



LIGHTWEIGHT TOWER CALLING



No. 38

MARCH 2004

A Little Reunion In Little Rock

by Lynn Cotterman

The 39th annual 485th Bomb Group Reunion was held at the Holiday Inn Select, Little Rock, Arkansas September 17-21, 2003. I drove from Albuquerque and picked up a couple of hitchhikers in Oklahoma City, Bob and Dorothy Benson. (Doctor won't let Bob drive). I was glad to see that they were attending this year. They missed

last year because of medical problems. When we walked into the lobby of the hotel Tuesday afternoon, Fran and Art Fowler were there to greet us. You have to get up early to beat them. Also ran into Jim Rau.

Ted Dye, the head Honcho of Air Force Reunions, had planned to attend the reunion, but hurricane Isabelle was heading for his home in Norfolk. He prepared his house for the worst and evacuated his family. He said they were without electricity for a week and used cell phone until the batteries went dead. Although many huge trees were uprooted the good news is that there was no major damage to their home.

"REUNION" continued on next page

Alexandria, Virginia in 2004

by Bob Benson

At the Little Rock, Arkansas general meeting on Saturday, September 20th, the Group voted by a large majority to have our next reunion in the Washington, D.C. area, primarily, to visit the newly constructed National WW 2 Memorial.

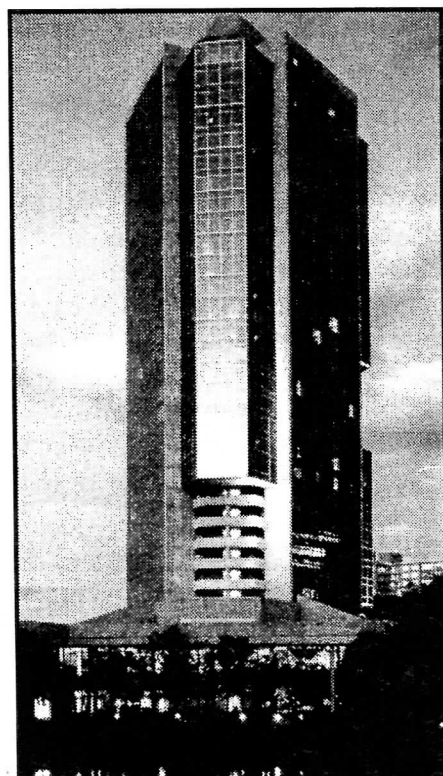
The dedication ceremonies will actually take place over the Memorial Day weekend in May, 2004. However it will be much more costly to attend at that time and a lot more congested. By waiting until October, we were able to get better hotel rates and lower transportation costs.

We will be staying at the Hilton-Alexandria Mark Center in Alexandria, VA. Complete information and registration forms will be mailed at a later date. In the meantime, let us know if you have any questions or desire further information.



Hilton
Alexandria Mark Center

Mark your calendar with these dates—October 7th (Thursday) through October 11th (Monday). The hotel was able to make the rates less by coming on Thursday and ending on Monday instead of the usual Wednesday through Sunday. Plan to be with us for a wonderful and emotional time.



The Hilton-Alexandria Mark Center in Alexandria, VA

After I unpacked I went down to the lobby and met Irvin and Helene Wolf, Betty Best, Marvin and Naomi Lindsay and their son, Steve. The Bensons and I joined them for dinner down the hill at the Regis restaurant. When I returned to the hotel I found more early birds at a table in the dining room; Bill and Joanne Brokaw, Tom and Lillian Tamraz, Bill and Zola Williams and Jerry and Ann Whiting. More gray eagles arrived in the evening. We had an unusual large number for a Tuesday.

The hotel was an atrium type structure with a restaurant and cocktail lounge off the atrium. There was seating for the restaurant on part of the atrium floor. It was a pleasant setting with the sunlight streaming down from several stories above.

Wednesday morning we set up the hospitality room and registration started at noon. The hospitality room consisted of two large adjoining suites. Each had a large table with chairs and a sitting area with soft furniture and a bar. The rooms were on the first floor and had access from the hall and from the atrium, which made it very convenient. A separate room was reserved for memorabilia, but since we had a large hospitality room we had some tables moved in from that room for memorabilia. Some may disagree, but I think it works better to have the memorabilia in the hospitality room.

Bill Cummings volunteered his two sons, David and Phillip, to take care of the bar. They said they enjoyed the job because they were in a position to talk to the vets and hear their stories. They were the friendly bartenders and did a terrific job and even ended

up making a profit for the Group. Congratulations men!

The tour of the city started Thursday morning at 10:00 AM. I appreciate the tours beginning at ten o'clock. There is time for a leisurely breakfast and a glance at the headlines before taking on the day. We drove by many historic sites and enjoyed a walking tour of the State Capital Building. We had lunch at Bowman Curve, an area of shops and restaurants. We returned to the hotel and visited with old friends in the hospitality room. In the evening we attended a buffet dinner in the hotel. A magician put on a little show after dinner.

I opted to miss the rest of the reunion to attend my 60th High School Reunion in Logansport, Indiana, the home of the Logan Berries basketball team. We had a good turnout.

Friday the buses left for the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History. The vets that I talked with said the museum was an interesting place and they could have spent more time there. Then the tour went to Little Rock Air Force Base to view the C-130 aircraft, the transport workhorse that, among other things, doesn't require a paved runway. I watched one take off from a grassy field at a small air show several years ago. It looked like it was going so slow that it would never get off the ground, but it did at the last second. After viewing the C-130 a nice lunch was served at the All Ranks Club.

Saturday morning the Group meeting was held chaired by Bob Benson with the assistance of Bob Hanson. Then we split up into squadron meetings. The minutes of the Group meeting are

elsewhere in this publication. Colonel Dan chaired the 831st Squadron meeting since I was not there. He reported that it was a lively meeting and it didn't get too deep.

Saturday evening the traditional photos were taken followed by the Banquet. I understand the band was unusually good this year and the dance floor got a workout. The memorial breakfast was held Sunday morning and another reunion came to an end.

The number of attendees was down again this year, but we never fail to have an enjoyable time. Dan Sjodin said, "By golly, this was the best reunion we have ever had."

But we are not the only ones who enjoy the reunions. Each year more of the second and third generations and guests attend the reunions. I want to compliment all of you for the hospitality that you have shown them. Here are some of their (paraphrased) comments: "I felt at ease right away; everyone was so friendly."; "I can't tell you how much the reunions mean to our family."; "We had a great time at the reunion, meeting all the men, their spouses and kids. Can't wait till we get together in DC."; "We attend every year and wouldn't miss a reunion."; "Last Wednesday will surely remain as one of my most moving and precious memories. I can never thank you enough for making it possible to be with you wonderful people."

Hope to see you next year in Washington, D.C. It will be a moving experience when we all visit the WWII Memorial together.

HEADQUARTERS



Left to Right: William Banks, Bob Benson, Warren Sortomme

828TH SQUADRON

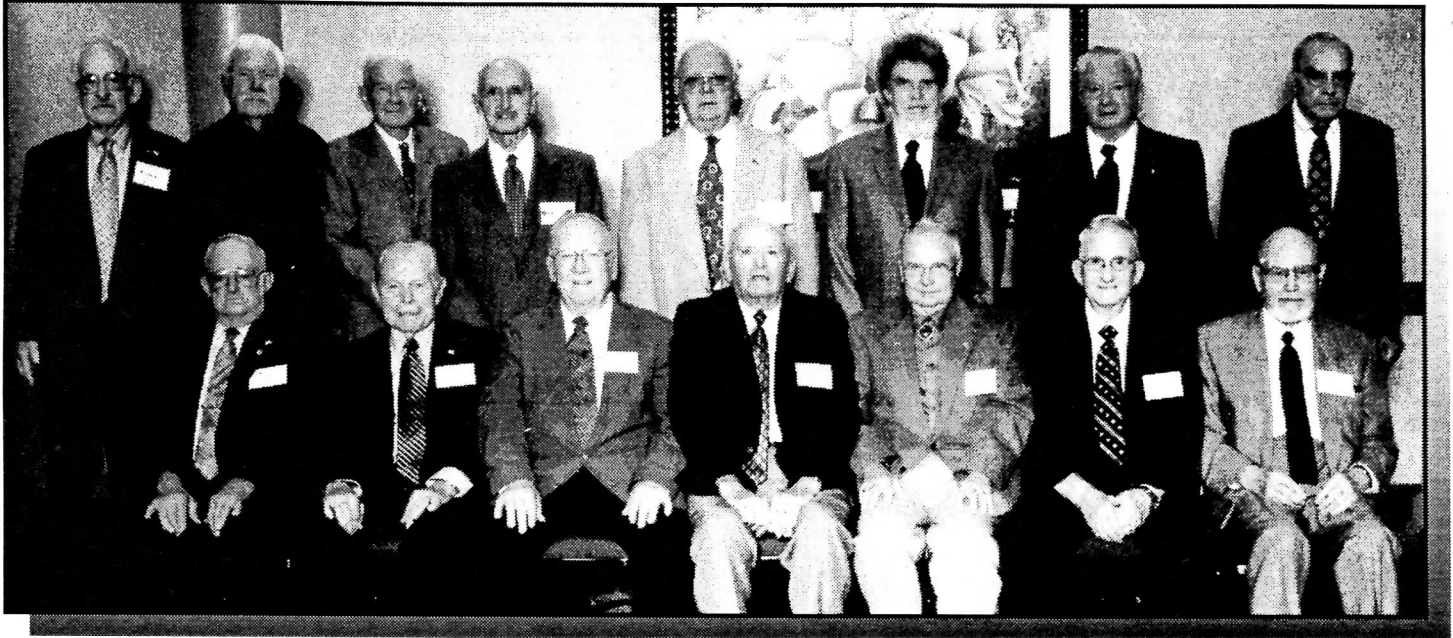


Left to right:

Top Row: Sherrill Burba, Stanley Tanca, Jack Eden, Bill Williams, Tony Siller, Gregory Lahay, John DiRusso, Pappy DeVane

Bottom Row: Clem Norris, Gordon Sorensen, Hal Julin, Lee Busroe, Bud Sites, Kenneth Wall, Mike Hails, Calvin Fite.

