

**FROM THE PREZ – RALPH DAVIS**

At the time of this writing, we have 51 registered for the convention. That seems to me to be better than usual for this time. Most of us wait till the last minute to make the reservation the same way we no longer buy “green bananas”. Donna has everything set up and the only thing she needs is attendees. This will be one of our better priced conventions as many things were included within the room price. That left room for a couple of extra and better events that you will enjoy when you get there. Remember, to get into the freebie drawing, you have to have been paid up by the 1st of August.

In doing some checking with Evelyn Cohen of the 2ADA I am beginning to believe that our trip to England should be in conjunction with them. They are scheduled for the first week in November to coincide with the dedication of the 2ADA Memorial Library. At that time there will be dignitaries, including some of the Royal members to officiate the ceremony. At that particular time, the best fares are available on the airlines out of Philadelphia to London. Transportation will be arranged for the total trip, including pick-up at the airport. I know we would like to have our own arrangements, but with the amount of response received to date, I believe it to be advantageous to join with the 2ADA on this trip. Evelyn advised me that she has a block of 70 rooms at the Nelson and once that is gone, the rest will be put in the Norwich and then the Stakis (not sure of the spelling). A \$50.00 per person deposit up front is required and is refundable only if the trip is cancelled. There are certain up front costs that are levied on her that she must cover. To attend with the 2ADA, one must be a member at that time. The cost is \$15 per year or you can join as a life member. The 2ADA, as time progresses, may be our source of get together in the future. My pet peeve with their conventions is the time, they always do it over a Holiday and my Holidays are spent with the family. There seems to be little interest in changing the time periods. However, as time progresses even I might be talked into changing. Evelyn can be reached at 1-215-632-3992 and her address is Evelyn Cohen, Apt. 06-410 Delaire Landing Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19114. \$15 is the annual rate, but I am not sure about the life membership, so give her a call if this is your choice.

In addition to the trip to England, I would encourage one and all to join the 2ADA as support to Walt Mundy, our Group VP to the 2ADA. He has followed well in the footsteps of Ralph Elliott and progressed the 467th as one of the leaders within the 2ADA. The 467th was recognized by 2ADA for its support in the Bronze B-24 effort and Walt was recognized for his 3 year outstanding service. Walt finds himself on many committees and within work efforts that promote the 467th as well as the 2ADA. Our Colonel Shower is a staunch supporter of the 2ADA and our group membership support would show our backing and support to him.

If the response to England is small and there is sufficient interest in having a 467th convention in 2001 in addition to the trip to England, I would consider discussing going back to Savannah to visit the 8th AFHM, as we now have so many things that we have or are putting into the museum. The model of the Witchcraft, the plaque addressing the Witch with Colonel Shower and the ground crew named, our memorial monument, the bombardier sponsorship identifying the 467th as having the best bombing record in the 8th AF, the plaque sponsored on the Wall of Valor for Col. Shower, our mission book and many other interesting things at the always up-dated 8th AFHM. We can address this at the next business meeting in Tucson.

The 467th was recognized by the 8th AFHM as a “Gold Level” supporter and placed on the Sustaining Donors Wall in the museum. We were also presented a certificate of acknowledgment identifying this level of achievement. I will bring it to the convention in Tucson.

The Memorial Dedication Ceremony at Barsham, Suffolk, England went off well. Mervin Shank and his wife Mary were in attendance. Denis Sporle led this effort in a magnificent manner and saw the project to a successful end. The 467th members should be very grateful for the life long efforts in behalf of the 467th that this gentleman has displayed throughout the years. A living memorial now exists that will forever identify the connection between Barsham and the 467th.

The 467th Monument at the 8th AFHM should be ready for dedication in September. The exact date is not known at this time, but if anyone is interested in attending, you can call the museum at 1-912-748-8888, ext. 104 and ask for Pam or actually anyone answering there would know the dedication date. I have advised her that she may have calls regarding the date. Col. Shower's plaque identifying him as Commander of the 467th and listing the squadrons will be on the next Wall of Valor to be constructed. It may also be up by September, but not guaranteed. I will bring a photo of it to Tucson. The Bombardier display sponsorship has been completed and there the three lead Bombardiers are recognized for their efforts along with the overall effort of the 467th Bombardment Group (H) at Pointe de Grave on the 14th of April 1945.

