

# THE AIR FORCES ESCAPE & EVASION SOCIETY

## Summer 2003 *Communications*

Volume 17, No. 2

WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS 76307-2501

June 19, 2003



Members and guests attending the 2003 Reunion in Wichita Falls got a close-up view of the wheel team, which has the best pulling power of Fort Sill's Half-Section team, during the visit to Fort Sill on Thursday, May 1.

This photo shows about half the audience for the demonstration at the Sill Polo Field.

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**More Reunion coverage begins  
on Page 9 of this issue.**



# U.S. AIR FORCES ESCAPE & EVASION SOCIETY COMMUNICATIONS

Volume 17 -- Number 2

June 19, 2003

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\*\*Class of 2104

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FORCES ESCAPE & EVASION SOCIETY. AFEES IS A TAX-EXEMPT  
VETERANS ORGANIZATION UNDER IRS CODE 501 (C)(19). IT WAS  
FOUNDED IN 1964 AND IS CHARTERED IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA.

THE SOCIETY'S PURPOSE IS TO ENCOURAGE MEMBERS HELPED BY THE  
RESISTANCE ORGANIZATIONS OR PATRIOTIC NATIONALS TO CONTINUE  
EXISTING FRIENDSHIPS OR RENEW RELATIONSHIPS WITH THOSE WHO  
HELPED THEM DURING THEIR ESCAPE OR EVASION.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIRES THAT ONE MUST HAVE BEEN A U.S. AIRMAN,  
HE MUST HAVE BEEN FORCED DOWN BEHIND ENEMY LINES AND AVOIDED  
CAPTIVITY, OR ESCAPED FROM CAPTIVITY TO RETURN TO ALLIED  
CONTROL.

IN ADDITION TO REGULAR MEMBERSHIP, OTHER CATEGORIES OF  
MEMBERSHIP ARE HELPER MEMBERS, AND FRIEND MEMBERS.

Summer 2003

# The Prez Sez

By Richard M. Smith

<afeesone@hotmail.com>

For AFEES members who were  
unable to attend the Wichita Falls  
reunion, you really did miss a party.

The day at Fort Sill was simply  
great. What a show by the horse-  
drawn French 75. Six superb  
animals, not a hair out of place, and  
so well trained. When the cannon  
went off, they never even flinched.  
Haven't seen a hitch like that since  
I was a kid. Bob Sweatt wanted to  
buy the lead team, but they were not  
for sale.

Had a fantastic day at Sheppard  
AFB. What a reception! A hangar  
full of aircraft, including a B-52  
with 40,000 pounds of sand in its  
fuel tanks. Had a pea-shooter, F-  
18, I think. Had a ladder up both  
sides so you could see in and if you  
were pliable enough, get into the  
cockpit.

I had the experience of getting  
into the cockpit (a mockup) of a  
B1-B. What state-of-the-art  
instrumentation!

To top off the day at Sheppard,  
we were invited to the Officers'  
Club. Gen. Art Rooney had  
"requested" that all his staff mingle  
with the AFEES visitors. A great  
experience to swap stories with  
today's airmen.

Both General Rooney and Lt.  
Gen. Duncan McNabb spoke in  
glowing terms of what AFEES is and  
what you as members did. Those  
two gentlemen do good work.

We had a dandy bar-b-que, with a  
shootout at the OK corral -- same  
outcome. The good guys won.

Minutes of the annual meeting  
are on Page 17 of this issue, but in a  
nut shell: 04 likely will be our last  
big reunion. The PX will be phased  
out. It will be New Orleans in 2005,  
but a shorter agenda. Details later.

As in Tampa, there was a super  
hospitality room in Wichita Falls,  
featuring maitre d' Steve Mac Isaac,  
Cindy Bie, Yvonne Daley and Fran  
Weyland.



# Collection to be made available on DVD

Chairman Ralph Patton, wife Bette, and daughter Beverly Ward, met a few weeks ago at Colorado Springs, Colo., with Lt. Gen. A. P. Clark, president of the Friends of the Air Force Academy Library, and Duane Reed, director of special collections at the library.

It was agreed that Ralph would sponsor the production of a DVD devoted to the history of AFEES. Neither the society or any members have any financial responsibility unless they choose to take part.

The Ralph Patton Collection at the academy library includes 104,000 pages which take up 31 feet of lineal shelf space.

The collection includes stories which members have sent to Ralph over the past 30 years, plus records of AFEES reunions and trips to Europe.

Using documents and artifacts from the Patton Collection, the program will convey through photos, text and video the escape-and-evasion experiences of

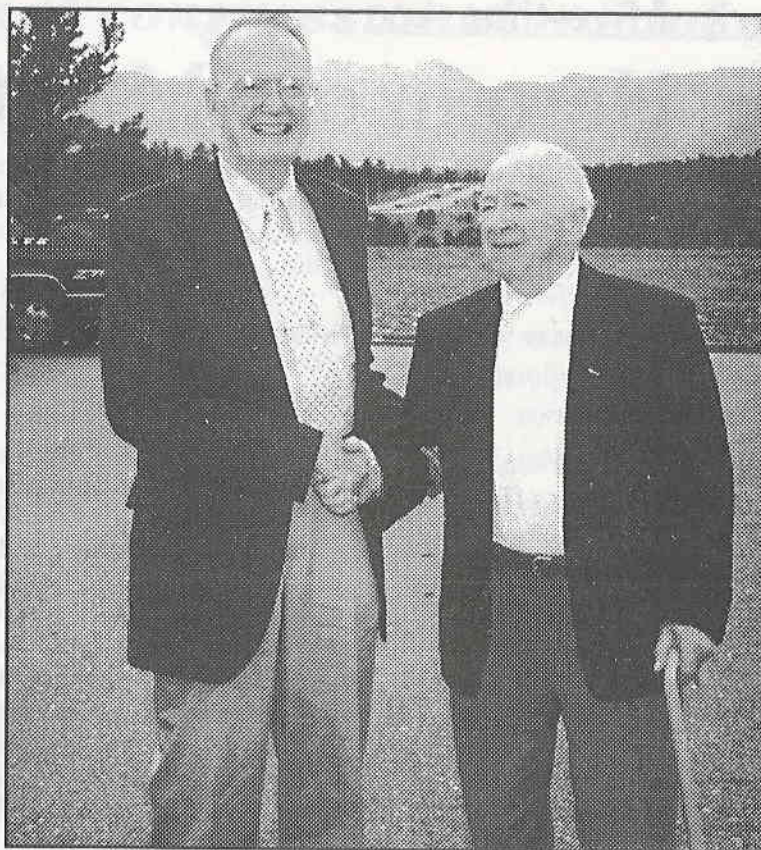
## Royal gunboat on-shore officer passes away

AFEES has been informed of the death of Andrew Smith on June 11, 2003. Andrew was the "on-shore officer" of British Motor Gun Boat 503 when it made its clandestine trips to Plouha, Brittany, France, to rescue Allied aircrew members and other persons who sought to escape Occupied France in 1944.

Andrew was a highly-decorated Royal Navy man, and spent his career in the British Navy.

"His bravery and devotion to freedom made WWII much shorter for many Allied aircrew members who were forced down in Occupied Western Europe," said Richard Smith, president of AFEES, when he learned of Andrew's passing.

His wife and son live near London.



***Lt. Gen. A. P. Clark (left) of the Air Force Academy Library staff, and Ralph K. Patton, co-founder and AFEES chairman of the board, shake on a proposal to produce a DVD program based on the Ralph Patton Collection at the academy. The academy and the Rocky Mountains are in the background.***

American airmen in World War II.