829TH SQUADRON

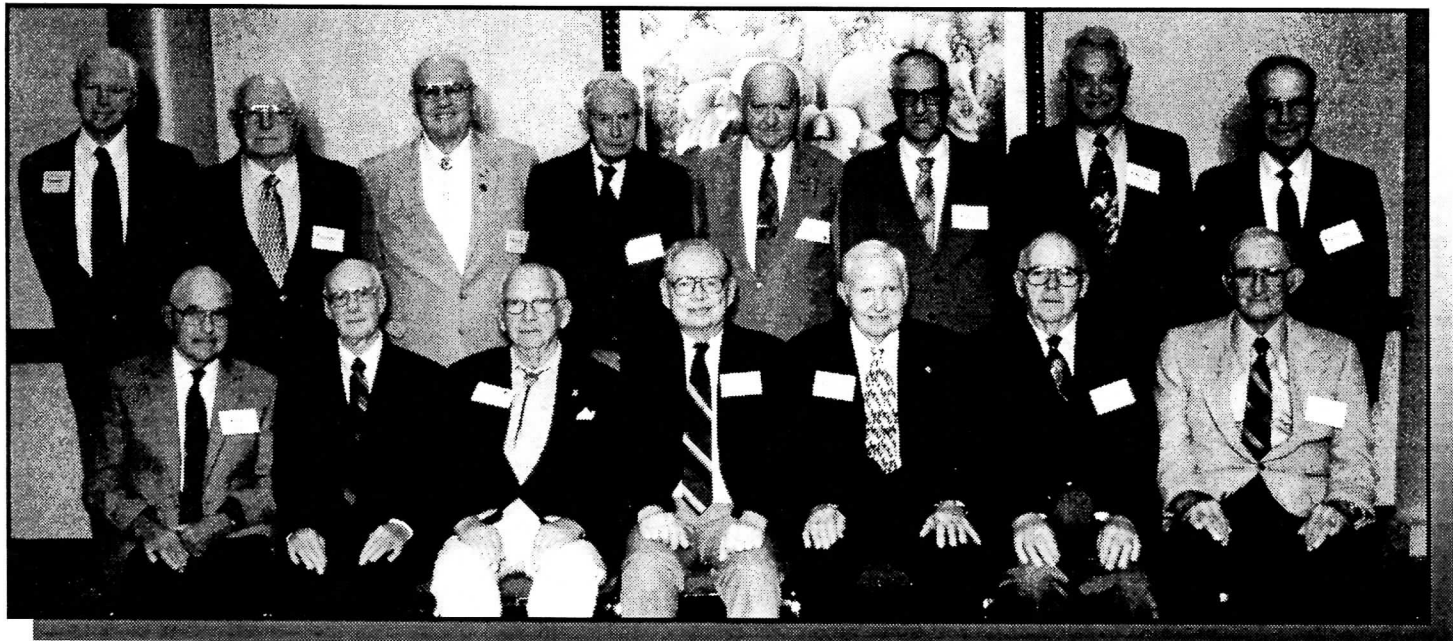


Left to right:

Top Row: Jack Behunin, Wayne Smith, Milton Fundling, Allen Carlson, Russ Arthur, Art Fowler, Harold Johnson

Bottom Row: Cal Frye, Irvin Wolf, Al Martin, Kenneth Robinson, Marvin Lindsay, Billy Culver, Robert Brown

830TH SQUADRON



Left to right:

Top Row: Robert McAlpine, Howard Boxley, George Dyer, James Hunter, Bill Cummings, Bill Devore, Walter Michalke, Buford Cooper

Bottom Row: Ted Levin, Harold Kempffer, Frank Caster, Rick Merrill, Donald Landrum, Herb Muehlemann, Art Thompson

831ST SQUADRON

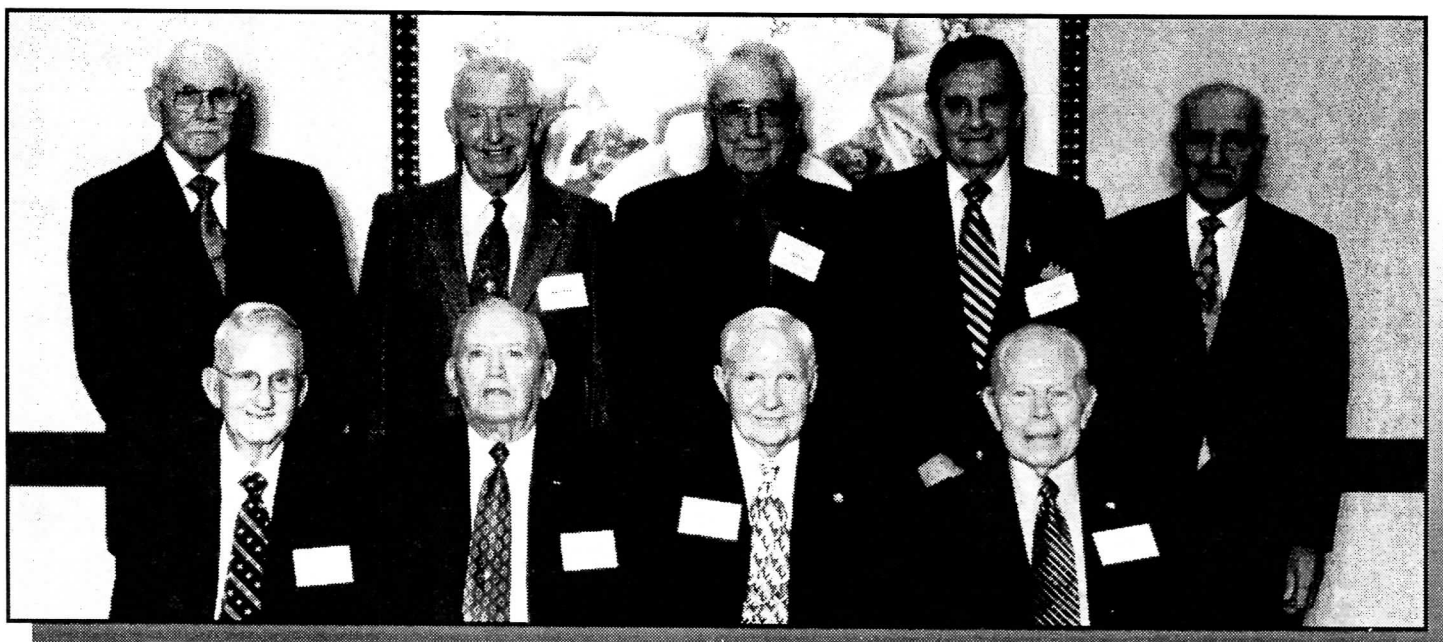


Left to right:

Top Row: Robert Hickman, Jesse Ledbetter, Bob Hanson, Warren Meyers, Frank Nardi, Bill Brokaw, Hank Dahlberg

Bottom Row: Jack Godfrey, Vern Christensen, Dan Sjodin, Glenn Bell, John Jackson, Woody Woodyard, Tom Tamraz

POWs - MIAs



Left to right:

Top Row: Jack Godfrey, Warren Sortomme, Vern Christensen, Frank Nardi, John Tomraz

Bottom Row: Billy Culver, Kenneth Robinson, Donald Sandrum, Irvin Wolf

1ST TIMERS



Left to right: Robert Hickman, Sarah Hickman, Robert Hodge

WIDOWS



Left to right:

Top Row: Pat West, Martha Cathcart

Bottom Row: Betty West, Mary Swann, Jo McGehee

SECOND GENERATION



Left to right:

Top Row: Christy, relative of Alys Putnam, Mike Kempffer, Cindy Devore, Carol McIntier, Linda Haley, Kenneth Williams, David Cummings, Philip Cummings, Colby Wilks, Lee, relative of Alys Putman.

Bottom Row: Alys Putnam, Lee Kapaloski, Leanne King, Dennis Sites, Anna Whiting, Jerry Whiting, Jim Hodge

The "COLT .45" Speaks

by R.E. Monroe

You're familiar with the Army LT. COL. in Iraq who is being considered for Court Marshall for harmlessly discharging his weapon while interrogating an enemy Prisoner Of War to obtain information which would—and DID—save friendly lives.

I have a similar dilemma:

In early 1944, my 485th Bombardment Group (B-24s) was relocating to our nearly-assigned base in Venosa, Italy, but was temporarily diverted to Oudjna, Tunisia (near Tunis) while our assigned base in Venosa was being completed.

A lot of free time was available (other than practice Flying Missions). One activity was in "bartering" with the local natives for various items. My favorite was eggs! The going rate was a dozen eggs for one (1) pack of cigarettes.

Roger Jones and I would frequently go to a near-by

desert location to meet a local Arab to complete this transaction.

As we were completing this negotiation, I noted I had only 11 eggs! When I pointed this out to our egg-man, he refused to acknowledge this shortage, and turned away. So, in order to get his attention, I fired my side-arm, a Colt .45 automatic pistol, into the ground (we were required to wear these while off base.)

I believe this explosion scared Jones—and me—as much as it did our Arab friend. He immediately reversed course and deposited 2 eggs in the seat of our jeep.

My question is: Should I turn myself in to the "Military" authorities to see if I deserve punishment?!? (For an extra egg!?!)

Note: Roger Monroe passed away this year—2004

Minutes of 485th Bomb Group

Business Meeting - Saturday, September 20, 2003, Holiday Inn Select, Little Rock, AR

Chairman, Bob Benson, called the Business Meeting to order. This was the thirty-ninth (39th) reunion of the 485th Bomb Group. A silent prayer was said for those who were lost overseas and those members who have since deceased.

Bob Hanson led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

George Dyer introduced Mayor Jim Daly of Little Rock, Arkansas. Mayor Daly presented the Arkansas Travelers Certificate to Bill Cummings, Warren Sortomme and Bob Hanson. The Governor of Arkansas, Mike Huckabee, issues the Arkansas Traveler Certificate.

The only remaining original Commander of the 485th is Dan Sjodin.

There were approximately 130 attending this reunion, with several second and third generations in attendance. There were three (3) first timers attending.

Count of Squadrons at meeting was as follows:

828th Squadron.....	15
829th Squadron.....	15
830th Squadron.....	15
831st Squadron	16
Headquarters	3
Widows.....	4
POWs and MIAs.....	10
2nd and 3rd Generations	16
Completed 50 Missions	21

Secretary, Frances Fowler, read the minutes of the 2002 Reunion. A motion was made and the minutes were approved as read.

Bob Hanson read the Treasurer's report for Lynn Cotterman. A balance of \$1,780.64 was the ending balance in 2002. A check was presented at the Business Meeting in 2002 from the Estate of Ben Skelton in the amount of \$10,000.00. The ending balance is now \$10,366.83.

Bob Benson thanked Warren Sortomme, Sherrill Burba, Marvin Lindsay, George Dyer, Lynn Cotterman, Bob Hanson and Frances Fowler for their efforts at the 2002 Reunion. He also thanked Jack Godfrey for all the years of ordering the glasses for the Reunion. Due to health reasons, Jack can no longer order the glasses, so a replacement is needed for the Reunion in 2004.

Bob Benson also gave a Special Thank You to the sons of Bill Cummings. David and Phil Cummings did all the work in the Hospitality Room.

The B-24 Statue is awarded to the Squadron with the most crew members present. The following crews were present: Jess Ledbetter 2; Sherrill Burba 3; Wayne Smith 3; Bill Cummings 3.

A toss of the coin determined that Wayne Smith's crew would take home the statue for the coming year. Crew members present were Wayne Smith, Russ Arthur and Alan Carlson.

Bob Hanson presented a plaque to Bob Benson for all the years of dedicated service to the 485th. Also a plaque was presented to Frances Fowler for her service to the 485th.

In Harrisburg it was reported that the 485th Banner was missing. At the 2002 Reunion Neil Swann, son of Everitt Swann, said he would make a new banner for the 485th. Bob Plaister presented Mary Swann, widow of Everitt Swann. Mary said that Neil was unable to attend the Reunion, but the Banner was made by Neil's son, Everitt, and was being presented for this reunion. A beautiful job was done on this banner. All emblems may be purchased, and the information will be in the Light Weight Tower for ordering.

Bob Hanson mailed 833 Light

Weight Tower's to members, and 35 were returned. Bulk mailing doesn't forward mail. Bob resent the 35 and 17 were again returned. There are 178 copies of "This Is The Way It Was" remaining at the publishers. Books can be purchased for \$39.95. Address for the publishing company is in the Light Weight Tower.

Hank Dahlberg still has some copies of his video remaining. Jerry Whiting's book, "I'm Off To War" is available. Information on ordering these is in the Light Weight Tower. Lynn Cotterman has a Master Roster with approximately 2,800 names with miscellaneous information. Lynn is still working on this list to make it as complete as possible. It will be available for purchase at a later date.

Warren Sortomme reported on the tiles at March Air Force Base. The 485th has the most tiles in place. There are two (2) complete crews with tiles and some crews with partial tiles. Those interested in a tile should contact Warren. The price per tile is \$50.00 - \$75.00.

John DiRusso thanked everyone for the plaque he received in 2002 and said we all were part of the bridge. John also read his new poem "Don't Quit".

