



783rd Latrine O Gram

JUNE 2003

Fifteenth Air Force
55th Bombardment Wing

OUR SYMPATHY & CONDOLENCES

TO FAMILY MEMBERS & LOVED ONES
OF OUR MAGNIFICENT TROOP MEMBERS
WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE IN IRAQ
THEY WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN

A GRATEFUL 783RD BOMB SQUADRON ASSOCIATION

**WE SALUTE
AND GIVE THANKS TO
THOSE GALLANT USA TROOPS
FOR YOUR VALOR
DEFENDING OUR FREEDOM
YOU WERE OUTSTANDING**

A GRATEFUL 783RD BOMB SQUADRON ASSOCIATION

**ALL ABLE BODIED & INFIRM REPORT TO
SAVANNAH OCT 2-5, 2003**



TAPS

IN MEMORY OF OUR DEPARTED EAGLES NEST FLITE MEMBERS

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE KNOWING THEY ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

RICHARD E. (DICK) HIGGINS, SR- passed away April 9, 2003 at age 87. He will be remembered as the Navigator on the Charlie Ellis Crew one of the original 17. Early on this crew became a Flight Leader with Dick an integral part. While making their 50 missions this crew hit some of the toughest targets. In civilian life he engaged in the wholesale grocery business and at one time served as Treasurer of the National Wholesale Grocers Association. He was active in the Vine Street PTA in Bangor and coached the Kiwanis Club Little League team. Surviving is his son Richard E. Higgins, Jr and wife Gail and their children Jennifer, Heather and Sarah; and one daughter Cindy Dring and husband John and their children Megan, Simon, Ethan & Gwendalyn; and four grandchildren Silas, Ezra, Gage and Gavin. Also, three brothers Paul, George & Phillip and a sister Joyce Lynch. **WE HAVE LOST ANOTHER OF THE BEST!**

DORIS KAY-the wife of Don Kay the 'Toggle Jockey' on Fred Johnson's crew waged a determined and gallant battle fighting back from several strokes before another took her 4-28-03. She will be remembered as a pleasant and kind soul always with a smile. As a Graduate Registered Nurse (Youngstown Hospital, Ohio 1946) her life had been devoted to caring and helping others. In 1948 she was honored by becoming the youngest Head Nurse at Wesley Memorial Hospital in Chicago. At our first reunion in Colorado Springs she was still employed giving care to the needy. In 1948 while visiting her sister & brother-in-law at Keesler Field she met Don and they were married in 1949. In addition to Don she is survived by a son-Robert B. Kay & 2 grandchildren-Gordon L. Kay & Katie Kay. Interment will follow at a later date in Ohio. **WE HAVE LOST A GRAND LADY!**



PILLS & USED UP PARTS REPLACEMENT SECTION

BOBBY WILLS- our keeper of the Squadron Coins recently submitted to the 'Butchers' chopping on his back. He reports being back on his feet and hoping to be playing 'Cow Pasture

Pool' again shortly. For over 20 years have attempted to convince him a 'Michigan Shetland Pony' can't keep pace with a 'Texas Stud Hoss'. *continued*

**BRADBURY SUITES
SAVANNAH, GA
OCT 2-5**



**PLAN NOW TO
ATTEND
BE A PART OF THE BEST**

HELEN KNAUS-wife of John Knaus our original Squadron Bombardier and later to become Group 'Toggle Jockey' is battling severe arthritic problems. This grand lady having nursed him thru By Pass surgery; guiding him in recent years thru his Macular Degeneration loss of sight

and most recently cared for him after his undergoing Hernia surgery. Like so many of the strong ladies of the Squadron there is no doubt her health battle will receive a valiant effort.

JOHN KNAUS-as reported above recently underwent hernia surgery and reports initially it was no picnic. However, he is once again feeling fit and hopes to regain t his 'Colonels Strut' shortly. All of the Bombardiers remember him as one of the good hombies to have for a boss.

FRANK GOPLEN-the 'Assistant Throttle Jockey' on the Greenwood crew that had their 'tail feathers' plucked on the 7-19-44 'milk run' to Munich recently spent time in the 'Butcher Shop' being treated for a deep seated vien infection in his right leg. He in all probability will attempt to blame it

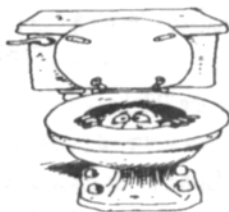
on his 'R & R in POWville'. However, the truth be known it may well have been caused by his flipping that James motorcyce acquired on the Algiers trip with it ending up on his leg and a hot cylinder branding his leg and wounding his pride.

