



90th Bomb Group (H) (WWII)
The Best Damn Heavy Bomb Group in the World

“JOLLY ROGERS”

90TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION



REUNIONS

National Reunion, Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Alexandria Virginia October 15 through October 18.

President Filomena Berry, announces a change of venue. Transportation problems on Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, D. C. forced the change to the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Alexandria, Virginia where facilities are more conveniently located.

Cliff and Jean Smith cased the hotel and tell us, “It is very nice with easy access to the airport, Metro and Old Town Alexandria; much better than Bolling AFB would have been.” Website is www.holidayinn.com/axe-historic.

Final plans and registrations will be announced in the May issue of *Jolly Rogers*. Tentative plans are for three bus trips within the Washington area with the possibility of a tour of the White House. If that tour can be arranged those who go must have some form of picture identification, such as a valid driver’s license or a valid passport.

Eastern Mini Reunion, Continental Inn, Lancaster, Pennsylvania June 4th through June 8,

Hosts George and Alice Taylor moved the date of this reunion from Memorial Day weekend because so many persons have other plans.

Wednesday, June 5. Registration begins at 2:00 p.m.

Thursday June 5 Visit the National Christmas Center which houses many interesting displays. Lunch at Hershey Farms Restaurant (Family Style) is included. Attend Sight & Sound Theatre presentation of “Abraham and Sarah”.

Friday, June 6. Guided tour of Lancaster County Amish farmlands with stops at various points of interest including lunch at Lancaster County’s premier All-You-Care-to-Eat restaurant, Shady Maple. We may even visit Intercourse, Paradise or Blue Ball during the day.

Saturday, June 7. Trip to Reading Air show with lunch on your own at the airport. Numerous WW II, and other, vintage aircraft may perform. We suggest bringing lawn chairs or we may be able to provide them if requested in advance. **Saturday evening** the banquet will be held at the hotel.

To register for the reunion and make hotel reservations go to page 2.

Western Reunion, Holiday Hotel Suites, Tucson, Arizona May 7th through May 10.

Host Robert B. Hanley came through with plans for an informative and entertaining Western mini.

Wednesday, May 7. Registration 2 pm, Hospitality room 7:00pm -9:00 p.m.. Business meeting of the Western Executive Committee in the Catalina room at 6:00 pm.

Thursday, May 8. 9:00 a.m Gray Line Tour to Pima Air and Space Museum, including a tram tour with a docent to enhance the experience.

1:30 pm. Return to the hotel. Lunch on your own.

The hotel has three busses for local transportation 4:00 p.m. Hospitality room will be open.

Friday, May 9. 9:00 a.m. Gray Line Tour to downtown historical, Old Town Historical, Mission San Xavier Del Bac.

Saturday May 10. 9:00 a.m. General Group meeting. Place will be posted in Hospitality room.

3:00 p.m. Come and enjoy the wonderful group known as the **PRUNES**.

7:00 pm. Banquet with music.

During your free time, you may wish to take advantage of the hotel busses to go downtown and explore, eat or shop. If you wish to remain at the hotel there are a swimming pool, whirlpool and fitness facilities.

Turn to page 3 to register for the reunion and to make hotel reservations.

**90th BOMB GROUP EASTERN REUNION
JUNE 4, 2008 TO JUNE 8, 2008**

**Please complete this form and mail before April 30, 2008 with your check to:
George Taylor 108 Eddington Ave. Harrisburg, PA 17111 (717) 564-0355 email skippert3@verizon.net
GUEST(S)**

Last Name _____ First Name _____
Spouse, Friend _____ Your Phone # _____ Sqdn. _____
Your Address: City & Street _____ State _____ Zip _____

ACTIVITY FEES

All prices shown are per person; tips for both drivers and guides are included

Hospitality Room:	\$5.00	# _____	Amount \$ _____
Thursday, June 5, 2008 Christmas Center, Lunch, Sound & Sight Theatre	\$66.00	# _____	Amount \$ _____
Friday, June 6, 2008 Guided tour of Amish farmlands, Lunch	\$22.00	# _____	Amount \$ _____
Saturday, June 7, 2008 Reading Air Show	\$28.00	# _____	Amount \$ _____
Saturday Evening, June 7, 2008 Banquet at hotel	\$25.00	# _____	Amount \$ _____
Crab and Corn Chowder Soup	# _____	or Salad	# _____
Broiled Citrus Salmon	# _____	or Marinated Flank Steak	# _____
(Potatoes, vegetables and mini-chocolate sundae. coffee, tea or milk.)			

