43RD BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION, INC.



PRESIDENT
JAMES T. MURPHY
43rd Bomb Group Assoc.
4003 Nunn Road
Huntsville, AL 35802

SECRETARY & TREASURER
BILL WILSON

43rd Bomb Group Assoc. P.O. Drawer M-360 Snyder, Texas 79550-0360

43rd Bomb Group Association, Inc. 58th Editon, April 1996

A FEW THOUGHTS AND SOME NEWS FROM JIM MURPHY

This newsletter becomes my first formal letter as the new President of the 43rd Bomb Group. MAX OSBORN and BILL WILSON graciously provided the January 1996 information for you; I was grateful to them. BILL WILSON remains as a major contributor, and JIM DIEFFENDERFER will keep you informed about the events, progress, and fun we will enjoy in September at our reunion at Kissimmee, Florida. Jim is the reunion chairman.

I talked to DICK WOOD and CLEO has been a great nurse. He is recovering so well that they are definitely planning to be with us in Kissimmee. In fact, DICK has volunteered to continue as our chaplain at the Sunday morning memorial service. He is asking BOB BUTLER, ROGER KETTLESON, and JIM MURPHY to participate with him, as we have in the past.

FAYE R. HOLT notified me that her husband of almost 71 years, J. A. HOLT, HDQRS, passed away January 6, 1996. J. A. was 93. He was on of our "senior" members when he went over with so many of our young people on the Queen Mary. They really enjoyed the reunions. I always looked forward to seeing him there; he had a great sense of humor.

MRS. BEN (KATHRYN) SCHNEIDER wrote that BEN B. SCHNEIDER, 63rd Bomb passed away May 22, 1995. She has had to move from St. Louis to Annapolis, Maryland to be with her sister, and said she will not be able to continue with our association. I'm suggesting to KATHRYN that she take a bit of time-we will continue to send the newsletter-you never know.

MR. AL O'BRIEN, 538 N. STONE AVENUE, LA GRANGE, IL 60526-5524 wrote on March 1, 1996 that he was continuing to search for information on his brother JAMES EDWARD O'BRIEN who was in the 63rd Squadron from July 1944 until Dec. 7, 1944. He and all the crew were lost during a night bombing mission to Clark Field. If anyone can help him, please send me a copy of your reply. Thanks.

PAUL BLASEWITZ, 63rd, sent his dues to BILL WILSON with a news clipping about a flight museum called "Fantasy of Flight." It is 10 miles north of Lakeland, Florida, not far from Kissimmee-you can stop off, coming from or going to the reunion.

usually makes the International Fly-In at Oshkosh, WI, each summer. **BOB** says that he served in the 403rd from April to November of 1945. He headed home from Ie Shima and cherishes the photo of the 4 B-24's of the Group over Ie Shima which Col. **PETTUS** had commissioned. Many of us join you on that **BOB**. There are a number of airports near Orlando and Kissimmee so why not make a fly-in to the next reunion **BOB**?

Another good man from the 403rd, **FREDERICK J. LLOYD**, mailed in a change of address. **FREDERICK** and **JANET** now reside at 609 Zachary Way, Webster, NY 14580. **FREDRICK** a hand-addressed newsletter and Roster have been sent to you as the Roster had gone to press before your letter arrived. Will we be seeing the two of you in Kissimmee this September? There will be a good turn out from the 403rd as well as many bombardiers with whom you can swap stories of pickle barrel accuracy.

JIM RODELLA, a gunner while in the 64th, reports that he and GLADYS are sorry to have missed everyone at Cheyenne, but they hope to make the Florida reunion, JIM and GLADYS hail from Pittsburgh, PA.

MERO A. CHLUDIL sent a new address. MERO and MARGARET now reside at 1261 Sunny Shore, Gladwin MI 48624. MERO served in the 403rd as a tail gunner. He wrote that JERRY SNYDER, 403rd, assured him that his letter was going to the right place. JERRY was correct as BILL WILSON has already deposited your check.

