

Ball of Fire QUARTERLY EXPRESS



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Nebraska native Kuroki will receive Murphy Award by Joe Duggan, Lincoln Journal Star



The "Most Honorable Son" will be honored again for his World War II service and efforts to fight racial discrimination.

Nebraska native Ben Kuroki, the only Japanese-American to complete bombing missions over the Pacific, will receive the Audie Murphy Award from the American Veterans Center. The award will be presented Nov. 6th at the center's annual conference in Washington, D.C.

"It really goes to veterans who went above and beyond the call during their service and provided a positive role model for people through the rest of their lives, Tim Holbert, executive director of the center, said Monday.

The center is a private non-profit organization that works to honor veterans from World War II to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The award is named after the most decorated soldier of World War II. Murphy received the Medal of Honor along with 32 other U.S. and other foreign citations for his service in the European Theater.

In 2005, he received the Distinguished Service Medal, the American military's third-highest honor. Two years later, his story was told in "Most Honorable Son," a one-hour documentary file broadcast nationally on PBS.

Now 93, Kuroki live in Camarillo, Calif., where he plays golf regularly. He plans to attend the Nov. 6 awards banquet in Washington, said Scott Stewart of Lincoln, a close friend of the Kuroki family.

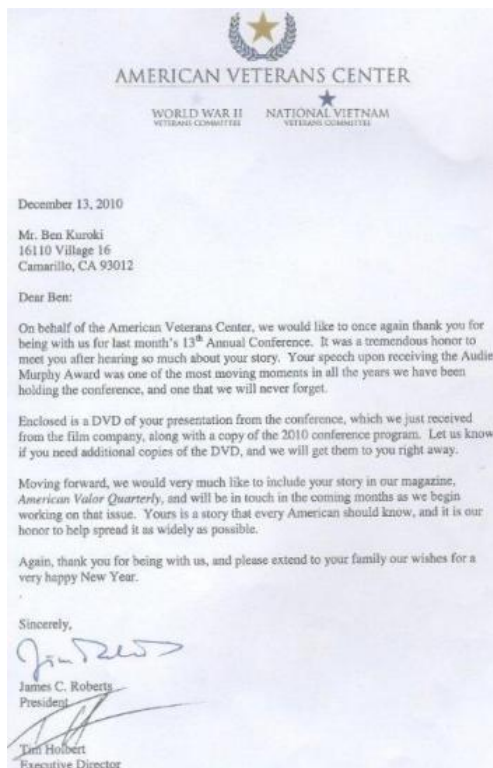
Reach Joe Duggan at 402-473-7329 or jduggan@journalstar.com

Text of response by Ben Kuroki for the Augie Murphy Award November 6, 2010.

Two years ago, I was honored twice in the same day at the White House and Smithsonian. I thought that was my last hurrah but I was wrong. At the ripe old age of 93, tonight, for sure, will be my last.

When Tim Holbert invited to speak, I accepted and enclosed a booklet of my war record. I was honored and did not expect anything more, so I was shocked when he later confirmed the prestigious Audie Murphy Award.

Words are inadequate to thank my friends who went to bat for me and bestowed many honors decades later. Without their support, my war record would not have amounted to a hill of beans.



I especially thank the late Cal Stewart and his son, Scott. They spent inordinate time and expense on my behalf. Cal battled three years to get my medals upgraded. I urged him to give up and so did our 93rd Bomb Group Association president. But Cal refused to quit and his mission to get me the Distinguished Service Medal was accomplished in 2005. Their booklets also opened doors, including four White House invitations in 3 years.

Albeit my war record, the dedication of fellow Americans is the real story of Americanism and democracy at its very best. And it is very gratifying to feel fully vindicated in my fight against surreal odds and ugly discrimination.

This award in the name of the most decorated veteran of World War II is truly incredible and very heartwarming. I deemed the Presidential Citation in 2008 as the most awesome moment in my life. Tonight's award is equally awesome because it comes from my military peers.

I thank Mr. Holbert for being the catalyst for this huge honor. I thank my better half, Shige Tanabe Kuroki, who has been sleeping with me for 64 years. And our daughter, Julie Cooney, for handling details and escorting us for every occasion.

God bless them. God bless the American Veterans Center. And God bless America. Thank you.

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President's Corner

Nothing brightens a cold winter day than the opportunity to make a new friend, especially a 93rd BG friend. Last month, my evening was brightened tremendously by my dinner with Guy Sapienza, the "little" brother of S/SGT. Joseph L. Sapienza, a veteran of the 409th Squadron who completed 23 bombing missions from Jun – Aug 1944. Guy contacted the 93rd as a result of our web page last July. We talked at length about Joe's adventures with the 93rd and agreed to meet when my travels took me to Northern Virginia. Although slow in coming, the meeting finally took place at new restaurant in Lorton, VA. All Guy wanted to talk about was his brother, Joe, and we had a great time discussing his service. As it happened, Joe served in the 409th during the same period as my uncle served in the 446th. In November when my uncle (1LT Robert W. Marx) and his crew were trained as a lead crew and joined the 93rd they were reassigned to the 409th.

What did Guy share? I'll give you the condensed version of a fascinating tale of service. Joe was born in 1922 in North Collins, New York completing high school in 1939. For three years, he worked as tomato canning factory superintendent employing 200 men with full hiring and firing authority. He joined the AAF in September 1942 and trained as an Armorer Gunner acting as a tail and waist gunner. He was assigned to the Lt. Robert W. McCulla crew who flew Satan's Sister (several planes carried that name). What a change from canning tomatoes to protecting a B-24! Joe was badly burned on July 17 by a piece of flak near Rilly LaMontagne north of Paris while bombing a German supply dump. The 93rd's mission report for the 17th states, "Moderate, barrage and tracking, accurate gunfire was encountered at bomb release line and at target. One person slightly wounded and 14 a/c received battle damage." Assigned as a gunnery instructor until war's end, Joe was discharged in Sep 1945. Joe returned home, married his childhood sweetheart, raised five children and lived a full life passing away in 2005.

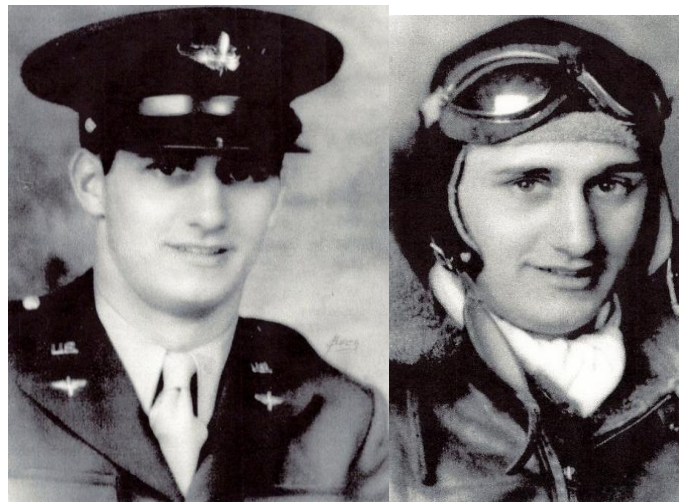
Guy provided copies of three photos and a sketch, "Battle Stations" drawn by Fred Fahnstock for the crew. At a recent reunion I remember seeing some other sketches by Fred but I can't remember who had them or which reunion. If you have other Fred Fahnstock drawings, please let me know. As you can see in the following sketch he was very talented and entertaining. The three photos include the McCulla crew photo and 2

different shots of S/SGT Sapienza. All appear somewhere in this issue space permitting. The Sapienza story is an important part of the 93rd's history and deserves our attention and focus. Our organization is dedicated to preserving every account and story we can so we can remember the sacrifice and service of these brave young men for generations to come.