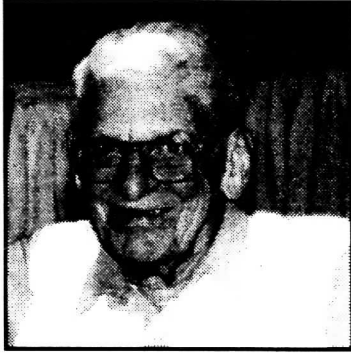
New Business

It was recommended that next years reunion be changed to August in lieu of September for better hotel rates. After very length discussions on the date change, Bob Hanson made a motion that a change in schedule should be made each year based on where the reunions are held. The month span would be August, September and October. Frank Caster made a motion and it was seconded by Arthur Fowler the motion carried.

Discussions on the 2004 Reunion

Howard Boxley suggested Norfolk, "MINUTES", continued on page 11

485TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP



CHAIRMAN

Bob Benson
11002 N. May Ave. #211
Oklahoma City, OK 73120
(405) 752-2575



DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
& LWT EDITOR

Bob Hanson
7300 Sun Island Dr. #1801
South Pasadena, FL 33707
E-mail-RVHSR@aol.com
(727) 360-2808



HISTORIAN

Sam Schneider
8271 S. Continental Divide Rd.
Littleton, CO 80128
E-mail-Sammytg_828@msn.com
(303) 933-3490



HEADQUARTERS REPORTER

Warren Sortomme
3490 Turquoise Lane
Oceanside, CA 92056
E-mail-Sortomme@dslextreme.com
(760) 945-8439



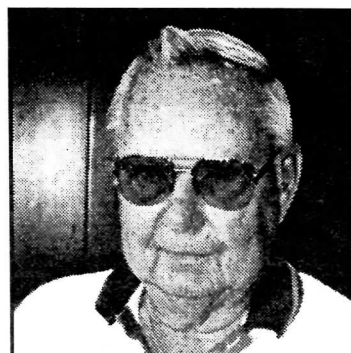
485TH SECRETARY

Frances Fowler
1855 Hilltop Drive
Cottonwood, AZ 86326
E-mail-485bombgroup@verdecomm6.net
(928) 646-9486



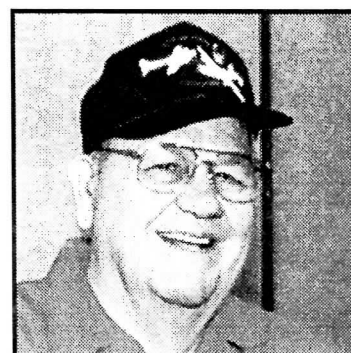
828TH SQUADRON
REPORTER

Sherrill Burba
11314 Hillcrest
Dallas, TX 75320
(214) 361-1383



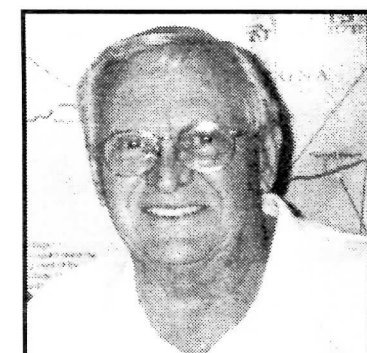
829TH SQUADRON REPORTER

Marvin H. Lindsay
3900 Cimmaron Tr.
Granbury, TX 76049-5251
E-mail- mhlindsay@itexas.net
(817) 326-4010



830TH SQUADRON
REPORTER

George Dyer
1920 So. Columbus
Stuttgart, AK 72160
(870) 673-1044



831ST SQUADRON
REPORTER/TREASURER

Lynn Cotterman
6425 Dorado Beach, N.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87111
E-mail-Lyncott@juno.com
(505) 823-2283

MAILROOM - HEADQUARTERS

by Warren D. Sortomme

Short but sweet this year. We were happy to see Bob and Dorothy Benson back with us this year, they are both looking great.

William Banks, Warren and Joyce Sortomme and second generation Donald P. Huckleby also made the trip to Little Rock.

I received letters from William R. Angle, Hank Hancock and Loyd Towers. They send their best wishes to all and are disappointed that they could not attend last year. Loyd lives about 100 miles from the '04 reunion hotel so I hope he can make it to D.C. Not so near for William in North Carolina or Hank way out in Montana, but I hope everyone can make the WWII Memorial reunion this year.

Anxious to see all of you in D.C., until then stay healthy and remember your donations of a few dollars will help to pay for our printing and mailing. It is most appreciated.

I was saddened to hear our loss of Howard N. Cherry, Group Bombardier. A few days after Christmas last year I received a letter from his eldest son, Judge Michael H. Cherry, informing me that Howie had passed away on June 23, 2003 after a battle with bladder cancer.

As a couple of young 1st Lieutenants, our first mission together on 26 June '44, was a memorable one. Howie was awarded his first of two DFCs and Purple Hearts and the 485th was

honored with the Distinguished Unit Citation.

We flew a lot together, on combat missions and training new personnel for Radar missions. After I was shot down in August of '44, I didn't see Howie until a few days after General Patton's Third Army liberated Stalag 7A on the 29 April '45. This camp had more than 100,000 POWs and how he found me I will never know, but there he was, and boy was I glad to see him.

He told me he was shot down on March 22. With the aid of two bottles of German beer I was able to obtain, we spent the rest of the day talking about the last several months and how wonderful it was to be alive and be together again. He will be missed so much.

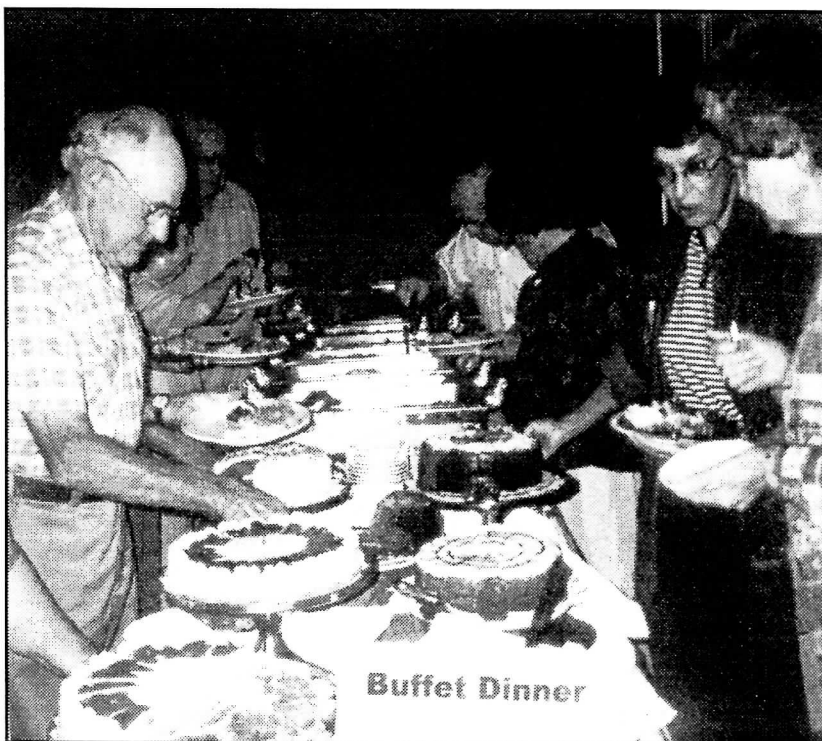
Thursday - Buffet, Dinner And Entertainment

Following a Chamber of Commerce day around the city of Little Rock, we had time for a short visit to the Hospitality Room before getting ready for our first scheduled evening event of the '03 Reunion.

Much better than last year at Reno, the dining room was a short walk from either lobby of the hotel or our Hospitality Room. Our room for the buffet was a beautiful site, colorful round tables and a buffet about a block long loaded with entrees, vegetables and yummy desserts. "Real Southern Cooking."

Mr. Bill Fulton, Magician and Entertainer, helped to settle our stomachs after such a large and delicious meal. Skilled in slight of his hands, he pulled off several tricks, sometimes taking two or three times to do it. But, with the assistance and laughter of the crowd, he would pull it off.

Early to bed, early to rise, for the busy day tomorrow at the Little Rock Air Force Base.



MAILROOM 828TH SQUADRON

by Sherrill Burba

The 828th Squadron had 18 veterans and 18 spouses or 2nd generation in attendance this year in Little Rock. The following men who passed away were remembered at the squadron meeting and memorial services from the 828th:

Jess Akin, 2003
Tom McDowell, 2002
Joseph Morrone, 2002
George Edward, 2002
1st Sgt. Bailey Jenkins, 2003
George Dodea, 2003

Also at the squadron meeting, our C.O. Col. Calvin Fite bought the following to our attention: our cook and chef Tony Siller was purchasing eggs from Italian farmers for 25 cents each and cooking them for himself and friends. he would save the shells, crush them, and put a few in our powdered eggs and most of us thought that was just a mistake on his part. There were rumors of a delayed court martial, but our retired Judge/attorney stated that the "statue of limitation" had expired.

Collections this year were \$160.00 and the balance after payment of all bills is \$697.05. The audit committee received by bookkeeping and the report was voted in favor by all present.

A new roster dated 8/03/03 was handed out and Sherrill Burba was reelected squadron reporter. He expressed his appreciation for the vote of confidence.

Just received word that Roger E. Monroe passed away January 7, 2004 in Newberg, Oregon. Roger was squadron operations officer and active in many associations in regard to his Air Force career. He will be missed.

The meeting adjourned after 30 minutes.

Once again, I was asked to write about the memorial breakfast on Sunday morning. There were about 130 people in attendance out of 143 registered. A new enlarged program was handed out along with a roster of deceased members since 1945.

The program was prepared by Francis Fowler who is the 485th secretary and was greatly improved in format.

Pastor Don Whiteman could not attend this year due to wife Virginia's sickness, but he prepared a message which was read by Al Martin. Al also led our singing and sang a solo. Taking part in this years program were Al Martin, Helen Wall, Joyce Bussor, Zola Williams, George Dyer, Bob Hanson, Jerry Whiting, Cynthia DeVore, Fran Fowler, John DiRusso and Sherrill Burba.

I want to thank all in 2nd generation in the flag folding ceremony and appreciate your interest in being part of the 485th family. George Dyer arranged for a friend to play the keyboard and another to sound taps.

This is the 15th annual Memorial program having started in 1988 in St. Pete Beach, FL Reunion.

God Bless and hope to see you all in the D.C. area in September 2004.

Continued from "MINUTES" on page 8

Virginia. Sights to see in the area include Williamsburg, Jamestown, Yorktown, McArthur Museum, Norfolk Navy Base, Science Museum and many other places. The World War II Memorial is approximately 130 miles from Norfolk. Transfer from the airport is good.

Bob Brown suggested Columbia, South Carolina. A place is a place—people make the difference. Adams Mark Hotel is very good and rates are competitive, about the same as in Little Rock. August is very hot and September is warm. There are many sights to see and things to do in the vicinity. The Freedom Foundation works closely with reunion groups. Transportation is good. Flights probably through Atlanta.

Bob Hanson suggested Washington, D.C. Area. Sights to see are the World War II Memorial, which opens in May 2004, National Air and Space Museum, Annapolis, Kennedy Center, Arlington Cemetery, Mount Vernon and much more. Air Lines connect from all places. Hotel rates are higher here in the mid 80's plus tax in the month of August. Crystal City is nearby for Hotels. Serviced by Reagan airport.

Ted Dey of the Armed Services Reunion was unable to attend this reunion; the hotel rates were unavailable at this time.

A vote was taken for where to hold the 2004 Reunion and the count was as follows: Norfolk, VA 4; Columbia, SC 11; Washington, D.C. 48.

The reunion will be in the Washington, D.C. area in 2004 and in September per vote.

The vote taken for the month of the reunion is as follows: August 0; September 45; October 11.

George Dyer had a box of mementos of Little Rock and everyone was to help themselves.

Hank Dahberg was recognized as the oldest veteran present.