HELEN BAUDER, widow of the late BILL BAUDER, 64th, enclosed a very nice note with her associate member dues. HELEN writes from Omaha, NE, to say that the newsletter is the first piece of mail she reads. She knows BILL would have been interested in what all the men had to say. BILL has been deceased 9 years. God Bless. HELEN thanks those who prepared the roster knowing that it was quite a bit of work to assemble. BILL WILSON our fine secretary/treasurer can take bows for that.

ELY L. HILL, who made the air force his career and currently living in Cincinnati, Ohio, inquired about GEORGE OLAF ANDERSON and PAUL BAUER who were his tent mates. You should have the new roster by now ELY. This lists two men who might just be the ones you are looking for. Since they were in the 403rd, we will credit you as a member of the 403rd as well. Yes, in answer to your question, there is a history of the 43rd underway. It has been several years in the making, and BILL WILSON says hopefully it will be available this fall. The author is LARRY HICKEY who has written other histories of WWII organizations, but this should be the best of all. ELY writes that he is sorry that he missed the Cheyenne reunion. Don't miss our next one in Kissimmee in September.

MARGARET PURDY, the widow of DONALD PURDY who served as a pilot in the 403rd, is in associate member of The 43rd. She writes from Seattle, WA, that she and her son, John, want to order a copy of the history of the 43rd whenever it is published.

MARGARET there are many of us waiting to purchase that much wanted history. It's publication has been promised for a long time, but the outlook seems more promising now. Keep reading the newsletter for announcement of when and how to order the book.

at HC 2 Box 110, Emily, MN 57447. Their new phone number is (218)763-3207. CLIVE, who served in operations with the 65th, says that they both enjoy reading all of the news. They plan to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in April. Although they thought that the reunion in Cheyenne was tremendous, they are not too sure about getting to this years in Florida. They hope to get to the Massachusetts reunion. CLIVE this is a reunion in Albuquerque between those in Florida and Massachusetts.

LEROY ESTERGARD, of Cocoa, Fl, mailed BILL his dues for "96. LEROY, a check of the map shows that you won't have far to go to Kissimmee for the reunion in September. Your 403rd buddies will be looking forward to seeing you there.

Another Floridian, JAMES D. WILLIAMS, 65th line chief from 1944-1945, mailed in dues for a couple of years. JIM hopes to make it to Kissimmee in September, but doesn't know the dates. JIM, the dates are shown elsewhere in the newsletter, and now you have no good excuse not to be there. You and HORTENSE can take a leisurely drive from Jacksonville to the reunion.

DANIEL FERGUSON sent his dues with "a little extra for the kitty." **DAN** who was a flight engineer with the 63rd says "Hi to all." We hope to see you in Florida this year **DAN** even though Whitter CA is a long flight away.

ALVIN L. HAAS, a life member of our association, sent in a long letter from Des Plaines, IL. ALVIN claims his hand shakes a little as he writes so please excuse this. That goes for just about all of us ALVIN. Bet you had a mighty steady hand as the crew chief getting on of those B-24's from the 64th ready for a mission. He and Loraine have a new telephone area code, It is now 847 and no longer 708 as shown in the Roster. ALVIN says he had a good time in Cheyenne "except for freezing on the golf course." Wasn't that the only cold day of the entire reunion? He had a good time at the Terry Bison Ranch and enjoyed the bison meat, and reports that the sing-along was great and noted that most everyone was singing so he wasn't alone in enjoying that occasion. He continues, "Next Sept., the Good Lord Willing, I will see you all in Kissimmee, Fla."

FROM BILL WILSON

Here we go again. This is getting to be a lot like work. Questions a lot of folks ask - How much are dues? Dues are \$15.00 per year, payable by Jan 1st or whenever you think of it--No dues you get on the Bad Boy List.

Do you have a FAX number? Yes, it is (915)573-0338.

Office Number? Yes, it is (915) 573-6351. If you are busted, fell on HARD times, etc. Call Toll Free 1-800-545-5019.