We have two reunions this year. First, for the intrepid few, the 93rd will visit Hardwick, England, the Norwich Memorial Library, and participate in the Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony at the American Military Cemetery in Cambridge. Don Morrison and Colin Mann have put together a marvelous itinerary. Reservations are closed for the May trip. Second, Jim Root has the lead for our Tucson Reunion in October. Those plans are shaping up nicely so make your plans to attend! There are more details for your consideration elsewhere in this issue.

John Marx, President

S/SGT JOSEPH SAPIENZA, 409th BOMB SQUADRON



The individual photos of Joe Sapienza were taken sometime in the mid-1943 when he was in pilot training. When that did not work for him, he was re-trained as an armorer and gunner.

McCulla's Crew on Satan's Sister, 409th Bomb Squadron, 93rd Bomb Group, Based at Hardwick UK June - August 1944



Top L - R

Lt. Alfred F. Butler 0697487 Bombardier
Lt. Warren C. (Denny) Dennison 0701408 Co-Pilot
Lt. Stanley R. Sadler 0712675 Navigator
Lt Robert W. (Mac) McCulla 0727509 Pilot

Samuel F. Rhinehold 6898371 Waist Gunner
S/Sgt Joseph L. Sapienza 12166846 Waist Gunner /
Armorer
T/Sgt Arthur P. Buckoven 32786923 Top Turret Gunner /
Engineer
S/Sgt Ray Bascom 19089776 Radioman
Sgt Stanley N. Anderson 36741448 Nose Turret Gunner

Bottom L - R

Sgt Donald J. Bucklew 35749686 Tail Gunner

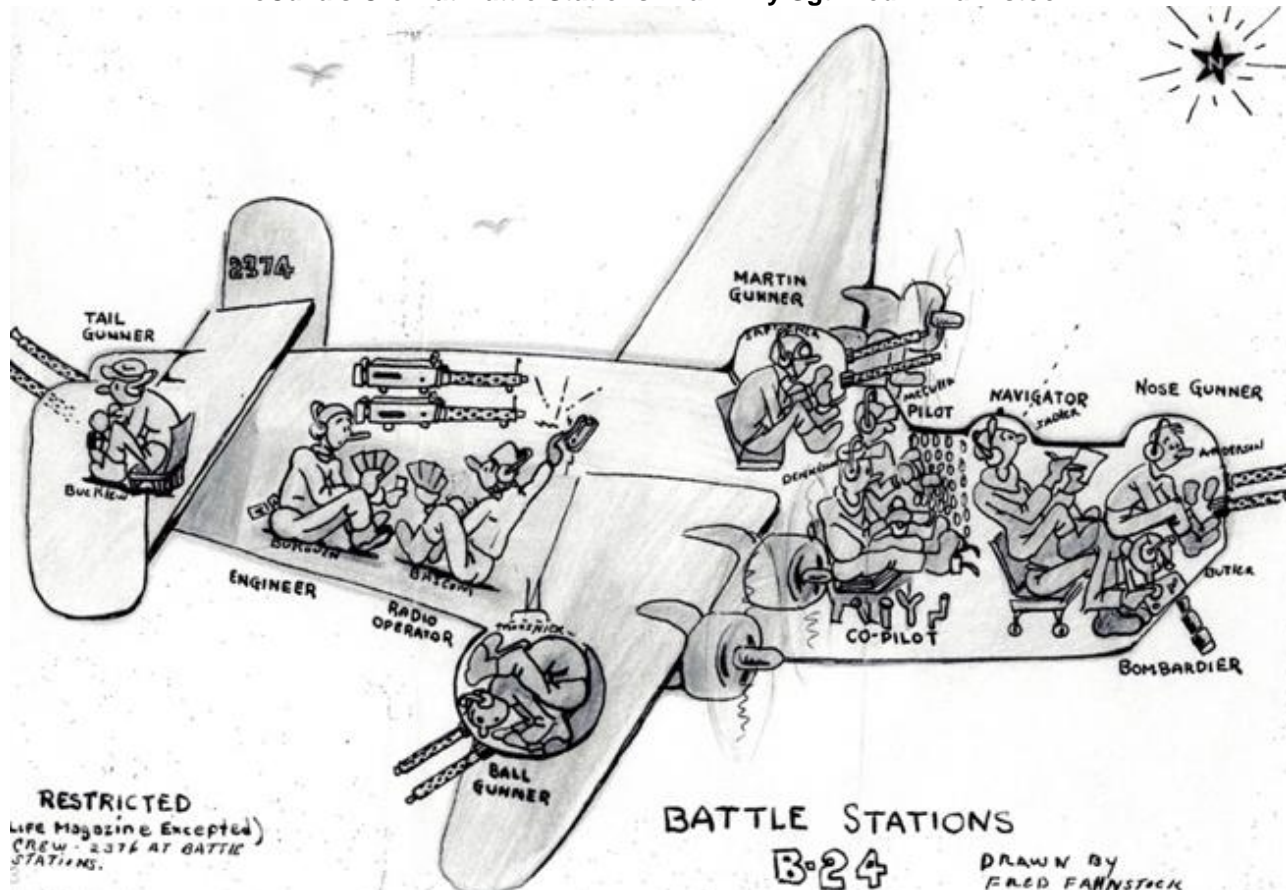
The names and the battle stations of the servicemen above are keyed to the crew photo as noted by S/Sgt Joe Sapienza. This crew appears to be lacking a ball turret gunner, possibly because he was unavailable or not yet assigned.

The lack of camouflage paint on the B-24 in the photo suggests the photo was taken in the U.S. sometime in Spring 1944 before deploying to E.T.O. This B-24 could very well have become Satan's Sister once it and its crew joined the 409th Bomb Squadron in the U. K.

The names and battle stations of all of the personnel identified in this list are also shown in a cartoon of McCulla's Crew at battle stations drawn by Sgt Fred H. Fahstock. The cartoon also shows a ball turret gunner, Sgt Morris M. Moosnick.

The cartoon identifies the aircraft only as a B-24 which bears what appears to be a partial tail number, 2374. There is no nick name and/or nose art shown on the B-24 in the cartoon.

McCulla's Crew at Battle Stations Drawn By Sgt Fred H. Fahnstock



THIS FORM WILL NOT BE REPLACED
IN LOT OR DESTROYED.

ARMY SEPARATION CENTER, FORT DIX, N.J.

SEPARATION QUALIFICATION RECORD and 55

LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL SAPIENZA JOSEPH L.	ARMY SERIAL NUMBER 12 166 948	GRADE (DATE OF ENTRY INTO SER.) S SGT 28 May 42	DATE OF ENTRY 2 Aug 22
PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES (Street and Number - City - County - State) 118 Main St., Macedon, Wayne County, New York			

CIVILIAN EDUCATION	
HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED 4 Yrs. H.S.	DATE YEAR RECEIVED 1939
COURSE None	NAME AND ADDRESS OF LAST SCHOOL ATTENDED Macedon H.S., Macedon, N.Y.
CIVILIAN OCCUPATIONS	
DATE RECEIPTED 3 1942	
JOB SUMMARY Was superintendant of a canning factory, employing 200 men. Hired and fired employees, supervised all phases of work in plant. Also worked as process man (tomatoes) during summer season.	
NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER Martman Canning Co. Macedon, N.Y.	

MILITARY SPECIALTIES	
GRADE	DATE
0 2 PVT	Basic Trng. AAF
2 0 S SGT	AP Armorer Gunner
0 5 S SGT	Gun Instructor

SUMMARY OF MILITARY OCCUPATIONS AND DUTY ASSIGNMENTS
AIRPLANE ARMORER GUNNER. Served with the AAF in U.S. and England responsible for maintenance of armament in flight. Helped check bomb racks etc. Also acted as tail and waist gunner on B-24. Flew 23 Combat missions, had 2 clusters on Air Medal.