DICK TRIMMINGHAM-a Gunner flying with the Tom Clark crew on the 8-24-44 Pardubucie, Czech raid that came out second best with a 109 earning them R & R at a German Rest Resort recently had to make an emergency run to the 'Butcher Shop' to have his little 'footsy' checked out &

treated. Like Gop in all probability he will alibi and place the blame to that fateful day in 1944. However, it is a better bet that over the years he has enjoyed too much of that cheap 'California Grape Juice' and has acquired the 'Jake Leg' as a result.

CLEO JACKSON-it looks as if this 'Ole POW' isn't cut from very good material based on the number of physical ailments continually plaguing him. Big C has made a return visit and he is once again undergoing treatments. You can safely bet the family farm poor Susanne is receiving an ample supply of orders beginning with do this and do that.. What a deal! She waits on him hand & foot!

MAY ALL OF THE ABOVE AND ANY OTHERS UNREPORTED MAKE A GOOD RECOVERY!



LATRINE O GRAMS

JO (MONKEY LADY) FOX-who attends the reunions with Bobby Wills has just returned from a tour of Scotland, Ireland & other points coming & going. We heard via the grape vine she is making plans once again to join with us at Savannah.

NANCY & CLARENCE YOUNG-the daughter & son in law of Weyland Feely and always a welcomed addition have advised they will be also rejoining us once again after missing the last 'Davenpooky Scramble'.

LYNDA MARIE TAYLOR-will be jetting off to Finland in Septemeber as a guest of the President of Nokia Telephones & his lady. However, she will return in time to make the Savannah 'Round Up'.

HARRIET 'THE DEN MOTHER' COHEN-advises her eye is responding so well to treatment she is planning to attend once again and bringing her daughter.. With the above named three only the Good Lord knows what other innocent daughters & grand daughters she will gather up and lead astray.

BO BOLINSKI-you can bet your boots & spurs he is already preparing his many performances & sermons & has his bags packed ready to travel.

GENE KULCZYK-we received word our 'K Ration Box Hero' already has his bags packed and bringing a 4th daughter this trip. Guess it will take that many to keep 'Ole Droopy Drawers' in step now that he is TV & front page celebrity.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOLKS



60 YEARS

KATHIE SCHWARTZ

80 YEARS

TOMMY MOORE

81 YEARS

MICKEY SCHWARTZ

ERNEST WEBB

82 YEARS

FRED ROBINSON

NOTE: Mickey Schwartz has turned out to be a 'CRADLE ROBBER'!

CONTINUED TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE OF EVENTS & GUYS

Those making the trip over by boat were introduced to death with the loss & burial of M/SGT Homer T. Green in Oran, Africa. On the 29 May 1944 raid on Vienna when the Vohries Crew flying Moby Dick went down every member of the Squadron received an introduction. Especially, those flying that day and witnessed the plane literally stand on its tail before falling off into a tite diving spin. All the time there was one individual escaping the nose section had popped his chute when exiting with it becoming entangled and his being drug and beaten against the side of the plane in its downward descent. Later we learned it was Dan Ryan the Navigator who was KIA. In addition Ed Groh the Bombardier had lost an arm. Flying in the same box this sight still remains etched in our mind each time it is recalled. That evening the entire Squadron was gripped with a deep sadness. Time has dulled our memory so we cannot recall his name for certain never the less we can't forget Sgt Gordon or maybe it was Jordan that ran Tech Supply. What a great guy. Always friendly, polite and dedicated individual working long hours and doing whatever legal or illegal to come up with the parts to get the 'Ole Birds' patched and back on line for the next mission. That nite when he came up to the mess tent for coffe and sandwiches for the guys working on the line and flipped his weapons crier returning to the line breaking his neck that caused his death. What a sad day for the Squadron. Another character important to Squadron History has to be 'Ranking Private' Emsco. Aboard the ship he had kept everyone entertained with his guitar playing and singing of mountain ballads with such ability that Willie Nelson would have been professionally envious. The whiskey bottle had such control of his life that he had been a Buck Private in the service for 7 years earning him the title of 'Ranking Private'. On our arrival on the 'Hill' he had already had a problem and was on Squadron Punishment. Thus he ended up having to dig all the holes for the 'Water Lillies' and Latrines scattered throughout the Squadron Area. When sober he was a valuable asset to Tech Supply his assignment. If they were short a part needed for a shot up plane he would make a mid nite run to another Squadron and the 783rd would have a plane ready to go the next day. Unfortunately the Bottle was his down fall causing a Court Martial that Paul Smith could not successfully defend him on. And-departed to serve his sentence at hard labor. When Paul Smith made his trip to Bari and returned with the large generator Dick Rogers with the help of Charlie Payne's Truck Drivers went over to a nearby village. On their return they had sawed off that village's electric poles; taken down their wire; insulators etc and within a few days 'Tricky Dick' had the poles up; the wire strung; and the generator connected and running. While the other 3 Squadrons down below were operating by candle lite thanks to Paul Smith's 'acquisition' and 'Dickie Boy's' ingenuity you Quid Fitters were enjoying electric service. Colonel Andrus received quite a number of inquiries regarding how this fete had been accomplished. His answer was simple--QUID FIT INGENUITY! (sure hope St Peter didn't keep a record of thievery)