Please-Please let us know if you move. We need the new address. It will cost us \$1.47 to get the newsletter back and another \$1.47 to send it to your new address. That's \$3.00 we are short on.

SHAD and NOANI SHADDOX, 64th Pilot, reports the passing of HAROLD F. RICHMOND, 64th Tail Gunner, March 26th, 1996. HAROLD was on SHAD'S crew. Fifty times SHAD and his crew, along with the rest of us, regret his passing.

TED and LORENZA ROMANOWSKI, 403rd Gunner, are sorry they missed Cheyenne. LORENZA was on sick call. They are both fine now--keeps up with ART DURBECK and WILLIAMS. Wants to know if you still have your short Snotter Bill--

BOB WHITE, 65th Tail Gunner, wants to get **VERN GASTOR** from "unknown" in the Roster to Pilot 65th. Thanks Bob.

TED and DORIS BOUTON, 63rd Radar and Chief master Sgt., had time in B-17's, B-29's and B-50's. Met several of you old timers at Davis Monthaw AFB--Sent \$40.00 for two years dues--I'm not very smart. I just marked him up for 3 years isn't 3 X 15.00 equal to 40.00. Be a good Boy TED.

CLAYTON SPENCER, 64th Gunner, thinks the staff is doing a good job. **CLAYTON**, with a rough C.O. like Col. **MURPHY**, we have to sorta miss that lawyer from Cheyenne.

DR. LEWIS ARMSTRONG, 403rd Tail Gunner, had trouble remembering some of the names in the New Roster. So he and **VIVIAN** are coming to Kissimmee reunion to bring them up to date. Don't worry Doctor, I still know faces it's just names I have trouble with.

- LON H. WEYLAND, 64th, was saddened by the passing of JOHNNY ONDRISthe Best "First Soldier" ever. Very pleased with FRED BLAIR'S reprint of "Down Under." He needs help on the dates of our being at Torrews Creek, Iron Range, Milne Bay, Nadzab, etc. Some of you historians help LON out.
- **FRANK SHELION**, 64th Crew Chief, enjoys the newsletters. Helps him keep up with old times and friends. **FRANK** doesn't get around as well as he use to. There are several of us that have slowed down a bit **FRANK**. Hang Tough.
- FRANK WALDEN, 403rd Stats, said he will see us in Kissimmee. Good Show Yank.
- **JAMES J. RAE**, HDQRS, fell from Grace but is back in the flow. He reupped the other day--his address is 4449 Quitman, Denver, CO 80212.
- **JAMES** and **PEG MAYMAN**, 65th Engr, sent best wishes for good health to each of you. Thanks.
- TONY LAMPIETRO, HDQRS, is trying to get GEORGE WHITE to get me fired. I have him married to his sister--TONY is not married--but he has a nice sister. TONY, all GEORGE does for me is get me more jobs -- Free ones -- Take Care.
- WARREN and JO DITZLER, 64th Ball Gunner, were pleased to get the new Roster. Several members live close by. Give 'em a call WARREN--Remember "Uno Cervesa."
- **HARLEY HAYDEN**, 65th Gunner, reports good health but bad business. Too much snow made it hard to find cans. Don't give up **HARLEY**, come spring you will have to get PAT to help on your can route--God Bless!
- FRANK and MADGE SANDERS, 63rd Navigator, sent in dues and a little extraso if you are a little short let me know and I'll use Franks money--it's all in the family.
- **REBECCA WARDELL**, wife of **ROBERT**, reports his passing the 21st of September, 1995. **ROBERT** was in the 64th--We all sent our regards--God Bless.
- RAY and JERI HARPER, 64th Pilot, are fine--are missing the snow and rain but enjoying the Cactus League Baseball in Arizona. Good on You Yank.
- JOE SHAPURAS, 65th, wants to know about the book.-LARRY HICKEY, P.O. Box 3334 High Mar Station, Boulder, CO 80307, will help you out--last report I have is this fall--for sure.
- PAUL PUCHALSKY, 63rd, likes the new Roster, but someone made a small mistake. PAUL is a widow--he doesn't know Dorothy I have him teamed up with--totally incorrect--can't spell PETTUS, got Paul teamed up with Dorothy--I'm sure this will get me fired. Take over GEORGE WHITE--you got me busted from a major to a private surely you can get me out of here.
- CAROL FULLENWIDER, widow of BILL a pilot in the 63rd. BILL was known as "Skeeter." CAROL is a good Texas girl from Alpine.
- CLAIR H. BLACK, 63rd Bombardier, on BILL CROFF'S crew wants some extra books for their kids. CLAIR and GWEN hope to make Kissimmee Reunion. They need to talk to DALE and JEAN BARR--The BLACKS have 5 kids, 15 grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. The 43rd can get the job done.
- ALTON "DOUG" LEAMAN, 403rd Tail Gunner has 28 three picture copies of Mareeba Memorial left. They are very good. Send him \$5.00 for the picture and postage. You will be glad you did. ALTON LEAMAN'S address is 6666 Cormell, Indianapolis,