Things are proceeding well for the convention in Dayton, Ohio in 2000. The Board of Directors have approved it and all that remains to have it here is the approval by the membership at the Tucson meeting. Arrangements had to be started early as there were many organizations coming to Dayton in 2000. The room rate will be \$69.00 plus tax per day for 1, 2, 3 or 4. With meals, transportation and events the convention cost will be around \$250.00 per person. All meals are included except for the lunch on Friday and Saturday which will be on your own at the Museum or the Shopping area. Other areas of interest, which we will discuss at Tucson is THE ART INSTITUTE (inspired by an Italian villa, and holds its place as one of the finest galleries in the US. It features contemporary art, notable examples of European painting and an outstanding East Asian wing. Also rating rave review is the “Experientcenter” participation gallery) and CARILLON HISTORICAL PARK (A 65-acre park offering more than 50 historical and educational exhibits. Among the sites at this unique outdoor museum is the original 1905 Wright Flyer III, restored under Orville Wright's direction and now a National Historical Landmark. Also here is a replica of the Wright Cycle Company where in 1903, the Wright Brothers built the worlds first successful powered airplane). There are other areas of interest, but these were believed to be the most significant.

The efforts to obtain the Presidential Unit Citation for the 467th Bombardment Group (H) has progressed with ?Senator McClain to the point that Vince LaRussa and I have prepared a petition, that was signed by all Directors, to be sent to Chairman Floyd Spence of the National Security Council and to Senator John Warner of the Senate Armed Services Committee to ask their assistance to Senator McClain in obtaining the award. Copies of the petition and the paperwork involve are also being targeted towards the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars asking them to assist with whatever pressure they can muster. This appears to most of us as our last ditch stand. If this approach does not bring fruit, then we believe it is time to stop the effort. This total negative effort was brought about by one individuals initial decision and his refusal to change that decision even though evidence and precedence had been established that truly substantiated the award.

This comment was on our E-Mail: Did you take color Kodachrome slides during WWII? Well known air historian Roger A. Freeman is seeking color slides for reproduction in a book depicting Army Air Force service in the European and Mediterranean theatres of war. Roger is perhaps best known for his “Mighty Eighth series of books, as well as definitive titles on WWII US aircraft including the B-17, B-26 and P-51. He has also published books about the 9th Air Force. Any subjects – personnel, aircraft, combat or scenes around the bases. Willing to pay for first-generation duplicates or will copy originals. Do you have Kodachrome slides that have been tucked away in a draw for fifty years? Dig them out, they are now history. E-mail contact below and I will pass on the details. Thanks! Norman Wells. (pp. Roger A.

**SECOND AIR DIVISION EXCOM – WALTER J. MUNDY**

The Second Air Division Convention at the Hyatt Hotel in Austin, Texas was attended by 616 Veterans and guests. 32 of those were from the 467th B.G.. There are currently 6,447 members and 646 of that total are Life Members. We lost about 500 members last year. Attending the Convention from the 467th were:

Geoff, Terry, Ken, Marta, Chris and Andrew Gregory

Tex and Mary Ellison

Col. And Charlotte Shower

Joe, Helen and Joe Jr. Dzenowagis

Walter and Ruth Mundy

Fredrick and Mrs. McCarty (a first timer)

Phillip and Cille Day

Ralph and Yvonne Elliott

Jack and Lucile Stevens and Mavoureen Harshman

John and Cathy Upp and Ron, Carol, Britney and Kirsten Ham

Special Guests:

Hilary and Jill Hammond

Hilary is a Governor on the Memorial Trust Board and a guest of Geoff and Terry Gregory.

The Executive Committee acted on the following items of business: Voted to eliminate the position of Vice President, Communications. Voted to eliminate the editorial review Committee, leaving the editorial review with the Journal Editor. Voted to continue the current status of the 3rd Strategic Air Depot that only allows members that served on 2ADA bases. The 3rd SAD Association, President made a presentation requesting that the 3rd SAD integrate with the 2nd ADA. This was the third such request, however, the fact remains, the 3rd SAD was never a part of the 2ADA. Voted to form a committee to plan a program to solicit the Membership to Bequest \$1000.00 or more to the 2ADA Memorial Trust from their estate upon their demise. The Committee selected was: Geoff Gregory – Chairman, Bud Korndyke and Walter Mundy. Voted to form a committee to adopt the National Foundation For Military Heritage database to the Second Air Division.