Also planned are first-hand video accounts from members of the E&E Society, telling how they confronted urgent personal challenges such as loneliness, injury, hunger, fatigue and fear, and how they dealt

with essential needs for communications, concealment, navigation, shelter and transportation.

Materials from the Patton Collection will be supplemented with related materials from other academy collections, including the Carpetbaggers' Collection, the Harry Osterweis Collection (for materials relating to E&E in the Pacific), and from the archival collection of the AF survival school at Fairchild Air Force base.

The proposal includes arrangements for packing and reproduction of 5,000 copies, with about 4,000 for members of the Air Force Cadet Wing and about 1,000 to be made available for distribution to members of the Escape & Evasion Society, research libraries, and the general public.

The project is estimated to require about 15 months.



## Nearly a five-time Ace

# A 'Hero in our Midst'

Retired Air Force Colonel Walker M. Mahurin, E&E 617, was runner-up winner in the recent USAA Magazine's *Heroes in our Midst* contest. His prize was a 7-night cruise for two, donated by Holland America.

On March 27, 1944, Maj. Walker Mahurin was leading a flight of P-47s of the 56th Fighter Group based at Halesworth, England. He was shot down near Chartres, and was flown out of France by special mission aircraft on May 3, 1944.

**From USAA Magazine,  
March 2003**

Guiding his F-86 Sabre jet over the Chongchon River in North Korea where it meets the Yellow Sea, Col. Walker "Bud" Mahurin handled the controls with the steady hand of experience.

It was May 13, 1952. As an Air Force pilot with victories in World War II's European and Pacific theaters, as well as in Korea,

Mahurin already had a first-rate reputation. He was nearly a five-time ace, with 24.25 "kills" to his credit.

As Mahurin unloaded 500-pound bombs on a procession of supply trucks, his longtime luck turned bad when he was hit by ground fire while pulling out of the bomb run.

Too low to eject, Mahurin crashlanded into the alluvial mud of low tide. "The plane broke into two parts and then rolled upside down. I broke my left arm and couldn't get out of my gear. In a matter of minutes, the Chinese and North Koreans had me," says Mahurin, now 84 and living in Newport Beach, Calif. But this experience was going to be far worse than the time he was shot down over France and spent a month hidden by the French Underground.

"He was kept in solitary confinement in a tiny cell, fed only enough to keep him alive, deprived of sleep, cold from lack of clothing and constantly tortured," writes Mahurin's friend, Marine Corps Capt. Richard Freeman, in the nomination letter.



## Awards

The Distinguished  
Service Cross

Silver Star

Seven Distinguished Flying  
Crosses

The Purple Heart

Seven Air Medals

The British Distinguished  
Flying Cross

French *Croix de Guerre*

Belgian *Croix de Guerre*

His captors used brainwashing -- a new and terrifying torture technique in the 1950s. The North Koreans and Chinese were seeking evidence of germ warfare, which they mistakenly thought was being waged against them.

At one point, Mahurin, who was held for 16 months, thought he would crack under the pressure. "I was weakened by the interrogations and thought that I would end up confessing," he says.

Mahurin finally gave a false confession when he learned the war was over to better his chance of release.

After coming home, Mahurin helped the Air Force establish survival courses. He left the military in 1953 after 16 years of service and worked in the aerospace industry.

Today, one of the Air Force's leading living flying aces still pilots a Piper Cherokee with his wife, Joan, and speaks at air shows and conventions. "I try to inspire our country whenever I can. We need to foster patriotism."

# ACHTUNG

**DAS FLIEGER MACHINE IS NICHT FÜR  
FINGERPOKEN UND MITTENGGRABEN.  
ISEASY ZU SCHNAPPEN DER SPRINGEN  
WORKEN, BLOWEN FUSEN, UND POPPEN  
CORKEN MIT SPITZEN UND SPARKEN.  
IS NICHT FÜR GEWERKEN BY DUMM-  
KOPFEN. DAS RUBBERNECKEN,  
SIGHTSEEREN KEEPEN DIE  
HANDEN IN DIE POCKETEN !**

*Posting this sign was the way a World War II airman sought to discourage visitors from tinkering with his working model of a bomber.*

## ***Another try for that congressional medal***

A Texas friend has received encouragement from the office of U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-Texas) about authorizing a medal for veterans who evaded capture after being forced down in enemy territory. Here is part of his original letter to the senior Texas Senator:

Dear Senator Hutchison:

I am writing in hope that you will consider a resolution for a new medal for the United States Armed Forces. I urge you to take a close look at my proposal.

It has come to my attention that a very unique group of veterans has never been recognized for their meritorious service. They are U.S. Airmen who were forced down behind enemy lines during combat, and either evaded capture by enemy forces or escaped from captivity and returned to Allied control.

Not long ago the United States military (all branches) issued a medal for those who were captured by the enemy and spent time as a Prisoner of War. This was a much needed medal to remember all those who had to go through all kinds of physical and psychological abuse while in captivity. We are a free nation, and we should recognize and award those who fought for our freedom and lost theirs.

I now am asking that we remember, as a nation, and award those soldiers who also lost their freedom in the fight for ours. They did lose their freedom. Airmen who evaded spent much time hiding from the enemy. They could not go where they wanted, or do what they wanted. To avoid being captured they had to be careful and resourceful. They were cut off from the outside world and from home. They were lonely and scared, never knowing what the next day would hold for them. Airmen who escaped from the enemy faced almost certain death if caught. It took courage for these soldiers to do what they did.

I mentioned a unique group. Only about 3,000 airmen evaded or escaped during WWII. Since then, only 1,500. So we are looking at about 4,500. That would make the medal economic. It would not need be mass produced.

Both the media, when covering stories of those who evaded and the families of these men, have called them heroes. I feel it is time the U.S. Government refer to them in the same manner. Let us as a nation award such valiant efforts.

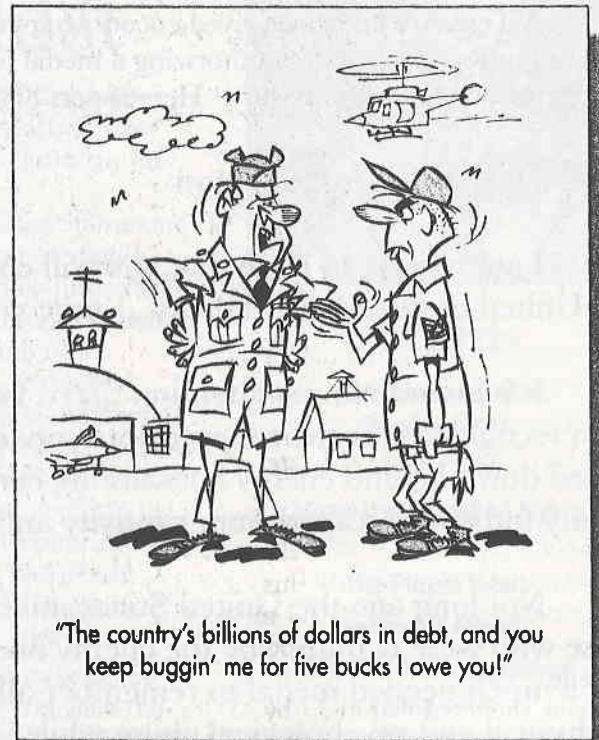
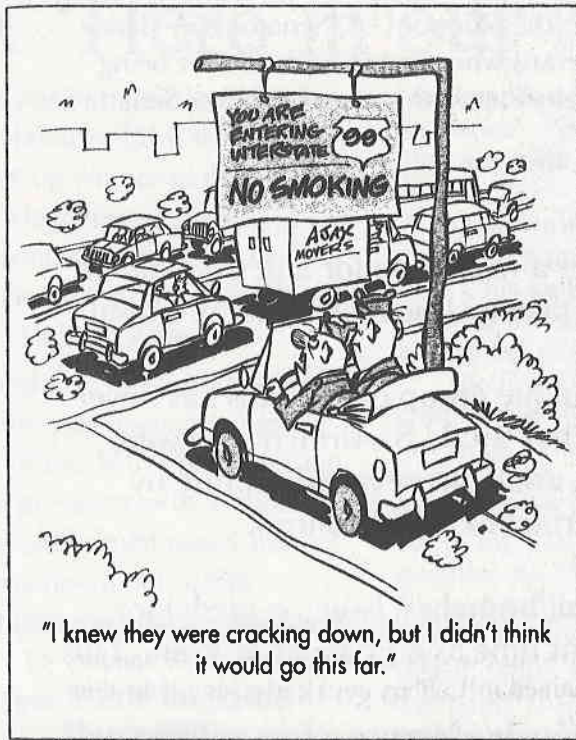
Since they mostly are WWII veterans, let us not delay in awarding these unique soldiers with a medal especially for them, the Escape & Evasion Medal.

