

"Late Pass!"



THE CALL SIGN FOR GROTTAGLIE TOWER --

449th "FLYING HORSEMEN"

SEPTEMBER 2000

449TH BOMB GROUP ASSN.

POST 11th REUNION INFO.

BRANSON – A GREAT TIME FOR THE 449th! – 407 ATTENDED OUR 11th REUNION.

We found the easiest way to find BRANSON, MO., is ride a tour bus or to take your own car. Air traffic to Springfield, Mo. and self driven arrivals made out fine in most circumstances.

The chartered van ride from Springfield had a few glitches but the self drivers had a great time with the Missouri scenery the size of the green rolling hills of the O Z A R K M T. range surprised many! But after each arrival all were met

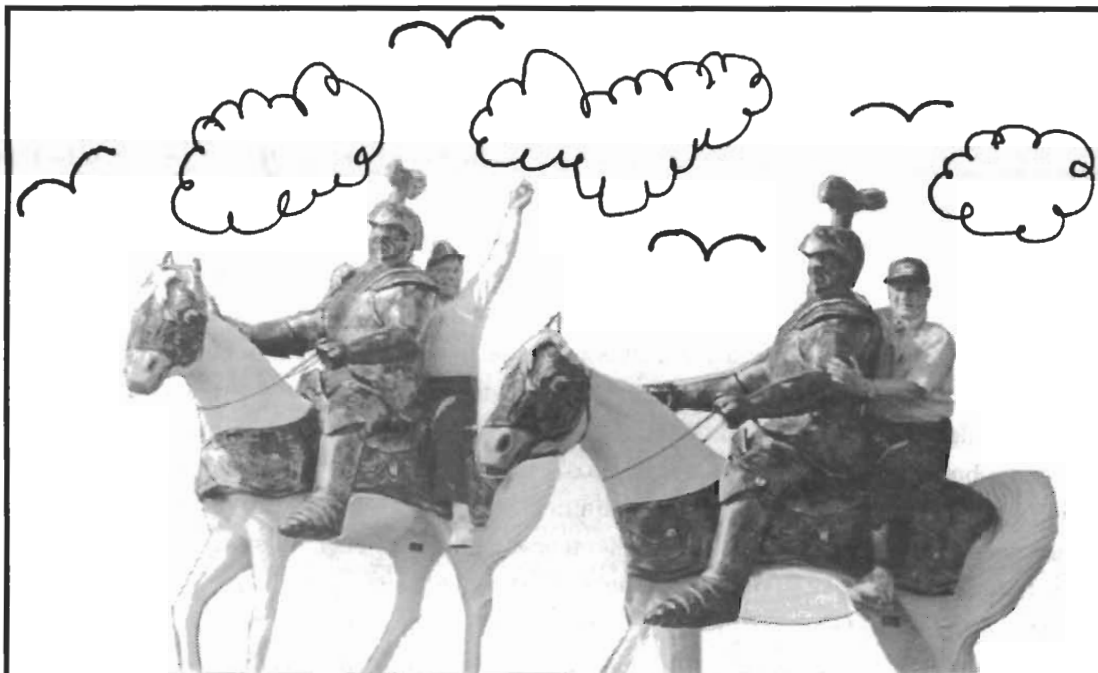
with honest greetings and the excitement began!

The **OZARK MT. SIGHTSEEING AGENCY**, led by their agent **MRS. MICHELE THOMPSON**, handled the reunion entertainment tickets and supervised the local transportation buses to each of the entertainment locales with courtesy and

proficiency! The **SETTLE INN** greeted us with typical Ozark area warm welcome. The INN was very busy with other persons from all over the USA but handled it all with excellent attention.

by shifts of members at their availability. Even "TROG'S" brother, a non-member sat in for a large duration of time to help with the bookkeeping of the bills and payments to the contracted

facilities. After the final figures were in **T r e a s .** Trogdon reported that we cleared our debts and made a **s m a l l** amount over for the reunion. This is always good news... that the members all come thru with their reunion ex-



**449th "FLYING HORSEMEN"
"RIDE AGAIN," BRANSON, MO., MAY 2000**

Our registration tables used the lobby for the 1st day and moved to a large reception room Sat. through the end of the reunion. **LEE KENNEY** had done a lot of work planning the details of the programs and the schedules to keep it all going smoothly. The 449th registration tables were headed by our **Treasurer, FLOYD TROGDON** ... ably assisted

penses, although we do have to pay out some for the "no shows" who sign up to come and cannot make it (this small percentage from similar reunions past helped figure into all our prices). We are very proud of our Cabinet who work out each event ticket costs with the provid-

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ers plus the Hotels, the Bus Companies, etc. all at no expense to the 449th.

