does anyone have any suggestions or recommendations for the most outstanding or dramatic night mission during that period?
23. Can anyone provide good photos of B-17 KA-PUHIO-WELA aka DOUBLE TROUBLE for use as an artist guide for a color profile. We need the history of this aircraft, its crew chief's name, the meaning of the Hawaiian nickname and the color of the lettering. This was the B-17 lost during the Bismarck Sea Battle.
24. We need nicknames and photos of any 63rd SQ B-24s not listed above.

64TH SQUADRON

25. Can anyone provide tail numbers, nickname, color details or crew chief's name for 64th B-17s named LISTEN HERE TOJO, TOKYO JINX, or SALISBURY'S SILLY SAPS? Need photos of above.
26. We need full info (artwork color details, crew chiefs names and tail numbers) on the following B-24s reported in 64th: HIP PARADE, NOBODY'S BABY, THE RECORD BREAKERS, IT AIN'T SO FUNNY (poss #853), LAST HORIZON, SHAWNEE RAIDER, LOVELY ANNETTE (808?).
27. When was diagonal white band first applied to stabilizers of 64th B-24s? When were the red and white tail stripes first applied to the SQ's uncamoouflaged B-24 tails?
28. Can anyone confirm the correct full serial number of B-24 BOB'S HOPE (44-40395 or 41-29395?) Did this aircraft carry mission markers or a scoreboard on the pilot's side of the nose?
29. By whom, when and where was the 64th "Indian boy with a telescope riding a bomb" insignia first designed?
30. Can anyone provide full nose-to-tail photos of the following B-24s? COCKTAIL HOUR, HEAVENLY BODY, IT AIN'T SO FUNNY, LAST HORIZON, MICHIGAN, MABEL'S LABELS, or THE RECORD BREAKERS?

65TH SQUADRON

31. Can anyone provide serial #, insignia color details, crew chief names, or photos of following B-17s: GEORGIA PEACH, RED MOOSE EXPRESS
32. Need color details, crew chief names and artwork color details for following B-24s: JUNGLE QUEEN, MAD RUSSIAN, KENTUCKY VIRGIN (later SURE POP), TWO BOB TILLIE, MISS McCOOK, GERALDINE, MR. 5 BY 5.
33. Need above info plus serial #s of B-24s SHIRLY ANN, VIRGIN II, WINDY CITY KITTY, RUM & COKE, PETTY GAL, COME AND GET IT, BIG ASS BIRD.
34. By whom and when was 65th SQ dice insignia designed? When was it first applied to B-24 stabilizers?
35. Need nicknames and info on any other 65th B-24s not listed here.
36. Need date that B-24 LUCKY LUCILLE (224) crash-landed at MILNE BAY, N.G.
37. When and at what base was name KEN'S MEN first applied to pilot's side of 65th SQ B-24 noses? What were colors of this lettering?
38. When and at what base was the tail B-24 rudder stripping first applied on 65th B-24s?

403RD SQUADRON

39. We have virtually no identifications of nicknames or nose art on 403rd SQ B-17s. Can anyone supply some?
40. Early 403rd SQ B-24s used a white front tip on top of the stabilizers. When and at what base was this first applied?
41. The following 403rd SQ B-24 nicknames are known: ACE O' SPADES, FLAMIN' MAMIE, FLYING FANNIE*, THE FLYING WOLF*, GENTLEMAN JIM*, JOLTIN JANIE, THE MIRAGE*, PRIDE OF THE CORNHUSKERS*, RIO RITA, SACK BOUND*, SATAN'S SISTER, STUGOTTS 1ST*, TAILSKID TOLLIE, MILLION \$ BABY (I & II), VIRGINIA GIRL, MAREEBA BUTCHER'S, KEN'S MEN (with MAREEBA BUTCHER'S insignia). Need crew chief's names, artwork color details, and dates of loss (for planes with * also need serial number).
42. Was MAREEBA BUTCHER'S Squadron insignia painted on noses of all 403rd B-24s late in the war? When was this done? (Two examples known from photos)
43. By whom and when was MAREEBA BUTCHER'S Squadron insignia designed?



The Flying W Wranglers, left to right, Scott Vaughn, Dennis Bailey, Vern Thomson, Sam Nicola and Wes English are shown on their latest album, also available as compact disc and cassette.

Wranglers lasso a new brand

Musical group's latest effort on CDs, cassettes

By **George Kane**/Entertainment Editor

Even the old West has succumbed to the new technology.