LISTEN UP YOU DRAFTED RECRUITS

Our stay will be in the 8th Air Forces designated hotel. Our Saturday nite Banquet will be held in the 8th Air Forces Museum. We all know they were Jimmy Stewart's Hollywood; 'Candy Assed'; 'Milk Run Specialists' that seldom strayed far from Picadilly Square. When they start inserting the needle ignore their jealousy. If they persist we will have the 'Norwegian Throttle Jockey' take them into the Latrine and properly baptize them head first in a urinal. ABOVE ALL! PLEASE don't attempt to take one of the misfits home for a souvenir. Colonel Andrus won't be there to bail you out like the olden days. REMEMBER! The Squadron Ladies; Children; Grandchildren & Guests will be present.

FOOL THE PUBLIC-- ACT LIKE SOMEBODY! CABEESH!



SUBJECT: SAVANNAH REUNION OCT 2-5 2003

TO: FOLLOWING NAMED 'DRAFTED RECRUITS' & GOOD LADIES!

By authority of being the acting head of this odd lot of uncontrollable & unpredictable misfits the following named characters having been absent from too many Reunions are requested to put in their appearance at the above place and time or otherwise be considered AWOL with no excuses or alibis acceptable:

**RUSS AUGHINBAUGH
JOE BASTIN
GEORGE BEVINGTON
SAM BIER
TOM BRACEY
HAL BROWN
GEORGE BUDZIEKA
JOE BURGESS
JOE CASDEVAL
JESSE CASUS
PAUL CELLA
LEROY CRENSHAW
GEORGE CROSS
JOHN CROSS
GLENN CUNNINGHAM
WILFORD DAVIS
LARRY DECROW
SANDY DeLUCIA
BILL DOUGLAS
BEN DuBOSE
JOE FEW
JOE GARDNER
LEWIS GUIDO
CARROL HACKETT**

**BILL HALL
MARG HARVEY
PAUL HOOGE
FRED JOHNSON
LANSING JONES
GOLDEN JONES
DUDLEY KAHN
ED KEISER
ED KOPCZYNSKI
LIN LAVRACK
BOB LAWSON
ALBERT LEWIS
BETTY LUND
JACK LUSCHER
RICHARD MACHELSKI
DICK MARSH
DOMINIC MALUCCI
JOE McGRATH
DON MERCIER
LEO MEYER
GERAL MEYERS
CARL MILBURN**

**BILL MITCHELL
HAYDEN MOOSE
ALVIN MURPHY
ED PEREIRA
JOHN PLARR
WARREN POLSON
NORMA POWELL
MELVIN RADEBAUGH
LOU BEBOTTARO
DAVID REEHER
DALE REEVES
FRED ROBINSON
DOT ROGERS
DON RUFFALO
KEN RUSSELL
SARKIS SAMAGIN
STEVE SCHULTZ
MICKEY SCHWARTZ
FRANK SEDLAK
MARTY SEILER
ALFRED SIEPERT**

**PIERCE SILER
HELEN SMITH & DAUGHTERS
LILLIAN SNOW
ANDREW SNYDER
JIM SPRADLEY
LEWIS STANART
TRUDY STEWART
R. W. STUART
BILL TELLER
GILBERT THEILER
DIONNE THOMAS
PAUL TOBIN
DICK TRIMMINGHAM
JOHN WALKER
JIM WARD
ERNEST WAYMON
ERNIE WEBB
LOUIS WEIXELMAN
MARY WILBY
DICK WINSTON
WALTER WITT
AL YATKAUKAS**

Failure of above named individuals to comply with this request will result in your being cussed & discussed by those attending. This could result in your experiencing a severe burning in your ears. Please take time to communicate whether you are still present & accounted for. We want to hear from each of you immediately if not sooner.