Each Group would provide its records and be responsible for the cost of computerizing the records of the Group. All the data will then be in a standard (CD) form and would be located in appropriate archival repositories. The Committee appointed is:

Dick Butler 44th B.G. Chairman

J. Fred Thomas 392nd B.G.

Walter Mundy 467th B.G.

Jim Davis 489th B.G.

Stan Katz 389th B.G.

Jim Reeves HQ. G

Arlo Bartsch Consultant

It should be noted that the 44th B.G. database is nearly complete and is contained on a CD. It is my intention to schedule a presentation at the 467th Convention in Tucson. We will have a lot to talk about in Tucson, I urge every member of the 467th to attend. I was saddened to hear that George Dong has passed away. It is up to we survivors to insure that those who gave their lives will never be forgotten even after we are gone. They will always be recognized in the 2ADA Memorial Library and at the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum. Think about it! What a glorious and interesting life, we of the Greatest Generation have had. Fifty plus years of ups and downs after WWII. May we all meet again and again.

**MISCELLANEA BY PHILLIP G. DAY**

Writing this at the end of June as Bob and Ralph Davis are going to get this edition of POOP out a week early. No big deal!

Miss Cille and I went to the 49th Reunion of The Second Air Division Association held in Austin, Texas over the Memorial Day Weekend. We enjoyed the activities and especially seeing 2ADA members we had not seen since Colorado Springs, our last 2ADA reunion. Twenty-four 467th people there out of the total 624 in attendance. Walt and Ruth Mundy had the Association Day Room next to theirs and it was used by all. Jeff and Terri Gregory had Hilary Hammond, newest Governor of the Memorial Trust Board of Governors, for a week in Texas. He spoke to our Group banquet of the Norwich Library progress. Terri made our tables most attractive with the Group sign and souvenirs for the ladies and boutonnières for the men. Good was fair to excellent. As I wrote above, we enjoyed the whole of it but won't attend another unless in conjunction with the 467th. I want to thank Henry "Tex" and Mary Ellison for being so helpful to us, especially Cille as she tended to me.

We have had nearly 12" above average rainfall to date. This caused Miss Cille's garden plantings to be delayed until the week after Good Friday. Cool weather, especially nights, slowed the growth of her plants and it wasn't until early June when we started getting tomatoes' although small at first, egg plants, bell peppers and a few yellow crook neck and zucchini squash before the borers killed the vines. We have also had nesses of green and yellow wax beans. Trading Italian eggplant for cucumbers with a neighbor. And a good crop of okra. I eat it boiled with a bit of butter on it. Slimy but oh so good. It appears it will be a fairly successful garden for the year.

Our pear tree which last year had none, this year is overloaded and we have to pull off many of them to keep from losing whole limbs of them. Many folks standing by to pick ripe pears as they are the best for preserves, for pies and to make pear relish of "chow-chow". Peeling and grinding is a lot of work but the end result is great eating especially on black-eyed peas with cole slaw.

Did several studies for children, nephews and nieces for "what did you do in the 467th?". It is very satisfactory to be able to let the inquirers know of their kin, it would be more satisfactory if all of them would acknowledge their appreciation of my and others of you helping to send them the information.

We will make our reservations for Tucson right away. Before Austin I had planned a leisurely drive out there, to have a car to go post-convention sight-seeing but now the plan is to fly and rent. To and from Austin was tough on these old folks. Don't think I am over it yet.

Al "Wabbit" Welters and Mary, where are you? I wrote you in January of February with some Air Force archival material on "Wabbit", it is not like you to not answer. I fear the worst. An unlisted phone number has also kept me at bay. Write Please!!!

Be of good cheer. Love one another. Life is Good.

**BARSHAM MEMORIAL – PERRY WATTS**

(Reprinted from the Eastern Daily Press, Monday, April 26,1999.

Kathryn Cross)

They were young men thrown into an adult world of war and oppression.

On April 22, 1944, in an American Liberator bomber over the Waveney Valley, 10 such men were just minutes from their bas near Norwich after a bombing raid over Hamm in Germany.

But on Saturday there was just one survivor to return and pay homage to his fellow crewmen who paid the ultimate sacrifice that night.