SUMMARY OF MILITARY OCCUPATIONS AND DUTY ASSIGNMENTS
None

THIS INFORMATION BASED ON SOLDIER'S STATEMENT. (Indicate by * any item not supported by military records)

DATE OF SEPARATION
14 Sep 45

SIGNATURE OF SEPARATION CLASSIFICATION OFFICER
W.W. VON SCHLICHTEN, MAJ., AGO

W.D., A.G.O., FORM NO. 100 15 July 1944

Historian's Corner

Greetings from the 93rd BG Historian!

Rare B-24 Rescued!!

A Rare 1941 B-24 was rescued from an antique shop by a world renowned B-24 enthusiast. Oh wait, that enthusiast (nut) is me. On a family ski trip to Pennsylvania, I visited the local antique shops as I do not ski. Just as I was getting ready to leave a little shop, I looked up and saw the outline of a B-24 hanging high up in the ceiling rafters by its tail. I took a deep breath to relax and I then ask about it. He said it had been there for many years. I could barely contain my excitement. I knew it was a wartime recognition model but was unsure of condition or manufacturer. As many of you know, the most popular later models were made from a rubber type material due to the scarcity of metal and the weight. These rubber ones are very delicate and prone to breakage and warping. As he handed it to me, I knew

immediately that it was the early metal type. It was in great condition and has most of its original black paint. After a long negotiation, he did not even know it was a bomber or a transport, I purchased the model. I guess it does pay to stay awake in history class! Aside from the material, the model has all of the features of a very early B-24. There are; round (not oval) engine nacelles, short nose, narrow tail and a top turret mounted aft of the wing. Based on my internet research, there are no photos of an early type B-24 made by Bronzart (metal type manufacturer) on the web. There is a webpage that estimated the B-24 survivors of this type to be 5 to 10. This is less than the full size B-24. I will cherish this rare artifact and add it to my collection of 93rd BG and B-24 items.



England Reunion Update!

The reunion plans for May 25 to 30, 2011 are finalized and we have 20 people making the trip back to Norwich, Hardwick Airfield and Cambridge Cemetery. I have been told the Memorial Service at Cambridge is very special. I will be sending the final information to all signed up to attend very soon. See you soon in England!! For all that are unable to attend, we will put photos in the newsletter.

Looking for a A-11 (Hack watch)

If anyone has a spare or knows the where about of an A-11 (Hack) watch of any manufacturer (Hamilton, Elgin, Bulova,...), please let me know ask I would like to buy one for my collection. They are a wartime wrist watch with the most noticeable feature is there is writing on the back with A-11 and a series of number that start with the years, such as 42-, 43-, 44-, or 45-. Condition is not important as it history.

Cheers,

Don Morrison (don.morrison@beis.com)
93rd BG Association Historian
1375 West Comet Rd
Clinton, OH 44216
Cell (330) 819-6409 Home (330) 882-2536

93rd Website & Documentary Film

93RD WEBSITE

Since the 93rd website redesign in Fall of 2009, we have had 21,795 visitors. Recently we tracked a visitor all the way from Gabrovo, Bulgaria. Look out for links to new videos and photos on the homepage. An updated *Featured Video* and *Featured Photo* should be up by the time this article publishes. Also click the *Reunion* link on the left side bar of the homepage and navigate to the new slideshow posted of the 2010 Savannah reunion. Don't forget to also look through our *Guestbook* (notebook and pencil icon on the top bar of the homepage) and see if you might be able to help answer or solve questions people from around the world are asking the 93rd BG about. Or post a comment yourself!

93D DOCUMENTARY PROJECT

As of right now Michael Sellers has copies in DVD and Bluray (High Definition) of his current project *Thoughts for the Future*. This film was shown during the 93rd BG Stained Glass Dedication dinner in Savannah last Fall.

It's a 15 minute film that reminds you of the contribution the 8th Air Force and it's bomb groups courageously gave towards the war effort and how so many years later, groups like the 93rd are still meeting and

remembering. DVDs are \$10 and Bluray discs are \$13 - included as a bonus is the film *Liberators Over Europe*.

This film is a complete summary of the 8th Air Force operation in Europe and contains footage of many bomb groups in the East Anglia area during the war. It even shows Maj. Gen. William E. Kepner personally donate the initial check to the Lord Mayor of Norwich for the construction of the 2nd Air Division Memorial Wing. This is a very clean transfer from an original print at the National Archives. Also please visit the website www.thoughtsforthefuture.com for more information and a brief preview of the film. You may also download an order form from the 93rd BG website homepage or the Thoughts for the Future website.

If enough copies are sold of the film - a donation will go back to the 93rd BG association.

Please also look for an order form in this issue of the Ball of Fire.

Thank You

www.93bg.com

www.thoughtsforthefuture.com

Michael Sellers, Webmaster

FILM REVIEWS: THOUGHTS FOR THE FUTURE BY MICHAEL SELLERS

I was very impressed by the comprehensive story you were able to tell using clips from the many interviews you've completed during our reunions. You're craftsmanship resulted in a wonderful summary of the 93rd story. Why we exist and where we are headed was

I would like to add to those who have commented on the wonderful DVD prepared by Michael Sellers. What he has captured in this brief 15 minute presentation goes to the heart of all we as a body are striving to do, to bring forth the memories of those who gave their all and to have this legacy carried on by their children and

For anyone who has not purchased and watched this DVD you are missing a great treat. This documents not only the reunions we have attended but also interviews with members past and present and members of the second generation. For those of you who attended the reunion of the Second Air Division in 2001 when we went to England it will bring back pleasant memories especially the visit back to Hardwick. If you have not been fortunate to return since then. To see the interviews with Colon Mann and Paul Thrower, plus the footage of the first dedication of the Library and then the re dedication in 2001, is memorable. I have been

clear and concise. Overall very inspiring! Thanks for your dedicated service to the 93rd.

John A. Marx

President of the 93rd Bomb Group Association

grandchildren and their children. So that the 93rd lives on through them

Fernley Smith

93rd Bomb Group Veteran

fortunate to have returned to Norwich on several occasions with my husband and children and the last time to scatter his ashes. I will be returning again this May with my Grandson along with other members of the 93rd.

Watching this DVD is the next best thing to actually being there.

Alberta DelGuidice

Widow of Louis DelGuidice

93rd BG 328thSQ.

Thoughts for the Future

This film was shown at the 2010 reunion during the Stained Glass Dedication Dinner.

Directed and Edited by Michael Sellers

During World War II, allied forces from airbases in England strategically bombed Germany to weaken its grip on Europe. As in the Pacific, the European theatre of war was costly and deadly. The United States military assigned most of the heavy bombing in Europe to the 8th Air Force. Bombing of German targets eventually allowed Allied troops on the ground to break through German defenses to help win the war. Many members of bomb groups still meet today at reunions set up across the country some 65+ years later. This film follows one such group, the 93rd Bomb Group.

A donation will be made to the 93rd Bomb Group if overall demand is large enough.

Thoughts for the Future
a film by Michael Sellers

Shown at the dedication dinner!

ORDER FORM

NAME

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CITY

STATE

ZIP

Please send this order form with check or money order to:

Michael Sellers
565 Carroll St.
Apt. #4
Brooklyn, NY 11215

In the white boxes fill in quantity for desired format

DVD (\$10 each)

Blu-RayHD (\$13 each)

"Notes & Quotes "

This column presents comments by our members who have written to me in my capacity as the "Membership Guy" and your Treasurer. We hope you will appreciate and enjoy the feedback your fellow members send. Thanks for listening! Jim Guddal

Sun catchers

Helen C. – "Delighted with the attractive sun catcher. Many thanks. Was interested to see in the BOF how I happened to receive one."

Doris C. – "Thank you for sending the "sun catcher" of the 93rd Bomb Group Window. I'm enjoying it on my window."

Veteran and new member Fred A – "Thanks very much for the Sun catcher. It will go up on a window as soon as the frost melts." "Am deeply impressed by all the work the next generations have put into the Association. Thank you very much."

