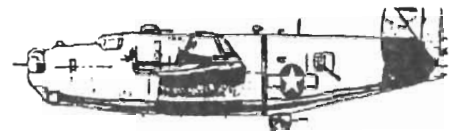


"Late Pass!"



THE CALL SIGN FOR GROTTAGLIE TOWER --

449th "FLYING HORSEMEN"

OCTOBER 1999

449TH BOMB GROUP ASSN.

PRE-11th REUNION INFO.



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WOW!!! "THINGS ARE LOOKING GREAT for the 11th REUNION AT BRANSON, MO.!!!

Our first block of room reservations are gone, had to make arrangements for more room ... so **get your room reservation in ASAP!!!** Give them a nights cost of \$57.00 plus tax and tell them when you are coming in and leaving. Two beds or King size, handicap rooms available. **THE PROGRAM BEGINS ON SUNDAY 5:00 P.M., the 30th APRIL ... arrive before then.** Those flying can be met in SPRINGFIELD, MO. and ride the Gray Line bus for the 35 miles into Branson ... \$30 person max., round trip!! **ENTERTAINMENT SHOWS??** Morning, afternoon and evenings!! We will have 449th times together and discount packages for other shows, plus all day Tuesday

for individual personal selected shows!! **GOLF??** But of course!!! Oversize "Theme rooms with jacuzzi run for \$85-89/night if desired. The host hotel provides bus transport to our places. **ANOTHER "LATEPASS"** will come early in the year 2000 with full details, an advance 449th reunion registration form, and a map of highway access into Branson and to the Ho-

tel!!! No airlines go any closer than Springfield, MO, so make your arrangements to that airport. **EXCITEMENT** is already spreading through the membership!!! **BE SURE AND MAKE your Hotel Room Reservation NOW!!!** And **REMEMBER, THE BEST ARRIVAL TIME IS SAT. THE 29th but the 30th is OK, too ... but get into Branson early on Sunday the 30th to be present for the "GET ACQUAINTED TIME" for the 5:00 p.m.** Get Acquainted brunch gathering!! **NOTE:** We have 200+ 8" 449th Plates leftover from Biloxi! These will be given first registered for rooms with the hotel and also at the 449th registration tables in the Hotel look for the added information in the next "LATE PASS".

BRANSON



449th Association President, James B. Miller, had cancer surgery on August 12, 1999 and is now recuperating at home. His wife, Dee, and a visiting nurse comes to take care of his recovery. He sends his "thanks to all of his 449th family friends for their cards and prayers" knowing that with his personal care and of those helping by their concern, he is progressing. The Doctors have given them the news that he will be able to attend the April 2000 449th Reunion in Branson, Missouri. He sends his love and good wishes to each and every 449er.

"OUR 1999 RETURN TO ITALY, APR. 13-24TH."

The third Italian tour for the 449th, 1995 and 1997 preceding. This return trip included a "Honeymoon" for Lee and Wanda Kenney, married 1st of April 1999. The remaining 90 consisted of 449th family members, to include brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, granddaughters and even in-laws! A warm and close group, all eager for their visits!

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY, the 13th and 14th: Our U.S. departments were from J.F.K. Apt. NY and Newark Apt., Newark, NJ. We arrived in Rome to transfer to Bari for the tour beginnings. Mrs. Kenney, Wanda, a native of Italy, and a bride of 12 days, greeted us at the airport. We re-met our 1995 tour guide, Massino, and we were off on our way! To our surprise and the tour schedule, we learned that the Bari and Brindisi airports were closed .. nothing open except Naples of Grottaglie Apt. so we landed at Grottaglie and bused to Taranto Grand Definio Hotel, right on the bay of Taranto where we enjoyed a well earned rest. Later we were served a five course dinner.