For Mervin Shank, 77, the emotion at the unveiling of a memorial at Barsham, near Beccles, where his plane went down, was almost too much.

As the names of the seven who died that night and two who died on later missions were read out, he choked back the tears and said, “The faces of my crewmen are probably smiling down on us now.”

The unveiling outside the village hall and schoolhouse was the realization of a dream for villager

Denis Sporle, who as an 11 year-old, had witnessed the dogfight involving German Me410’s.

The Liberator, crewed from 791st Squadron of the 467th Bombardment Group, was hit by a volley of shells and crashed into a field.

Six men, including the pilot, died in the crash and a seventh died when he became detached from his parachute.

Mr. Sporle decided those courageous young men must be remembered. He launched a fund-raising drive and made contact with Mr. Shank, now living in Ohio.

At the service Mr. Sporle read out a letter of thanks from

Marvin Ralph Davis, President of the 467th Bombardment Group Veterans.

Mr. Shank placed a wreath of poppies at the foot of the memorial and prayers were lead by the Rev. Anthony Hindley, rector of Ringsfield.

Few at the service had met Mr. Shank but one who had was Russell Ulph. He and his brother, Frank, had helped the wounded parachutist into their farmhouse at Weston 55 years earlier.

“I was about 14 and we were watching the planes,” he said. “He came down in a parachute and got tangled in a hedge so we had to help him and took him inside where our mother treated his burns with tea.”

Mr. Shank yesterday visited the Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum at Flixton, where he met Worlingham author Ian McLachlan who wrote a book, Night of the Intruders, telling the story of the crash at Barsham.



**LETTER TO THE EDITOR FROM MRS. CHRISTINE P. ARMES – NORWICH ENGLAND**

Dear Bob,

1999 Greetings from Norwich, Norfolk, Good health, prosperity and Happiness. Belated I know, but by no means less in sincerity.

Again belated, I refer back to our December issue, yet another “Great”. We turn to the back page, the “control tower”. Living just a couple of miles from Rackheath, I spend many quiet times beside our tower. Sad thoughts enter my mind, thinking of and it seems, hearing muffled voices of the long departed U.S. Airmen once stationed there. My thoughts ver sad looking at the now subsidence of the tower, though still somewhat standing proud in spite of her crumbling existence. If only we could have her back in our possession, when we could then show her how proud we are of “HER”. We would deck her walls with memorabilia of the wonders of the 467th B.G.. Their bravery during their fight for our freedom in WWII. Yes, “if only”.

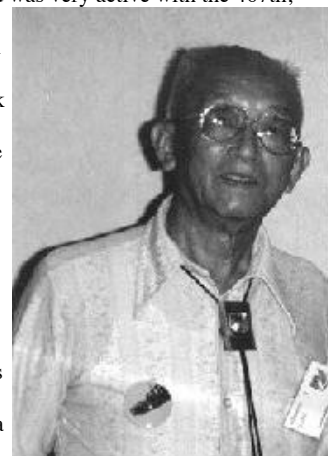
I recall my visit, (at the request of an ex 467th Pilot, DFC) with Mr. Bagshaw, owner of the land the tower stands on. For over two hours I spoke with him, I explained to him what it meant to us to have our tower and although he said he understood, also seemed somewhat sympathetic, I could tell from his body language, the ground plus the tower would remain his.

Br. Bagshaw, a very wealthy gentleman in his own right, therefore, as he stated to me, no sum of monies would move him. This together with his less than 5% interest in WWII, American Servicemen and such, I knew I was on a losing game.

(Thanks for the beautiful letter, hope all is well with you and all your loved ones. Bob Davis)

**IN MEMORY – GEORGE Y. DONG**

On April 26, 1999, George Y. Dong passed away. George, who never married, was in his 92nd year and was very active with the 467th, attending the many functions of the association. George was best known as an assistant crew chief to Joe Rameriz on the Witchcraft ground crew in the 790th Bomb Squadron. He was with the aircraft from Wendover, Utah until the end of the war in Europe. George and Joe Rameriz both flew home on the Witchcraft at wars end. George was born in Bakersfield, California. His father came from China to work on the railroads and later settled in Coronado, California, where he worked for the Spreckels family. George donated to the bronze B-24 and his name will be viewed by many on the plaque at the Air Force Academy. The B-24 model of the Witchcraft hanging at the Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum in Pooler, Georgia will also have his name along with Colonel Shower and the rest of the ground crew on the sponsor list. George will be deeply missed by all within the organization and our deepest sympathy goes out to his nieces, nephews and many friends.