Reunions and Such

Wyndham F. – "Have enjoyed the 93rd reunions and enjoyed many fine people and life long friends. I owe so much to all who have kept the 93rd alive. Bless you!"

Becky B. – Thanks! I like this new January to January plan for our dues."

Alan B. – "My father, sister and I really enjoyed the reunion. The picture donated to the museum was beautiful. Thanks!"

Bob B. – "As a co-pilot and a pilot with the 328th, I flew 45 missions while stationed at Hardwick. To my knowledge this is the most missions flown by any B-24 pilot stationed in the U.K. over enemy territory."

Author's comment: In an informal survey of our management team, it was learned that another pilot Ken Gilbert flew 75 missions. If any of our members have verified information about "most missions", do let us know. Contact Historian Don Morrison or Jim Guddal.

Staff Sgt B. Joe Tiroisi flew 30 missions as waist gunner with over 10 leads. His ship was "Duration Baby" piloted by Capt. Ross Baker. He writes: "On mission 28 we were leading another group onto a target shrouded by two towering cloud clusters and those in front of us weren't hitting (the target) too well. The group commander had us adjust a strong left turn out and back between the clouds. We did it and the hit was named 'best bombing' for the 8th AF that week."

Vet's, please send any anecdotes about your service time that others might enjoy. And veterans' wives or girl friends left at home or in service at that time, we'd like to hear from you as well.

POW Poems*

This anonymous poem was copied from one of the solitary confinement cells at Dulag Luft in Frankfurt, Germany

It's easy to be nice boys, when everything's OK,
It's easy to be cheerful when you're having things your way.
But can you hold your head up and take it on the chin
When your heart is nearly breaking and you feel like giving in?

It was easy back in England amongst the friends and folks,
But now, you'll miss the friendly hands, the joys and songs and jokes.
The road ahead is stony and unless you're strong in mind,
You'll find it isn't long before you're lagging far behind.

You've got to climb the hill, boys,
It's no use turning back.
There's only one way home
And that's off the beaten track.

Remember, you're American
And that's when you reach the crest,
You'll see a valley cool and green,
America--- at her best!

You know, there is a saying that sunshine follows rain,
And soon enough, you'll realize that joy will follow pain.
Let courage be your password, make fortitude your guide,
And then instead of grousing, just remember those who died!

* The poems were written by American Airmen that were being held captive in the German prison camp known as Stalag Luft 1. They were contained in a journal written and compiled by Walter Boychuk, Captain, U.S. 8th Air Force, Kriegsgefangenen No. 5407. He was wounded and shot down over Le Harve, France on Sunday, August 13,

1944. After his capture, he was taken to Berlin for medical care and then sent to Stalag Luft 1 at Barth near the Baltic Sea. He was there until April, 1945 when the war in Europe ended. Thanks to George McLean for providing the poems - additional poems will be included in future newsletters .

93rd Bomb Group Reunion

We would like to encourage everyone to plan on attending the 93 Bombardment Group annual reunion to be held in Tucson, Arizona this year! Plans are being finalized for the events, including a day at the Pima Air & Space museum which has a B-24 Liberator on permanent display! We will be having a fun evening of

dinner and dancing to the swing band, Big Band Express "underneath" the wings of the B-24! We are looking forward to seeing you there! Make your reservations early, by calling 1-502-225-0810!

Jim Root, Convention/Reunion Coordinator

October 20– 24, 2011
Radisson Suites Airport, Tucson, AZ
7051 S. Tucson Blvd.
Tucson, AZ 85756
Direct Phone: 520-225-0810
Fax: 520-225-0890
email: lisa.neff@radisson.com

Thursday, October 20

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Registration / Mtg. room setup
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Registration /Hospitality open
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Reunion Committee & Officers - meeting in Theatre Room
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Reception –hotel lobby
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Welcome Dinner hotel
8:00 PM – 10:00 PM	Memorabilia room open

Friday, October 21

6:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
8:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Registration open
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Education session
11:30 AM – 12:30 AM	To Pima Air & Space museum for lunch
12:30 AM – 2:30 PM	Tour of PIMA Air & Space Museum
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM	Bus tour of AMARG, airplane "graveyard"
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	Return to Hotel
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Dinner at Pima B-24 (Dinner, program, dance to Big Band Express)
9:00 PM– 11:00 PM	Memorabilia room open

Saturday, October 22

6:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Business Meeting
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Joint Ploesti education
11:45 AM – 4:00 PM	Old Tucson Studios <OR> Sonora Desert Museum
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Ploesti Summit
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Memorabilia room open
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Dinner & program at Davis-Monthan AF Base
9:00 PM – 11:00 PM	Memorabilia room open

Sunday, October 23

6:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
7:30 AM – 9:15 AM	"Old" St. Augustine Mariachi Mass
9:30 AM – 3:00 PM	Downtown "Old Town Artisan" shopping (Lunch on your own)
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Ploesti Summit
5:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Reception
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Memorial Service
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Farewell Dinner hotel
8:00 PM – 10:00 PM	Memorabilia room open

Monday, October 24

6:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
	Depart

DESTINATION PLOESTI

As part of our ongoing Educational Program with the 93rd Bomb Group, we are working on holding a Ploesti Symposium at this year's Reunion in Tucson AZ. October 20-24, 2011. As always the families and friends of the 93rd are invited to take part in this outreach. Our invitations is also extended to our friends in all Five Bomb Groups (the 44th, 93rd, 98th, 376th, 389th) that participated in this mission. Space will be provided for anyone who would like to share pictures and

memorabilia as well as their personal experiences. In recent years there has been an increased interest in this HISTORICAL Low Level Mission over the oil fields of Ploesti Romania August 1, 1943. What better opportunity to hear and see firsthand accounts of that memorable mission where five Congressional Medals of Honor were awarded.

Joe and Phyllis Duran

Those interested in participating in this special event please contact:

Jim Guddal
(763) 694-9058
jguddal@yahoo.com

Blaine Duxbury
(317) 804-5310
bdux@aol.com

Joe and Phyllis Duran
(805) 525-4681
E-mail dogpatchraider@gmail.com

Folded Wings

The information written about each veteran is compiled from available resources: *Ted's Travelling Circus*, emails, letters, obituary, and reunion photos. The amount of information does not imply the value and importance of a veteran. All veterans are equally honored for their role in WWII.

JoAnne Sargent, Editor



Brown Jr., Dr. Walter E. (February 23, 2011)

Dr. Brown was the editor of the Eighth Air Force News for 12 years. He was Vice President of the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum Board where he eventually served as the President and CEO of the Museum located in Pooler, GA. Walt's long affiliation with the Museum and his tireless efforts on behalf of the Mighty Eighth and the Historical Society will long be remembered. He was a lifetime member of the Eighth Air Force Historical Society.

"Dr. Brown was a real friend to the 93rd and was the guest speaker at the 93rd Savannah, GA reunion in 2009." Alberta DelGuidice.

Curtis, Signey R., AAC 654429

(Email from Raymond Eck)

Signey Curtis was the original engineer on Lt. Eugene Justen's crew. We all knew him as "Bud". Signey was lost flying a makeup mission with another crew in late 1944. Our nose gunner, Joseph Nowak then took over as our engineer. This info verified by our original navigator, Ernest Perez.

Eiben, Frank J. (January 2005)

(email from son, Jay Eiben)

Frank J. Eiben was a pilot on a B-24 Liberator 1944-45, 409th Squadron, 93rd Bomb Group, 8th Air Force. The name of his plane was Obituary Mary.

Longino, Allen Cousins (June 21, 1985)

(email from niece, Nancy Vandiver)

Allen Cousins Longino was part of the crew of "The Invader" in the 409th squadron. After attending a prayer meeting on June 21, 1985 as he was driving home, a deer jumped an embankment, hit the car, and a hoof came through the windshield and hit him in the head.