THURSDAY, the 15th: Breakfast at the hotel and busing back to Grottaglie to the Town Hall and greeted by mayor Venia, who knew us from our last two visits. We presented the Mayor and the City a plaque which contains a photo of the town and the airbase of 1944. On the plaque is an appropriate inscription as a gift from the 449th Assn. to the town of Grottaglie. A tour of the WW2 air base followed, we were the guests of the Naval Base Officers Club where we presented framed photos of 1944-45 areas of the base which they were to hang in their newer Club, under construction. The Navy Station provided us lunch at the Club as hosts. After lunch we traveled back to Grottaglie and presented the Grottaglie Council President, Mr. Donatelli, a two layered wreath for

their Tomb of their Unknown Soldier, DEDICATED FOR THOSE MEN LOST IN WW1, and WW2. We then visited the local ceramic factory and returned for a fine evening meal at the hotel.

FRIDAY, the 16th: We left Taranto by bus for Alberobello, a town famous for their cone shaped dwellings, called "Trulli", which date back to the 13th century. Then on to Manduria, and were greeted by their Mayor Mastroville, who we met on our 1997 tour. We presented items to the Manduria Mayor and to the 47th Bomb Wing Museum that is being renovated. Squadron patches, several 1944 "flak maps" as complimentary gifts by ex-navigator Max Kurtz of the 718th Sqdn. The Mayor's brother, Dino, acted as interpreter and gave us a wonderful tour of Manduria of ancient graves, the old fort wall that Hannibal was repulsed twice. Packages of wine were presented to those to conclude the fulfilling day and back to the Delfino Hotel for their farewell dinner.

SATURDAY, the 17th: Taranto to Pompei by bus to tour the ruins of Pompei, to Sorrento where our two hotels, the Europa Palace and the Grand Royal are side-by-side, overlook the Bay of Sorrento. Dinner at the two hotels and then evening entertainment at a local night club on the town square!

SUNDAY, the 18th: The Isle of Capri was scheduled but the weather did not permit, but a breathtaking sight-seeing drive down the Amalfi Drive, to the Town of Amalfi, was beautiful, relaxing and restful. We dined at our pleasant hotels.

MONDAY, the 19th: The weather improved for our visit to Capri, but the famous Blue Grotto was temporarily closed. A tour of the Isle of Capri with a lunch at a charming restaurant, over-

looking the bay of the Isle of Capri and we took boats back to the town of Capri. Some rode the bus back and the younger ones walked the hill to return. We dined at a great local restaurant, "The Franceschillo", beautiful.

TUESDAY, the 20th: An hour shopping tour in Sorrento and left for Anzio, the U.S. Army landing site in 1944. Our tour company, Central Holidays, had arranged for us to visit the Nettuno American Cemetery. We provided a wreath in honor of our 449th WW2 members interred and their names on a wall of remembrance. Certainly an emotional moment of our trip. We proceeded to Rome in time to get settled in two of their hotels, the "Visconti Palace" and the "Michelangelo", both 4-star hotels and within walking distance of many wonderful dining places.

WEDNESDAY, the 21st: Following a large breakfast we boarded buses for a grand tour of Rome, ending up at the Colosseum, where we explored this great museum of antiquity. We rested at our hotels while the younger set of our tour went "exploring Rome". For the evening we dined at the "Rinaldo Aquedotto" restaurant while being entertained by musicians. Wanda's sister, who lives in Rome, joined us for the part of the evening.

THURSDAY, the 22nd: A half day to see more of Rome for some of us, others wanted to visit Florence to see the City and the statue of "David". Arrangements were also coordinated for our visit to the American Cemetery at Florence and to present a wreath in honor of our fellow 449ers. Two of our tour met with the sites of their crew comrades Harvey Gann and John Mahoney. A quiet moment of emotion and remembrance for all of us. We returned to Rome for a fantastic evening and entertainment at the "Three Tenors

Restaurant" ... great fun!!

FRIDAY, the 23rd: Further visits in Rome, the Vatican the fabulous "Sistine Chapel" and more of Michelangelo's works. Then a guided tour of St. Peters ... a visit difficult to explain in words. We enjoyed the evening dinner at the quaint old "Meo Patacco" restaurant.