**TUCSON CONVENTION – DONNA SISLEY**

On behalf of the 467th Bomb Group, my parents and I are looking forward to having all of you back in Tucson, Arizona for the 1999 Convention. September 30 through October 4. As you can probably see from the last newsletter we have scaled things down a bit in keeping with the realization that eight years ago when the group was here in Tucson everyone probably had a bit more energy. However, we are still planning a fun-filled four days with plenty of time left for socializing. There will be a large memorabilia room available during your entire stay so make sure you bring all of these momentos to share. Also available, will be a TV and VCR, a copy machine and a computer with e-mail capability.

The following information is in response to questions that I have been receiving. All of the meals are included in the \$225.00 per person convention cost, except for lunch on Friday when we are shuttling to and from the Pima Air Museum and the airplane boneyard. Food is

available both at the museum and back at the hotel. All breakfasts and cocktails in the evening are included in the \$75 hotel rate. All rooms are mini-suites with a living area. If you would like a sofa-bed in the living room you may request a room with one. The hotel has one semi-formal restaurant, one café and one coffee shop/bar type restaurant. Right next door to the hotel is a TGI Fridays.

The welcoming reception from 7:00 to 10:00 on Thursday night will include sandwiches and other finger foods, enough to make a full meal. We will be both inside and out on the patio for this evening.

The Pima Air Museum does have a shuttle to take you around after you get there if walking very far is difficult, or, if it is warm, you will probably all want to take advantage of the shuttles. This is a great museum for both the men and women alike and we will be running the bus back to the hotel periodically if you prefer to go for a shorter period of time.

The dinner on Friday night at the Tanque Verde Guest ranch is outdoors and you may want to bring a light sweater or jacket, though this time of year can still be fairly warm. We will be sitting on picnic tables and walking on dirt, so wear blue jeans and tennis shoes, or something else appropriate for that setting. This is a wonderful setting with a good possibility of seeing our desert javelina that night and other animals. The food is great with enough variety to satisfy almost any dietary needs. Bring your cowboy hat if you have one!

Again, on Saturday, you will want clothes for the outdoors for the 50 minute ride through beautiful Sabino Canyon. The ride through the canyon is billed as a "tram" but it is actually a shuttle type open top bus and there will be very little change in elevation. You will not be suspended in the air! Our luncheon following the shuttle ride will be in a western type cowtown restaurant so all your informal clothes will work for this as well.

The dinner on Saturday evening will be Mexican style, so informal clothes will also be appropriate for this evening. Sunday night will be a bit more formal if you would like and keep in mind that we will try and do a group photo.

If you are coming in early or staying late and would like help with setting up side trips around Tucson, please write or give me a call. If you have any special needs such as a wheelchair or electric cart, please contact me and we will do what we can to help set this up for you. If you would like to have a golf game set up please contact the hotel and as they have indicated that they will be glad to set that up for you.

All of our events are wheelchair accessible, but I would appreciate knowing if you will be coming with a wheelchair so that I can make sure all vehicles transporting us are properly equipped or so that we can set you up to be driven in a private vehicle.

If you are still not sure if you can come or not, please go ahead and make the hotel reservations now. You have until 48 hours prior to arrival to cancel. The last date for the hotel to hold rooms was August 1, but there should still be plenty available if you call immediately. There will be lots of photo opportunities so remember those cameras and if you have a bolo tie from our previous reunion throw that in, too.

I look forward to seeing all of you that I have met at previous conventions and meeting those of you that I haven't met before. My folks, Ralph and Yvonne Elliott, are also looking forward to welcoming all of you again to Tucson, Arizona.

For any of the special needs, please contact me at the below address or phone number, I can also be contacted by e-mail.

Donna Elliott

4407 E. Cerrada del Charro

Tucson, AZ 85718

520-299-2720 / (e-mail) dsisley@aol.com

#### **MAIL MEMORIAL FUND – PHILLIP G. DAY**

There were only 39 contributors to the fund in the period 03-01-99 through 06-30-99 who gave \$1873.00, a little less than \$48.00 per donation. The amount was sufficient to cover the cost of publishing POOP from GROUP 18-1 with an additional amount of about \$500 toward memorial projects.