A motion was made to adjourn and so ordered, to attend squadron meetings immediately following the business meeting.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Frances Fowler,
485th Secretary*

MAILROOM 829TH SQUADRON

by Marvin Lindsay

of our pilot Joe, Jo McGeehee, widow of our co-pilot Slayton and Betty Best, widow of Leon, our nose

gunner. In addition, had Irvin and Helene Wolf. Irvin was our top turret gunner plus myself and wife Naomi and son Steven. I was the radio operator and gunner. Also have a list of 829th that are no longer with us, but will be included in Journey's end list. I also thanked all in this meeting for keeping me informed of address changes as well as the loss of our members.

I was asked to write about our bus tour to first, the MacArthur Museum and also the visit to Little Rock Air Base. My son Steven wrote about the bus trip and our two

stops, so we will have a 2nd generation outlook on this section.

First the museum is housed in an

old Army Armory. Our tour guide informed us that this armory was the site of the largest civil war veteran reunion in the early 1900's. General Douglas MacArthur, though claiming himself as a Virginian, was born at the Little Rock Armory while his father was stationed there and the grounds and building have been dedicated to General Douglas MacArthur, the military and also Boy Scouts. The museum has a large collection of World War II photos, which graphically corroborates the war.

"829th", continued on next page

After the general meeting, our 829th squadron held their squadron meeting and speaking for both my wife, Naomi, and myself, we were very glad to be back attending the reunion once again. We missed last year due to Naomi's illness. Alice Arthur took the minutes of this meeting. We had a good attendance considering how fast Journey's end list is becoming larger each year.

A thank you card was send to Mrs. Ben Skelton for the very generous donation from the estate of her late husband Ben. I will note that we had 3 of my crew members in attendance (or their widows) including Martha Cathcart, widow

MAILROOM 830TH SQUADRON

by George Dyer

This will be the write-up for the banquet and dance of September 20, 2003 in Little Rock.

Lots of smiles of anticipation were seen on people headed into the banquet room for the night's meal and dancing. We need to thank Ken and Helen Wall for doing a fantastic job on short notice. The tables were all set for eight, beautifully decorated with flowers and mirrors underneath each flower spread and tables looked lovely.

The service was extremely well-done, pleasant servers, and food was wonderful. Your choice of prime rib or chicken Florentine and everyone was very pleased with the food, service and attention at each table. The salad, entrée and dessert of cheesecake made for an excellent meal. What could be better than being with friends of LONG

standing, good food and service and plenty of time to enjoy the company and dining.

Timing was just right for the band, led by Tommy Henderson and consisted of six musicians who were very talented and could get everyone in a dancing and reminiscing mood.

Dancers started shortly after music started and the Fundling's Nardi's, Landrum's, Boxley's, Williams, Devane's and of course Dan Sjodin were active on the floor the entire evening. There are too many to recall ALL of them, but will say a most enjoyable time was had by all. Believe this to be one of the best bands we've had in a long time.

The band played all of our old favorites including so many from the 1940's and a medley of all of the service songs. Naturally, when the Air Force song was played, a

standing ovation and thunderous applause was rightfully noted!

Our squadron meeting this year was right on schedule—immediately following our general business meeting on a Saturday morning. We had 15 turnout for the squadron pictures and I want to mention that Bill Cummings two sons, Phillip and David Cummings, tended bar and took care of that BIG job in the hospitality room. The boys remarked that they really enjoyed the job as it gave them an opportunity to meet the members and also to hear of the war stories that were told around the bar and in the room. Not only did they do a super job, but donated their time at no cost to the 485th, plus making a profit of over \$400.00 which was donated to the bomb group. Thanks again to both! Bill sure raises fine sons in the state of Indiana.

Just one of the Boys, George E. Dyer

"829th", from previous page

Numerous displays included a Willis Jeep plus interesting displays of Boy Scouting in America.

We then bused to the Air National Guard Air Base in Little Rock, where we were picked up and guided by one of the Air Force personnel. Our bus driver had previously been stationed there and was able to offer us insights of the base. We were taken to the base clubhouse for lunch and dined on sirloin or Texas pheasant (chicken). No dessert.

We proceeded to the tarmac where

we saw a very large section of Hercules C-130 four engine air cargo planes. These ranged from the oldest, dating back to mid 1960's clear up to the most modern C-130J models. There were also a couple of C-117 jet cargo planes which were to replace the C-130, but could not. The C-130's still have the shortest takeoff and landing requirements of any large air cargo plane in the world. There were two reasons why so many C-130's were there—one, the hurricane threat on the east coast forced a major relocating of planes and, two, this particular unit was

preparing to be deployed to Iraq. We were given an inside tour of an older C-130 model. Before leaving the base, we stopped at the PX (commissary store on base) for a short shopping opportunity before heading back to the hotel. The base was a very modern one, with expansion construction very evident. This base is the largest C-130 Base in the world and the only C-130 school in the world. It was certainly interesting to be able to observe and climb around inside one of these planes and made for a very interesting visit.

MAILROOM 831ST SQUADRON

by Lynn Cottermann

City Tour—Thursday morning we boarded a bus for a tour of the city. According to our tour guide there IS a little rock in Little Rock. The French explorer, Bernard de La Harpe, came up the Arkansas River looking for "emerald stone" which the Indians said existed along river shoreline. All he found was green-colored rock outcropping and he named it "la petite roche", little rock. This was in contrast to the mammoth rock bluff up stream (a big rock.)

We drove by a large hospital complex, the Little Rock Zoo and Central High School. I understand Little Rock is the major health facility in the region. Central high School is where the nine black students were the first blacks to enter an all white school. If you remember it caused quite a ruckus.

The bus then parked in front of the State Capitol building for a walking tour of the building which is a smaller version of the Nation's Capitol. We had the option of taking the elevator or the stairs. About one half took the elevator and the rest of us climbed the stairs. About 200 steps later we were catching our breath in the visitors gallery looking

down on the floor of the legislature. Our guide gave an informative talk about the history of the Arkansas Legislature. We also visited the Senate floor and the state Supreme Court chambers.

Back on the bus we drove by the Governor's Mansion and MacArthur Park, the birth place of the General and then past Villa Marre. The women recognized the Villa Marre from the TV show, "Designing Women." It was lunch time so we stopped at Bowman Curve, a small strip center with shops and a variety of eating places. I had lunch with Frank and Kitty Nardi at a little bar. A local gal sitting next to us was originally from West Virginia where Kitty and Frank spent some time during their early years so they had a nice visit; small world. We finally got all the women out of the shops and returned to the hotel.

There were only 16 veterans from the 831st that attended the reunion this year, but we expect a larger turnout next year in Washington, D.C. Linda Haley, daughter of Robert Hickman, found a new member this year, Kenneth Leasure. he was the navigator on Wiggins

crew and never heard of our reunions. His health would not permit him to attend the reunion.

We also have one first timer, Robert Hickman. He came to show us that he is alive and well. I erroneously listed him on the Journey's End list a couple of years ago. You can find the ones who passed away this past year on the Journey's End list.

Next year's reunion will be a special one as we tour the World War II Memorial. I hope you all make an extra effort to attend.

Update: The story was on TV and in the newspapers about the pretty young co-ed, Dru Sjodin, who was abducted at a shopping mall last fall. She is a cousin of our CO, Dan Sjodin. In December I talked with Dan to see if he had heard anything more about Dru. He said that there was nothing new and it is a sad holiday because he doesn't have much hope of finding her. He said Dru is a real nice kid and he watched her grow up. She was working two jobs to earn money to pay the tuition at the University of North Dakota. Our prayers are with yours, Dan.

LETTER FROM THE HISTORIAN

By Sammy Schneider

Looking to the past, it always seemed so easy to write my little bit for the Light Weight Tower Newsletter.

Another year has gone by and I find many of our 485th family with an ailment. It slows us down, but we all must remember to keep hanging in there. We have more missions to complete.

I have a special one and that is my third book titled, "It's Our Turn To Fly". I mentioned it in my last letter. It's done, ready for publishing with the help of my two wing men, Lynn Cotterman and Jerry Whiting. Hopefully a little more reviewing conversation and we will see eye-to-eye and like Little Red Riding Hood—off to the publishers house we go.

There were a few people who made contact with me, relations to members of our 485th, wanting to know something about them. I felt elated as I always do when I find some information they knew nothing about.

Recently I received an E-mail from a Bob Hoskins—no connection with the 485th—asking about the 484th plane and was about to tell him I

could not tell him about the 484th but did know a Tony Schneider who handles queries as he is the historian. He immediately comes back saying it was an 8th AF plane with the 448th.

He then adds that a plane called Star Dust was with the 485th-831st squadron. That immediately rang a bell and a quick check in TIHIW book on page 84 were the names of many of the 485th planes listed and Star Dust among them.

I then told him about a story on page 250 relating to the crew and Star Dust which was shot down on a mission to bomb a bridge in Italy. It's the Ed Nichol's story. I told him about Ed's son, Les, 11 years old, who lost his father in a private plane his father was flying and crashed. Les by coincidence found a diary in a closet that his father wrote and sent it to me. It's quite a story when after being shot down, four that bailed out landed near one another, all with bad ankles, got in the hands of the Chetniks, a partisan group. The leader, Mikelovich, fought another partisan group under the leadership of Tito Broz, President of Yugoslavia. His headquarters was the Isle of Vis—a safe haven for all

allied flyers not being able to get back to home base. Tito eventually killed Mikelovich.

The Chetniks were on the side of the Germans until they saw that the Allies were beginning to win the war and started to help the Allies, as they did with Ed Nichols group. Ed, by the way, was a bombardier who really made a great contribution to the men with him while in the hands of the Chetniks.

"THIS IS HOW IT WAS" and the history of the 485th Bomb Group was published in 1995. A second printing was made last year after the Little Rock reunion. It may be quite interesting if our 485th family would get their book out of their book case and read that story, as well as refresh your mind with the many other stories told as it was by the many that lived through it.

The "Missions By The Number" book is out of print. Maybe one day it can be reprinted in a new digital publishing high tech method at a very low cost.

For new comers to the 485th family, try our 485th web page, www.n1n.net/485th, to learn a bit about the 485th history and see the two books that were compiled.

Inquiring Minds Of Nearly 60 Years

Returning from a raid on Linz, Pick Up, was forced to ditch off the coast of Italy; none of the crew survived. That was January 20, 1945 and until a couple of months ago, many questions about that flight remained unanswered. A chance find by a nephew found the 485th Bomb Group web site that included information about its forthcoming reunion in Little Rock. Hoping to find more information and answers about a father, brother and uncle, Edward J. Kapaloski (Kappy), a son, a sister, a brother and niece went to Little Rock.

We were overwhelmed with the warm reception and wealth of information everyone was willing to share. Questions were answered and unknowns were explained. More important, in conversations with members Lee, Kappy's son, learned more about experiences of a father he never knew.

We left the reunion extremely grateful for the experience regretting only that we learned of the reunions so late. We're looking forward to next year's reunion in Washington where we hope a member who

knew Kappy might attend.

Lee Kapaloski, son; Alys Putnam, sister; Christina Metzler, niece; Gene Kapaloski, brother.

(Editors note: Our Group Historian, Sammy Schneider, often gets inquiries about members of the 485th at the 485th Bomb Group web site. Once received, Sammy responds to each and every inquiry. He uses the Squadron Reporters and others to assist him in his efforts to obtain answers for friends and family of 485th members. The above story is just one example of what occurred after an inquiry was made several months ago.)

485th

Spreadsheet Update

The "First Draft" of the spreadsheet was well received at the reunion in Little Rock. Included were over 3,000 names of 485th veterans, 225 flight crews and about 500 ground and headquarter personnel.