Sunday, June 8, 2008, Departure

Please make a copy for your records. Make your check payable to "90th Bomb Group Ass'n." Total \$ _____

**CONTINENTAL INN
2285 Lincoln Hiway East
Lancaster, PA 17602
Phone 717-299-0421, Fax 717-293-8512**

Special reunion rates: \$81 plus 11% tax per night—Single or Double Occupancy, including full hot breakfast (*gratuity not included*) from Wednesday, June 4 to Sunday, June 8, 2008.

90th Bomb Group/ Jolly Rogers
June 4-8, 2008
Reservation Request Form

My arrival will be on (day) _____, (date) _____
My departure will be on (day) _____, (date) _____
Name(s) _____ (Phone) _____
My address (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____
(Zip) _____

We will require a credit card guarantee or one night's advance deposit per room. Deposit Amount \$ _____. Please include a check made payable to "Continental Inn" or your Credit Card # _____. Exp. Date _____. Please reserve early. After May 4, 2008, we can confirm only on an "if available" basis at regular rates. **Travel by air to Philadelphia? Ask the hotel how to get to Lancaster from there.**

**90th BOMB GROUP WESTERN REUNION
TUCSON ARIZONA- HOLIDAY HOTEL & SUITES
MAY 7TH THRU MAY 10TH**

PLEASE COMPLETE THE TOP FORM AND MAIL WITH YOUR CHECK TO:
ROBERT B.HANLEY@ 1601 INDUS STREET, SANTA ANA, CA. 92707-5307

ACTIVITY FEES

REGISTRATION

Hospitality Room,- \$10.00 per person # _____ Amt. \$ _____

Dues—\$10.00 per member couple or single adult # _____ Amt. \$ _____

THURSDAY MAY 8, 2008

9:00 AM to Pima Air & Space Museum \$39.00 per person # _____ Amt \$ _____

FRIDAY MAY 9, 2008

9:00 AM Downtown Historical Tour/Old Town Artisans/
Mission San Xavier Del Bac \$37.00 per person # _____ Amt \$ _____

SATURDAY MAY 10, 2008

3:00 PM The **PRUNES**; \$15.00 per person # _____ Amt \$ _____

7:00 PM Banquet with music, \$ 42.95 per peson # _____ Amt \$ _____

Choice of:

1/ London Broil Pinwheels # _____

2/ Sauteed Chicken Piccatta # _____

3/ Chef's Choice Veg Dinner # _____

CHECK TOTAL \$ _____

HOTEL INFORMATION

RESERVATIONS: CODE BG9

By mail:

Holiday Hotel & Suites
4550 Palo Verde Blvd
Tucson, AZ 85714

By phone:

Direct 1-520-746-0061
Corp 1-800-465-4329
Fax 1-520-741-1170
Room rate \$89.00 + 12.5% tax
Check in 3:00 pm
Check-out 12:00 pm

Note of your confirmation # below:

Arrival by air at Tucson Airport

Complimentary Airport Shuttle

Driving Directions

I-10E, EXIT 264B on Palo Verde Blvd. left.
I-10W EXIT 264 onto Hotel Dr. Irvington, Right on
to Palo Verde N. left.

Amenities:

Complimentary full American Breakfast
Fitness facilities
Outdoor Pool
Whirlpool
Free guest parking in lighted lot.

FROM AUSTRALIA



DRAWING BY SGT. MUSUMECI

Our foreign reporter, Michael (Mickey) Musumeci, has furnished us with some very interesting items for this issue of *Jolly Rogers*.

First, you see a drawing Mickey sketched. It hangs in foyer of the Police Station at Lockhart River, depicting the 319th Squadron and Little Eva in their wartime role in Australia with a background map of the area in which the Squadron was active. In the lower left of the scene is a group of aboriginals with their arms outstretched to resemble the aircraft.

Next, is a painting by an aboriginal honoring the crew of Little Eva. If you can create an enlarged view of this painting, you will see that a signature appears in the lower left. We make it to be S. Jungala, DNG 903, QLD. By all means, check the background which seems to be somewhat of a photographic mosaic.

The final photograph is of the remains of the “Heavenly Body” that crashed during take-off on Boxing Day, 1942 (December 26). The pilot was 2nd Lt. Roy A. Kendrick. Here’s how it went according to Wiley Woods *Legacy of the 90th Bombardment Group*, p.31:

“As Kendrick was hardly airborne, his plane began to veer to the right: and he was suddenly flying through the branches of the trees lining the runway. His aircraft caught fire and plunged to the ground a few hundred feet to the right of the runway. Shortly the fire causes the bombs to explode and no one was seen to escape the raging fire.” One man lived about 1½ hours after being dragged from the fire, but the other nine were killed outright. Some of the wreckage remained near the crash site for decades and became a bit of a mystery until Sgt. Musumeci assisted in identifying it.