POOP from GROUP 18-1 was mailed First Class as will be this edition so that delivery to you should be more timely and not at the whim of Third Class handling which has much leeway as to delivery. Also First Class provides for forwarding to change of addresses and notification back to the publisher of the new addresses. But this does not relieve you of notifying the Publisher when you change your address. If you want to receive POOP make sure you have a current address with the Publisher.

REMEMBER! NO DUES, NO DUNS, BUT PLEASE WE DO NEED THE SUPPORT OF EACH OF YOU. IT COSTS A BIT OVER \$1.00 PER ISSUE ~ TO SEND YOU POOP. HOW ABOUT \$5.00 EACH FROM YOU TO COVER A YEARS COST. IT WILL BE FEDERAL INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE. Send to 467th Bombardment Group (Heavy) Association. Ltd., 237 Pennsylvania Ave., Shreveport, LA 71105-3319.

Contributors in the period were:

Gordon C. Buchmiller	Capers A. Holmes
John R. Bucky	Fred E. Hudlow
Arthur A. Cook	Dean H. Johnson
William F. Cooper	Edward W. King
Mildred C. Cridling-AW	Roger A. Fox
Steven R. Daudelin-AH	Vernon O. Mason
Marvin Ralph Davis	William P. McGovern
Lloyd A. Davies	Walter J. Mundy
Raymond E. DeVita	G. Bruce Palmer
Howard W. Dye Jr.	Emil H. Peyrot
Katherine Elkewitz-AW	Floyd J. Pugh
Betty Elsen-AW	Mary E. Reynolds
Carl E. Epting Jr.	Louis P. Rhoads
L. A. Gilbertson	Robert L. Samuels
George B. Hallowell Jr.	Joseph Severance Jr.
John J. Hamilton	Robert M. Stone
Paul J. Hannafey	John W. Upp
Mack H. Harvey	Les Willis-AH
Allen F. Herzberg	Chester J. Zaleski

On behalf of the Association, and personally, I thank each of the listed contributors. Their donations are appreciated, they are appreciated.

**ADDENDUM ERATTA – VINCE LARUSSA**

There was an overprint of the Addendum Eratta Book and there are some available for \$5 a copy, including shipping and handling. This book has several corrections of mis-spellings, additional names, KIA – KILOD and cemetery listings. To obtain a copy, contact Vince LaRussa, 8570 N. Mulberry Dr., Tucson, AZ 85704; telephone (520) 742-3609, e-mail – vlarussa@flash.net.

**ADDENDUM – RALPH DAVIS**

When I received a copy of the Addendum, I scanned the document. If anyone is interested in a copy (it has the most complete list of members of the 467th), please let me know. There are 66 pages and it should be somewhere between \$5 to \$7, including shipping.

**TO OUR FRIENDS BY DAVID HASTINGS**

Greetings to all our dear American Friends.

On your Independence Day from the Hastings family. Your will all be in our thoughts and the “Stars and Stripes” will proudly fly from our flagmast at “Westering”. Perhaps we may even throw a tea bag in the stream – just like old times.

Your friendship means so much to us and you have enriched our lives so much.

The new 2nd Air Division Memorial Library is coming along tremendously and the Board of Governors have just selected one of the top UK Design Teams to plan the interior layout. They have already come up with several very exciting ideas after we briefed them to ensure that we have a truly Unique memorial to the 2nd Air Division, the best 2nd Air Division Memorial Library in the world, and also the ability to tell the story of the bravery, sacrifice and friendship of the 2nd Air Division to generations down through the ages. Joe Dzenowagis is as always being a great help with the planning.

Finally the latest news on the B-24 for the Microsoft Flight Simulator, modeled on “Witchcraft” should be available by fall.

Great to have Brian Mahoney stay with us recently and our best wishes to everyone at the Tucson Reunion – just wish we could be with you.