When each reunion ends, everyone departs with a "well done feeling".

The early registrations began on Sat. a.m. and continued into the early evening with a large number registering on Sunday, Apr. 30th. Many couples attended their Churches of choice, as listed on the Feb. 200 LATE PASS newsletter all met in the large complimentary breakfast room for the opening Reunion Reception in the SETTLE INN at 5 p.m. A cash bar and large servings of hors'doerves (finger food) were present and the program began with LEE KENNEY, Vice President and Reunion Chairman, covering the welcoming and the reunion procedures to make everyone to understand the times of every event, particularly the importance of meeting the bus time schedules! The large gathering made it easier to find fellow comrades to set parallel entertainment attendances.

Mon., May 1 the golfers departed for the usual 449th tourney ... however the hills and narrow fairways were not easy for our golfing buddies the course was fine looking but a "golfers nightmare" being a golfer this would explain their remarks this writer calls all courses "tuff".

Mon. evening we rode the provided buses to the "DIXIE STAMPEDE", which was to be the SQUADRON DINNERS night we learned that the Inn could not support four separate areas for separate dinners, so the planning went to "Stampede", which served us food right at our seating arrangements in an arena of oval shaped rodeo atmosphere, and put on a fantastic show of various patriotic colors of horsemanship riders, in groups or en masse. The sides of the arena were divided into "the

GRAY" versus "the BLUE" as winning teams were noted with the GRAY side taking the show totals.

Tues., May 2 was our open date to travel to any Branson show pre-scheduled or not. Many saw "the Mel Tillis Show", "Yakov Smirnoff Comedy Show", among the many choices. Various dining places were visited per choice, and this agreed with the members.

Wed., May 3 was our final day, but filled with activity. Our Memorial Breakfast was held in the SETTLE INN large room beginning at 0900 hrs. Chairman Lee Kenney led the printed program which the 717th/Group Singers, led by John Lynn, and also sung by the standing assembly in the hymn, "How Great Thou Art"! Mrs. Beth Severe sang the "Star Spangled Banner". One of the loveliest singers we have heard. Jerry Luedtke of the Branson Military Group Speakers, gave the address for the Memorial Breakfast, with everyone holding attention to his words of patriotism and history. He was given a standing ovation. He and his associates are planning an organization and center for former Aviation Cadets with histories, displays and records. The afternoon held further entertainment shows, with the 449th men members holding the reunion business meeting. A slate of nominees was announced; the death of M/Gen Elliott left the office of President open. The Cabinet offered a new slate; nominating Jim Miller for President at the Biloxi Reunion, and Lee Kenney as VP, Dick Downey as Secy., Floyd Trogdon, Treas. and the position of Historian vacant, designating the three man History Committee of Geo. Clay Henry, John Collins, and Santiago Aldape as the History Committee with Henry as its Chairman. The slate was voted unanimously by the

membership. The closing Reunion Banquet was held aboard the "Branson Belle" Showboat ... but after a pre-boat departure we held an open air meeting on the tree and grassed area away from the showboat to present COL. JACK RANDOLPH A PLAQUE and CERTIFICATE .. (photo and article on separate page). The SHOWBOAT gave a typical river showboat show of different acts of dancing, comedy, singing which was preceded by a fine steak dinner on the showboat floor, giving the 449th the best seats in "the house" ... the show was greeted by all 449ers who returned to their buses and rooms with an exuberance for the reunion. Some said, "let's hold another one in Branson" ... but the business session had taken suggestions for a 12th Reunion after floor discussion of "any more reunions or not" ... and where and when???? the usual discussions of selections. It was decided that the Cabinet, per our constitution, would make the selection.

SPECIAL PERSONS; Call them "Special", call them "fortunate", call them "lucky", call them "determined"? all of the above for it is not always possible to make our reunions ... due to health problems, previous plans that could not be exchanged nevertheless here are a list of names that have "bared the burdens of weather, older age, and of travel" to attend ALL 11 REUNIONS FROM 1983 thru 2000 in no particular order: Clint Rodefer, Charles Gran, James Byrun, John Lynn, Vince Moran, John Aulner, Robert Kubiak, Lee Kenney, Emil Brenckman, Pat Wehling, Paul Farrell, Richard Greco, Robert Zacharias, Pat Latta, Frank Shoaf and Howard Feldman. Sixteen men most of them brought their wives too. We also registered 11

Continued on Page 3

Continued from Page 2

members that have made 10 Reunions ... and for this Branson reunion we registered 11 members that were attending their first reunion! The rest of the members attendances are all be-

tween 2 and 10 times each and everyone with their own remembrances!!!!