SATURDAY, the 24th: A leisurely breakfast with plenty of time to go to the airport for flights back to JFK, NY and Newark, NJ. Several of the tour had made individual re-



Lee & "Wanda" Kenny, Sorrento, Italy during 1999, April 17th 449th Tour. They were married 1 April, 1999

turn plans and further travel sights to Florence and Venice. Lee and Wanda Kenney extended their honeymoon to visit Anagni, Wanda's family century home, just 30 miles south of Rome. Talk to those who made the tour see and hear why that another tour will be in the offering and announcement made via the "LATE PASS" newsletters, all depending upon how many sign up and if Lee Kenney can make the arrangements with the Central Holidays Tour Co.!!!!

449th BASE EXCHANGE

449th ASSN. MEMORABILIA AVAILABLE prices includes postage!

- 449th CAP (new order) one size fits all 16.00
- License Plate Holder 8.00
- 449th License Tags 5.00
- Group Embroidered Emblem (4"x4") 4.00
- Group Embroidered Emblem (2"x5/8") 2.50
- 449th Ball Point Pens 2.00
- 449th Desk Clocks 3.00
- 449th Bumper Stickers 2.00
- Group Key Chain 2 for 3.00
- Squadron Embroidered Emblem (state SQ) 2.50

The following items are limited in numbers:

- Windbreaker Jacket (White) 24.00
- T-Shirt (dark grey w/B-24) 10.00
- Golf Shirts (w/color & gp. emblem) (white or tan) .. 24.00
- 449th HISTORY BOOK 1-2 (one volume) 35.00**

Make your checks or money order out to **Treas., name/address (on back page).**

449th BOOK #4 ADVANCE ORDER FORM: (mailed direct from publisher).

To: Floyd Trogdon, 1400 Kitty Hawk Way, Melbourne, FL 32940. For: 449th BOMB GP. HISTORY BK. IV.

Check enclosed for \$ _____ made payable to 449 BGA. Yes, please enter my order for _____ book (s) postpaid.

(PLEASE PRINT) NAME _____

STREET _____ CITY/STATE _____

ZIP _____ TELEPHONE (_____) _____

If you would like book(s) directly to others at different addresses list on a attached paper.

SIGNATURE _____

NEW NAMES ADDED TO ROSTER (Since January 99 "Late Pass")

Yes, we continue to receive names from those who have "just heard about the 449th Assn." ... thus it does give us a lift when we see former WWII names come in!! Here are some added since the last newsletter.