Thanks for your time, sincerely,

BRETT D. QUILLIN, Granbury, Tex. <bsct@msn.com>



# Here's Jake



The best of

**"JAKE" SMUTTER**





# *Quarante ans apres, l'aviateur americain a retrouve a Lobbes, ceux qui lui sauverent la vie le 29 janvier 1944*

*(Forty years later, an American aviator is reunited with the people  
who saved his life on January 29th, 1944, in Lobbes)*

(Translated from the French)

From *La Nouvelle Gazette*, May 19, 1984

May 17 in Lobbes was a time for a reunion and reminiscing. M. William Powell, navigator on a Fortress, bailed out along with his crew members on January 29th, 1944, near a coal mine (Calvaire) in Anderlues. He landed near a wooded area near "le Bois de Gabelle."

He was sheltered that night by M. Rene Croquet and his wife. He spent the next night with M. and Mme. Gaston Gilbert in Entreville.

So, at 10 AM on that Thursday, M. Powell and his wife were welcomed by the Mayor, Oscar Baix, M. Pol Fitdevoie, town secretary, and Jules Lambert of the Welcoming Committee.

Other people attending were the residents who gave assistance to the downed airmen. Marcel Meurant (the interpreter), Col. Pomeroy and M. Legaer (Sgt. Major at SHAPE) joined the group.

The Mayor thanked and congratulated all who made the reunion a reality. With the help of the interpreter, he then related the glorious events which took place on their territory and the risks taken by its residents who gave aid to downed airmen. He said he was elated to be able to greet one of them at Town Hall. Mr. Powell was presented with the *Medaille de la Commune* (Town's Medal) and flowers were offered to Mrs. Powell.

Still with the interpreter's help, M. Powell said he was extremely moved, not only by the day's events, but with being reunited with the people who helped him 40 years ago.

He then explained why it had taken so long for him to return to Lobbes to thank his helpers. A series of problems prevented him from returning sooner.

He thanked the Mayor, friends, VIPs and M. Mme. Verhaegen, living in Holland. Mrs. Powell also mentioned the close relationship between the airmen and the Lobbes residents.

He went on to stress the sacrifices made by people who helped downed airmen and in particular, M. Mme Gilbert and their daughter, Rena, in their quest to

regain peace in the world. In the name of his crew and remembering in particular the people of Lobbes, Mr. Powell presented a framed letter from President Reagan to the Mayor. The letter was translated by M. Meurant. It said this was a token of appreciation from the American nation for the assistance given to the rescued airmen.

Mr. Powell proceeded to relate the events following the day he bailed out on 29 January 44. He remained in Lobbes until early June, was then transferred to Brussels on his way to rejoin Allied lines. He had no luck in the capital so he returned to Lobbes. He then left for France where he was captured in Paris.

Since he was found without military documents and in civilian clothes, he was arrested as a *saboteur* and handed over to the Gestapo. This is when he remembered he should have listened to M. Gilbert who had advised him to remain in Lobbes.

He was imprisoned in Fresnes by the Gestapo. After a week, he was transferred by truck to be interrogated and driven to Buchenwald where he remained for four months. There were 63 Americans in Buchenwald; three of them died in the camp.

In November 44 he was transferred to Stalag Luft III. He was liberated on 29 April 45 in Munich and was returned to the States.

After 30 days leave, he was back to navigation school before being assigned to a B-29 on its way to the Pacific Theatre.

Back in Houston in 1948, he was recalled as navigator and was sent to Saudi Arabia. He remained in the military until 1960 and retired with the rank of captain. He remained in touch with most members of his crew.

Several photos taken in 1944 were shown. A *Vin d'honneur*, a family photo of Mr. Powell and his wife and his entourage in front of the "Monument to the Dead." A banquet took place later in a nearby establishment.

\*\*\*\*\*

*S/Sgt William J. Powell was a 385th Bomb Group  
waist gunner downed on the Frankfurt mission.  
He is now deceased.*

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## The PX is being phased out!

(No more new stock will be ordered)

*Get those souvenirs while you can!*

**TEE SHIRTS, close out . . . . . \$ 10**

**10-piece Tool Kit with AFEES logo . . . . . \$8**

### WINGED BOOT EMBLEMS

Lapel Pin, Pewter, 3/4 in. . . . . \$6.00  
 Lapel Pin, blue shield with boot, 1 in. . . . . \$7.50  
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 Closed Back, Navy blue . . . . . \$12  
 Closed Back, Navy blue (no eggs) . . . . . \$10

### Shipping Charges

Please add \$3.00 per order for Pins, Winged Boots, Emblems;  
 \$3.50 for Caps

FOR LARGE ORDERS: \$50-\$100, \$4.50; \$100-\$300, \$9.00

**Make checks payable to AFEES; mail to**

**Thomas H. Brown Jr., P X Manager**  
 104 Lake Fairfield Drive  
 Greenville, SC 29615-1506  
 Phone: 864-244-8420  
 <tbrown104@cs.com>

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## Irvin firm continues a tradition

Member Tony Kosinski of Chicago has performed some research on the famous Caterpillar Club, of which several AFEES members are eligible.

He has received a letter with pertinent information from Eileen Carlton, receptionist at Irvin Aerospace Canada, Ltd. She writes:

Irvin Aerospace is proud to continue the tradition of the Caterpillar Club. The requirements for prospective members are:

a) The applicant must have saved his/her life by parachuting from a disabled aircraft, using a parachute;

b) The jump must be attested to by one of the following:

\* a affirmation by an eyewitness;

\* an official document which states that the jump was made (service record, discharge papers, flight log, newspaper clipping etc)