The 407 attendees breakdown per SQUADRON is as follows: 101 - 716th, 92 - 717th, 106 - 718th, 96 - 719th and 12 Groups Hqs. and the two "rid-

ers in the sky" on the front page are John Aulner, 717th Flt. Eng. and Assn. Memorabilia items; on the right is Dick Downey, Assn. Secy/Editor. On the back page is one of the armored sentinels around the SETTLE INN outside and others inside.

ITALY TOUR FOR SEPTEMBER 2001 - RIGHT AFTER THE REUNION

The returning 449th members taking the previous tours to Italy have all reported their excitement and pleasure of those tours, now extremely popular with the 449th. So, we are going again at popular requests.

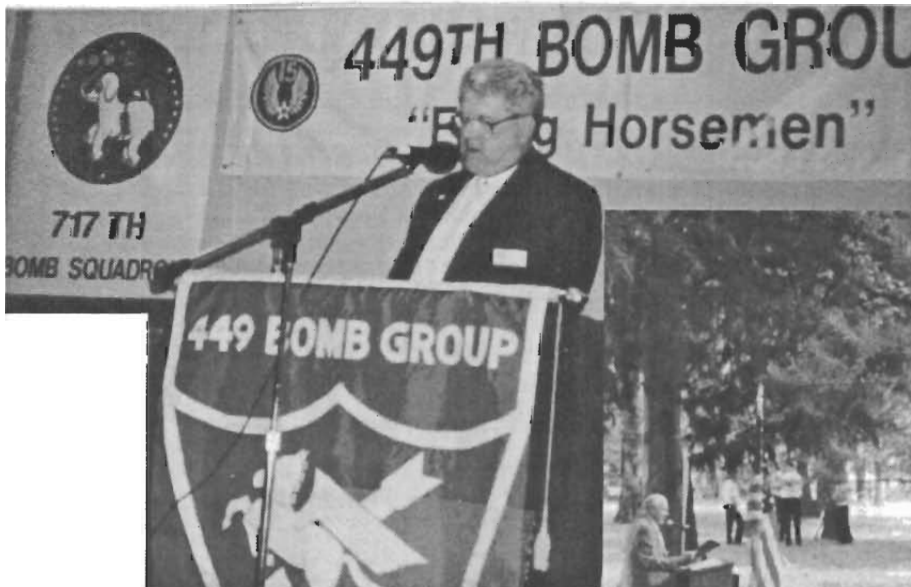
Lee Kenney, again, will be the Tour Leader and Coordinator. And as always, each person must obtain a Passport.

The Tour will leave from Washington, D.C. either on the 4th or 5th of September 2001. There will be 13 nights total; 2 nights at Taranto to visit Grottaglie, the WW2 Base, and the

Manduria 47th Wing Memorial. We will lunch at the old base and be received at Grottaglie and Manduria Town Halls. 2 nights at Sorrento, to visit the Isle of Capri and Pompei with visits to American Cemeteries at Nettuno and Florence. 3 nights in Fiuggi, near Rome, for bus visits to Rome attractions. 3 nights at Montecatini for visits to Pisa, Florence, Sienna and a Chianti Winery. 1 night in Bologna to visit the war area we bombed twice near the end of the War. 2 nights in Vincenza (Venice)

with a full day in Venice.

All expenses included; Air Fares from and return Washington, D.C. Four Star Hotel rooms, tour guides, meals, one dinner in Rome at own expense. Total Cost approximately \$2200 double. ALL FURTHER INFORMATION AND CONTACTS MAKE TO LEE KENNEY, AFTER 30 Sept. 2000. SIGN UP ASAP, (321) 242-8654 or write to him, 800 Inverness Avenue, Florida 32940-1836.



MEMORIAL SPEAKER,
MR. JERRY LUEDTKE

PLAQUE PRESENTATION PRIOR TO "SHOWBOAT" DINNER, KENNEY AT PODIUM - MEMBERS WERE FARTHER RIGHT.



NEXT REUNION ~ WASHINGTON, D.C. AUG. 30-SEPT. 3, 2001

After the Branson reunion the Cabinet had narrowed the suggested sites for the 12th Reunion to be in Savannah, GA, Jacksonville, FL but wanted further possibilities. Washington, D.C. was thought to be too expensive but Lee Kenney, Vice President and Reunions Chairman, wanted to see what the Capital would offer, knowing that it would be great to go there. His visit reported good news that our usual prices could be met!! As for tours, scenery, transportation available and actually seeing the famous places we all know about, the Cabinet decided to accept the offer received.