ABORIGINAL PAINTING



CRASH SITE OF "HEAVENLY BODY"

TAPS

These buddies, wives, friends and comrades-in-arms forever remain heroes.

William O. Rennhack, September 22, 2007.
400th Squadron.

Clifford L. Stupfel, November 8, 2007, 321st
Squadron.

***Jerome Richard (Dick) Kennally**, October
11, 2007, Group Headquarters.

***Sylvester A. Ostafin**, February 2, 2007, 320th
Squadron.

***Gene Wesley Arras**, June 16, 2007, 320th
Squadron.

***William A. Dubrowski**, May 6, 2007, 319th
Squadron.

***Michael J. Carr**, May 28, 2007. Our report in
the October newsletter did not contain this information.

***George Robert Edwards**, February 19, 2007,
319th Squadron.

Myron D. Knight, October 15, 2007, 319th
Squadron.

***Charles E. Decker**, June 22, 2007, 320th
Squadron.

Howard L. Rogers, September 4, 2007, 320th
Squadron.

***Gaines C. (Ted) Pitts** of the 19th Squadron
passed away on April 13, 2007.

*Contributed by Kenneth Sheats

***Ransom Joseph "Joe" Moore**, January 27,
2007, 319th Squadron.

***John "Jake" Prezalar**, October 11, 2007,
400th Squadron.

***Ralph Prado**, October 29, 2007, 320th
Squadron.

Edward E. Kelly, December 13, 2007, 320th
Squadron.

***John A. Randall, Jr.**, July 28, 2007, 400th
Squadron.

***Monroe W Copher**, November 26, 2007,
armor gunner in the 90th.

***Arlie Porter**, December 8, 2007, 320th
Squadron.

***Kenneth L. Gerlach** passed away on
November 12, 2007.

***Colonel Frank Mann**, September 12, 2007,
320th Squadron.

Elsie Bittie Hunt Rogers, December 31, 2007,
wife of Colonel Arthur Rogers.

Arnold (Arnie) Martinson. December 31,
2007, radar counter measures, Headquarters.

Beatrice Louise Westover. December 29,
2007. Wife of John Westover, photographer, 320th.

Howard Scott, July 19, 2007, 400th Squadron

JACK PELANDER REMEMBERED

Submitted by Bob Tupa

Jack H. Pelander passed away on August 10, 2007. Jack Pelander graduated from flight school in April of 1941. Upon graduation Jack applied to fly P40s in the Philippine Islands but was assigned as an instructor pilot instead. When his request for assignment with the Flying Tigers was turned down, Jack applied for B17 bomber training so that he could get into a combat unit. After completing B17 training Jack was assigned as a B24 pilot because they were in short supply. After checking out in the B24 Jack was assigned a co-pilot and crew at Topeka, Kansas. These crew members were all fresh out of school, with no over water flight training, little gun training, and no combat training. After flying one gun training mission in Topeka they were ordered to embark to Iron Range to join the 90th.

At Hamilton Field in California Jack was given a flight check of three takeoffs and landings in an unloaded B24 to determine if he could handle the aircraft. That same day they were briefed on how to

accomplish an over water flight. Jack's first takeoff in a fully loaded B24 was at 3 a.m. the following morning when they left for Hawaii. The aircraft they were supposed to follow never materialized. Several hours into the flight when it was time to transfer fuel from the bomb bay tank Jack was informed that his chief engineer, the only one who knew how to transfer the gas, was very sick and passed out. Jack directed his assistant flight engineer to get out the technical book which they studied. Their attempt to transfer fuel went wrong with gas pouring into the fuselage and the engines cutting out for lack of fuel.

At this point Jack decided to return to Hamilton Field. An hour into the return flight the chief engineer came to the cockpit, said he felt better, and transferred the gas. With the assurance of the flight engineer that there was enough gas Jack turned the plane around and headed for Hawaii. Fourteen hours and fifteen minutes into the twelve hour and forty five minute flight they

received a call from Hickam Tower asking for their position. They were two hours late. With fuel gauges showing empty and no land in sight Jack gave the order to prepare to ditch. No sooner had he given the order when his copilot Dave Emch spotted land ahead. They immediately nosed down the plane, reduced power, and let down to 500 feet to stretch out their time in the air. As the crew prepared to ditch, Jack requested from Hickam Field a straight in approach and made a good landing. As they came to a stop at the end of the runway all four engines cut out. They had run out of gas and had to be towed to Operations.