- Bruner, Ernest L.** 311 N. Main, Rusk, TX 75785
718th SQ: NG on Sommers crew, 35 missions, 9/44-5/45.
- Bush, David E. (& Nancy)** 2122 Billy Bishop Rd., Benton, AR 72015
Hon. SQ: son of Ross Bush, Nav on J. Olson crew, 719th.
- Cannon, Allen** 5200 N. Knoxville, #308S, Peoria, IL 61614
716th SQ: Ops. clerk, orig cadre, 7/43-6/45.
- Caplan, Dr. Arline** 6400 York Ave. So., Apt 209, Miniapolis, MN 55435
Hon SQ: wife of Dr. Leslie Caplan, Flt. Surgeon, 719th.
- Conver, Samuel W. (& Sarah Jane)** 813 W. Meadows Pl., Peoria, IL 61604
GP HQS: Cryptographer, orig cadre, 10/43-5/45.
- Hubbard, Erick F.** 1975 W. Forest Ave., Decatur IL 62522
Hon SQ: for grandfather, Ralph Foster, bomb. on A.K. Brown crew 718.
- Jankura, August J. (& Betty)** 19261 Brierwood Lane, Strongsville, OH 44136
719 SQ: CP on Heinbuch crew, 3/44-4/44. Downed in "Shasta Shack" 12 April 44, 12 missions, POW.
- Jean, Arthur** 1838 W. 27th St., San Pedro, CA 90732
Hon SQ: for his father, A.H. Jean, F/Eng on Oien crew, 716th.
- Johnson, Williams D., Jr.** 717th St. Lawrence St., Gonzales, TX 78629
Hon SQ: son of Johnson, Sr. Nav on Silvers crew, 718th.
- Leasia, Mrs. Faithe** 2005 N. Wilson Ave., Royal Oak, MI 48073
Hon SQ: for husband John, crew chief in 718th SQ.
- Lent, Richard W.** 440 Muirfield Dr., Atlantis, FL 33462-1206
719th: Nav on Morrel crew, 6/12/44-10/13/44, downed with Mealey (O'Malley) and Dr. Caplan, Lents' 50th mission.
POW. Maj. USAFR Ret.
- Leonard, James M. (& Marguarite)** 205 Oxmead Rd., Westampton, NJ 08060
719th SQ: Bomb on Heinbuch crew, 3/44-4/44, 12 missions. Downed in "Shasta Shack" April 12, 44. POW.
- Massino, Mrs. Mary** 2 Timber Ridge, Box 856, Streator, IL 61364
Hon SQ: for husband Anthony, Gun on Messenger crew, 716th.
- Mulvey, Mrs. Gordon E.** 4333 Foeburn Lane, KY 40207
Hon SQ: for husband gordon, Lead crew Rad/Nav., 717th SQ.
- Seymour, Stephen A., Jr.** 3725 Dana, Bellingham, WA 98225
Hon SQ: for father, Stephen, Sr., crew pilot in 719th.
- Swenson, Erick M.** 628 Centenary Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808-4707
Hon SQ: for father, Harold, 716th, Gun on McGrath crew.
- Temchulla, Florian O.** Rd. 1, Box 201B, Glen Campbell, PA 15742
Hon SQ: for his father, Frank, 718th crew Pilot.
- Willoughby, Mrs. Mildred** 14 Lockhaven Dr., Newport News, VA 23602
Hon SQ: for husband, George, 716th Sq. Supply Sgt.



DECEASED NAMES

(received since our Jan. 99 issue)

Dates given are accurate.



GROUP HQS:

Kaley, Frank D. Bomb section 10/97

716th SQ:

Albright, Fred E. Gun, Drinana crew 1/25/99
 Buford, Wm. M. Bomb, Powers crew 12/97
 Callahan, Richard T. Crew Pilot 4/7/99
 Griffith, Fred R. Ground crew armorer 10/5/97
 Hochendel, Eugene C. Crew Pilot 6/97
 Jean, Arthur H. F/E, Oien crew 12/21/98
 Licare, August Ordnance 7/21/97
 Lloyd, James G., Sr. Co-pilot, O'Conner crew in 98
 Massino, Anthony C. Gun, Messenger crew 10/11/98
 Palmi, Joseph BG, H. Allen crew 12/27/98
 Poll, Carl E., Sr. BG, Alexander crew 6/4/99
 Sheridan, Philip J. Co-pilot, Bradley crew 5/6/99
 Swenson, Harold A. Gun, McGrath crew 6/6/99
 Topal, Albert H. F/E, Marrone crew 6/16/95
 Weeks, Clarke B., Jr. Crew Pilot 6/20/96
 Willoughby, George Sq. Supply Sgt. 2/17/99
 Woldoff, Jack P. F/E, Haywood crew 11/9/98

717th SQ:

Chmielewaki, Henry J. Nav, J. Miller crew in 97
 Coontz, William Armament 12/3/98
 Deren, Edward G. Bomb, J.W. Olson crew in 98
 Ferguson, Robert M. Sqdn. Mess Sgt. 8/17/98
 Fields, Gordon I. Bomb, McInvale crew 10/18/98
 Harlan, George Nav, Wright crew 12/9/98
 Harder, Joseph E. Bomb, Hofmann crew in 98
 Kiethe, Robert NG, Ross crew 6/9/99
 Litvinoff, Mike Gun, Gray crew 7/13/99
 Mulvey, Gordon E. Rad/Nav, Lead crew 1/20/99
 Olson, Wright M. gun, Desmond crew 9/10/95
 Sievers, E.R. Intel O. in 99
 Staton, David A. Comm. Section 9/11/98