Indiana 46220-1145. **DOUG** is a true fellow. At reunions always helps--he is on sick call now if you don't need a picture drop him a note to let him know we are thinking of him--God Bless.

Someone needs info on a B-24 Pilot **JOSEPH E. WINGATE** class of 44B. Anyone knowing this pilot please contact **DAN JOHNSON** 4375 157th St. Court West, Rosemount, MN 55068, phone number (612)423-1289.

LEROY JASMER, 63rd Maint., sent in an interesting article he had written "Betty's Final Mission." Two Betty's on the 19th of August, 1945 landed at Ie Shima and called it quits. Thanks **LEROY**.

EULAMAE MILLER, reports the passing of her husband ROBERT "TOD" MILLER, HDQRS Radar Operator, on January 25, 1996 - Military service January 30 Fort Gibson, OK. The 43rd was represented by ROBERT L. MORHART. EULAMAE wants to continue to be a part of the 43rd--sent in dues and we are very pleased to have her--send her a word of welcome.

PAUL LEDGER, 63rd Sgl/Maj, sent in a new member LEO J. LANGLOIS, 63rd, address 304 Buchanan Ave. Apt. 4, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920-3257, telephone number (407)784-0446. PAUL and MARY got 5 weeks temp duty in Jamaican Beach, FL. They say it's sorta like Fort Wayne this time of year. They both have paved streets.

JOHN COOP, 403rd, enjoys the newsletter from his home in Australia. Meet "Chunky" and CLARA MARIE "Down Under" in 1987 and joined up with the group then. JOHN has a granddaughter named WILSON she is three--I guess that lets me out. Take Care.

F.L. LANNING, 307th Bomb Group ASSN. 13th AF. is trying to help Mrs. ADA KRIEGER get information about her brother, 1st Lt. EDWARD CHRISTIAN PEDERSON (MIA) 8-5-44. ED was a pilot in the 64th mission might have been to Caraline Islands. ED graduated Pilot School in Junto CO 5-19-43. F.L. hopes someone will remember ED, if so please send him the information and he will get it to the proper place. His address is 6617 Hillgrove Dr. San Diego, CA 92120. F.L. was flying B-24's out of Los Negros at the same time--I guess we didn't do it all--there were others.

FRANK SCHIRRIPA, 64th Gunner, wants to know about the newsletter--well, FRANK, you are getting as fast as I can get 'em together--Free help is pretty sorry--This is number 58 and on time--Be a good Boy FRANK.

BOB HOYES, 65th W/Gunner, sent me a nice letter about his time in the 65th--and the troubles he has spelling looked pretty good to me, but then I can't spell. Take Care.

FAYE R. HOLT advises us of her husbands passing on January 6, 1996. Major J.A.HOLT was 93. While in New Guiena he was in HDQRS and a Sqt/Maj. J.A. and FAYE attended several reunions --very great people--A joy to know.