After recording 27 albums of "cowboy music," the Flying W Wranglers — the second oldest continuous cowboy band in the country — are bowing to progress. The master for their 28th record is completed, but it will be available only on compact disc and cassette.

"Album sales are nothing. We had to go this way," says Vern Thomson, leader, lead guitarist and sometimes-drummer for the Wranglers, who hold forth with their own special brand of music and cowboy humor for two shows every Friday and Saturday night at the Flying W Ranch.

Actually, Thomson wears about a half-dozen Stetsons at the Flying W, a working mountain-cattle ranch two miles north of Garden of the Gods on 30th Street — the address on the mailbox actually reads 3330 Chuckwagon Road, which gets some visitors lost.

Thomson is president of the Colorado Springs Convention and Visitors Bureau, vice president of the Pikes Peak Country Attractions Association, and cooks, works the cattle, builds fences and does public relations for the Flying W. The ranch owners have converted 14 of its buildings into tourist shops, one of them a record store handling all of the Flying W Records' labels.

"The only other true cowboy band that's been around longer than we have," says Thomson, "is the Sons of the Pioneers." That group, with changes of personnel over the years, was formed in the 1930s and appeared in dozens of Western movies until the demise of the oat opera.

Thomson realizes, of course, that cowboy music — i.e. "Ridin' Down the Canyon," "Cattle Call," "Don't Fence Me In," "Cimarron Roll On," all contained on their previous "Where the West Begins" stereo album — isn't everyone's plate of beans and biscuits.

"There's a big difference between cowboy music and country-western music," says Thomson. Cowboy music, he says, is pure Western music, sometimes soulful, usually soothing, occasionally rowdy, with its roots in the cattle drives of 100 years ago. Country-western is what you get when you turn on the radio.

"Musically, instead of a lead singer, you have

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Flying W Ranch dinner and Western show.

WHEN: 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday through May 20.

WHERE: Two miles north of Garden of the Gods on 30th Street, at the west end of Chuckwagon Road.

PRICES: \$15 and \$16, reservations required at 598-4000.

four-part harmony with true cowboy music," he says. "Lyrically, they sing about the cowboy life, the environment, the weather, the places they've been instead of singing cheatin' songs."

Harmonizing on the Flying W's stage are fiddle player Sam Nicola, banjo and guitar player Dennis Bailey, Thomson on lead guitar, Wes English on doghouse (standup) bass, with Scott Vaughn sitting in on drums and doubling on guitar.

"We have no stars," says Thomson. "This is strictly a group effort." But each player takes his moment in the spotlight during the hour-plus performance — Nicola's rendition of "Orange Blossom Special" and Bailey's banjo work on "Dueling Encounters" are electrifying enough to rouse some of the audience to its feet.

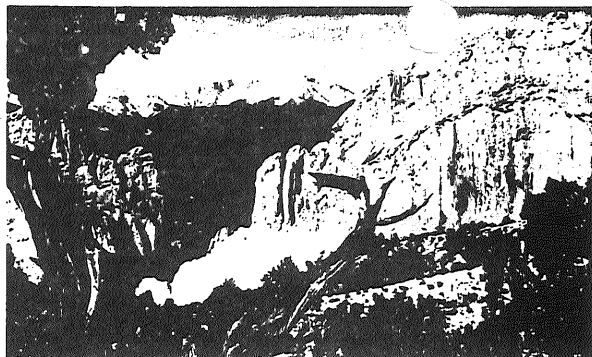
"We're entertainers," Thomson says in his deep basso, "and no brag, just fact: We think we're the best Western stage-show in the world."

Other people may think so, too. The group has entertained from Phoenix to Nashville, for tour brokers with whom Thomson works to "plug" Colorado as a vacation destination, and, at Gov. Roy Romer's request, accompanied him to London in 1987 to perform for dignitaries there.

The new album includes favorites "Streets of Laredo," "San Antonio Rose," "Red River Valley" and "Pinto Pal," and two new songs about Colorado written by Vaughn. The album is due out to coincide with the opening of the May tourist season.

The ranch opens its gates for dinner for 1,400 seven nights a week beginning May 26. And Thomson hopes the paying guests will agree with the new album's title: that the Wranglers are "Best of the Doggone Cowboys."

Colorado Springs is "America the Beautiful"



When Katherine Lee Bates reached the summit of Pikes Peak in 1893, the panoramic view inspired her to pen the lyrics to "America the Beautiful." This majestic mountain, along with the other attractions of the Pikes Peak region — both natural and man-made — continue to inspire visitors today.