718th SQ:

Evans, Roland T. Crew Pilot 5/6/99
 Franks, Howard L. Gun, Coburn crew 5/98
 Howe, Richard S. Nav, Porter crew 5/24/99
 Leasia, John Crew Chief 6/30/99
 Ludwig, Seymour A/C mech. 12/23/98
 Nelson, L. Monte TG, Sommers crew 7/29/99
 Owens, Kenneth Gun, Driggers crew 9/18/97

719th SQ:

Allen, Wm. C. Crew Pilot & Sqdn. Cmdr. 9/99
 Beltzer, Harold on J. Olson crew 4/8/98
 Hall, Alan Crew Pilot in 97
 Huggins, Samuel L., Jr. Nav, Morrison crew 5/30/96
 Piper, Frank Ordnance 3/2/99
 Walsh, Edward J. TG, Phillips crew 11/23/90

GRAMPA, WHAT IS A VETERAN?

As we approach Veteran's Day each year we have thoughts to ponder, and we are asked by our youngest generation.....Grampa, what is a "Vet"?

Some of these thoughts race across our minds for an answer. But first we explain that a "Vet" can be an animal doctor or a former military person and when the younger one says, "**You know Grampa, someone like you!**", your heart melts but in your mind pictures and sounds begin to occur, all in a millisecond! And you end up with various replies that he might understand, as:

He, or she, is a person who has had military experience who just might have a hitch in their walk, a missing arm, but has a certain glint in their eye.

Others may carry inward evidence inside their minds of memories; a metal pin holding a bone together, a piece of shrapnel or a bad scar in their bodies, or an inner kind of steel hardened by a discipline learned through long hours and consecutive days of outdoor labor.

You can see them in parades in former uniforms and badges earned ... and you see them without either knowing that they kept America safe when challenged by an enemy.

He is the cop on the beat who spent six months in Saudia Arabia sweating two gallons per day making sure that armored carriers didn't run out of fuel. He might be a truck driver going days without sleep bringing supplies to those who depend on them. You can't tell a vet just at a glance.

She (or he) is the nurse who worked gallantly to tend wounded and dying, sobbing at nights, from places all over the world ... to help others recover and return to their homes.

He is the Prisoner of War of a meanful country, locked up or restrained for months or years and came home a different person or didn't come home at all.

He is a former drill instructor that has taught men to fight by turning slouch boys into men and to protect each other.

He is the parade marcher or riding Legionnaire who pins his ribbons on with a prosthetic hand.

He is the carrier quartermaster or orderly room technician who prepares orders that helps people earn medals that pass them by.

He is one of the many thousands of grave markers whose stones, either in a Cross or a Star of David, line up into rows upon rows of their graves in National Cemeteries, in other countries or in our own neighborhoods.

And he is a man that looks skyward when he ears, seeing or not, the shining and power of aircraft passing above ... and holding a special look in his eye even when the plane has gone by, out of sight or hearing, knowing that God has truly blessed him and many others like him.

*By Robert Werner &
Richard Downey*

BOOK #4 PROGRESS

The advance sales for Book #4 are going well articles and photos are being computerized for print, research items from the archives at Maxwell AFB, AL, have come in speaking very well for the History Research team of Clay Henry(716), Santiago Aldape(717) and John Collins (716), this committee and information from Grottaglie, Italy Air Section, came in at the same time giving us the history of the Grottaglie wartime base of the 449th ... the field was named in 1915 as "MARCELLO ARLOTTA AIRDROME", site of their coastal patrol dirigibles(his history and that of the airfield is accompanied by an aerial photo annotated for the 449th points in 44-45, all in Book #4). A full list of medals and awards, above the Air Medal, is in an appendix, an update