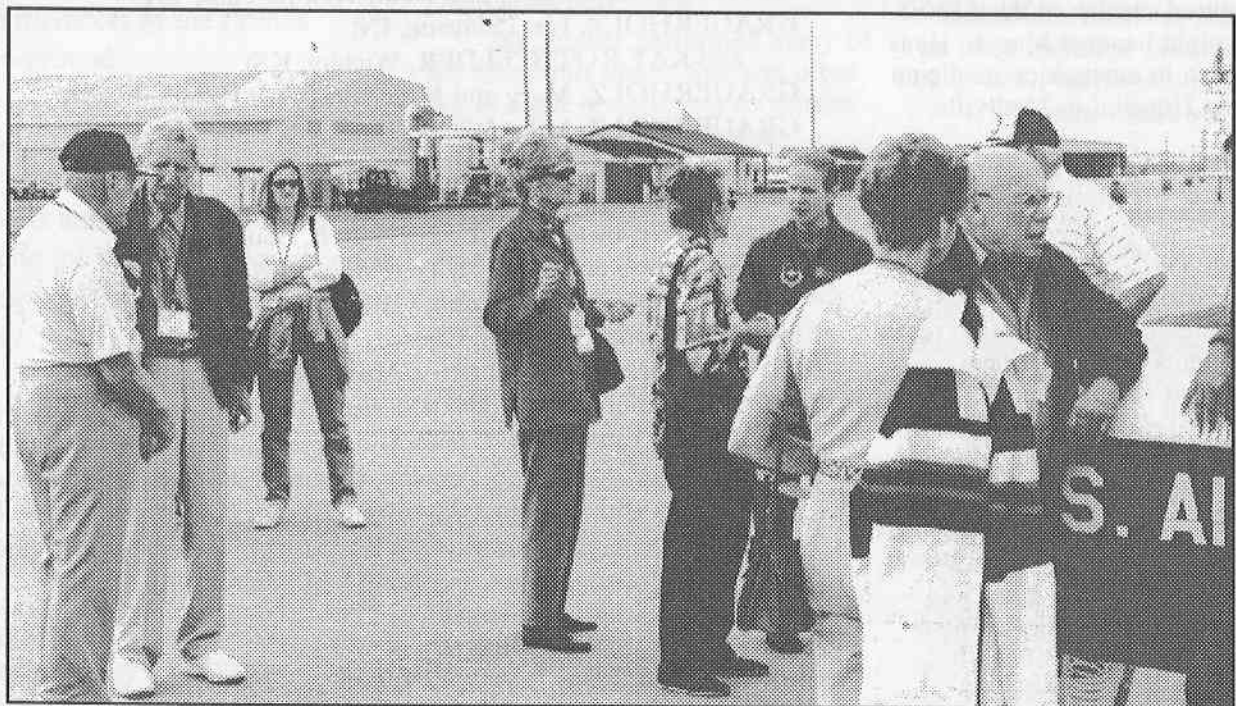
Any of the above affirmations should state time, place, circumstances of jump and appropriate identity of both applicant and witness, giving name rank and branch of service at time of jump. There is no cost for membership.

Send documentation to:  
 Irvin Aerospace Canada Ltd.  
 Irvin Caterpillar Club  
 PO Box 1510  
 Belleville, Ont.  
 CANADA K8N 5J1



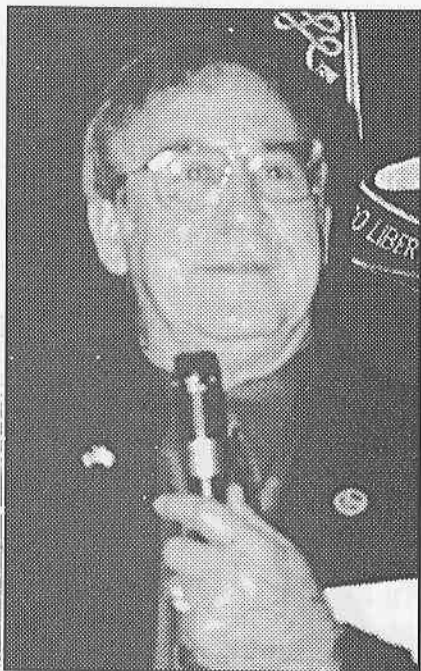


*Marlies Hassenewert, wife of Col. Johannes Hassenewert, 80th Operations Group Commander at Sheppard Air Force Base, poses with a limited edition Wichita Falls umbrella designed by German artist Gunter Bauer. The umbrella depicts historic scenes of Wichita Falls and SAFB. Helpers attending the 2003 AFEES reunion were presented with such umbrellas as a memento of their visit to the city.*



*Members and guests of AFEES were lavishly entertained at Sheppard Air Force Base on Friday, May 2. Here a part of the group visits the flight line and gets to visit one-on-one with flight instructors and kick some tires of the T-37 and T-38 trainers.*





**DR. WALTER E. BROWN**  
*8th News editor  
 talks at reunion  
 dinner meeting*

Dr. Walter E. Brown, editor of the 8th Air Force News since 1998, was featured speaker at the AFEES Sunday night banquet May 4. He is a physician in emergency medicine at Baptist Hospital in Nashville, Tenn.

He serves as vice chairman of directors of the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum in Savannah, Ga.

In his address to the AFEES reunion audience, he discussed recent developments at the Heritage Museum and further plans.

He spent the first five years of his life on AAC bases, including Barksdale and Oklahoma City. His father was a surgeon in the 3rd Army Air Corps, specializing in war wound management.

As a child, the speaker was befriended by young airmen in training and he has a life-long interest in the Air Force and its history.

He and his wife Alice have two sons, Kirk and Kerry Brown.

# They came to the 2003 Reunion

WICHITA FALLS, TX

\* Reunion Pkg.

**Boldface: HELPER**

***Boldface Italic: Special Guests***

- \* BEALL, Sylvia, Tampa, FL
- BIE, Cynthia and Cappy, Indian Rocks Beach, FL
- \* BRANDT, Clarke M., Aurora, CO
- \* **BROCHET, Liliane, Chicago**
- \* BROWER, Ken, Fort Worth, TX (\$210)
- BROWN, Dr. Walter, Spring Hill, TN (Editor, 8AF News)***
- BUROS, Milan, Yugoslavia***
- \* CAGLE, Joe and Jim Bush, Southern Pines, NC
- \* CARL, Floyd M., San Antonio, TX
- \* CLIFTON, Lee and Rita, Cibolo, TX
- \* COMSTOCK, Sandy, Madison, CT
- \* COOK, Jetty and Wanda, Hunt, TX
- \* **DALEY, Yvonne, Dunedin, FL**
- DAVEY, Robert (Bob) and Betty, Indianola, IA
- \* DAVID, Clayton C. and Scotty, Hannibal, MO
- \* DelGUIDICE, Loy and Alberta, North Haven, CT
- DeMALLIE, Howard and Nancy, Rochester, NY
- \* DUNAWAY, Kenneth, Nancy Borel and Peggy Bernath, Shawnee Mission, KS
- FRANCOIS, Henri and Michel NEY, French, First Timers**
- \* **FRASER, Marguerite Brouard, Fort Lauderdale, FL**
- GRAUERHOLZ, Ann and Greg Brown, Dallas, TX
- \* GRAUERHOLZ, Larry and Ruth, Wichita Falls, TX
- GRAUERHOLZ, Liz (Lafayette, IN)
- and KAY ROTHFELDER, Wichita, KS)
- GRAUERHOLZ, Mary and Rich Zuck, East Falmouth, MA
- GRAUERHOLZ, Mike, Wichita Falls, TX
- GRAUERHOLZ, J. Pat and Jean Miller, Golden, CO
- GRAUERHOLZ, Rick, Fort Worth, TX
- GRAUERHOLZ, Sue and Greg Ellison, Boulder, CO
- \* GRIMES, Bob and Mary Helen, Fairfax, VA
- \* HEEKIN, Francis, Cincinnati, OH
- HOOPER, Odell, Duncan, OK
- HURST, Jack, Mary and Betty, Austin, TX
- \* KENNEY, Paul and Dorothy, Decatur, GA
- KOSINSKI, Anthony and Jean, Chicago, IL
- \* LASHINSKY, Frank and Dorothy, Cornwall, PA
- LEA, Alfred and Dorothea, Houston, TX
- \* LESLIE, Stuart M., Vancouver, BC
- \* LORING, Warren E. and Thelma R., Monument Beach, MA
- \* MANOS, Joseph E., Sacramento, CA
- \* MATTSON, Arthur W., Houston, TX
- McNABB, Lt. Gen. Duncan, Arlington, VA***
- \* MILLER, Edward, Sedona, AZ
- \* PATTON, Ralph and Bette, Chevy Chase, MD
- PESIC, Miodrag, Serbia**
- ROBERTS, Al D. and Nancy, Fort Worth, TX