ELDEN "BUD" LAWSON, 65th Bombadier, reports the passing of ROBERT C. DE MARIE HDQRS-BUD'S co-pilot TED DEFEDERICIS lived near ROBERT and said he had been on sick call for a while. BUD is all fired up over his new computer now has to get a new printer and typewriter--and we wonder why the computer people are so rich. BUD is thinking of trading cars wants to know if I have a clean 1930 model A 4door--Let you know when the old maid trades her in.

HAL and MAUDE WINFREY, 65th pilot, sent a nice letter. Their kids are all doing well even have a new grandchild on the way. They are moving after 33 years to Arbor Terrace 425 Winn Way #233, Decatur, GA 30030. The old yard got too big, the slop in the yard is now a hill etc. Don't pull that stuff--at Port Morsby you had the worst yard in the whole tent area--Stayed in my nice front yard all the time--a hell of a Pilot but no yard man. God Bless both of you old friends.

HERB and MARIE BRUEN, 65th, are good Texas folks. They live in the wet part of the state. Say it's dry and cattle prices are bad--HERB, try West Texas and you will be pleased to be back in the wet country.

EVELYN FRIEDBERG, wife of COL. **NORMAN FRIEDBERG**, 64th Navigator, reports his passing on November 22, 1995. He was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. They had 54 years together and many found memories of 43rd Bomb Group Reunions.

BOB ROTH, 403rd Gunner, can't believe the letters he has received over the Black Sunday Report in the last news letter. **BOB** if I had the money I'd put a used car add in this thing. Take Care.

JOHN A ROBERTSON, 65th Pilot, corrects one of my old mistakes. It was his wife that passed away on July 6, 1994 not **JOHN**. Also, congratulations on your new bride may the days I tried to cheat you out of be joyful.

JOE C. COX, 64th Pilot and Sq. Director, reports the passing of Master Sqt WALTER C. SISMILICH in early February this year. WALTER was the 64th Mess Sqt. from Nadzab in Leyte. Our Deepest Sympathy to LORETTA.

NICK and SHIRLEY ARABINKO, 64th pilot ~well SHIRLEY DREW my picture on the letter~ Does it look like me? Years ago there was a carton of a bum and the remarks were "if you are so damn smart why aren't you rich"--I guess I've come to that SHIRLEY, NICK--your question on the mistakes on the back of the Roster are well founded. The spelling I thought was close the dates were only a year off I had some of the Battle and I was in Ardmore, OK in 1944. Must have been 1943.

BOB and DORIS BUTLER, 63rd Bombadier, Founder and past President, received a note from CAROLINE BANCROFT that her husband HARVEY had passed away. He was BOB'S Radio Operator. They had stayed in touch over the many years. BOB, HARVEY and two other crew members made the trip to Hawaii in July 1942 on the China Clipper.

Col. Rev. **THOMAS F. SHEA CHAPLAIN** of the 43rd Bomb Group (H), passed away at age 89 on the 11th of February, 1996--To all of us he was the "Coach" I'm sure God will say to him "well done my good and faithful servant" and all of us add our, Amen.

SAM COMMONS, 65th Flt/Engr and Director, sent in a note from BETTY JOHNSTON saying her husband passed away July 18, 1995. RUBY ERNEST JOHNSTON was a Navigator in the 65th. Our heart warm feelings go out to BETTY over our loss.

EDWARD J. PUKAS, 65th Crew Chief sent in a request for the reunion in 1998 to be in New England--Springfield, MA is only 5 miles from an air base. Thanks ED, we'll get BOB WATSON to check it out.

The Air Force and Air Force ASSN are going to have a meeting in Los Vegas April '97. I think it is the 20th to 27th, 50th Birthday of the Air Force if interest check with NEIL FAIRBANKS or maybe ROGER KETTLESON.

BOYD and SHIRLEY VORSE, 63rd Engr, sent regards and best health to all.