People from all over the world travel to Colorado Springs each year to meet 14,110-foot Pikes Peak firsthand. Getting to the top during the warm weather months is easy. Cars can travel the well-maintained toll road. For train buffs, there's the world's highest cog railway. Of course, the more hardy souls will hike Barr Trail for the thrill of conquering one of Colorado's 54 "fourteeners".

Back down in Colorado Springs, with Pikes Peak as a backdrop, there's plenty more to do.

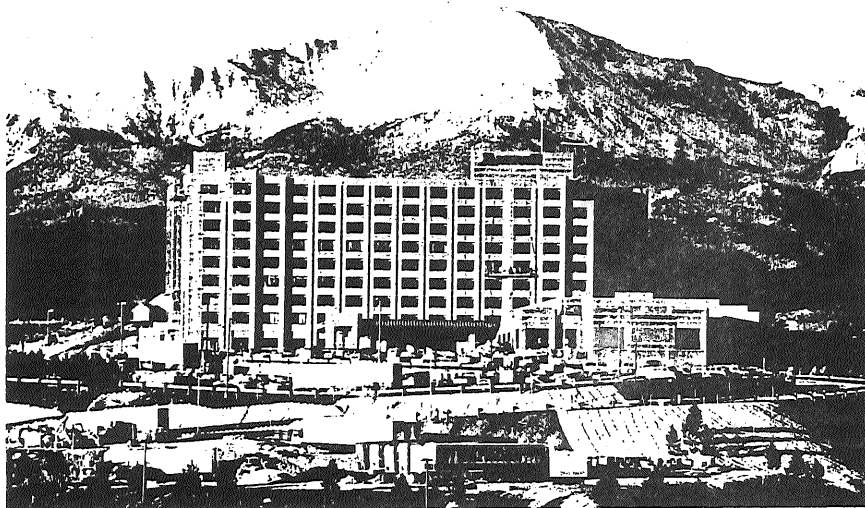
The city's most popular attraction is the United States Air

Force Academy, which opened in 1958. The more than one million visitors each year come to see such sights as jet fighters and the Academy's dramatic, multi-spired chapel.

A bit south of the Academy is another natural wonder, the Garden of the Gods. Here, massive formations of red sandstone shoot straight up from the ground a hundred feet or more.

Other popular places to go in the Pikes Peak region are the Pro Rodeo Hall of Champions and Museum, Cave of the Winds, Cripple Creek, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Seven Falls, nearby Royal Gorge, Manitou Cliff Dwellings, Van Briggie Pottery studio and the U.S. Olympic Training Center, home of the U.S. Olympic Committee.

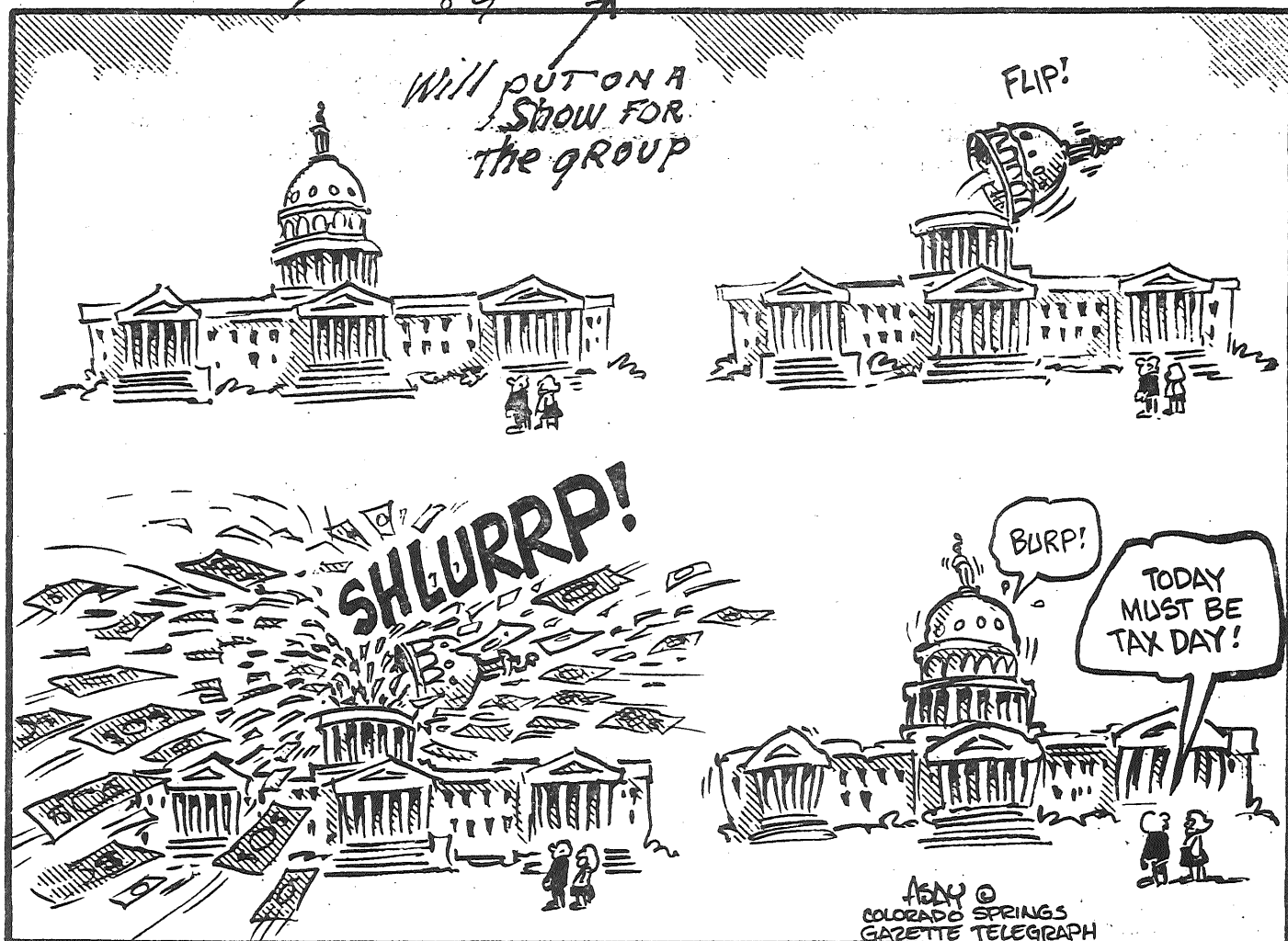
With all this, it's easy to see why the city makes the claim that "There's more Colorado in Colorado Springs."