We thank those who returned the questionnaire that was mailed out last spring. We encourage the rest of you to furnish us information about yourself; name, rank, serial number, name of your pilot or leader, any additional information (shot up, shot down, POW, WIA, E/E or not a scratch) We still have many blanks.

Send information to Jerry Whiting, 2576 Fox Circle, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 or to Lynn Cotterman, 6425 Dorado Beach NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111.

15th

Air Force Is Deactivated

I was surprised when I read in this month's "SORTIE" that the 15th Air Force was deactivated on October 1, 2003. After 60 years of distinguished service to our country it will be redesignated the 15th Expeditionary Mobility Task Force (EMTF). The history and legacy of the 15th Air Force will live on through the EMTF. In a nut shell, the EMTF will support Air Mobility Command's new war fighting technique. Air mobility is the future of providing the entire military with flexibility to project forces anywhere in the world with a 12-hour response.

A chapter in aerial warfare came to a close at the end of WWII. Never again would young energetic airmen don their heavy flying gear, head into enemy territory in their B-24 Bombers in temperatures 30 to 50 degrees below zero, brave the Luftwaffe and the flak to reach their target, destroying military installations and avoiding innocent civilians. We were proud to be a part of that era and members of the 15th Air Force which earned their place in history the old fashion way—BY RESULTS.

B-24

Located Off Isle Of Vis

When running low on fuel or in a crippled aircraft Vis was one of the first bases in friendly territory when returning from a mission. Many B-24's landed, refueled and returned to their base; however some were forced to ditch. Bonnie Bailey has been researching the Liberators that ditched near Vis hoping to find more information about her uncle, Chester Bailey, who was lost when he ditched near there. She has been exchanging information with Jerry Landry whose cousin was in the 461st Bomb Group and went down with his crew when they ditched trying to reach the Isle of Vis. Landry found residents on Vis who are fishermen. They claim to know the exact location of a B-24 that went down during the winter of 1944-45. The fisherman said they have been snagging their nets on it for 60 years. The family still have a wheel/tire assembly and a propeller that they found a couple of days after the ditching. Landry has a contact in Croatia who is a certified diver and he plans to make a dive on the plane in the spring of 2004 to see if he can identify it. We will keep you posted.

Climber Cuts Off Arm To Save His Life

We heard about it in the newspaper and on the TV. The climber, Aron Ralston, is the grandson of Karl "Andy" Anderson who passed away in 2001. Andy was the crew chief of "The Lady" and other aircraft in the 828th Squadron. The story is best told by Andy's daughter, Donna Ralston, in an E-mail dated November 24, 2003 to Sammy Schneider.

"Aron Ralston, the climber who cut off his arm in the Utah Canyon to save his life, is our son. That was the worst day in my life beyond none

and we are so thankful that he made it out. He is doing quite nicely with his recovery—got his first prosthesis in July and he is doing normal activities almost completely and some things not his "norm" too. He is writing a book, has returned to live in Aspen and is being interviewed on German TV. He is here at the house today and will leave for Chili this afternoon to do a mountain climb for the next 10 days or so. Our life has been anything but normal this summer as we traveled to New York three times to

interview ABC, CBS and NBC to do his documentary and it will air sometime next summer when his book comes out."

What an incredible experience! It is refreshing to hear about a member of our younger generation who has it "all together". Aron did what was necessary to save his life and then after that terrifying accident he remained upbeat and got on with his life. I'm sure his parents had a hand in how he turned out. Congratulations to the Ralston family

IMPORTANT: Worth Reading And Recalling Your Memory On This Mission

by Szymon Serwatka

Some World War II aviators are still alive in the hearts of families who have never received any news of their relatives who had been declared MIA. Lt. Arthur Lindell's sisters have never learned what had happened to their brother. On December 26th, 1944, he had piloted a B-24 of the 485th Bomb Group that was directly hit aft of the wings over Blechhammer South, Germany (today it is Kedzierzyn-Kozle, Poland). The bomber broke into two parts. No chutes were seen.

After the war ended, the crew members of Lt. Lindell could not be found among the liberated POWs. The task to find out the fate of the young men was given to an American mission that came to the former target area in 1947. The research conducted by the mission was based on two snippets of information: one, American crews indicated the location of the downing as G'ogówek (Oberglöckau) and two, according to a letter from a POW commander to the Red Cross, three of Lindell's crew were buried in Łambinowice (Stalag 344 - Lamsdorf) POW camp cemetery. The search brought no results. The research documents were reviewed again in the early 1950s and it was discovered that the search has been conducted in a wrong place. But the Cold War prevented another visit to Poland, and the case could not be resolved.

In 1997 Barry Wareham, son of Lt. Lindell's co-pilot, resumed the search on his own. Lt. Duane (Duke) Wareham survived his friends because he was ill on December 26, 1944 and was grounded. Barry and I have reviewed the original research documents and we concluded that the places of G'ogówek or Łambinowice that were searched in 1947 were too far from the target area to be a credible crash site location.

Then we tried a different approach. We knew that the B-24 had been hit on the bomb run, thirty to sixty seconds after "bombs away". We thought that if we could "recreate" the bomb run, we could calculate roughly where Lt. Lindell might have crashed. We knew the formation's heading, altitude and speed. We have estimated that Lt. Lindell's bomber could have crashed North East of the target, the Blechhammer South complex, assuming no deviations from the original formation heading.

Even with this information we could go nowhere without finding local witness of the crash. The request for information published in *Nowa Trybuna Opolska*, a local newspaper, was answered by Jerry Placzek, who in 1944 lived in a village just south of Blechhammer South complex.

Placzek remembered an aircraft falling in two parts. In the front part burned bodies were found that were buried at a cemetery in Alt Cosel (Stare Ko Yle). A retired undertaker, Maksymilian Stefanides, confirmed the burial location. He also remembered the American mission retrieving those remains. The tail part of the B-24 had fallen onto an abandoned house and a burned body of one crewman was found inside. Two more bodies were found in the area between the front and tail parts of the aircraft. One more US airman's body was found in the early spring of 1945 in a nearby stream. Neither identification nor burial site of the nine crewmen are known.

It is very much possible that the aircraft reported by the Placzek was Lt. Lindell's B-24. The 15th Air Force lost only two aircraft in the target area on December 26th, 1944, one being a B-17 and one a B-24. A Nazi German report, which could not be obtained, was reported to confirm a B-24 crash site near the location suggested by Placzek.

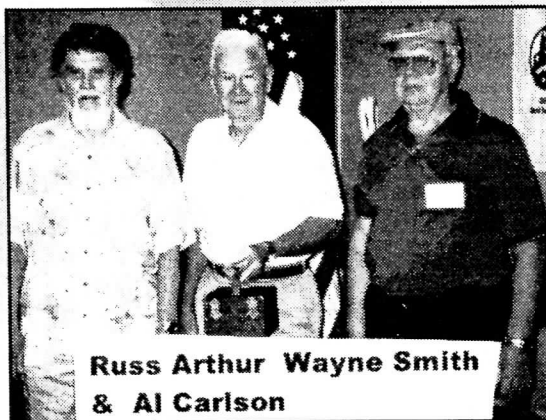
If the above is true, why are the crew members still MIA while five bodies were retrieved by the American mission? Was the identification impossible? Jerzy Sienkiewicz, a Polish national who had worked with the American mission back in the 1940s, remembered no cases of the unidentified human remains. However, he said that a ship loaded with remains of 10,000 American soldiers had sunk in the Atlantic in a storm after the war. Does the solution to Lt. Lindell's crew mystery lie on the bottom of the ocean? In 2001 the Pentagon's DPMO office sent representatives to Poland to search for any information on the American military personnel that were MIA in the Soviet-held territory after the World War II. They were very interested in learning the details of our research on Lt. Lindell. We sent an extensive report on our findings, but there has been no response to the report to date. A copy of the report was delivered to Barry's congressman last year. The Pentagon has added this file to a list of 31 cases to be investigated.

Meanwhile, Waldemar Ociepski, a local researcher and historian in Kedzierzyn-Kozle, has decided to commemorate the USAAF mission to Blechhammer. Together with other instructors at a local model-making club, he organized an annual model-making contest dedicated to the crew of Lt. Lindell.

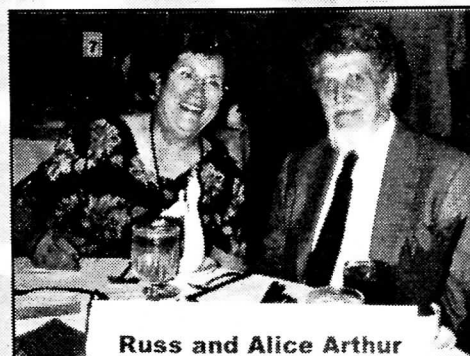
And the families of the missing airmen are still waiting...

(Note: Szymon's address is Königsteiner Str. 124 D-65812 Bad Soden Germany)

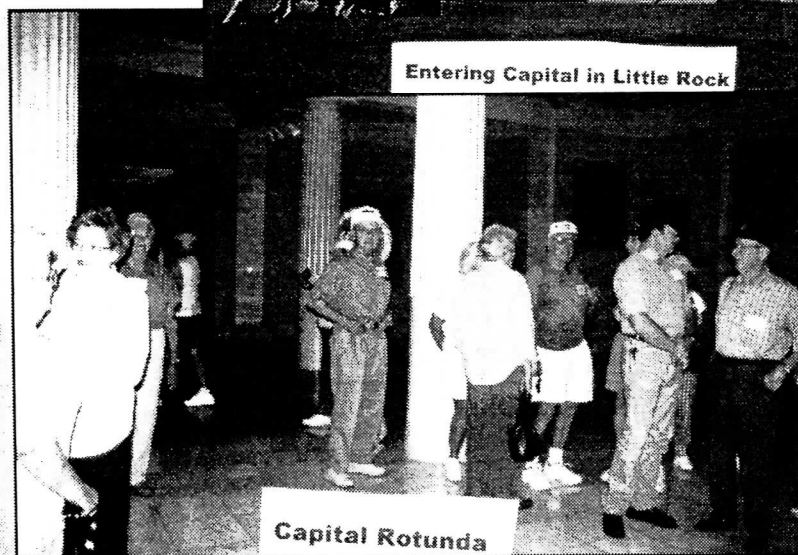
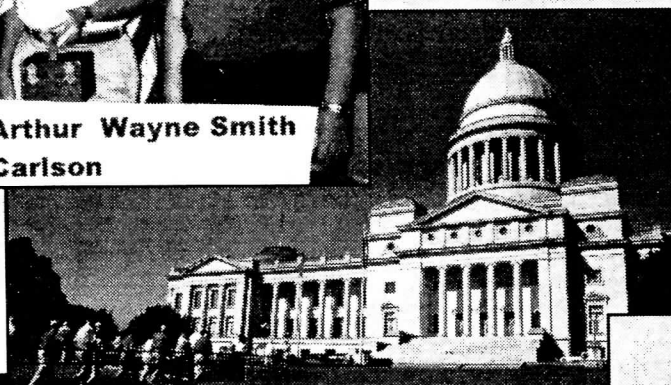
PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS 2003



**Russ Arthur Wayne Smith
& Al Carlson**



Russ and Alice Arthur



Entering Capital in Little Rock

Capital Rotunda



**Bob Hanson & Bob Benson honoring
Fran Fowler for her work as secretary**



Wayne & Marge Smith



**Joyce Sortomme Dorothy
& Bob Benson**



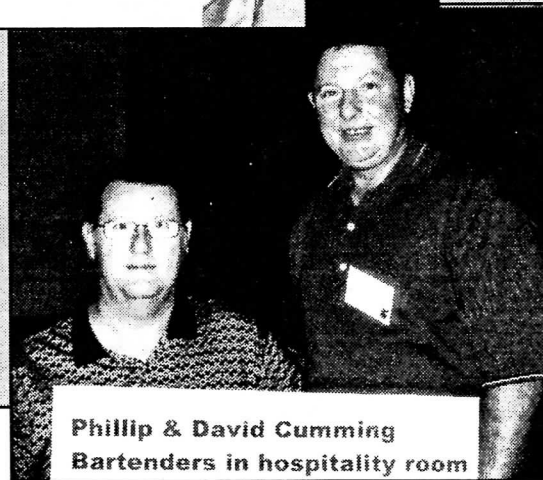
More Photos 2003



Mary & Glen Bell--Bob Hanson
John Jackson---Warren Meyers
"Bachelor's Roost"