Greenstein, Carl (May 2008)

(email from his family friend, Kevin Locke)

Carl Greenstein was the Navigator on the Cullham Crew. He and his wife, Helen, are placed at the National Cemetery in Dixon, California. They are survived by their son Jeff and daughter Becca.

Sapienza, Joseph L. (January 27, 2005)

(email from Guy Sapienza)

SSgt Joseph L. Sapienza, 12166948 was the armorer and gunner and he served with the 409th Bomb Squadron, 93rd Bomb Group, based at Hardwick UK. Joseph flew 23 combat missions between 5 June and 15 August 1944 with McCulla's crew on B-24's nicknamed Satan's Sister and Flying Midwife. He was awarded the Purple Heart for a wound suffered in a combat mission over France 17 July 1944. Joseph passed away January 27, 2005 and was buried in his hometown, Bergen NY.

Sharp, James H. (March 22, 1977)

Born 10/25/19

(see Letters to the Editor)

Tessmer, Glenn (Summer 2010)

Glenn Tessmer was from Shrewbury, MA.*

Wasserman, Joseph (Feb 16, 2002)

(email from nephew, Jeff Wasserman)

Sgt. Joseph Wasserman was stationed in England during the war. He was from New York City and he became a naturalized citizen in a ceremony at the Embassy in London, April 22, 1944 (page 312*). Sgt. Wasserman was honorably discharged on Mar. 18, 1946. He was the beloved husband of Florence Wasserman. He is survived by many loving nieces, nephews, and friends. (Please see Jeff Wasserman email in Letters to the Editor).

Vest, James (February 14, 2011)

(Please see Membership Corner for the article and pictures by Jim Guddal)

* *Ted's Travelling Circus* by Carroll (Cal) Stewart

////////////////////////////////////
INFORMATION REQUEST

Please send me any information related to the 93rd Bomb Group for the people below. I did not find them listed in *Ted's Travelling Circus* book.

Gilbert Davis
Carlton Frederick Taylor

Thank you,
JoAnne Sargent, 93rd BG Editor
1458 Locust St.
Denver, CO 80220
home 303-333-0698
email: joyridcp@msn.com

////////////////////////////////////
Letters to the Editor

From: james.murphy@dhs.nc.gov
To: joyridecp@msn.com
CC: candjm@btes.tv; jwcarney@tndagc.org
Date: Fri, 8 Oct 2010 15:33:33 -0400
Subject: 93rd Bomb Group History - Capt. C. M. Murphy, Jr.

My dad, Charles M. Murphy, Jr., was a founding member of the 93rd Bomb Group, and several years ago (2001) on the Pearl Harbor anniversary, I had a chance to ask him about his WWII experiences, which he had never completely disclosed to my brother (Charlie), sister (Sarah) and me while we were growing up. His response was a pause, then he indicated that much of it was things he had not cared to talk about. He

mentioned a few things on the phone, and later, I asked him if he would write them down. When he agreed, I sent him several legal notepads and pens for Christmas, 2001. He filled several pads, and afterwards, my brother and I transcribed them digitally. We distributed his account to members of our family, and it sat for most of the past decade as a valuable memo of my Dad's personal history. This past year (2010), my family experienced a number of changes, the loss of my Mom (they were married for over 67 years!) and the move of my Dad into a smaller apartment, where he now lives in a small town in central Tennessee. Over the recent years, my brother had discovered the 93rd Bomb Group website, and wrote an email, which was subsequently picked up by others associated with

the Group, including our peers, sons of pilots in the 93rd. My Dad actually heard from a few, who apparently got his contact information from the Group. One of those who contacted my Dad was John Carney, a District Attorney in Tennessee, who's Dad was a member of the 93rd, and had actually flown with my Dad on a couple of flights when they were in North Africa. John first met my Dad earlier this spring, and through subsequent phone calls agreed to meet my brother and me earlier this summer. We brought rough copies of my Dad's writings, plus much of my Dad's accumulations of books, pamphlets, and other documentation from his pilot training and subsequent Air Force experience. I now have those books, and subsequently, I will be glad to send a catalog of the material to see if any of it is worth passing along, either as copies or loans. Later, when I have a chance to review the material, I'll also send a few pictures of him taken during the WWII times.

I have attached my Dad's story, and I do think it adds to the history of the 93rd, and my brother and I gladly pass it along. I have edited it a bit, adding a few section

headers, a couple of comments, and taking out some of the more personal anecdotes, but I think I have left quite a bit of his personal perspective. My Dad is quite proud of his experiences, and we are certainly proud to learn through men like John Carney just how important my Dad's experiences and memories are. There is quite a bit on his experiences learning to fly the B-24, which may add to that history as well.

My Dad is almost 91 (October 15), and he is not in the greatest of health, with various ailments that keep him from too much activity. He had considered coming to the reunion this month, but is scheduled for surgery later in the month for removal of a skin cancer problem. His short-term memory is showing signs of becoming limited, but his long-term memory of the years in the 93rd are still strong. My brother and I hope this contributes to the proud memory and history of the 93rd!

All the best, Jim Murphy

On Jan 24, 2011, at 3:09 PM, Joe Clement wrote:

To: Joanne Sargent

From: Joe Clement, III

Joanne – my mother, Helen Clement, receives the Ball of Fire newsletter and in the September 2009 issue there was a request from Claude Lowder for pictures or information on my father's crew. We did not notice Claude's request until recently, and hope you have his contact information so he can get the attached pictures of the crew.

Also, Claude asked for information about the crew and their missions, and my mother has volumes of information that he may be interested in talking to her about. If you have his contact information feel free to pass this information along to him and also give him our email addresses. I am also sending a copy of this email to Claude but I am not sure whether or not that is an active email address.

Below are some names to go with two of the attached pictures.



This is the crew just before a mission in the spring of 1945. There are two additional crew members since they were flying lead.

First row, left to right
Gale Lowder, Gunner
Donald Schwartz, Engineer
Bill Bonwick, Gunner
George Morris, Radio
Chuck Leutwiller, Gunner
John Curran, Gunner

Second row, left to right
Dorsey Twidwell, Mickey Operator (on Lead crew)
Dave Carpenter, Co-pilot
Joe W. Clement, Jr., Pilot
George Johnson, Pilot Navigator (on Lead crew)
Joe Kollenberg, Navigator
Bill Garrison, Bombardier



This picture was taken in the Spring of 1945 soon before crewmembers started to head home. Notice a couple of different crewmembers.

First row, left to right
 Bill Bonnovich, Gunner
 John Curran, Gunner

Chuck Leutwirler, Gunner
 Gale Lowder, Gunner
 George Morris, Radio
 Donald Schwartz, Engineer

Second row, left to right
 Joe W. Clement, Jr., Pilot
 Bill Garrison, Bombardier
 Bill Johnson, Co-pilot
 Joe Kalenberg, Navigator



Our family enjoys your newsletters and website, and we appreciate everything you do to help people reconnect.

Helen F. Clement
 Email mrs.jwc.jr@gmail.com

Joe Clement, III
 Helen Clement

////////////////////////////////////

From: Flaco1801@aol.com
 Date: Sat, 12 Feb 2011 11:39:28 -0500
 Subject: travelling circus
 To: joyridecp@msn.com

hello Joanne...my uncle, Sgt. Joseph Wassermann
 claimed to have been in the 8th air force, and i know he

was stationed in England... he had a b-24 Liberator
 photo framed with a Teds Travelling Circus card in his
 study..he passed away several years ago.. i would like to
 find any information about his stay with the Travelling
 Circus and what bomb squadron he was assigned to..
 any help would be greatly appreciated... thank you,
 sincerely, Jeff Wasserman

////////////////////////////////////



From: dogpatchraider@gmail.com
To: joyridecp@msn.com
Subject: King George VI The First visit to US bomber base
Date: Sun, 6 Feb 2011 09:58:47 -0800

Joanne,

This is a great shot of the King's visit to the 93rds BG base. It was the first close up inspection of a heavy bomber by the King.