**TREASURERS REPORT**

Operating Fund 03-01-99 to 07-01-99

Operating Fund Balance 03-01-99 \$ 2,944.77

**INCOME**

Mail Memorial Fund \$ 1,873.00

Convention 98 Surplus 4,016.18

Group History Close out 742.00

Certificate of Deposit Cash Out 6,000.00

Certificate of Deposit Interest 125.00

Checking Account Interest 23.02

Sub-Total Income \$12,779.20

**Disbursements**

Terri Gregory – 2ADA Convention Decorations \$ 23.02

Walter Mundy-2ADA Convention Reimbursement 293.25

Walter Mundy-2ADA Day Room Expense 91.01

POOP from GROUP 18-1 1,329.00

8th AF Museum Historic Monument 4,409.00

8th AF Bombardiers Exhibit 4,950.00

Col. A. J. Shower Recognition Plaque 1,600.00

Sub-Total Disbursements \$12,745.26

Operating Fund Balance 07-01-99 \$ 2,978.71

**Other Funds**

32 Day Certificate of Deposit \$ 4,000.00

Total Association Funds \$ 6,978.71

**CONVENTION 1999**

The following is a list of those that have registered for the Convention in Tucson, AZ.

Ament, Harry and Phyllis McEwen, Robert and Ruth

Colvin, Walter McGovern, William P.

Davies, Lloyd and Rae Pugh, Floyd and Anne C.

Davis, Ralph and Doris Rigsbee, Vernon and Joan

Dunning, Herbert Schecter, Morton and Marilyn

Dye, Howard and Ann Scott, William and Joanne

Elliott, Ralph and Yvonne Sefca, Milan and Lucille

Elsen, Elizabeth and son Joe Shirk, John

Gregory, Geoff and Terry Sprague, Robert

Halpin, Edward D. Stephenson, Dore and Jerry

Harvey, Mack and Sybil Tormoen, George and Mavis

Horne, John and Nancy Wagner, Sam and Agnes

Johnson, Frank and Rita Watts, Perry and Jill

King, Edward and Theresa Wicks, Arthur and Jean

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORT**

### **GI MEMORIES OF THE ETO:**

This 5-1/4" by 8", 25 page booklet of cartoon like scenes of enlisted personnel activities is available for \$5.00 each from Allen J. Welters, 1418 70th St. E., Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077.

### **GROUP AND SQUADRON PINS:**

There are 467th, 788th, 789th and 470 sub depot pins still available. The cost of these are \$5.00 each and \$0.75 for packaging and handling. Send requests to Ralph Davis, 1143 Kenora Circle, Beavercreek, OH 45430-1101.

### **GROUP ROSTERS:**

Current rosters of the group are available for \$3.00 each including mailing. Send requests to Ralph Davis, 1143 Kenora Circle, Beavercreek, OH 45430-1101.

### **GROUP WINDOW DECALS:**

Decals are available for \$3.00 each, including mailing. Send requests to Phillip G. Day, 237 Pennsylvania Ave., Shreveport, LA 71101-3319. These are the decals that Bob Sheehan was selling.

### **WIDOW'S COMMENTS – RALPH DAVIS**

There are three additions to the roster this period. There are as follows: Ruth E. Bowman – AW (Jim), 400 S. Broadway Pl., Apt. 1308; Mary E. Reynolds – AW (Leroy), 1507 Williamsburg Drive.; Blanche Slocum – AW (Fredrick).

It is my understanding, from contacts, that there are some arrangements for some of the widows to attend this convention. We will deeply enjoy your attendance and encourage others to do the same.

### **READERS COMMENTS**

In the past I have received several favorable comments from readers such as:

Floyd A. Gilbertson, Raymond DeVita and Katherine Elkewicz-AW, along with their donations to the mail fund wer comments regarding how much they appreciated the POOP from GROUP.

Carl E. Epting Jr. along with his donation wrote. " I marvel at what the POOP staff can do with the low annual dues". Carl, there are no dues for the 467th membership, but we do appreciate your marvel at what we can do with only volunteer donations to the POOP. (Ralph Davis)

Charles C. Russell commented that with his wife home on dialysis, it keeps them pretty well tied down and they both truly enjoy reading the POOP each time it arrives.

If you have good or bad comments, please write. We can take it either way. We truly enjoy hearing from you and especially want your stories to put into the POOP.

### **BIT AND PIECES – BOB DAVIS**

Guess I'll start off by saying that unfortunately we're going to miss this year's convention. Monetary deficiencies (something about installing a new furnace and AC along with a new concrete driveway) have put the brakes on quite a few of our plans. So I hope you all enjoy it and I'm sure that we'll see you here in Dayton in 2000.