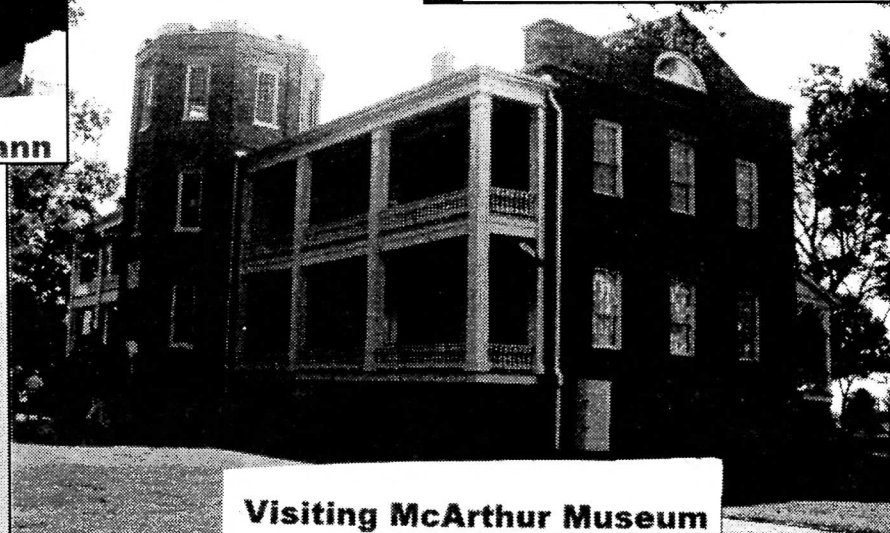
Bob Hanson & Mayor Daly



Phillip & David Cumming
Bartenders in hospitality room



Herb & Betty Muehlemann

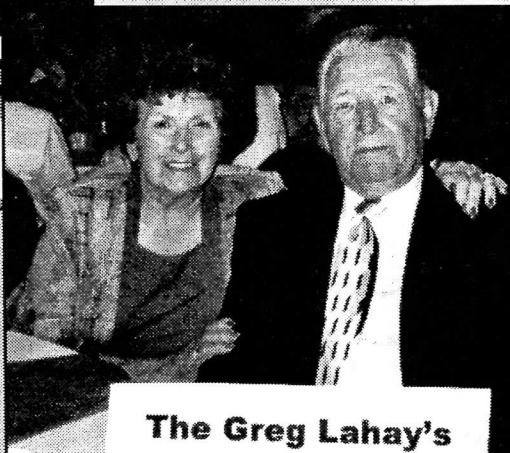


Visiting McArthur Museum

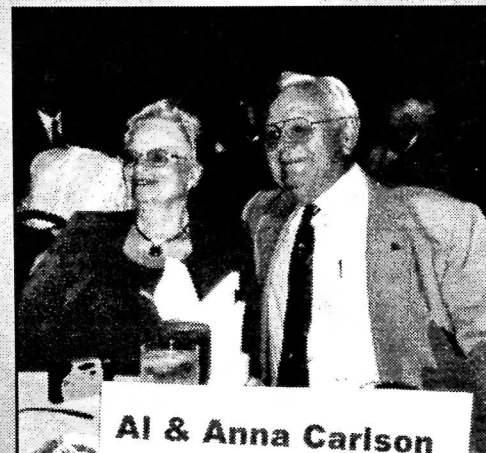


Holiday
Inn
SELECT

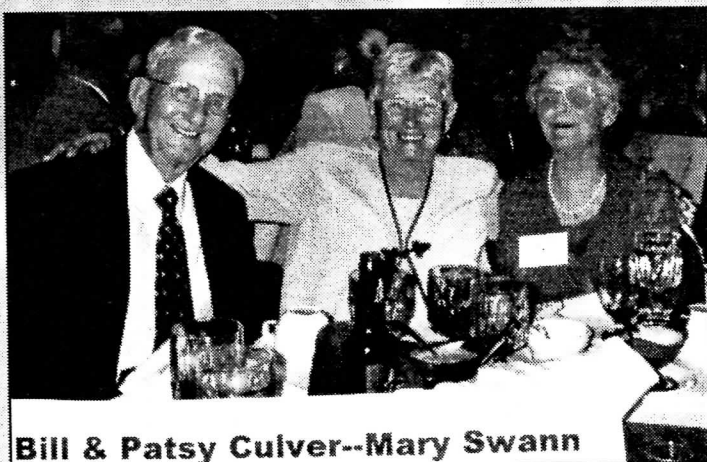
WELCOME
485 BOMB GROUP



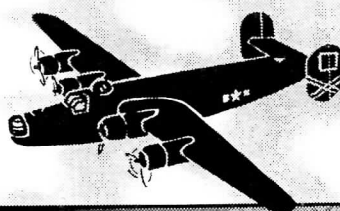
The Greg Lahay's



Al & Anna Carlson



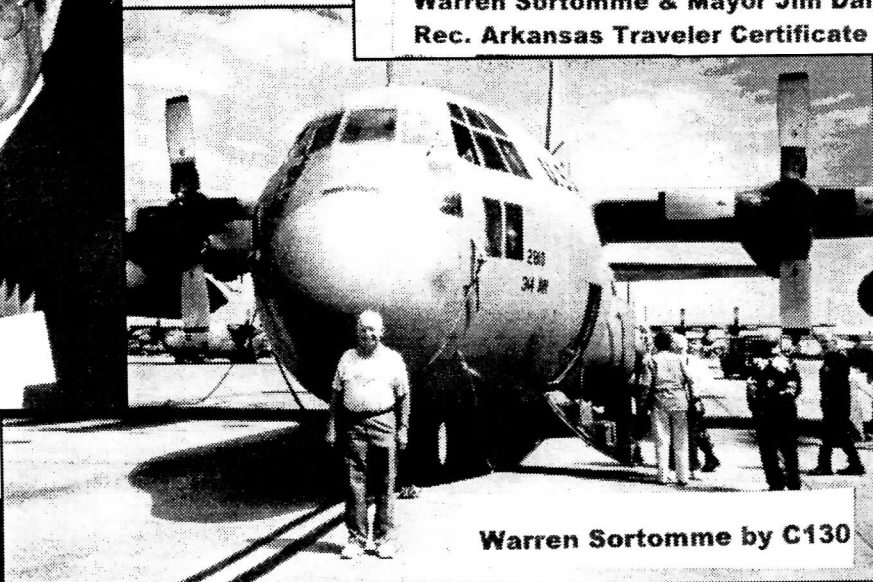
Bill & Patsy Culver--Mary Swann



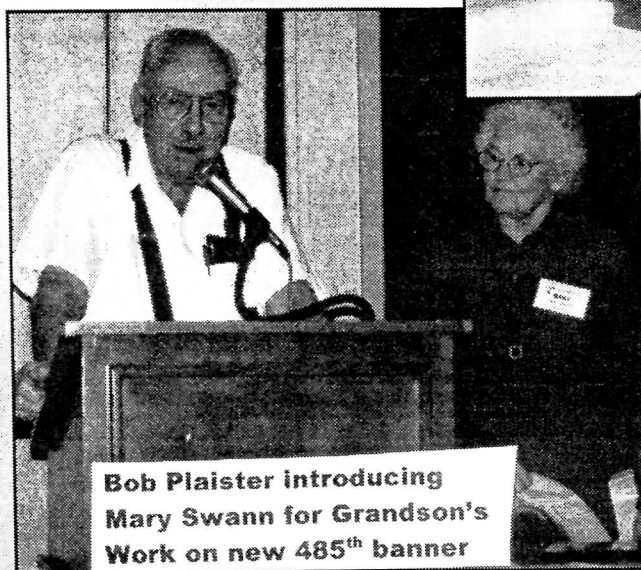
**Warren Sortomme & Mayor Jim Daly
Rec. Arkansas Traveler Certificate**



Kitty & Frank Nardi



Warren Sortomme by C130



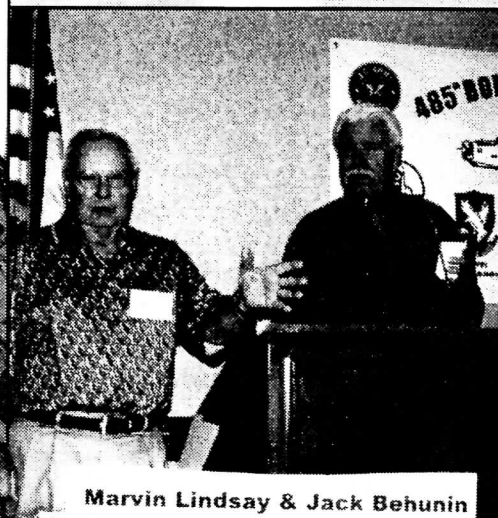
**Bob Plaister introducing
Mary Swann for Grandson's
Work on new 485th banner**