**HARRY FIKE
SUPERINTENDENT MISCELLANEOUS AFFAIRS**

783rd BOMB SQUADRON ASSOCIATION REUNION - 2003

SAVANNAH, GA

BEST WESTERN BRADBURY SUITES,

POOLER, GA (912) 330-0330

THURSDAY, October 2, 2003

- 3:00 – 5 PM Registration Desk open. PLEASE WEAR NAME TAGS
4:00 – 9 PM Hospitality Room open for relaxed conversation and refreshments.
6:00 – 7 PM Icebreaker Buffet and Welcome in the Hospitality Room.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2003

- 8:50 AM Board buses for the Historic Savannah City tour
12:00 Noon Return to hotel
9:00 – 5 PM 8th Air Force Museum open (wear name tags for free admission)
NOTE: The Museum library is not open on Sat. or Sun.
2:00 – 9 PM Hospitality Room open
4:00 – 6 PM PX Clearance (only chance) – Hospitality Room

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2003

- 9:00 – 5 PM 8th Air Force Museum open (wear name tags for free admission)
9:00 – 10:30 AM Guided tour of the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum
1:30 PM Squadron Officer/Board of Directors Meeting – Hospitality Room
3:00 PM Squadron business meeting in Hospitality Room
6:00 PM Cash bar opens in Art Gallery Room – 8th Air Force Museum
7:00 PM Banquet Dinner in the Art Gallery Room – 8th Air Force Museum

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2003

- 9:00 – 5 PM 8th Air Force Museum Open (wear name tags for free admission)
12:00 Noon Tee time at Crosswinds Golf Course.
As Needed Hospitality Room Open
6:00 PM Farewell Buffet Dinner (and awards to golf winners) – Hospitality Room

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON THE WHIM OF YOUR PRESIDENT
AND OTHERS (WHO SHALL REMAIN NAMELESS)

Dear Squadron Members,

Since this is the last LOG to be published before our Savannah reunion, I want to encourage those of you who will be coming to Savannah to make your reservations early. There are only 40 rooms blocked off for the 783rd and they only have 92 rooms in the entire motel. If we should need more rooms than the 40 we would like to know early so that we can capture some of the remaining rooms. It would be a shame if someone registered late and we had to book them into another motel. They have four rooms designed for the physically handicapped, Cindy Williams, the Bradbury Suites manager, has been most helpful and she and her staff will go out of their way to make your stay a pleasant one. I would also appreciate it if you would send me your registration as soon as possible. Additional information is in my last letter (March LOG).

Lola, Cheri, Roger and I are looking forward to greeting you once again – this time, Savannah.

Harry

FINAL FACTS OF SQUADRON AFFAIRS FOR 2003

It should be remembered by all— your Officers serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. And—as Harry stated it is customary to wait until following the Reunion before printing the next LOG to advise of new officers and Squadron affairs decided by the Board. It should be remembered by one & all that Harry & Lola have served the Squadron faithfully for more years than we can factually recall running the PX for the Reunions and will be completing 4 years as President. Charlie Payne has served 4 years as VP. The keeper of your coins Bobby Wills is rounding out another 4 years as Treasurer making a total of 8 years when added to his previous service. As for the 'Ole F/O' he has chalked up 4 as President; 4 as Secretary; and a total of 8 shoveling his load of 'Texas Hoss Apples' in the LOG. If you haven't got enough of his stale 'Bull Poop' you indeed have strong stomachs. On behalf of each of the above named it was a pleasure and honor to serve. **THE GOOD LORD WILLING AND THE CREEK DOESN'T RISE SEE YOU IN SAVANNAH.**

Remember--We 'Toggle Jockies' always lead the way into the flak & were the first over the target! This time join the formation for Savannah & we promise to circle the flak for a 'Milk Run' on the Bradbury Suites insuring there will be no unsanitary drawers like the olden days.

QUID FIT!
SAM

REUNION



NEXT!



**Join
US..**
..for a
devil
of a good
time!

Or I will come & PUYOU
in MY BOILING hot POT!

SAVANNAH BRADBURY SUITES OCT 2-5

783 BOMB SQUADRON ASSOCIATION

SAM MARIE

13306 LOBELIA

SAN ANTONIO, TX 78232

(RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED)

SAT 782XX 19:55 06/18/03 ISS #0410



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GREENWOOD, IN 46142

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E MAIL ADDRESSES CORRECTIONS & ADDITIONS



PHONE CHANGES CORRECTIONS & ADDITIONS

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CHARLIE PAYNE-VICE PRESIDENT
BOB WILLS-TREASURER
SAM MARIE-SECRETARY**

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