Host Hotel: The Doubletree Hotel, in Alexandria, VA, just 3 miles from the Reagan National Airport with **free provided shuttle service** to the Hotel every 1/2 hour. **Single or double**

room rate of \$69.00 with VA room tax of 4%. Executive Suites may be reserved at a group rate of \$89.00 single/double. The Hotel has 14 floors. Convenient access to I-395, I-66 and Route 1. A rooftop revolving lounge with a view of our Nations Monuments, a Lobby bar with lite menu, a Cafe serving **breakfast, lunch and dinner**, free **shuttle service to Fashion Center at Pentagon City** every 1/2 hour, in-room coffee, hair dryers in each room, iron and ironing boards in each room, personalized voice mail, on site parking facility that charges \$3.00 per night (a special rate to the 449th from the usual \$15.00 charge. **Note:** most East Coast Hotels in large cities charge their guests parking fees \$10-\$15/night for security costs.) And we

will be able to have **separate rooms for Squadron Dinners!**

The rates apply 2 days before the reunion to 2 days after the reunion. The **Hotel is just across the Potomac River with DC viewing.** More details to be in our 2001 Newsletter with full program of events, costs and schedules for the **Thursday, August 30th through Sunday, September 3, 2001 Reunion!!**

RESERVATIONS CAN BEGIN NOW, we have 240 rooms blocked off. **Call 1-800-222-8733** or FAX 703-416-1176. Their address is 300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202. (The numbers are for Reservations ... for Hotel Information call 703-416-4100) and request North Towers, Room With A View, or Executive Suite, if desired.

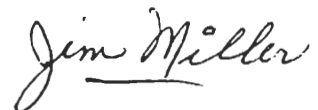
PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

We are very sorry to have missed the BRANSON REUNION but wish to thank so many of you who called and sent supporting cards. I continue to improve in strength by eating well and in walking therapy. Dee has approved the Doctors O.K. for me to do some local driving.

I have been in close touch with the Cabinet members and plans for another Reunion are well underway. (A separate article in this LATE PASS reports this information). We expect a good percentage turnout for three reasons: (1) the host hotel is well situated with reasonable costs; (2) the bulk of our membership reside on the east side of the Mississippi River valley and are within driving distance; and (3) the city of selection gives all the opportunity to visit/tour the Nations Capital, places they have known but never seen.

With the Good Lord willing, we will see ya'll at the end of August in 2001.

Fraternally,



Jim Miller



Plaque and Certificate:
Left to Right; Mrs. Kenney (Wanda); Mrs. Randolph, (Nell); Col. Jack Randolph; and Lee Kenney. The presentation of the plaque was a surprise to Jack, knowing of the Certificate. He and his wife have certainly gained our affection and share in his 93 years of life and events.

**Resolution
of
The Board of Supervisors of Ventura County
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COLONEL JACK RANDOLPH**

WHEREAS, since the earliest settlement of this great country, the brave men and women of our armed forces have struggled, sacrificed, and given their lives in defense of our liberty and freedom; and

WHEREAS, one of these proud Americans is Colonel Jack Randolph, born September 9, 1909, an Air Force pioneer, was graduated from pilot school in the first class of flying cadets at Randolph Field, Texas, in 1932, and commissioned as Second Lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Jack Randolph as Group Commander of approximately 10,000 men of the 449th Bomb Group, 47th Bomb Wing, 15th Air Force, is honored for heroic and valiant service during World War II; and is believed to be the last surviving Group Commander of the entire 15th Air Force; and

WHEREAS, from the time the 449th Bomb Group, stationed in Italy, began combat operations in early January 1944 during the tenacious and often tragic combat of 1944 and 1945, Colonel Randolph and his fellow "Flying Horsemen" served with honor and distinction; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Randolph wore his uniform proudly, and when called to action, fought valiantly, above and beyond the call of duty. His conduct, performance, and devotion to duty reflect the highest standard of service to the nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Ventura pays tribute to one of its honorable residents, Jack Randolph, in appreciation for his service to our country.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 23rd day of May, 2000.



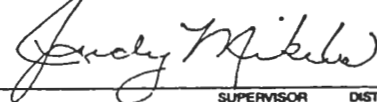
CHAIRPERSON, VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SUPERVISOR DISTRICT



SUPERVISOR DISTRICT



SUPERVISOR DISTRICT



SUPERVISOR DISTRICT



SUPERVISOR DISTRICT

OUR HISTORY COMMITTEE – GREAT WORK!