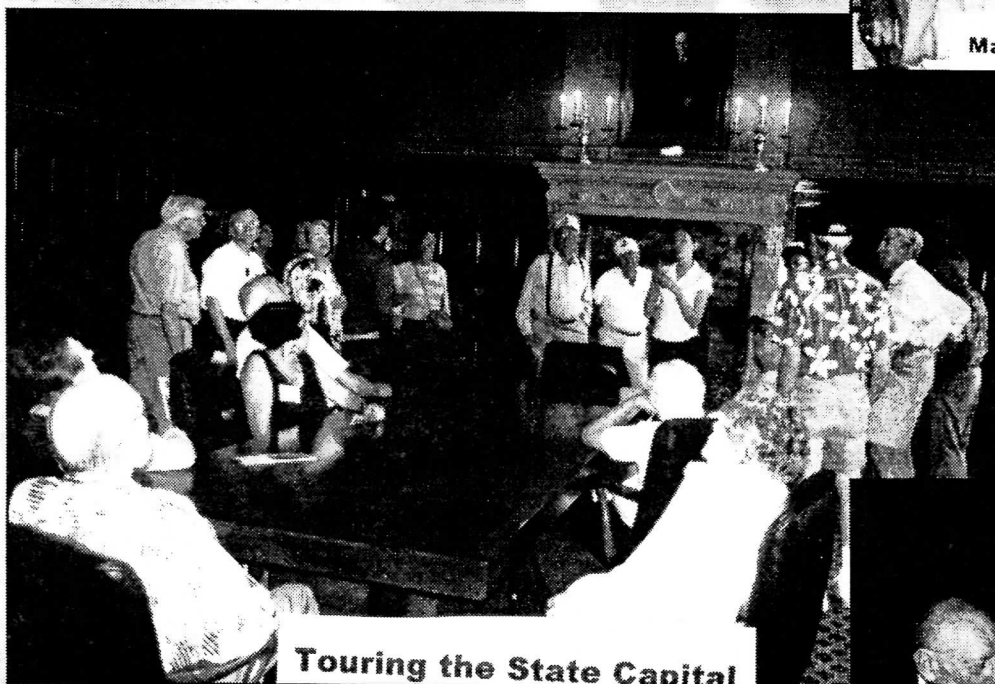
Saturday night banquet



**Ken Robison Jack & Irene Godfrey
And Barzella Robison**



Marvin Lindsay & Jack Behunin



Touring the State Capital



John DiRusso



Jess Ledbetter & Vern Christensen



Mary Ann & Jack Behunin



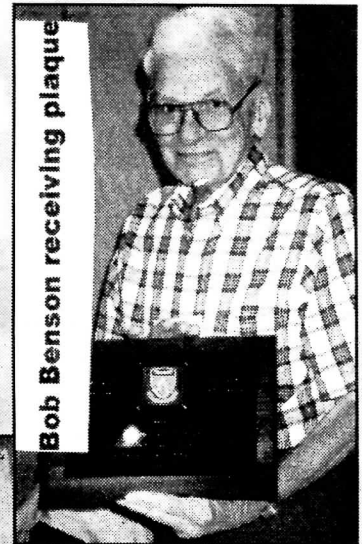
Dorothy & Bob Benson



More Photos 2003



Fran Fowler--Secretary of 485th



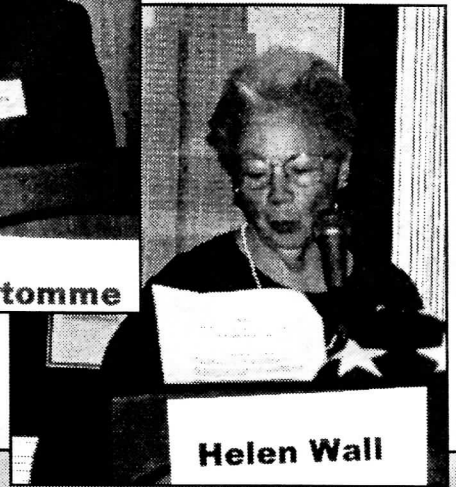
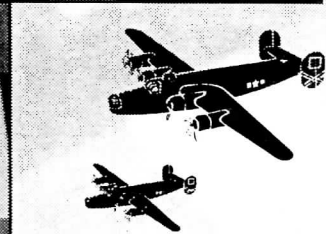
Bob Benson receiving plaque



Bill Brokaw & Warren Sortomme



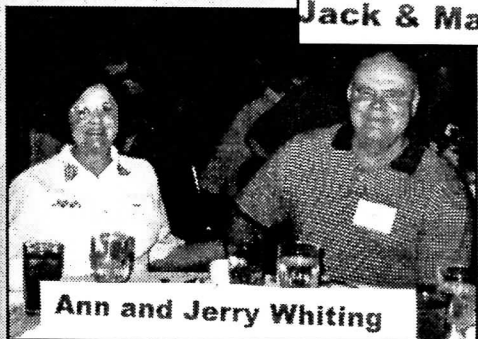
Tony Siler & Sherrill Burba



Helen Wall



Jack & Mary Ann Behunin



Ann and Jerry Whiting



Our group looking at C130 at Little Rock Air Base



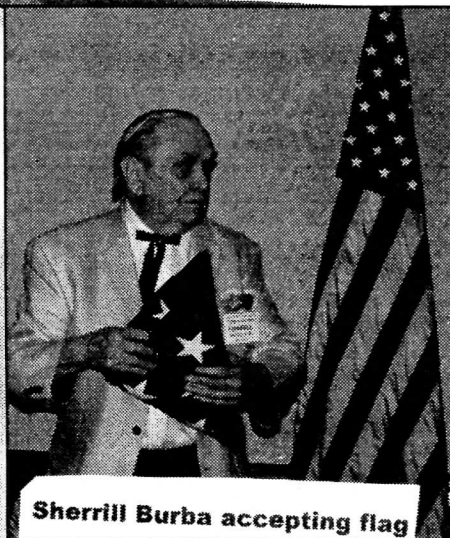
Dancing Dan Sjodin and the band



Joyce Busroe



Ken & Helen Wall



Sherrill Burba accepting flag



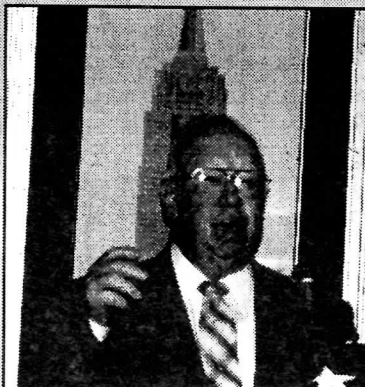
Dan Sjodin & Hank Dahlberg



Zola Williams



**Gertrude & Tony Siller
Jerry & Ann Whiting**



**Al Martin leading singing
Memorial Breakfast**



**Magician(Bill Fulton) at
Buffet Dinner**



Bob Hanson, Glen Bell, Bill Devore



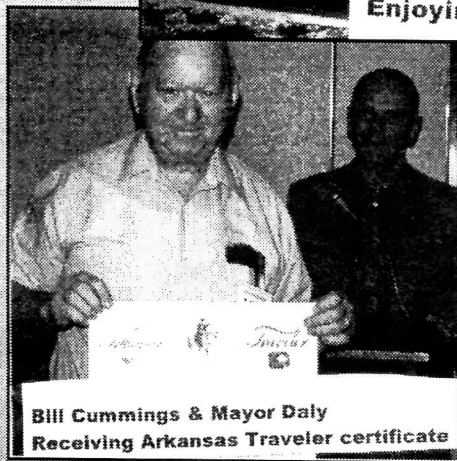
More Photos 2003



Enjoying the band



Woody Woodyard & Bob Benson

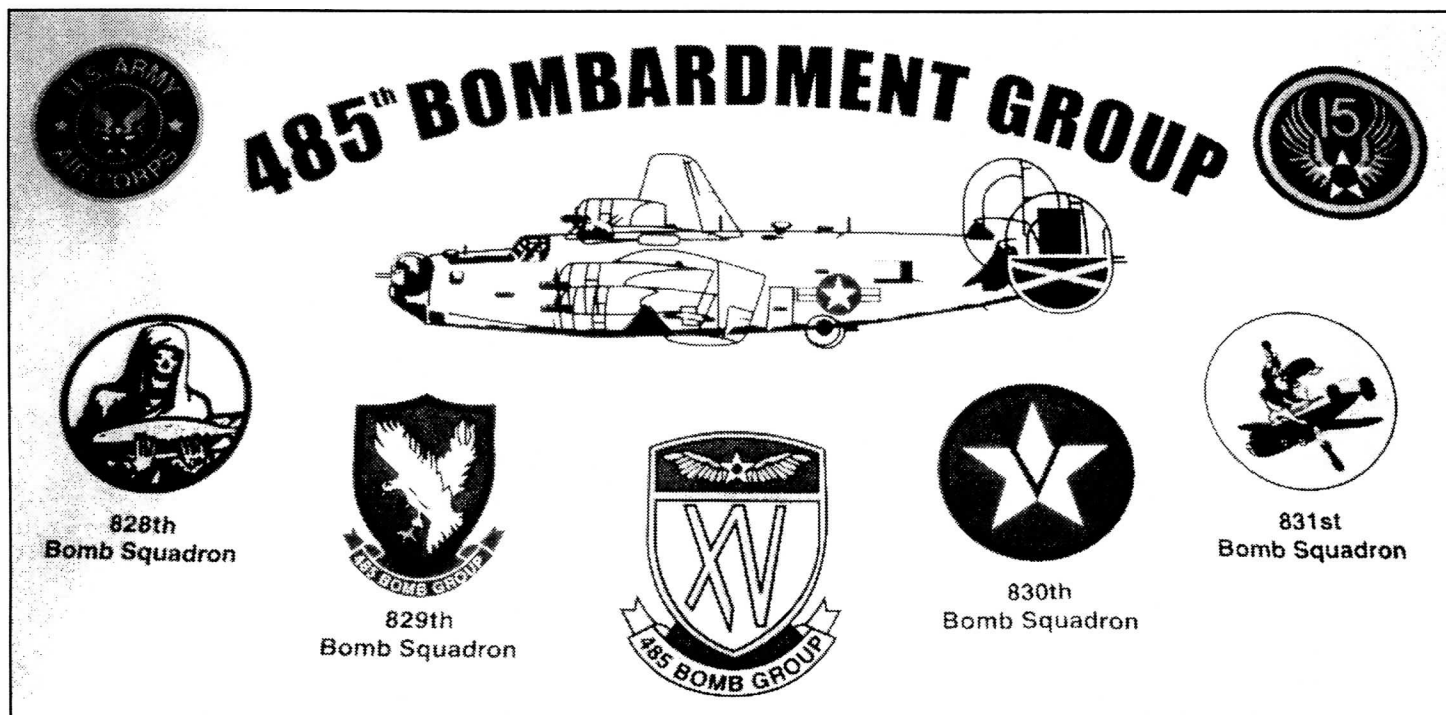


**Bill Cummings & Mayor Daly
Receiving Arkansas Traveler certificate**



**Joyce Sortomme at Riverwalk
Arkansas Razor-Back**

The NEW 485th Banner



Thanks to the Swann family we have a new beautiful 485th banner. After the reunion in St. Louis the 485th banner disappeared and all efforts to locate it failed.

Last year (2002) at the Group meeting Neal Swann, the son of Everett H. Swann, 1st Sgt. of the 830th Squadron, made us an offer that we couldn't refuse. He said he would have a new banner made up at no cost to the group. Neal's son, Jason Swann, who has an

art and logo company took on the project. Jason came up with a new layout to give the banner a fresh look. The committee thought it was very attractive and gave their stamp of approval.

Mary Swann, widow of Everett, presented the banner to the group at the Saturday meeting. A big thanks to the Swann family.

Dr. Maurice Priver

Your editor received an e-mail recently in regard to Dr. and Mrs. Maurice Priver. It was written by their children to our 485th secretary, Fran Fowler, and will be of interest to everyone that remembers Dr. Priver as the group flight surgeon.

Dear Friends,

We are willing to share recent events in the lives of our parents, Maury and Cecile Priver.

In late December, we helped them move into Belmont Village, a fine assisted living section located just two blocks from the entrance to the Hollywood Bowl on Highland Ave.

Of course we miss "the house on the hill" but they are adjusting nicely. It would mean so much if you could drop them a line. They love getting mail.

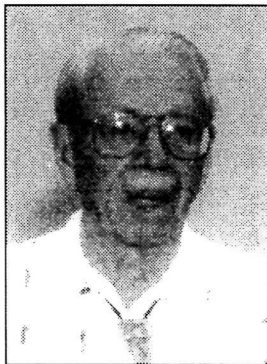
At 98, Maury continues to amaze us and his curiosity and

sense of humor are in full gear. While Cece's memory is diminished, she revels in the joy of the moment.

Thanks to all for making their life passage a graceful one. Their address is:

Dr. Maurice and Cecille priver
Belmont Village
2051 North Highland Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90068
Phone: (323) 845-9916

To all that remember the good Doctor, know a note or call would make his and your day.



**Henry W. "Hank"
Dahlberg's Video
of WWII**

B-24's in Italy A Personal Video

*Hank Dahlberg talking
about video*

Editors Note:

Hank will still mail these to you—those who have not acquired one will enjoy seeing how SUNNY Italy looked during our '44 and '45 experience.