- \* RUCIGAY, John C. and Dorothy, Ballston Lake, NY
- \* SCHAEFFER, Frank, Montello, WI
- SCHANTZ, Rosalie** and J. Thomas, Green Valley, AZ (1st timers)
- SEIDEL, Robert and Helen, Frisco, TX
- \* SHANDOR, Mary C., Cresson, PA
- \* SHANDOR, Rich, Cresson, PA
- \* SMITH, Richard M., Palm Desert, CA
- \* STACEY, A. Gordon and Craig, Guelph, ONT
- STREEPER, Owen B., Eleanor Shelton  
and Linda Leggett, Chenoa, IL (First Timers)
- \* SWEATT, Robert, Mary M. and Sam, Burton, TX
- \* **VAN REMMERDEN, George, Seal Beach, CA**
- \* WEYLAND, Francene, McHenry, IL



# Evaders say 'Merci' Again

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE  
BASE, Tex., May 14, 2003

(AFPN)-- A Belgian woman risks her safety to help more than 130 Allied airmen avoid capture by the Germans.

A bombardier survives a crash landing with his crew behind enemy lines and escapes with help from members of the French Underground.

A tail gunner bails out of his badly damaged B-17 Flying Fortress and parachutes into a field on the French border, where a young boy leads him and others to safety.

These World War II survivors and others gathered recently near Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, to thank those who helped them escape capture, torture and possibly death. They exchanged hugs and memories, shared tears and renewed bonds at the Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society (AFEES) reunion in Wichita Falls.

The purpose of AFEES is to encourage airmen aided by Resistance organizations or patriotic nationals of foreign

countries to continue friendships with those who helped them.

"Our organization perpetuates the close bond that exists between airmen forced down and Resistance people who made our evasion possible at great risk to themselves and to their families," said Larry Grauerholz, editor of the quarterly AFEES *Communications* journal and a B-17 navigator who evaded in France and crossed the Pyrenees Mountains into Spain.

"My mother performed many of the dangerous tasks. She was often out at night or escorting an airman down the streets of occupied Brussels," said Yvonne Daley-Brusselmans. "My father's role was to keep the facade. He worked for weeks on a farm every year of the war to provide food for our family and the airmen we sheltered. He also had to cope with my mother putting herself, and sometimes my brother and I, in danger."

Those risks did not go unappreciated by the Americans who remained out of enemy hands.

"I was issued an escape kit on every mission containing maps of France, French money, water purification tablets and a small compass," said Virgil Marco, the downed tail gunner. "I also had the desire not to become a (prisoner of war). I met some very nice French people who I have kept in touch with. I was lucky to receive help



Julien and Anne Brusselmans (left) were reunited with Maj. Hank Sarnow, a downed airman who stayed with them for a month. The three appeared on *This Is Your Life* in 1957, which was produced by Eamon Andrews.

soon after I parachuted."

AFEES has more than 600 "regular" members from most wars, primarily World War II. To be eligible for membership, a person must have been a United States airman and must have been forced down behind enemy lines.

Members also must have either avoided captivity or escaped from captivity and been returned to Allied control.

"Helper" members are people who either directly aided airmen or who are family members of helpers.

*(Courtesy of Air Education and Training Command News Service.  
Compiled by 2nd Lt. Ellen Harr, Airman  
1st Class Pamela Lampert, Airman  
Jacque Lickteig, Mike McKito and  
Master Sgt. Jerry Tarento.)*



# Fort Sill rolls out an Army welcome

From *The Lawton (Okla.) Constitution*,  
Friday, May 2, 2003

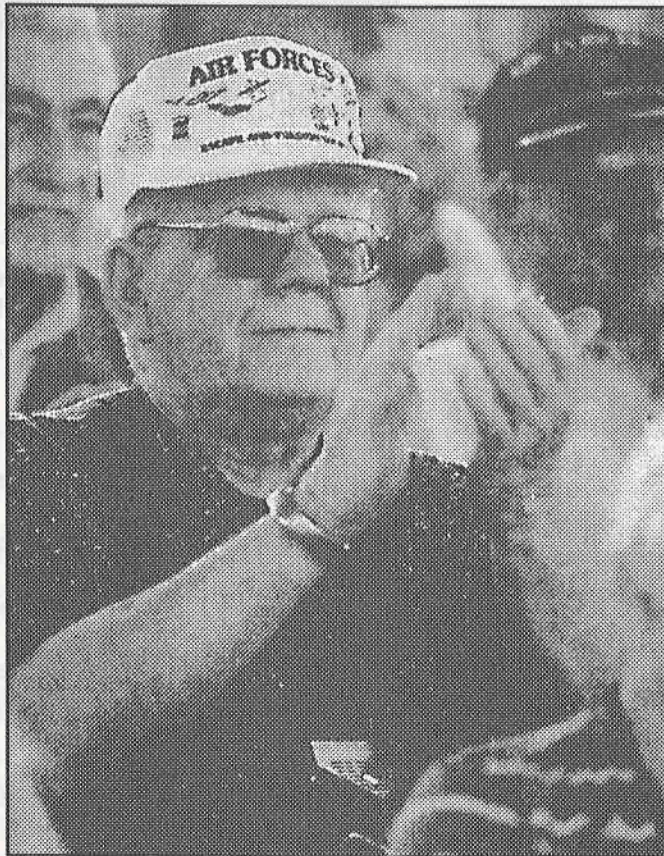
By MITCH MEADOR  
Staff Writer

Doubtless there are as many interesting stories as there are members of the U.S. Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society.

The society has some 900 members in the United States and Canada. Eligibility for full membership is limited to Allied airmen who were downed behind enemy lines and who then were able to return to Allied control with the aid of courageous members of the Underground in occupied countries.

One of them, retired Lt. Col. Warren E. Loring of Cape Cod, Mass., spent six of his 26 years of service at Fort Sill. He attended a motor officers course in 1951 and was put in charge of instruction for the Motor Officers Group after that.

He also attended the Battery Officers Course and an Advanced Course that included nuclear weapons training here. One of his daughters was born in



*Retired Lt. Col. Warren E. Loring not only lived to tell the tale after his P-38 came apart over France on June 30, 1944, he was at Fort Sill with the Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society on May 1, applauding a demonstration by the Half-Section.*

Lawton in the 1960s.

Before all that, Loring was shot down over France on June 30, 1944.

"I got hit strafing. That's coming right down on the deck. My right engine caught fire," he said.

He thought he could put out the fire by feathering the engine, but nothing he tried seemed to work.

"The engine fell off the wing. The wing fell off, the tail-boom fell off and then I fell out of it. They tell me (it was) somewhere around 10,000 feet but I really don't know," Loring said.

The last time he'd looked at the instrument panel, he was at 15,000 (ft.). He didn't know what part of France he was in.

His eyebrows and eyelashes had been burned off. He also had burns on his hands, and he would later find that his eyes would have to be bathed every day.