After a month of flying reconnaissance missions in Hawaii, Jack was directed to lead twelve B24s to Iron Range. Upon takeoff, the landing gear would not retract forcing Jack to tell the others to continue on while he returned to base. The landing gear was repaired and they took off the following day for Christmas Island.

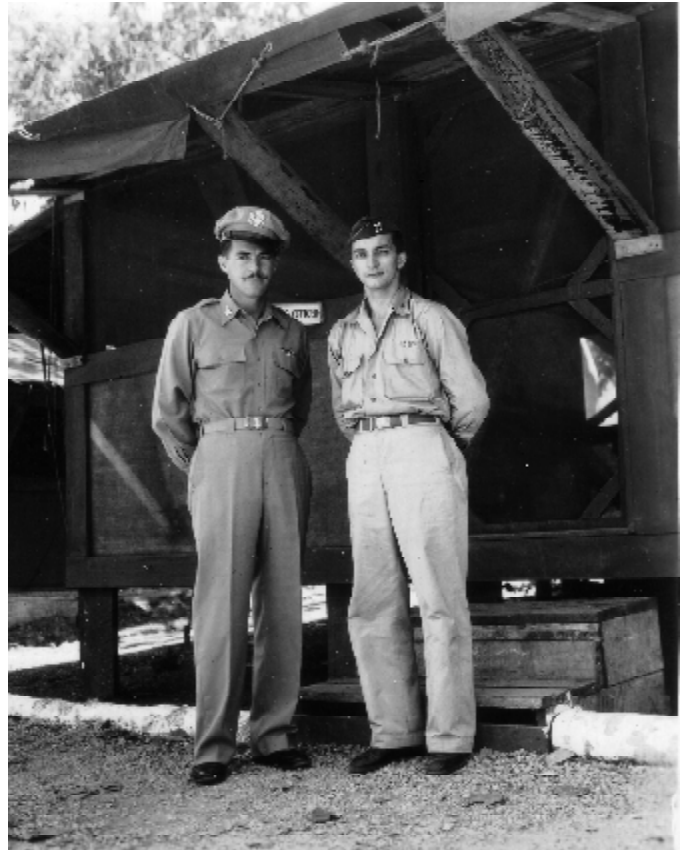
Upon finally arriving at Amberley Field in Australia, instead of servicing the aircraft, it was cannibalized for parts leaving it unflyable. While waiting a month for parts, the crew was cleaned out by the local poker group. All this just to get to the war.

Jack flew 53 missions, which was Group high at that time, and was made Squadron Commander of the 321st

On missions as squadron commander, Jack would wait for and provide escort for any crippled planes which he felt increased the pilot's confidence because they knew

the chance of their returning was enhanced. Jack

Pelander retired from the Air Force as a colonel in 1965.



Art Rogers and Jack Pelander

Jack was highlighted, along with Colonel Rogers and his crew, in the January 8, 1944, issue of The Saturday Evening Post in an article titled "Pacific Thriller" by Charles A. Rawlings.

THE CUSTOMERS ALWAYS WRITE

We received many more greeting cards than we can possibly acknowledge. Thank you from our heart.

In several persons wrote in response to our item in the October, 2007, issue about the future of the 90th Bomb Group Association.

"In my opinion, I believe that the...choice of continuing with non-veterans is a mistake. *Bob Schuhmann.*

"Keep up the good work, you're doing a fine job. The part you wrote about us all eventually going is sure up to date. If we can't get the (juniors) to take it over, maybe we should try the 90th Missile Wing since they inherited our (squadron) numbers." *Louis A Sylbester.*

..."concerning keeping the Association "going" (by) bringing in younger associate members. I think it's a great idea.. I have a son who jumped at the idea." *G. Henry (Hank) Basham, Jr.*

Note: Hank paid dues for his son.

(Customers, cont'd)

And this by e-mail. "We wanted you to be one of the first to know that we will be married this Saturday." (Feb. 2, 2008). *Bee Jay & Earl Butterfield* (We promise not to tell anyone.) RGF

NOTICES

DUES: Dues are \$10 per calendar year. We do not send bills. The date shown on the line above your mailing address on this newsletter indicates when your membership expires.. Make checks payable to 90th Bomb Group Ass'n. Mail them to 90th Bomb Group Ass'n., 8320 San Leandro Drive, Dallas, TX 75218.

If the letter W, H, or L is in the line above your address you need not pay dues.

The letter is being carried on John Barrett's web site at <http://jollyrogersweb.com> about a week after it is mailed. Notify us if you want an Email copy

DEADLINES: Items for publication must be here in Dallas by the 15th of February, May or October in order to be included in that month's issue.