The total price (including shipping and handling) is \$10.00 and may be sent to:

**Henry W. Dahlberg
6191 S. Southwood Drive,
Centennial, CO 80121**

(303) 738-8927

**Allow 2-3 weeks
for delivery.**

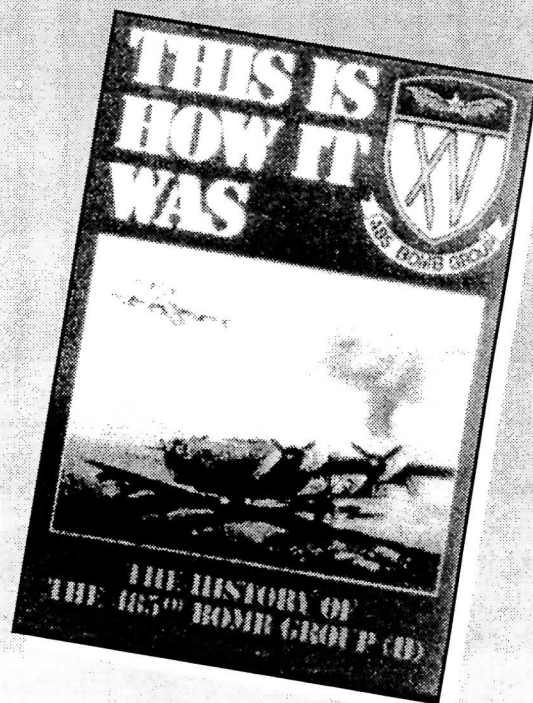
THE BIG STORY!! BREAKING NEWS!

A second printing of "This Is How It Was", the history of 485th Bomb Group (H) has been completed!

However, only 300 copies were printed and are being sold on a first come basis.

Don't be left out! Order today!!

Call Southern Heritage Press 1-800-282-2823 and have your VISA or Mastercard ready. The price is \$39.95 plus \$5.95 for shipping and handling for a total of \$45.90.



Editors Note:

Just talked to Southern Heritage Press. They have less than 100 copies left—last printing! Order now for your family!

Southern Heritage Press

Fine Book Publishers

Wats 1-800-282-2823
Fax 1-727-824-8898
E-mail: soherpress@aol.com

BYRON KENNEDY II
Publisher
Post Office Box 10937
St. Petersburg, Florida 33733

Editors Note:

There are still some of these books in Jerry Whiting's stock. They make great gifts for children and friends. All data is in article to order and price.

I'm Off To War, Mother, But I'll Be Back

by Wayne B. Whiting and Jerry W. Whiting

This is the story of a WWII tail gunner, told through excerpts of more than 200 letters he wrote to his mother. It is also the story of the last six months of the European Air War, as seen through the eyes of one 485th Bomb Group airman, as he tries to keep his promise to his mother to return safely. Included are the following stories:

- The story, told from the beginning to the end, of one of the few 485th B-24's that survived 100 missions.

- The tale of survival of one airman who was shot down over enemy territory, but eluded the Germans and returned safely to Italy with his copilot nearly six weeks later.

- The unique relationship that the 485th had with the 332nd Fighter Group, the famed Tuskegee Airmen, resulting from bad



weather. (Included is a touching letter from the 332nd to the 485th.)

- The saga of one of the last crews shot down over Europe, on the 485th's final mission to Linz, Austria.

- The capture of an ME-109 pilot and his plane by a 485th pilot.

- The miraculous account of the navigator who survived after being blown out of his B-24 and falling 10,000 feet without a parachute.

Countless interviews went into the making of this book. Official 485th Bomb Group records were used to verify the information, as well as diaries, escape/evasion reports, and newspaper documentation of events at that time. The Foreword was done by Sammy Schneider, 485th Bomb Group Historian. The 178-page paperback book includes 30 photos, including several that were not previously published.

For your copy send a check for \$14.95 + \$5.00 shipping and handling to: Jerry Whiting, 2576 Fox Circle, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

At Last Squadron Patches!

Squadron patches of the 485th Group are impossible to find unless they are custom made. Thanks to Neal Swann, son of Everett H. Swann, 1st Sgt. of the 830th Squadron they will be available the first of May. He is having patches produced for each of the four squadrons, the 485th Group and the 15th Air Force.

These are not the little shoulder patches, but will be 3" diameter circles. These emblems will be as close to the real thing as possible.

They will be embroidered and made of a durable cloth with backing so they can be sewn or glued to the front of a bomber jacket or wind breaker or mounted in your WWII scrapbook.

Dr. Swann is not interested in making a profit so he will sell them dirt cheap; \$5.00 each, which includes mailing. Patches will be available at the reunion in Washington, D.C. or they may be ordered after May first by sending your check or money order for the

patches (\$5.00 for each patch) to:

Neal Swann

18917 Spring Valley Road
Plymouth, CA 95669

If the whole lot of six patches is ordered the price will be discounted to six patches for \$25.00 (prepaid).

The 15th AF was deactivated recently so this may be the last chance to obtain and keep a bit of the 485th Bomb Group history.

JOURNEY'S END — MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Akin, Jr. Jess.....2003 828th
Anderson, Roy.....2003 829th
Bacon, Malcolm.....2004 830th
Balogh, John A.....829th
Birch, Ernest W.....1981 830th
Blevins, Luther Kenneth.....2003 828th
Bowling, John W.....2002 829th
Brinkman, Lloyd.....1994 830th
Carroll, Charles.....1996 829th
Chaffin, Frank.....2003 831st
Cherry, Howard.....2003 HQS
Cooper, Thomas E.....2003 831st
Cristaudo, Anthony.....829th
Dodea, George.....2003 828th
Dusenberry, Arthur V.....2003 831st
Espensade, Robert.....2003 831st
Foran, LaVern "Bud".....
Fulton, James.....2003 828th
Gibson, Burton.....2002 830th
Goglia, Michael.....2002 831st
Gomez, Martin R.....1973 829th
Grandoni, Aldo.....2002 830th
Harkenrider, William.....829th

Hoosier, Fred.....2001 831st
Jenkins, Bailey F.....2003 828th
Johnson, William M.....828th
Jordan, Bloyce F.....1981 830th
Knight, Marshall.....2002 830th
Kohlhorst, Herbert.....2003 830th
Krick, Melvin G.....829th
Lancier, Frank.....2002 829th
Libbert, Ralph J.....2003 829th
Lober, Walter.....2003 829th
Lonerger, Raymond.....2002 830th
Lubanovich, Edward P.....1959 831st
Mack, Carl.....2003 829th
McDowell, Tom.....2002 828th
McFadden, James.....828th
Meek, William R.....1994 829th
Monroe, Roger.....2004 828th
Morrone, Joe.....2002 828th
Nauman, Bryan.....2001 831st
Newby, Leroy W. "Ted".....2002 828th
Patterson, Clive K.....2000 831st
Plesnarski, Stanley.....2003 831st
Rowland, Lloyd.....2002 830th

Schames, Bernard.....2002 830th
Selders, Rollin F.....829th
Sheppard, Harold.....HQS
Smith, Arthur L.....2002 829th
Swedryk, Michael.....2002 831st
Tavener, Fred.....2002 830th
Thomas, West.....2003 829th
Thompson, Albert V.....2003 830th
Tinney, Harlan.....2003 831st
Tomhave, Col. John P.....HQS
Tunstall, Francis P.....2002 830th
Wabel, James E.....829th
Wade, Robert W.....2002 830th
Waters, Fred.....829th
Weisel, Edwin.....2002 830th
West, Thomas M.....2003 829th
Weyland, Kerney.....1999 828th
Wilcox, Maurice.....2003 830th
Wilson, Paul.....2000 831st
Wisner, John.....2002 829th
Zarrchowiz, William.....828th
Zorena, Orest.....2002 830th

COOK	POP ARNOLD	CORNETT	CAIRNS	NETT	SAMMY
HANCOCK	SORTOMME			MONROE	PARLI
BUNDY	TOWERS			ICK	LASSEIGNE
FOWLER	HUCKEY	SIMS	TRINCHE	AKINS	HERRINGER
WOODYARD	COTTERMAN	GEYER	CARLSON	SHELOR	KEELE
ROBERT BAKER	ANDERSON	BROWN	LLOYD ARNOLD	CHOATE	BENSON
TUNSTALL CREW 45	GREENWOOD CREW 45	ROFIELD CREW 45	RICHMOND CREW 45	FROHLING CREW 45	SJODIN
OLIVER CREW 45	DYER CREW 45	COTTINGHAM CREW 45	WESLEY CREW 45	TOWNE CREW 45	SWANN
CATHCART CREW 35	McGEHEE CREW 35	ROEHN CREW 35	LINDSAY CREW 35	WOLF CREW 45	FUNDING
BIG ALICE FROM DALLAS CREW 24	SKELTON CREW 24	KOPCHA CREW 24	HUBER CREW 24	FURGUESON CREW 24	LONG CREW 24
BEHUNIN CREW 24	JAY BAKER CREW 24	WILLIAMS CREW 24	CARTER CREW 24	CAMDEN CREW 24	HADEN
BROKAW	ABBOTT	WHITEMAN	HALL	MORGAN	SCHLICHTER
HANSEN	HICKMAN				

PERSONAL TILES

15th Air Force Wall - March Field, California

Personal Tiles can still be made and be set at our 485th plaque on the 15th AF Wall. The cost is \$50.00 for one line of 20 spaces and \$75.00 for two lines of 20 spaces. here are two examples of tiles that have been set on our island

MGEN WALTER E ARNOLD
CMD 485 BOMB GP POW

CPT ROBERT B SKELTON
PILOT CREW 24 829 SQ

To order a tile, send the lettering to me with no more than 20 spaces for each line.

Warren D. Sortomme, 3490 Turquoise Lane, Oceanside, CA 92056-4866, (760) 945-8439, Sortomme@dslextrreme.com

Check made out to: The March Field Museum Foundation
485th Vets Tiles - January 1, 2004

Headquarters - Walter E. Arnold, Robert M. Benson, Douglas M. Cairns, Ben B. Cook, John B. Cornett, S.W. Hancock, Hadley M. Huckleby, Warren Sortomme and Loyd F. Towers.

828th SQD - Jess Akins, Karl Anderson, Lloyd Arnold, Arlynn Brown, Horace Choate, George Ick, Lionel L. Lasseigne, Roger Monroe, Edward Nett, Clifford L. Parli, Sammy Schneider, Ben O. Sims and Albert Trinch.

829th SQD - Big Alice from Dallas - Jay T. Baker, Gerald Behunin, Earl L. Bundy, Robert J. Camden, Allen W. Carlson, Kenneth L. Carter, Joseph W. Cathcart, Arthur J. Fowler, Milton Funding, William G. Furgueson, Harvey H. Huber, San A. Keele, Michael I. Kopcha, Marvin H. Lindsay, William G. Long, Slayton M. McGehee, Donald P. Roen, Marion E. Shelor, Robert B. Skelton, Donald R. Whiteman, Wallace Williams and Irvin N. Wolf.

830th SQD - Robert E. Baker, Bill Cottingham, George Dyer, M. Greenwood, Chuck Heringer, Joseph H. Morgan, Bill Oliver, Joe Richmond, Paul Rofield, W. Schlichter, Everet H. Swann, Bob Towne, Fran Tunstall and R. Wesley.

831st SQD - C.A. Abbott, William Brokaw, Lynn Cotterman, William Geyer, R. Oliver Haden, Earl A. Hall, David T. Hansen, Robert W. Hickman, Dan Sjodin and Howard P. Woodyard.

GERMANY EDITION
Volume 1, No. 34
Tuesday, May 6, 1945

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations

EXTRA

NAZIS QUIT!

Doenitz Gives Order

Unconditional surrender of all German forces was announced yesterday by the German radio at Flensburg.

Grand Adm. Doenitz, successor to Hitler, ordered the surrender and the German High Command declared it effective, the German announcement said.

There was no immediate announcement from the capitals of the Allied powers, but Associated Press and Reuter correspondents assigned to SHAEF stated unofficially that the Germans had surrendered unconditionally to the western Allies and Russia at 0241 Monday (ETO time).

High German officers formally surrendered the German forces at a meeting in the big red schoolhouse which is Gen. Eisenhower's headquarters, the AP and Reuter reported.

Although there was no Allied announcement, the British Ministry of Information said that today (Tuesday) would be considered as V-E Day.

Not waiting for formal confirmation of the peace news, New York and battered London, beflagged as never before, began celebrations.

(Continued on Page 4)