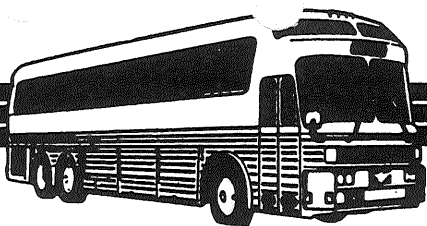


Colorado Springs Marriott — Rooms with a view

CHUCK ASAY

17 April 89





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Motorcoach Charter Service — Group Tours

Journey to the 9th Reunion of the 43rd Bomb Group

Oct. 8-18, 1989

Mr. S.L. Flinner, Leader

For those along the eastern portion of the United States, why not enjoy extra time with your friends from the 43rd Bombardment Unit. We will travel via motorcoach to and from Colorado Springs, Colorado for the 9th reunion of the 43rd Bomb Group.

Departure will be Sunday, Oct. 8, 1989, from New Castle, Pa. and Dayton, Ohio. You will spend four days and three nights visiting with your friends as well as enjoying the great sights out your motorcoach window. Traveling to Colorado will be via Rt. 70 and returning Rt. 80. Visits to various attractions enroute are included in your tour price. Arrival into Colorado Springs will be Wednesday, Oct. 11, 1989. You will need to make your own arrangements for your rooms and touring during your stay. The new Marriott is located across from the Air Force Academy. They are holding all their space for the 43rd Bomb Group. You will need to contact a member of the reunion committee for information. Departure will be Sunday afternoon, Oct. 15, 1989. Once again you will spend four days and three nights enjoying the lovely scenery, attractions and good conversation with your friends. Your arrival back into Dayton, Ohio and New Castle, Pa. will be Wednesday, Oct 18, 1989.

Tour package includes:

Roundtrip motorcoach transportation via George KU Motorcoach

Six nights accommodations enroute.

Three dinners and three breakfasts.

Admissions: Amana Colonies and Museum of Amana History, St. Louis Arch, Harry S. Truman Library and Museum and many, many more.....

Price per person based on Double occupancy: \$579.00

Reservations are held on a first come first serve basis. A \$50.00 deposit will reserve your seat. Please indicate which pick up area you are interested in. Exact pick up points will be announced later. A second deposit of \$100.00 is due Aug. 1, 1989 and the balance due two weeks prior to departure. To place your reservations please contact Mr. S.L. Flinner, 63rd Bomb Squadron, R.D.# 1 Box 98, Prospect, Pa. 16052, Phone: 412 865-2600.

Name _____ Address _____

Phone _____ Roommate _____

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