Usually we see this photo cropped up close and only see Ted Timberlake and the King. The great thing about this one is we can see our own Cal Stewart doing what he did best in the back ground. The story of the King's visit would be reported in the publication "The Liberator" that Cal Stewart helped to start and wrote on Nov 16, 1942.

Best to all, Joe and Phyllis Duran



From: dogpatchraider@gmail.com
To: joyridecp@msn.com

Subject: 93rd BG pilot Howard Hinchman meets the Queen of England
Date: Sun, 6 Feb 2011 10:58:58 -0800

Joanne,

One of the visits to an American base. 93rd BG pilot Howard Hinchman on the left greets the Queen of England.

Hollywood is visiting this time period with the release of the movie "The King's Speech". Joe and I saw it and thought they did a good job. Learned a few things we weren't aware of.

Phyllis and Joe



From: dogpatchraider@gmail.com
To: joyridecp@msn.com
Subject: Later visit by the King
Date: Sun, 6 Feb 2011 11:27:06 -0800
All,

This is a shot of Bill Neumann shaking hands with the King of England. One of my favorite Neumann photos. Talk about a piece of History!

You have from left to right: Maj. Gen. Jimmy Doolittle, King of England, George VI, Col. Howard Moore, (Ranking Officer for the 482nd ,Pathfinders Unit) (Pilot) Capt. Howard Hinchman, Lt. Bill Neumann (navigator) and Lt. Donald Dahl, (Co-pilot). Photo was taken in 1944.

I've been told by reliable sources that Bill didn't wash his hand for several months,HAHAHA!

Thought it would be fun to share this one with you all,
Joe and Phyllis



REMEMBER THESE MEN BEFORE GOD WITH THANKSGIVING.

THE GALLANT CREW OF B24 # 42-50597

OF THE 93RD BOMB GROUP (TRANSFER FROM 446TH BOMB GROUP)
2 ADA, 8TH U.S.A.F

WHICH CRASHED IN FOG DURING TAKE OFF
AT HARDWICK, ENGLAND ON 19TH DECEMBER, 1944,
IN A VALLIANT ATTEMPT TO DELIVER AIR SUPPORT
TO THE BELEAGUERED GROUND FORCES IN BELGIUM
DURING THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE.

THESE MEN DIED IN THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM.

- 1LT ROBERT W. MARX PILOT
- 1LT WILLIAM H. YOUNG CO-PILOT
- 1LT JOHN D. CAMP NAVIGATOR
- 1LT H. DAVID FULMER, JR., BOMBARDIER
- 2LT R. K. LOCKER
- T/SGT BENJAMIN C. WIEGAND
- S/SGT FRED D. PETTIGREW
- S/SGT RALPH E. GIFFORD
- ROBERT A. HUGHES - S/SGT
- S/SGT HAROLD CLICKMAN
- T/SGT FRANK H. WHITTEN, ENGINEER

• BURIED AT THE AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETARY AT CAMBRIDGE

LEST WE FORGET

Robert Lewis from Hardwick, England is the voluntary care taker of a cross honoring the crew of B24, 42-5097 that crashed in the fog during takeoff on December 19, 1944. John Marx's uncle was on this crew and his family raised the money for the cross and participated in the dedication service on the 50th anniversary of the crash in 1994.

Mr. Lewis would like to find other relatives of the crew so he can send each family a photograph and a copy of the inscription. His contact information is below:

Robert Lewis
Church House, The Street
Hardwick, Norwich NR 15 2AB, England



TOP : S/SGT SHARP, LTS CLEMENTS, HOOVER, KALUZA, ELLIS.
BOTTOM : S/SGTS REIFSCHNIEDER, LOCKWOOD, CARNEY, POE, D'AGOSTINO.



Date: Tue, 22 Feb 2011 15:11:38 -0800
From: sharpasamarble5150@yahoo.com
Subject: Folded Wings
To: joyridecp@msn.com
Hi Joanne,
Could you please add my dad's name to the folded

wings section of the 93rds web site. He was T/SGT James H Sharp Born 10/25/19 in NJ and passed 3/22/77 in Oregon He was an original member Sept. 1942 His Pilot was 329th flight commander Robert Hoover. They were on the 1st mission to Lille.
Thank You James Jr

Date: Wed, 23 Feb 2011 22:20:42 -0800
From: sharpasamarble5150@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: FW: Folded Wings - T/SGT James H Sharp
To: joyridecp@msn.com

Hi Joanne,

Yes that would be wonderful. I have a lot of info but best is my newest find. Yesterday I found John W Carney Jr the son of my Dad's waist gunner I also have befriended Lt Clinton A Gruber Ret 329th Co Pilot Shot down 1 Dec 1943 repatriated POW He's 90 and lives 1 mile from me. We meet for breakfast weekly. I also have been blessed with some Docs that you and Don M and Mike S might find interesting. I have more too. Dad's primary A/C was "MINERVA" 41-23689 after deemed battle weary she became assembly ship for 392nd but returned to 93rd before war's end He also was on the final combat mission "Ball of Fire" 41-23667 flew and Walter T Stewart was Co Pilot and Lt Weiss (the Ground Communications Officer who bumped John W Carney as

waist gunner so he could go) He got a fighter and a medal) all shot up and 2 engines out they crash landed at an RAF Hurricane base in England Capt Robert Hoover was the Pilot They were billeted in an old castle until a ride from Hardwick came. "Ball of Fire" only flew 3 combat mission before being disarmed and painted crazy to become the 93rds assembly ship On all 3 missions she never made it back to base , but always returned her crews safely to England 93rds thought she was jinxed for combat My dad completed all his missions and stayed around for a bunch more. My mom was British and was my Dad's 2nd British wife. His first wife divorced him after having his daughter and getting to the states. Bonnie was born 1/23/45 He lost contact with them shortly after. He never saw Bonnie again. All I knew was her name and the picture I sent you. I found her in Washington State after some miracle and some prayer and searching Ancestry .com's Passenger ship records from England I could go on and on so... Thank you James Jr PS I'm happy to share all I have with my 93rd family.



Date: Wed, 23 Feb 2011 22:20:42 -0800
From: sharpasamarble5150@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: FW: Folded Wings - T/SGT James H Sharp
To: joyridecp@msn.com

Yesterday I found John W Carney Jr the son of my Dad's waist gunner I also have befriended Lt Clinton A Gruber Ret 329th Co Pilot Shot down 1 Dec 1943 repatriated POW He's 90 and lives 1 mile from me. We meet for breakfast weekly. I also have been blessed with some Docs that you and Don M and Mike S might find interesting. I have more too. Dad's primary A/C was "MINERVA" 41-23689 after deemed battle weary she became assembly ship for 392nd but returned to 93rd before war's end He also was on the final combat mission "Ball of Fire" 41-23667 flew and Walter T Stewart was Co Pilot and Lt Weiss (the Ground Communications Officer who bumped John W Carney as

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James Jr

Subject: snyder

Date: Thu, 13 Jan 2011 17:18:57 +0100
From: erik.snijder@planet.nl
To: webmaster@93rdbombardmentgroup.com
CC: joyridecp@msn.com
Hello

I am Erik Snijder from the Netherlands and 33 years old. I adopted a grave of the soldier WALDRON L SNYDER who is killed in action ww2. His grave is in Lorraine, France. He came from the town Cambridge, Massachusetts. The name of his father was WALDRON L SNYDER SR and he lived on 121 Mt. Auburn Street or the 11 Revere Street in Cambridge. His mother had the

name PEARL A SNYDER and she lived in Boston on 119 Peterborough Street. She died in 1946. His sister had the name Shirley Lorraine Snyder she lived on the 46 Wheatland Avenue in Dorchester, Massachusetts. WALDRON L SNYDER JR was a member of the 93 bomb group/330 bomb sq. He was flying a B-24 airplane with the serial nr 41-24147 with the nickname Duchess. His rank was 2nd Lt. His serial nr was 0-795658. He was KIA 25-Feb-1944. He was born on 1 March 1918.