"I couldn't believe I was alive when I hit the ground," Loring said. "There's no sense of falling when you're in a parachute."

"It's only as you near the ground that everything begins to rush up at you," he said. He landed in a plowed field, spraining both ankles, and could not run.

Fortunately, the Frenchmen who found him were Allied sympathizers. He tried to make them understand he wanted water, but they kept offering him wine. When they finally brought him a glass of water, he took a sip and saw his lips hanging on the glass. At that, he tried to get them to bring him a mirror so he could see his face, but they refused.

Instead, they moved him from house to house and made him a fake ID card.

"My French name was Louis-Jean Renard, a cultivator. That's a farmer. I was a deaf-mute injured in a bombing in Borge, France," he said.

It was four weeks after he was on the ground before he saw a doctor, and all he received in the way of medical treatment was a tetanus shot. But he survived to make it back to Allied lines in September 1944 and he was at Fort Sill on Thursday with his wife, Thelma.

Organized about 40 years ago, the Escape and Evasion Society has had reunions in cities all over the country. This year's reunion is in Wichita Falls, Tex., and special activities planned for the group included tours of Fort Sill and Sheppard Air Force Base.

The 70 members who visited Fort Sill on Thursday got the royal treatment: a welcome by Fort Sill garrison commander Col. George W. Steuber, a demonstration by the Half-Section, lunch at the Fort Sill Officers' Club, and a walking tour of the Fort Sill museum.

One of Steuber's sons is a C-130 pilot in Okinawa. He attended Escape and Evasion School twice, and Steuber said he would like to think the training he received there will keep him safe on the ground.



# Frank gets back to Sill for a tour

From the Fort Sill (Okla.)  
*Cannoneer*, May 15, 2003

By Spc. WILLIAM SHELTON  
Members of the U.S. Air Forces  
and Evasion Society converged here  
May 1 to celebrate the first day of  
their annual reunion

Headquarters for this year's  
reunion was in Wichita Falls, Tex.,  
with tours of Fort Sill and Sheppard  
AFB on the agenda.

While at Sill, the E&E Society  
enjoyed a demonstration by the  
Field Artillery Half Section. They  
also learned about the history of the  
post at the Fort Sill Museum, and  
visited Chief Geronimo's gravesite.

One member talked about his  
early military service.

Frank Heekin of Cincinnati,  
Ohio, said his military experience  
began right here at Ft. Sill in 1942.

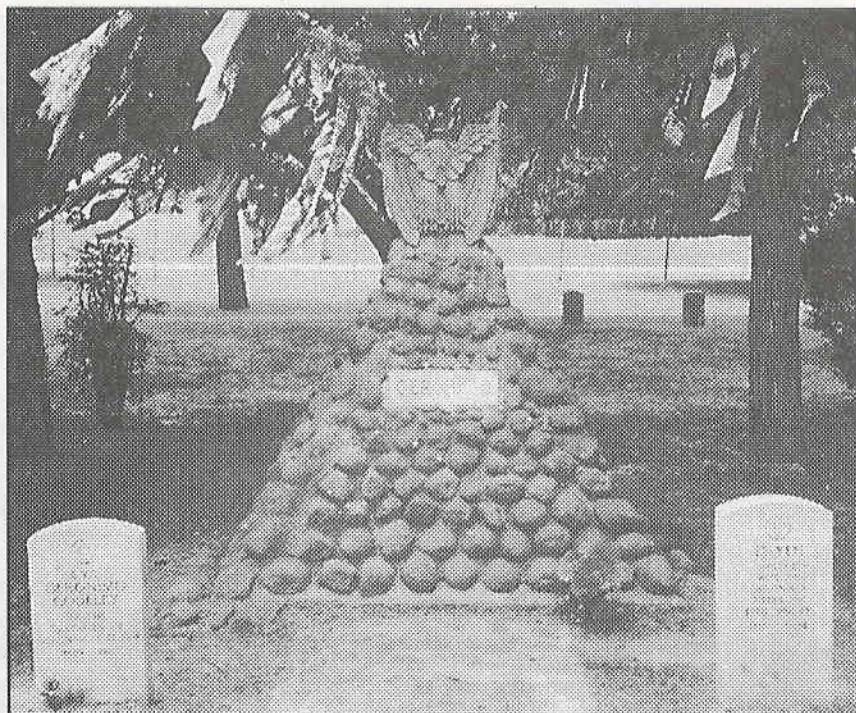
"I don't recognize any of this,"  
he said during the Half Section  
demonstration he attended at Polo  
Field. "When I was here there  
wasn't a Polo Field or any of this  
stuff. Things surely do change."  
After basic training, he was assigned  
duty at the Officer Basic Course.

In 1943 Heekin transferred to  
the Army Air Corps and became a  
machine gunner on a B-17 Flying  
Fortress.

On his first mission over  
Germany, his plane came under  
heavy enemy fire, forcing his crew  
to parachute to safety, he recalled.

"I really don't remember what I  
was thinking at the time. I was so  
busy when it happened."

Two of his crew members were  
so shocked when the plane began  
going down that he was forced to  
put parachutes on each of them and  
push them out the door before he  
was able to escape to safety, he said.



*Reunion goers visited the gravesite  
of Chief Geronimo at Fort Sill.*

Heekin says he remembers seeing  
Berlin as he floated to the ground  
from 20,000 feet. He landed about  
30 miles outside the city, only to be  
captured immediately by German  
troops.

"I was picked up right away, me  
and three other guys. We were  
loaded into a truck and taken to a  
cemetery where we were forced to  
dig a grave," he said.

"The Germans brought in  
another truck with four bodies in it.  
I recognized the radioman from my  
crew. He had been beaten to death.  
Only four of our crew were alive.  
The Germans threw the bodies on  
the ground and we buried them."

Next, Frank was taken to an  
interrogation center. Soon after, he  
and other prisoners of war began a  
march to a camp in Poland.

During the 600-mile march,  
Frank and three other airmen  
decided they'd had enough.

"I was with a fellow by name of  
George Robinson. He said to me,  
'Let's get out of this freaking joint!'  
I said OK."

"We took off from the tail end  
of the marching line about

midnight. Four of us made it out."

For 19 days, Heekin and his  
accomplices made their way through  
the wooded countryside. Frank's  
companions soon became ill and he  
was forced to find help.

Early one morning, he heard the  
sound of a truck, its gears grinding --  
he could tell it was a GMC.

Taking a chance that he was  
right, Frank left his buddies in hiding  
and went to a road in hopes of  
spotting help.

He hid near the road for a while,  
and eventually a Jeep with a British  
driver came into view.