The appointed History Committee of three volunteers began their research right after the ending of the Biloxi Reunion. **G. Clay Henry** approached the Cabinet at the end of the business session asking to help with 449th research at the Archives at Maxwell AFB, and was soon joined with **John Collins** and **Santiago Aldape**. Their appointment received 100% Cabinet vote. Now after over 1-1/2 years of search we realize that their efforts have really been appreciated. **Clay Henry** was selected as the **Chairman** of the Committee although travelling from Ruston, LA to work with Collins and Aldape, both residing in Montgomery, AL, near Maxwell AFB.

At the Branson, MO. 449th 11th Reunion they displayed items of their research. They had already compiled many articles and photos from the archives and forwarded them to Downey for edit and preparation for **Book 4**

entry. Here are items credited to the Committee that appear in the **Book 4 History**.

P.2: Italian airbases pre-scouted for USAAF use.

P.9: Photo. P17-18 Narration. P.30-32 449th Ops. Stats.

P. 41-45 Items obtained for article. P.32 Bomb Strike photo.

P.75-76 Photo's. P.125 Ploesti Smoke Cover photo. P.190 Ploesti Flak Train photo. P.220-221 Intel. De-Briefing report. P.252-257 The Place in History of the 449th!. And in Appendix B The full list of Awards of Bronze Star, DFC and above. Also, in Appendix D. The 15th Air Forces' WW2 results report. They copied a large number of Letters of Commendation (LOC's) that are the justification of the listed awards in Bk. 4. If you are one of those with a Bronze Star or a DFC, and higher, contact Clay Henry for a copy of your LOC! Henry passed

several to those that were at Branson already. Call or write to him if your name is on the printed list; G. Clay Henry, 2401 Hillside Rd., Ruston, LA (318) 255-8940. **Send a SASE (self addressed envelope for your returned LOC).**

On top of all this they have begun a 449th "WAR DIARY" to be made available later (info. to be in 2001 newsletter). Also, as you know, the popular Author, Stephen Ambrose, is compiling a history book on just the WW2 15th Air Force. The committee has forwarded him many items, plus the Cabinet has sent him a copy of each of our 449th History Books. Ambrose has a large committee selecting entries of stories and photos, and with what has been sent of the coverage of our 449th, we should have some recognition within his forthcoming book!!!



Photo taken at the Branson Reunion in early May 2000. G. Clay Henry, with cap and John Collins. Committeeman Santia Aldape go home in temporary health problem. Some of their history items are also shown.

MISCELLANEOUS INFO.

NATIONAL D-DAY MUSEUM:

The National D-Day Museum opened its doors in New Orleans, LA. on June 6th, 2000. The museum's 70,500 sq. ft. on four levels honors millions of men and women who served in WW2. Founded by famous author, Stephen Ambrose, it stands as a tribute to them. A rich collection of artifacts, a 110 seat auditorium. The museum will present stories and items to an international audience preserving material for future reference to future generations. The info. for the museum, call (504) 527-6012 or online www.ddaymuseum.org.

CITATION:

The House of Representatives of The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Citation was sent in by Joseph Yiengst, ex-717th Sq. ground crew, it expresses their gratitude to the men of the 449th Bomb Gp. who fought bravely to protect and guard our country and all of the principles upon which it stands. The "Flying Horsemen" served with distinction and honor, valiantly and above and beyond duty reflecting conduct, devotion and performance to the highest standard of service to this nation. (Signed by the Speaker and the Clerk of the House).

449th BG and SQDN. PATCHES DONATED:

Former 716th Sq. C.O. Jack Steele presented a 449th Bomb Gp. patch and individual squadron patches of all four of our Bomb Sqdns. to the display of similar Unit Patches at The Grand Country Square, 1945 W. 76 Country Blvd., Branson, MO 65616. The patches were mailed May 11th, 2000 as an addition to their WALL OF PATCHES.

STEPHEN AMBROSE REQUESTS INDIVIDUAL STORIES

The 15th AFSORTIE newsletter, May 2000, reports the request by Ambrose. "This is your chance to be remembered" He asks, "send me a copy of your report, memoirs, diary, and/or letters from home". He continues, "sit down with a tape recorder and talk about your experiences - your training, your emotions, and your combat-and what you did after the War. Send material to: S. Ambrose, P.O. Box 1713, Helena, MT 59624 (406) 443-7943. Our Cabinet and History Committee have already sent in our four 449th History Books and Committee items.

449th HISTORY BOOKS:

For those who still plan to order!

Book 1-2 (under one hardbound cover), send \$35.00 check or money order to: F. Trogdon, Treas., 1596 Pioneer Dr., Melbourne, FL 32940.

Book 3 "Grottaglie & Home", order from the Turner Pub. Co., cost is \$57.50 includes S&H. Call 1-800-788-3350 or write; Turner Pub. Co., Box 3101, Paducah, KY 42002. Color jacket, 8-1/2x11, tell them it is a 449th Bomb Gp. book.