Have you information about this person please contact me. I would like to have a picture or any other materials about this soldier. School, Papers, picture, personal stuff, what kind of person, school, family, reports, company records etc. And is there still family of

From Samuel Delcambre - In February, 1942, I enlisted into the U.S. Air Corps, Basic Training, Biloxi, Mississippi. There I was assigned to the 93rd Bomb Group, Barksdale and was inducted into the 28th Squadron Crew # 2 - John L. Jerstad, Pilot. Upon completion of my training, I was a left waist gunner. Immediately after gunnery school, I was sent to Pagefield, Florida. There I met the other members of my crew.

After being molded into a brave new crew and ready for ETO, we were ordered by headquarters to remain in the area and patrol the Gulf of Mexico for 6 more weeks. In those 6 weeks of patrolling, we attacked two U-Boats. Because of such extensive patrolling, the German Admiral of the U-Boats ordered their exit from the Gulf of Mexico (too many airplanes in the Gulf). That was the 93rd Bomb Group's first great victory of many to come. We, the U.S. won that war of the Gulf of Mexico.

The U-Boats had been there for four years, heavily armed and capable of sinking any ship on sight. They

him or history people who now something. I would like to make a website about him and where he was fighting in WW2 and what kind of person he was.

Will you pass this message to so many people as possible in your town please. Maybe there is some family of him in your town.

Please help me.

My address is:

Erik Snijder

Plesmanweg 2

9765 gt

paterswolde

nederland

email: erik.snijder@planet.nl

were sinking 30 to 40 ships per month. I am so proud of what we did. I have 70 hours air time patrolling the Gulf of Mexico.

Next stop - New Hampshire -- I was issued a new plane, a B24D aircraft. Crew #2 received the plane #123711. Pilot John L. Jerstad said 711 on a dice is for luck, 711 is a natural and this was an omen. So the plane was named "Jerk's Natural". My home address was 711 Center Street, New Iberia, Louisiana, 18 miles north of the Gulf of Mexico. So as you can see 711 is a number very special to me.

On to Newfoundland --- over the Atlantic, to Scotland, then to England. Jerstad was the Pilot, Sims was the Co-Pilot and completed 5 missions. At this time, Jerstad had a total of 5 missions and was transferred to staff. Robert Hudspeth became Co-Pilot and Sims became Pilot. After 30 more missions, that gave Sims 30 missions. He was then sent back to the states. Lt. Hudspeth was given another crew and was shot down over Breast, France, and became a POW.



Samuel J. Delcambre, Chicago



Lt John L. Jerstad



Sgt Robert Harms & Sgt Joe Pisano

Membership Corner

JAMES VEST



Margie and James Vest



Tom, Margie, and James Vest



Jim Guddal, Margie and James Vest

PORTER CREW ON EUROCLYDON



Standing (L-R) SSgt James R Vest ,gunner, TSgt Bernard R Lucas radio operator, SSgt Charles A Reed gunner, TSgt FrankC Farrel engineer, 1Lt Enoch M Porter,Jr. pilot

Front row(L-R) SSgt Earl A Frost gunner, F.O. Joe E Boswell co-pilot, 2Lt Raymond P "Jack" Warner navigator, 1Lt. Jesse D Franks bombardier, SSgt Glen Corn

Not in photo 1Lt Howard Dickson (Intelligence Officer) gunner, 2Lt John F Minogue gunner.

In the Winter 2010 Ball of Fire, I introduced 328th veteran James Vest, left waist gunner on B-24D Euroclydon (The storm). Jim and wife Margie (married 70 years this year) live in northern Minnesota. In December of 2010, I had the honor and great pleasure of meeting Jim, Margie and son Tom for an afternoon tracing the memories of events from so long ago. Born in 1920 at Bloomfield IN, Jim was drafted in August 1942. After gunnery school he formed up with a crew he would be with until a fateful mission over Ploesti Romania August 1, 1943. The crew picked up a new B-24D (42-40612) in Topeka Ks and stayed with Euroclydon until the Tidal Wave mission. Pilot 1st Lt Enoch Porter and copilot Joe Boswell were in the cockpit along with navigator Ray (Jack) Warner. Back on the right waist 50 caliber was Charles A.(Charlie) Reed. After taking the northern route to Scotland and landing on fumes they were immediately sent to North Africa where they teamed up with the 9th AF. Before the Ploesti mission, Jim flew 8 missions in the Italy and Sicily theaters.

On August 1, 1943, coming into the Ploesti target at about 250 feet, Euroclydon was flying behind Lt Col Addison Baker (Hell's Wench) in the low left position. Walt Stewart in Utah Man was flying to Baker's high right. Jim operated a 50 caliber in the left waist. Before making it to the target, Euroclydon took hits in the cockpit and in the bomb bay likely rupturing the fuel bladder and spilling out aviation fuel. (Some historians believe Euroclydon may have been the first 93rd plane to go down that day) The last image Jim remembers is seeing a ball of fire rolling from the bomb bay directly towards him. It was time to go. While falling, he struggled to find the rip cord which was on the opposite side from normal because the chute was on backwards. (Only Charlie Reed and Ray Warner would also get out alive.) Having been knocked unconscious by the fall, Jim woke up staring at angry farmers bearing hoes and pitchforks. (Before coming too, Jim had been relieved of his dog tags and a gold ring.) He then remembers hearing the click of a rifle being chambered and was relieved to see a Romanian soldier coming to

his rescue. Jim spent the next 13 months as a POW at the Timisul Romania camp. He did meet up with both Charlie and Jack there along with many other yanks. The food cooked up by Russian cooks was pretty good. Occasionally, Jim would put on the chef's hat and do some of the cooking. Medical and dental care were available. They were all rescued via a surprise evacuation by allied planes. The first stop was Italy with a destination back to Hardwick airbase in East Anglia England. Jim would not fly any more missions before going home a few months later.

After the war, Margie and Jim would raise five children, two of whom would serve proudly in the air force and national guard. Jim is the sole survivor of the Porter crew. Ray and Charlie have folded their wings. For many years after Ploesti, Jim would suffer from reoccurring nightmares of trying to get out of the blazing

inferno that enveloped Euroclydon. While he has reconciled that traumatic day, the memories will never fade.

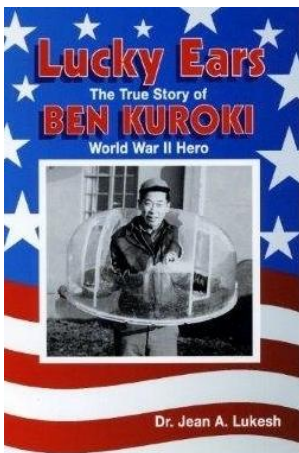
The afternoon spent with Jim, Margie and Tom Vest in their northern Minnesota home was very rewarding. I am very grateful that Jim and Margie were willing to share their wartime memories with me. Thanks to both of you for the privilege.

Update February 2011. On February 14, Jim Vest folded his wings and went to join his Euroclydon buddies. This author was honored to attend the services complete with full military honors at Fort Snelling National Cemetery. With wife Margie and family looking on, Jim was given a last farewell. He will not be forgotten.

Jim Guddal

Book Documents Life of World War II Hero - Ben Kuroki - December 30, 2010

Biography of Nebraska native Kuroki written especially for young readers by Joe Duggan, Lincoln Journal Star



If an author treads down a well-worn literary path, she had better add something new to the story.

Jean Lukesh has done just that with "Lucky Ears: The True story of Ben Kuroki World War II Hero.