DR. HENRY S. BLANK, 64th Fl Surgeon is new life member. His address is 2021 NW 5th Ave. Gainesville, FL 32603-1529. Thanks Doctor, see you in Kissimmee.

STELLA TINSMAN, reports her husband JOSEPH M. TINSMAN, 63rd Tail Gunner passed away 25th of September, 1995--We'll all miss Joe.

JOHN and CAROL CROSBY, 403rd Bombadier, are ready for Kissimmee. They want MAX AXELSEN to save him a spot on the Golf Team. Hopes to see NEIL FAIRBANKS and HENRY WAUGH--This reunion is going to be really Big JOHN.

DICK and **JANE HENNING**, 64th Crew Chief, love to make reunions--put on the one in Dayton--Two great people.

DON WILLITS, 65th Crew Chief, sent in dues and a bit extra. Thanks **DON** for extra help.

WALTER and MARY BLUNK, 64th Crew Chief, sent in dues and a little note "Three things go when you get old--your memory and Oh Hell, I forgot the other two."

JOHN B. AHREWS, 63rd pilot, had a great time at the Cheyenne Reunion. He brought some pictures of his trip over to the 43rd. "Top of the Mark, San Francisco." That sure brings back memory to lots of us **JOHN**.

HENRY J. LEWIS, 65th, needs his phone number corrected it's (713)488-6311 and Fax (713)488-4299. HENRY put up Col. PETTUS four SQ over Ie Shima painting in the American Legion post at Ellington Field--it was a big hit. Also, at Galveston found a BI Hustler with 43rd Emblen on it. HENRY is packing up for Kissimmee.

ROBERT and ROSE MULVEY, 403rd sent in some pictures of B-17's and B24's at New England Air Show. Also, a reminder Gen. KENNY hailed from his home town--Brookline, MA.

Col. HARRY and RACHEL URBAN, 403rd Bombadier, sent in dues. They put on the reunion at Colorado Springs--one of the very best--Told me several times to go to hell--what a pair--very best regards from all.

This newsletter is out on time, thanks to JIM MURPHY, JIM CHERKAUER, JIM DIEFFENDERFER, AND BREEZE BOREN--Thanks very much.

One last note from NICK ARABINKO

Age appears to be best in four things--old wood to burn, old wine to drink, old friends to trust, and old authors to read (Francis Becon)(1561-1612)

To that MARY LOIS and I say God Bless.

Hold Eberything

YOU'VE SEEN THE REST, NOW COMES THE BEST

For years we have by-passed our third largest group of members, namely, FLORIDA. It's about time to make up for lost time and admit they have it all.

So, we went to the place called Kissimmee by the Indians (means in the middle of everything), and found they told the truth. This place is literally in the middle of everything you could possibly imagine, and some things you never thought of. There are so many things to do here that you could spend a month just covering a few of them.

JIM DIEFFENDERFER, 63rd Board Member, is your host for this extravaganza, as well he should be, he was one of the builders of this entertainment area, and knows it like a book. He says you literally have access here to every entertainment that you can imagine, and some you wont believe.

If you have ever wanted to take a Florida vacation, now is the time. You will never again have so many attractions to choose from your 43rd room in Kissimmee. Hay wait!!

We have never had a whole place to ourselves. Now we do, the Hyatt Orlando (Kissemmee) is built in clusters. We have a whole cluster to ourselves, pool and all. No room over 2 stories. And our own memorabilia room in the cluster. Free parking adjacent to the cluster.

Those of you who normally come in on Wednesday or Thursday will probably want to come in on Monday. There are so many places to visit and things to see, you need more time. In the lobby of the hotel you will find tourist information, and times and prices for all the shows and bus schedules to get you there and back. Buses are available from the hotel to all the major attractions. You also have nearby golf courses, and tennis courts.