Book 4 just released this April 2000. All new info. from our History Committee. Cost is \$35.00 (write or call F. Trogdon, same as with Book 1-2 above). "Maximum Effort" color jacket, by J. Dietz.

HISTORY BOOK:

OF MEN AND WINGS, the first 100 missions of the 449th. Order from the Norfield Pub. Co., P.O. Box 16672, Panama City, FL 32406. Cost is \$30.00 for the 400 pages, plus shipping (FL residents add \$1.95 sales tax).

NATIONAL WW2 MEMORIAL:

Tax deductible contributions are needed to the building of the Memorial. Ground breaking ceremony set for Nov. 11th, 2000. Visa, Master Card or AmEx. cards acceptable. Send to: The Natl. WW2 Memorial Fund, Battle Monuments Commission. P.O. Box 96766, Washington, D.C. 20090-6766. Gifts from \$20 to \$1000 acceptable. Major Donors are giving \$10,000 to 2 Million, and above. The list contains many large organizational and state donors.

HISTORY BOOK #4 "MAXIMUM EFFORT" LAUDED

449th History Book #4 was requested as far back as the 7th & 8th Reunions in Spokane, WA in May 94 and the 8th Reunion in Williamsburg, VA in Sept. 95. Materials began to assemble but hit a delay for over two years. An impetus was felt when the author of "Men and Wings", D. Wm. Shepherd proposed that his Northfield Pub. Co. would be willing to help assemble historic articles and photos and then produce the published book. This was followed when Hollie Wilkes was contacted, if we could name the book after his Prize Award Painting of "Maximum Effort". He not only approved the request but offered a color jacket be made with a print of the painting itself. In late '98 and all thru '99 materials were gathered with the assistance of the Assn. Secy. Downey, the former Historian, Dick Asbury and things began to weld!!! As each item was received the articles were reviewed and edited by Downey and Shepherd too.

The newly appointed History Committee, at the Biloxi, MS Reunion of Clay Henry, John Collins and Santiago Aldape. Oct. 98, began their research at the Maxwell AFB Archives. Yes, 1999 was full of everyday work and activity by these men. Finally, work copies began to be approved and a publishing date was set to be "prior to the Branson Reunion ... no specific date itself because of some "hanging" pieces of information. But just in time the books rolled off the presses for their **initial mailings** to those that had **made advance orders!!** Not all of them received their copy before the Branson Reunion, some did, and the rest were "in the mail". After returning home from Branson, taking time to read their copies, phone calls and letters came in announcing congratulations and "kudo's" to the ultimate finished Book #4. The History Committee had done great work, and continue to do so, the

combination of the Secy. with the Publisher, Shepherd, worked smoothly with untold number of phone calls and many special mailings!! And looking over the book, all of us were surprised at what a fine book and what a fine collection of History Books that the 449th Flying Horsemen have. (separate books of all 4 of our 449th History plus the "Of Men and Wings", by Shepherd, are **available as listed in the MISCELLANEOUS page of this newsletter**). A fixed number of Books #4 were printed ... so those who have not yet ordered one, be sure to do so ... **we do not plan to reprint** ... this was done on Books 1-2, and Book #3, very costly to our Treasury. **Order your Book #4 ASAP!!**

FOR BOOK #4: send check or money order for \$35.00, made out to the 449th B.G., send to: Floyd Trogdon, Treas., 1596 Pioneer Dr., Melbourne, FL 32940. S&H are included in price!



DECEASED:

Those that have passed away as reported since the February 2000 "LATE PASS".