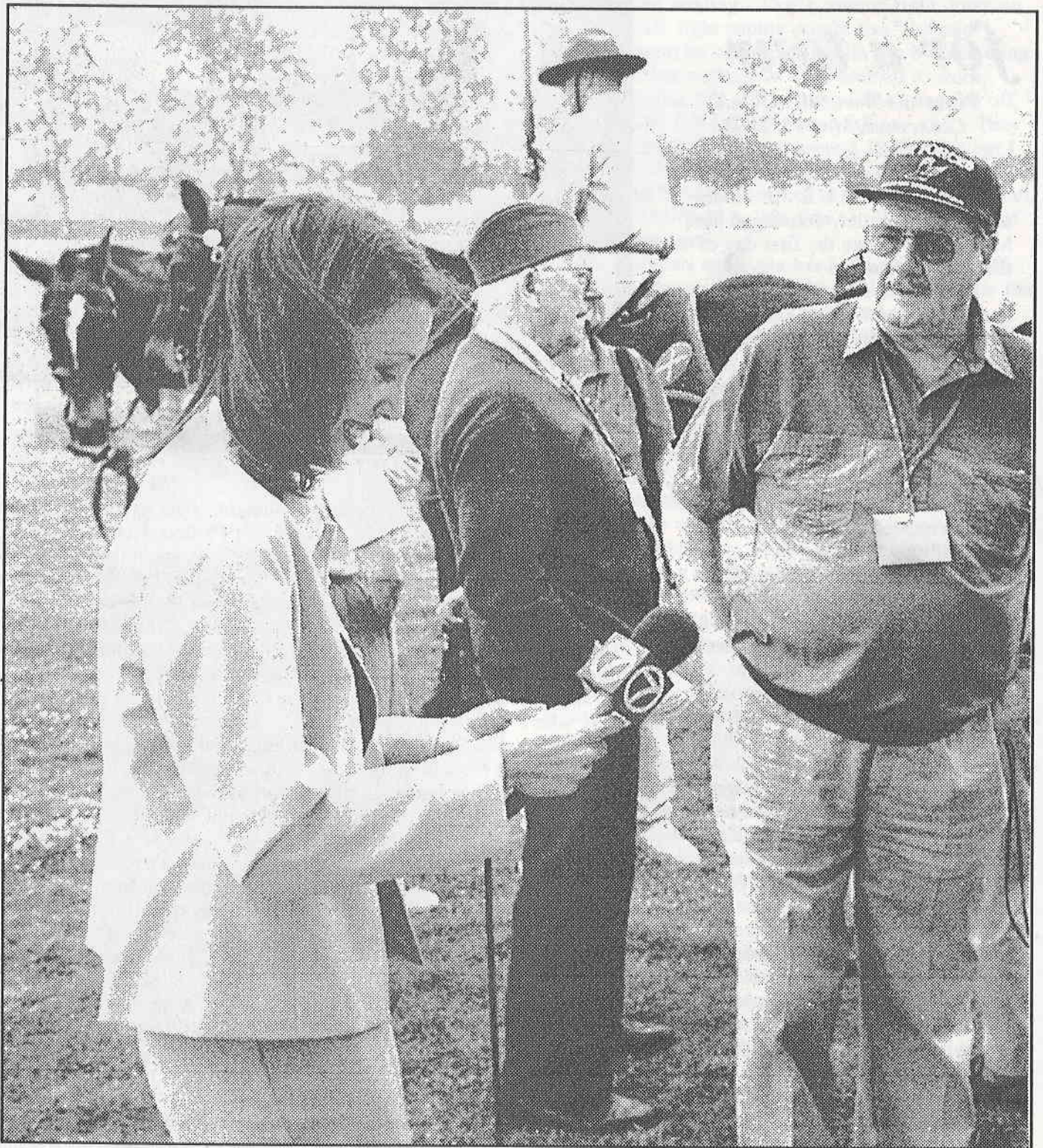
"I jumped out in the road and  
scared the guy half to death. I told  
him I was an escaped American  
prisoner of war and he said he would  
take me up to the Division Line. A  
British major interviewed Frank and  
finally believed his story.

The major provided Frank with a  
Jeep and trailer to bring in his sick  
companions.

Frank is now 80 years old. He  
said he enjoys retirement, although  
he remembers being shot down over  
Germany as if it happened only  
yesterday.



# *George gets on television*



**George H. Van Remmerden, Dutch Helper, faces a Lawton, Okla., television reporter during the AFEES reunion group visit to Ft. Sill on May 1. Center background is Yugoslav Helper Miodrag Pesic, wearing his duty cap.**





*Because of international tensions, difficulties with flying long distances, and the fact that age is creeping up on us, the turnout of Helpers, especially from overseas, was a bit disappointing this year.*

*We did have representatives of several European nations, enough to provide another opportunity to express our eternal gratitude for what they and their families did for us.*

*Here they are: from left, back row: George Van Remmerden, Yvonne Daley, Miodrag Pesic, Michel Ney, Henri Francois; front row, same order: Rosalie Schantz, Liliane Brochet and Marguerite Fraser.*



*The younger generations turned out in numbers for the 03 reunion and Scotty David managed to round them up for a photo session.  
(Perhaps some kind reader can furnish ID for a repeat photo in the next issue.)*

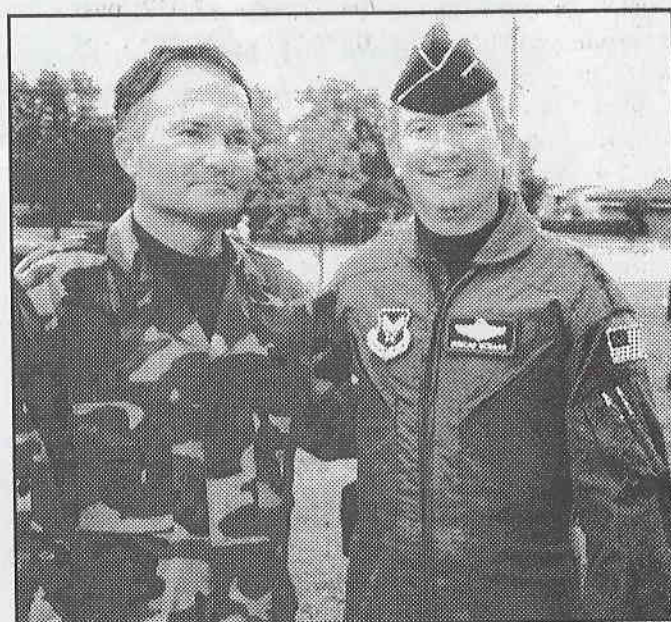




*Members of the Air Force Escape & Evasion Society listen to Capt. Karl Ogilvie, deputy commander of Aerospace Physiology at Sheppard AFB, explain the use of the Barany chair during a visit to the base during the reunion in Wichita Falls. From left: Bob and Mary Grimes and George Van Remmerden.*



*Yvonne Daley (left) and Fran Weyland were a couple of the Hospitality Sweets at the 2003 Reunion. As usual, the ambiance that prevailed was a feature of the reunion.*



*What do you suppose Brig. Gen. Art Rooney Jr. (left), wing commander at Sheppard AFB, and Lt. Gen. Duncan McNabb, stationed at the Pentagon, had to talk about when AFEES reunioneers visited the base on May 2? Probably, "How's your golf game."*



# Official Minutes

## AIR FORCES ESCAPE AND EVASION SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wichita Falls, Texas,

May 4, 2003

President Richard Smith called meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and declared a quorum present (45 members). He introduced directors who were present: Ralph Patton, Yvonne Daley-Brusselmans, Clayton David, Larry Grauerholz, Paul Kenney, Francis Lashinsky, Warren Loring, John Rucigay and Francene Weyland.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Finance:** Paul Kenney gave the Financial Report for the period ending Dec. 31, 2002. Motion made by Francene Weyland, seconded by Ralph Patton, that the report be accepted; carried.

**Raffle:** Francis Lashinsky reported the best response to date (60%) with many donations included (90%). Proceeds as of 5/04/03 were \$7,052; past experience indicates that there would be more returns in the mail at home.

**Membership:** Clayton David reported 10 new members and 12 new Friends; 32 deceased members and 17 deceased Helpers in the past year. There are 3 new members and 2 Helpers attending a reunion for the first time. More than 375 Greeting cards were mailed in December 2002. The newsletter is mailed to 1,200 addresses in the U.S. and other countries, mostly in Europe.