to the spread sheet of lost aircraft by the 449th also, a list of aerial downed fighters for the mission of April 4, 1944 Pres. Unit Citation mission is also printed. A full list and histories of all known named aircraft for the WW2 449th is in one alphabetized order. IN SHORT WE HAVE WORKED HARD TO INCLUDE many items in this Book #4, we don't want the Flying Horsemen's history to be lost to the members or fellow on families. **IF YOU HAVEN'T ORDERED YOUR BOOK #4 COPY YET, DO FORWARD YOUR ORDER ASAP;** Print your order request to: Floyd Trogdon, Treas. 449th BG Assn., 1400 Kitty Hawk Way, Melbourne, FL 32940. Enclose your check or money order for \$35.00 per book, and state how many books you are

ordering. If you want the book(s) mailed to another address than your own, which you must include, please give that address, also. **Your order form is at bottom of page 3.**

BOOK #4 has yet to be given a name ... we have a few we are considering; the number of pages, right now, is at 400 ... but it looks like we will have a few more pages!!! The hardbound book will have a colored jacket of the "Maximum Effort" painting for its outer cover! The partial edited portions look great ... you will be as proud of this one as you were with the others!!! We are indebted to Bill Shepherd who is spending many hours and personal care in making this BOOK #4 a memorable volume. Thanks, Bill!

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Rev. J. Shanahan, 717th F/Eng.

Let me share with you one of the most appropriate prayers of the day. The following prayer was spoken when **Minister Rev. Joseph Wright** was asked to open the new session of the state of Kansas Senate, September 16th, 1999 at 0930 hours. Everyone was expecting the usual generalities, but this is what they heard.

A PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

"Heavenly Father, we come before You today to ask Your forgiveness and to seek Your direction and guidance. We know Your Word says, "Woe on those who call evil good," but that is exactly what we have done. We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and reversed our values. We confess that; We have ridiculed the absolute truth of Your Word and called it pluralism. We have worshipped other gods and called it multiculturalism. We have endorsed perversion and called it an alternative lifestyle. We have exploited the poor and called it welfare. We have shot abortionists

and called it justifiable. We have neglected to discipline our children and called it self-esteem. We have abused power and called it ambition. We have coveted our neighbors possessions and called it ambition. We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression. We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers and called it enlightenment.

Search us, Oh God, and know our hearts today, cleanse us from every sin and set us free. Guide us and bless these men and women who have been sent to direct us to the center of Your will. I ask it in the name of Your Son, the living Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen."

The response was immediate. Legislators and commentators have been receiving requests for copies of his prayer, from many points of the world.

With the Lord's help, may this prayer sweep over our nation and whole-heartedly become our desire so that we again can be called "one nation under God."

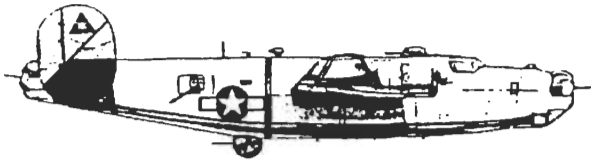
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OCTOBER '99 NEWSLETTER

449th Bomb Group Assn.
716th-717th-718th-719th Bomb Squadrons

32405-4325 10



THE 449th BGA NEWSLETTER
Late Pass Compiled and written by

R.F. Downey, Secy.
4859 Stanhope Drive
St. Louis, MO 63128
(314) 892-4597

Send your items for newsletters, photos and info. to Secy.; call him regarding your items.



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TWO IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A B-24 INTL. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION, DEC. 91-12, 1999.

SAN DIEGO, CA Town & Country Hotel

A FULL PROGRAM OF CELEBRATION: Call or write for program info; to: Dick Baynes, 71 Nighthawk, Irvine, CA 92604-3683, Tel: (949) 552-3890, Fax (949) 551-2151, E-mail: b24club@hotmail.com.

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