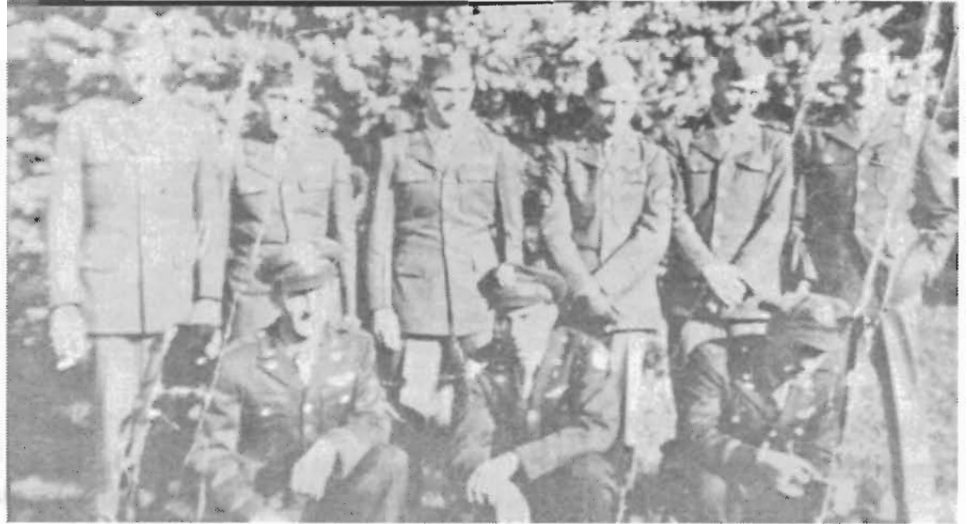


Aboe, Sam	716th - CP on Claybaugh crew	11/22/00
Agins, Milton M.	719th - Lead Radar	3/20/00
Bolsins, Kenneth	716th - CP on Dacey crew	8/99
Christoff, Paul Sr.	716th - Bomb on Kinerd crew	11/99
Giancaspro, Jack F.	716th - TG on Bornemeir crew	10/99
Jaeger, Arthur	717th - Armament	in 99
Latta, J. Edward	718th - F/E on Blaney crew	2/22/99
May, Ellwyn	717th - NG on Williams crew	1/10/00
Miller, Charles	716th - WG on R. Johnson crew	3/24/00
Moskowitz, Irving	719th - RWG on Liddycoat crew	10/17/98
Nicholsky, Gregory	716th - Armament	3/99
Ronning, Oswald M.	719th - BG on Copping crew	4/7/00
Silverman, Sheldon	716th - R/Op on Bryan crew	4/11/00
Stokes, Harold	716th - G on Foote crew	6/16/00

"ONE NIGHT STAND" AND CORNELIUS VAN SCHOOR 717th SQ. CREW

Pictured below left to rt; Front Row: Cornelius Van Schoor (P), Ralph Mueller (B), Robert Eaton (CP), and Harry Tucker (NAV). One Night Stand was flown overseas by Jerry Scroggs' crew from Topeka, KS arriving Grottaglie 2 Apr. 44. **C. Gerald Van Schoor** crew arrived May 44 flew **50 missions** completing them in Nov. 44. The aircraft went to the Goioa Depot, transferred into another 15th AF bomb gp. and was salvaged 30 Aug. 45. This is the first and only time that a photo of the air crew has ever been published in the 449th B.G.; sent in by Van Schoor at the request of Harry Tucker's daughter, Ms. Pat Tucker, On. Sq. member. The top row, L to R: Arthur Solari (TG), James Edwards (R/Op), Phillip Parnes (BG), william Mohan (TT), Robert Benson (NG). **Addresses needed!!**

MOORE CREW (below); Kneeling L to R: Harry Moore (P), Walter Cates (B), James Rickles (N). Rex Wilde (CP) absent when photo was taken. Standing, L to R: Gordon Thornton (F/E), Francis Stack (R/Op), Frank Kvaltine (replaced before the crew was downed 22 Feb. 44) James Milner (BG), Charles Freeman (WG), Carl Shedlock (TG). The list of the crew on that 22 Feb. 44 is on pages 291 and 292 of 449th History Book #3. Photo sent in by Carl Shedlock.



The crew photo above is that of **HARRY W. MOORE's** 716th Sq: an original cadre crew taken in Hebron, NE prior to going overseas in Dec. 43. They flew "Ramp Tramp", acquired on Oct. 21, 43. The ship and crew were downed on 22 Feb. 44 with **7 KIA** and **4 POW**. The four POW's are **Walter Cates (BO)**, **Francis Stack (R/Op)**, **Charles Freeman (WG)** and **Carl Shedlock (TG)**.

The photo is an **extremely rare snapshot** sent in by Carl Shedlock. Rex Wilde, (CP) was not present when photo was taken. The picture is the only known crew photo that the 449th has known, never before published.



718th BOMB SQ: GEO. F. BABITS CREW:

Prior to going overseas. **Capt. Babits** received his Captaincy as Instructor state-side.

The crew got in 50 missions with 3 KIA on 25 Dec. 44. Arrived in June 44 and completed tour in Feb. 45.

Standing: L to R: Geo. Babits (P), Rich Tschurhart

(CP), Joseph McLinden (CP), and Wm. Kingery (B).

Lower row, L to R: Louis Szabo (WB), Edw. Way (WG), Quinn, Edwin (BG), Nolan, Warren (TG), Hoff, Robt. (F/E), and Kephart, Clyde (R/O).