Thousands of words have been printed and broadcast about Kuroki, the Nebraskan native who became a Japanese-American war hero after surviving 58 bomber

missions in World War II.

"Boy from Nebraska," a 1946 biography and "Most Honorable Son", a PBS documentary that aired in 2007, are the most widely known portrayals of his incredible life.

Still, that didn't dissuade a former teacher and librarian from rural Grand Island who recently released an authorized Kuroki biography for young readers. Even those highly familiar with Kuroki's story will discover nuggets that did not know.

The book's title alludes to the one such nugget. During an interview with Lukesh, Kuroki revealed he has tiny holes near the tops of his ears. Kuroki's father said the holes were a sign, which meant his sixth son would live a long life, filled with good fortune.

The winner of the Distinguished Service Medal and the Audie Murphy Award flew more than double the number of bomber missions required by the military, suffering hardly a scratch. He survived a knife attack by an angry squad member who equated Kuroki with Japanese General Hideki Tojo. In more recent years, he

survived open-heart surgery that replaced his aortic valve.

Now he's 93, lives in Camarillo, Calif., and still plays 36 holes of golf per week.

Sounds like his father got it right.

But get this: Kuroki's wife Shige, sat in on that 2007 interview. Until that day, she had never heard the story about the ears from her husband in six decades.

"I never put much credence into that (legend)," Kuroki explained this week. "But more and more this past decade, as all these incredible honors have come to me, there might be something to it.

For Lukesh, telling Kuroki's story of military service and his lifelong crusade against racism was a goal she set years ago, as she worked on her book. "The Nebraska Adventure." The award-winning history textbook, now used in most Nebraska fourth-grade classrooms, includes mention of Kuroki.

The former Hershey farm boy wrote her a thank you note. In turn, Lukesh pitched her book idea.

Written to appeal to readers in grades 4-7, the book is based on interviews and research. Kuroki consulted at every step.

She self-published the book through her Field Mouse Productions and sent it off to a printer. It retails at \$9.99 and is available at book websites such as Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

To make Kuroki's story accessible to young readers, Lukesh included more personal anecdotes about her subject. For example, she wrote how his mother nearly died at his birth and he initially was raised by an older sister and a neighbor woman. And she described the fear he felt in racially charged California after returning from the war, when even the decorations on his Army uniform couldn't prevent the epithets.

She also included the hard lessons of his life - the bigotry he fought just to serve his country, the violence of war and the injustice the United States meted out to Japanese-Americans, who were locked in

internment camps because of suspicions of their loyalties.

"He is such a hero, but he is so humble at the same time," Lukesh said.

She would like to write an adult biography on Kuroki and already is working on additional Nebraska biographies for what she intends to turn into a series for young readers.

Kuroki said he is very pleased with the book. He was eager to participate because it fit perfectly with what

he always had called his 59 mission: a crusade against racial intolerance.

"I wanted to get that message across to the younger generation. They respond more to racial understanding than the adults," he said. "The adults are already set in their ways and in their thinking.

Reach Joe Duggan at 402-473-7329 or jduggan@journalstar.com

New Members Roll Call

We welcome the following new members into the 93rd Bomb Group Association Family!!!

Member (Vets are in Bold & **)

Fred Arnold **

Carol Meehan Buran
Joyce Goodfriend
Rick & Rory Goodfriend
Brett Johnson
George Jung
Beth King
Julia McGinty
Joan Kelly Mulry
Gary Neidenthal
K. Wallace Neidenthal
Randy Neidenthal

Ernest Perez **

Donald Porter **

Stanley Savinski **

Jim & Peggy Sellers
McCosh Thayer
Sarah Timberlake
Bruce Uchitel
Jeffrey Wasserman
Mary Yamamoto

Connection to 93rd BG

Navigator on "Ma's Worry" and "Sleepy Time Gal"
Lt. William Meehan, "Lady Jane"
Frank Goodfriend – 328th Pilot
Frank Goodfriend – 328th Pilot
Fred Strombom – 329th Pilot
2nd Lt. George Jung, 329, "Snow White"
Kenneth Root – All squadron ranking engineer officer
Pending
Capt. Francis Kelly – 409th navigator (pilot was Spencer)
S/Sgt Kenneth Neidenthal, 328th "Eager Beaver & Boomerang"
S/Sgt Kenneth Neidenthal, 328th "Eager Beaver & Boomerang"
S/Sgt Kenneth Neidenthal, 328th "Eager Beaver & Boomerang"
2nd Lt & Navigator – Pilots were Lt Justin & Cp Shipon
1st Lt Pilot 409th – Flew 32 missions
G-4 Ground Operations
John Sullivan – 330th
1st Lt Don Porter – Pilot 409th
Gen. Ted Timberlake
Interested in the 93rd
Pending
Lt. Paul Steichen, 409, "Silver Eagle"

If you have joined the 93rd in the past 4 months and your name is not listed above, let Jim Guddal know at jguddal@yahoo.com or send me a note at P O Box 47336 Plymouth, MN 55447.

Recipe Corner

Recipe by Joannie Smith

Creamy Fettuccini Alfredo

8 oz. cream cheese
3/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1/2 cup butter
1/2 cup milk
8 oz. fettuccini, cooked and drained
8 oz. cooked shrimp

In large saucepan combine all ingredients, except pasta and shrimp. Stir over low heat until smooth. Add pasta, toss lightly. Add shrimp and toss. Serve.

This recipe is SO easy. You can also substitute cooked chicken for the Shrimp.

Recipe in an old Grit from Bob Stahl

Recipe for Marriage

1 lifetime commitment
16 toilet seat lessons
1/2 hour daily cuddling
5 annual anniversary reminders
21,000 home cooked meals
30,000 sheets folded

19 hints about bad breath
2 1/2 pieces lingerie
3 sets self-help books

Blend all ingredients, keeping expectations at low . Let simmer 50 years . Bring to a boil when necessary. Individual results may vary.



Your Post Exchange (PX)

	Qty 1	Qty 2
CAPS & VISORS		
1) Navy Blue w embroidered B-24, 93 rd BG & Ted's Travelling Circus on adjustable strap	\$24	\$45
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4) Ceramic Coffee mugs with 93 rd blue shield	\$15	\$28
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5) Jigsaw puzzles w colorful "Ball of Fire III" B-24 on mission over Ploesti oil field. Comes w stand. (These are customized exclusively for the 93 rd)	\$24	\$45
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Above the Clouds by Wayne Baker	\$25.95	\$47.95
Lucky Ears The True Story of BEN KUROKI (\$9.99 available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble) (see article in Membership Corner)		

** Member Price

All product prices include handling and shipping charges.

Pay by check or money order with Coupon below to the 93rd BG. Pay by Paypal on 93BG website by using the Donation Tab in the Membership Section. Then mail or fax the Coupon to PX Mgr Jim Guddal to complete the order. Thank you!

Item purchased	Qty	X	Price each	=	\$ Total
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Grand Total _____

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Or, Fax your order to: 763.694.9065

93rd BG BALL OF FIRE QUARTERLY EXPRESS SUBSCRIPTION FORM

PLEASE NOTE – STARTING WITH 2010, MEMBERSHIP & NEWSLETTER WILL BE CHANGING TO A CALENDAR YEAR BASIS - FROM JANUARY TO DECEMBER

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Year 2011

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Name of 93rd veteran _____ Rank _____

Squadron _____ Time period in Service: _____ 19____ to _____ 19____

Airplane Name(s) _____ Pilot(s) _____

Comments _____

Thanks!

(use back side for more info)

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membership for a friend or family member.
(Make a copy of this form for additional
memberships. Thank you!)

The PX: We have in stock, coffee mugs, tan & blue caps with B-24 image, BOF III B-24 puzzles, Suncatcher replicas of memorial window. Go to the PX page in the BOF for ordering information or contact Jim Guddal jguddal@yahoo.com