The following is a tentative schedule for the week long reunion:
Sunday & Monday 8th - 9th: Free time - * Magic Kingdom * Epcot Center * MGM
Studios * Sea World * Flying Tigers War Birds Air Museum * Cape Kennedy * Gatorland * Cypress Gardens * Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament (we have volunteered George White as the 43rd knight to fight in the tournament on our behalf. George is one of the best known bareback horse riders in the nation. Of course George does it a little differently, the horse has a saddle, and George is barebacked. Also, since he worked for Prudential, he probably has more insurance than any of us foot soldiers. George, this sounds like a cakewalk for you, all you have to do is steer the horse with one hand, and carry a lance in the other. Good Luck. PS the other guy also has a lance. Don't forget to duck.)

Tuesday 10th. Free time same as Monday plus Visit Old Town and golf or tennis.

Wednesday 11th. Free time, maybe Air-Boat or Balloon Ride. Evening: Board Meeting.

Thursday 12th. Golf tournament, Bridge tournament - 8:00 pm - Squadron meetings - Ladies program.

Friday 13th. Full Breakfast. 6:00 pm - 11:00 pm Poolside buffet & reception

Saturday 14th. 7:00 am - 9:00 am Continental Bkfst. 9:00 am - 11:30 am Group Business Meeting. 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm Gala Dinner Dance.

Sunday 15th. 8:15 - 9:00 Memorial Services. 9:00 - 11:30 Farewell Brunch.

Those of you flying in, go to 2nd level, and Mears Shuttle Line leaves every 15-20 minutes. Mears Shuttle Line also leaves the hotel on a regular schedule to most of the Attractions and Shows.

Additional shows and attractions: * Universal Studios * Busch Gardens * Silver Springs * Splendid China * Water Mania * Wet & Wild * Arabian Nights * Church St. Station * King Henry's Feast * Mickey's Revue * Polynesian Luau * Polynesian Revue * Sleuths and Wild Bill's.

Now if all this isn't enough to tempt you, remember, you will probably regret it for the rest of your life if you do not send in your registration today for what will be the largest turnout of the 43rd since Harry & Rachel Urban showed us Colorado Springs. There are only about 240 rooms in our "cluster", SO, get with it. Get those reservations in right away, You can kill two birds with one stone. Get the reunion and the vacation of a lifetime at the same time.

See ya in Kissimmee!!!

FROM BREEZE BOREN

FROM JIM DIFFENDERFER

FRED BLAIR, Bombardier 63rd, passed away in his sleep on his 80th birthday. Probably dreaming of all those "Down Under" books he had printed. JIM has gotten some of the books from MARGARET and will have them for sale in the memorabilia room. Proceeds to go to MARGARET. Great for the B-17 people don't do much for those that flew the box the B-17 came in.

ROGER and AUDREY KETTLESON, 64th, were the first to send in their money for the reunion. If you are packing early don't forget the swim suits--we have our own pool and JIM MURPHY has promised to have some beer poolside.

DOGLAS missed Cheyenne, but is already registered for Florida, looking for the B-24 we are trying to get it in place.

JACKSON and DORTHY YOUNG, 64th, are flying in from San Diego. Don't forget to clip your 43rd discount tickets for the Mears Airport to the hotel bus. CHARLES and ELIZABETH WOODS, 63rd, might be on the same plane--one coupon will take care of the entire party.

Major General JOHN and ELIZABETH WILSON, 63rd, are coming to their first reunion--lots of folks are looking for you.

CHARLES and MILDRED McCLENNY, 64th, coming in with Texas Delegation. Bring your cowboy boots, Kissimmee is cattle country.

DALE BARR and MARY, 403rd, are coming to enjoy--you can rest this time. You did a fantastic job and deserve pampering.

JIM MURPHY, 63rd, sent his money in early. It's nice to know the President will be in early. Call him if you have any complaints.

LYLE and BETTY HEINENE, 64th, are driving in with gold clubs.

EVERETT and **DORTY LIND**, 403rd, are the only ones from Florida to put up their money so far but lots have called to say they are coming and offer to help. We'll put them on bar duty around the pool.