Three of the men were KIA flying



with Orchard's crew in "Racy Tomato" which went down in the Adriatic, 25 Dec. 44; Edward Way, Robert Hoff and Clyde Kephart. The photo and contacts made with Assn. Secy. and ball gunner Quinn by Mrs. Barbara DeLorenzo, niece of Edward Way in

July 2000. This is the only photo of this crew known and first time published. Capt. Babits name is listed on the DFC list in Appendix B, p. 322, 449th History Book #4.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

ACCEPTANCE, APPRECIATION AND LOVE

The past seventeen years have led me to try to understand why we of the 449th Bomb Group come together for these periods of fellowship. My conclusion is that there are at least three things which account for our actions.

First, I think we are able to accept each other because of the common cause we were involved in to keep our freedom as a nation. Though there were and are many differences in personal likes and dislikes, we had and have a common bond that holds us together.

Secondly, I'm convinced that we each know we needed each other if we were to achieve victory over our enemy.

Third, but not least, is a sense of love that has developed as we reflect on how we worked together to accomplish our victory.

As we reflect on this last thing let me share with you what I think is the best definition of love I have ever heard. "Love (Godly love) is the willingness to spend and be spent in order to help those who are the object of our love to discover and develop their God-given talents to their greatest potential that they may use them in service to God."

This kind of emotion (love) enables us to accept others as God accepts us. - I John 4:16.

Jim Shanahan, Chaplain

NEW NAMES ADDED since the Feb. 2000 "LATE PASS"

Christoff, Paul Jr., Hon Sq., 32245 Hearthstone Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334. For his father, 716th (B) with Kinerd.

DeLorenzo, Mrs. Barbara, Hon. Sq., 620 Casino Drive, Howell, NJ 07731. For her uncle, Edw. Way (G) on Babits crew.

Elliott, Mrs. Bonnie, Hon. Sq., 965 Villeroy Greene Dr., Sun City Ctr., FL 33573. For her husband Frank, (M/Gen), Pres. 449th Assn., 716th (P).

Latta, Mrs. Pat, Hon. Sq., Box 251, Mocksville, NC 27028. For her husband J. Edward, (F/E), Blaney crew 718th.

Lewis, Gaylord and Eleanor, 717th Orig. cadre, Orderly Room Sgt., Box 451, Danville, CA 94526.

May, Mrs. Rosemary, Hon. Sq., 608 Centre Ave., Horsehead, NY 14845. For her husband Ellwyn, (NG), Williams crew, 717th.

Miller, Mrs. Ruth, Hon. Sq., 1713 Morris Ct., Deer Park, WA 99006. For her husband Charles, (G), Johnson crew, 716th.

Newton, Phillip, 716th, Box 52898, Jacksonville, FL 32201. Crew Pilot.

Sell, Eckhardt K., 716th, 44250 52nd St., Lawrence, MI 49064. Crew Pilot.

Stokes, Mrs. Irene, Hon. Sq., 318 Palisade Ave., Pismo Beach, CA 93449. For husband, G on Foote crew, 716th.

Swann, Paul T., 717th, Flt/Eng. on Bedette crew, full tour - 9/44-5/45.

Thompson, Kenneth M. (Joanne), 719th, F/E on Liddycoat crew. 1622 N. 72nd St. #5, Omaha, NE 68114.

Tucker, Mrs. Pat, Hon. Sq., 500 Jorgy Lane, Hamilton, MT 59840. For father Harry, 719th Nav. w/Van Schoor crew.

White, John and Jeanette, 718th Armament. 70 Woodlands Street, Hollister, MA 01746.



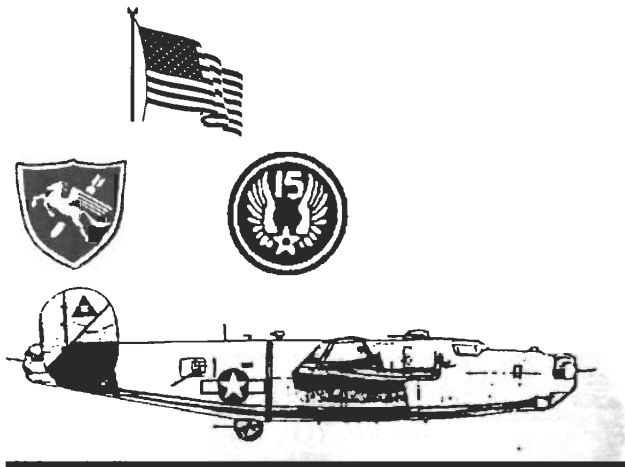
Memorial Breakfast Program. **John Lynn**, and **717th-Group Chorus** lead the members in song. John asks members to step forward to deepen the singing chorus. Call him at (313) 937-1322. About 20-30 more for the National Capital sing.

449th Bomb Group Assoc.

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