On a happier note, I'm proud to say that I'm going to be a grandfather sometime in August, guess that means that Ralph is going to be a great-grandfather, and Doris a great-grandmother (I bet they really appreciate me telling you this). Frankie is out spending what little money we have left on her grandbaby and I'm sure here in a about another month I'll be going crazy.

The web page has gone over 10,000 visitors and new pages are being built at this time. What I would like to request from the members of the Group is that you send in stories of your time at Rackheath. We could build a section to list these stories and preserve for all just what was accomplished during those times. I'm sure that quite a few of you have some most interesting stories that have only been told to family members, but never put down on paper for all to see. Now is the time to do it, as you know, none of us are getting any younger. It would be fascinating to here the stories from gunners, navigators, bombardiers, co-pilots, pilots, mechanics, ordnance personnel, and all other members of Bomb Group. Everyone on the base and associated with the Bomb Group made this one of the best Groups in history, so please share this with the world. Now is the time to do this, so that all the world can see just what you went through during those trying times, for not all of us where there, and we sometimes have trouble understanding just what the conditions were like.

I would like to apologize for taking so long on getting the E-Mail page updated and some of the pictures in that I have received, this time of year all the industrial plants around town are down for retooling and this is our busiest time, but keep checking the page and if you don't see them there get back to me and I will make sure that it all gets added in.

### **LOST SOULS**

"POOP" was returned from the following. Tell us what you know of them, try to locate them if they live in your area.

James B. Aldret

Richard D. Courington

Jan Mitchel \_ AF

John R. Munger

Buel E. Rose

M. Wilfred Smales

### **ROSTER ADDITIONS**

If any of the following additions to the roster live near you, give them a ring or drop by to see them. Don't let anyone of them not be welcomed into the Group.

Ruth E. Bowman – AW (Jim)

Jacquelyne Dong – AF

Donald J. Faford, Jr. – AF

Donald Howe – AF

Mary E. Reynolds – AW (Leroy )

William G. Scott

**REQUEST REMOVAL**

Margaretta D. Keller – AW  
David L. Copley – AF

**LAST POST**

Eugene A. Aichroth  
James L. Bowman  
Harold P. Coldman  
Geroge Y. Dong  
Paul Greenfeder  
Leonard J. King  
Thomas H. Murphy  
Neil Phillipson  
Leroy W. Reynolds  
Earl G. Sawyer, Jr. – AF  
Fredrick D. Slocum  
Boyd L. Woodis

**“May they go from Strength to Strength in the Life of Perfect Service in GOD’S HEAVENLY KINGDOM”**

**“GEE” BY JAMES F. KENNEDY**

Those of you who recognize the title, may think ‘What story can be written about a British navigational device?’ Well, it also represents “GEE”, what a flight I had in a B-24, my first.

I was a radar mechanic and had been in England for about one year, but never at one field long enough to get a ride, until I transferred to the 467th. This is where the “GEE” enters the picture. I believe it was in plane 458 we were getting non-operational while in flight but on the ground it was OK. I volunteered to go on a test run. That is where the “GEE” what a flight came about.

Naturally, I was not allowed to be in the nose at take off. After reaching the proper altitude, I crawled forward to the nose and sure enough the GEE was out, so I crawled back to the waist gun position and started to enjoy the ride. Next I felt a tap on my shoulder, it was the gunner. He was motioning for me to move over to his side and was pointing ahead. I looked where he pointed and saw two props standing still. I moved back to my former position and saw the same thing. It was not the last of the ride, on our way down the clouds closed in and I saw other planes caught in this fog. I often wonder how they missed each other. When we got down within sight of the ground, it was raining and at the end of the short runway men were shooting flares, but our pilot seemed to have trouble seeing. On the third landing attempt, he dropped the plane onto the runway and locked the wheels. We slid practically the length of the runway, like a sled on ice, but fortunately there was no accident.

When we landed the gunner came to me and asked “Weren’t you scared?”. My answer was, “Your parachute was laying on the floor along side of mine, I could see no reason to get excited”. The gunner then explained that his pilot was the talk of their profession from disbelief to fear, about his handling of his plane.