**Newsletter:** Editor Larry Grauerholz reported that the June issue will be printed on a new press which is capable of using a heavier and whiter paper. He reminded members that he always needs first-person stories and that members are no longer bound to secrecy. Paul Kenney commended Larry on a "job well done."

**PX:** President Smith reported that Tom Brown, PX manager, was unable to attend but sent the inventory with sales of \$330 realized so far.

**Nominating:** President Smith reported that no one had indicated a desire to be nominated as a director. Motion made by Warren Loring, seconded by Francene Weyland, that nominations from the floor be closed; carried.

Directors Ralph Patton, Clayton David, John

Rucigay and Francene Weyland were asked to stand and were re-elected for three-terms, expiring in 2006.

**Minutes of previous annual meeting** were distributed; motion made by Floyd Carl, second by Warren Loring to accept the minutes as printed; carried.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Intrepidus:** George Baker was unable to attend this meeting. President Smith briefly explained the organization to members.

**Yvonne Daley-Brusselmans** reported that the '02 Tampa reunion was expensive due to the cost of renting buses. Hospitality Room donations last year did not cover expenses and this is happening again.

### NEW BUSINESS

**2004 Reunion:** Yvonne Daley, chairman, reported that it will be April 29-30 and May 1-2 at the Valley Forge Hilton near Philadelphia, Pa. She outlined planned events, plus an add-on trip to Washington, D.C., to visit the World War II Memorial on the Mall; urged all to write their congressman about this visit on May 3, 2004. Hospitality chair will be Francene Weyland and the Daedalians will assist.

**Reunions after 2004:** President Smith announced that the Board of Directors recommends that future reunions be a 3-day event in a major city with no tours. Approved by a show of hands that the 2005 reunion be held in New Orleans, La.

**PX:** Members present approved phasing out the operation of the PX after the current inventory is sold. Replenishing stock is now cost prohibitive.

**Reunion Name Tags:** It was suggested that reunion registration forms include a box in which to include air force, group etc information and that this be included on the name tags. Francene Weyland suggested that retired military designation be included. Unanimous approval given.

**Clarke Brandt** asked that stories/books be sent to all the military archives; contact him for addresses, and a member encouraged others to talk to school children. He has found it to be a worthwhile experience.

**Cappy Bie** announced that his interviews taped at the reunion will be sent to major military museums and installations for their archives.

**Clayton David:** received a call from Ross Weins in Canada, extending greetings to the group. Clayton announced that the escape group in Holland is publishing a book, *Stepping Stones to Freedom*, in the U.S. Copies will be mailed to our members with AFEES paying shipping and handling charges.

**President Smith** thanked Larry Grauerholz for coordinating the 2003 reunion, accompanied by an appreciative round of applause.

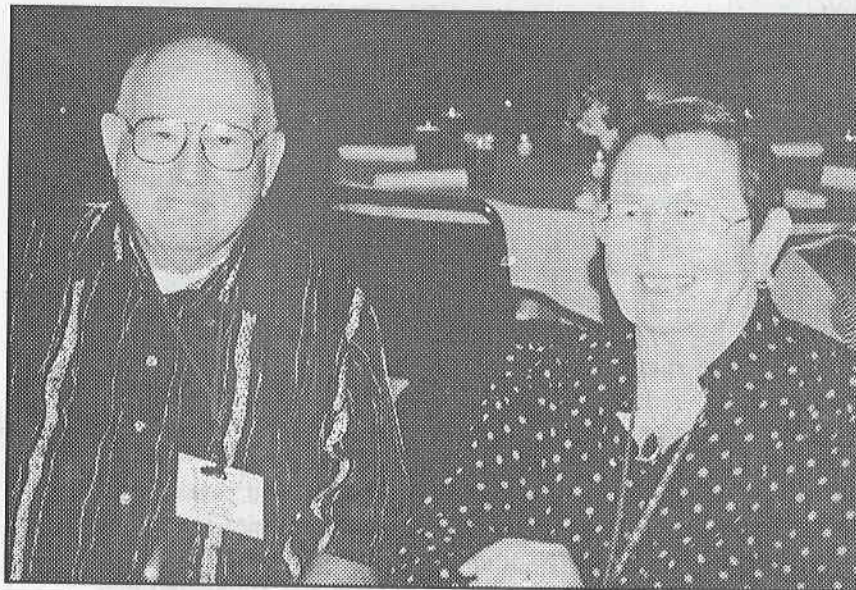
Motion to adjourn was made by John Rucigay, seconded by Clayton David; carried at 2:55 p.m.

WARREN E. LORING, Recording Secretary





*This friendly message banner in the atrium of the Holiday Inn greeted AFEES members for the reunion in Wichita Falls and set the tone for the four-day event.*



*Rosalie R. Schantz, Belgian Helper, and her husband J. Thomas were attending their first AFEES reunion when they came to Wichita Falls in early May. They live in Green Valley, Ariz.*



*Member Ed Miller of Sedona, Ariz., seems ready to take his first-place raffle check from Dorothy Lashinsky while her husband Francis keeps an eye on proceedings.*

## Raffle adds to AFEES helper fund

The 2003 AFEES raffle added more than \$5600 to the Helper Fund, which is used to pay for registration fees and hotel accommodations for helpers.

Helpers who attend are responsible for their transportation and hotel incidentals.

Raffle Chair Frank Lashinsky reports that total income from sale of tickets and donations was \$7232; printing and postage was about \$610, and \$975 was awarded in prizes.

Books of tickets were mailed to 778 members early in the year. Of that number, 477 responded and 438 made an extra donation.

Names of raffle winners were drawn at the closing night banquet of the reunion. They were:

\$500, Ed Miller of Sedona, AZ; \$250, Harold Korman, Beaver, PA; \$100, Michel Carpenter, Smyrna, GA; \$75, Bettie Smith, San Antonio, TX; \$50, John Carah, El Dorado Hills, CA



# Sacrifices are remembered

From the Wichita Falls (Texas)  
Times Record News  
Monday, May 5, 2003

By LEE WEAVER  
Times Record News Staff

Marguerite Fraser survived six months in a German concentration camp, endured her father's lengthy imprisonment and saw her family's home destroyed during World War II.

Despite those hardships, Fraser further risked her liberty and her life to harbor downed Allied airmen and ensure their safe passage from Nazi-controlled France as part of the French Resistance.

Fraser joined the Resistance in 1943, when she was still Marguerite Brouard. When she was still 16.

The U.S. Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society -- an organization that honors and promotes the relationships between downed wartime airmen and their civilian "Helpers" -- wrapped up its annual reunion Sunday at the Wichita Falls Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites.

Fraser, who now resides in Arizona, was among the veterans, family, friends and Resistance workers to attend the four-day event.

Fraser's duties as a French Resistance member included helping hide airmen in her family home, typing papers for the Resistance and carrying sensitive documents.

"If I had been caught, I would have been taken and probably asked questions about what I was doing," Fraser said. "And I quite probably would have been tortured and put to death."

The bond between these unlikely partners has strengthened over time through the AFEES annual get-togethers, retired Capt. Ed Miller said.

"At these reunions, we get up and we thank these people for risking their lives to save our lives," he said. "Then, they get up and thank us for liberating their country. By the time we're all

finished, 80 percent of us are crying."

Francene Weyland "joined up" with AFEES during the 1980s, along with her husband, the late Russel S. Weyland.

"My husband was in the 15th Air Force with the 376th Bomber Group. He was a navigator and bombardier," Weyland said. "He was a bombardier the day he was shot down."

Russel Weyland bailed out of his crashing B-24 Liberator and pulled his parachute cord.

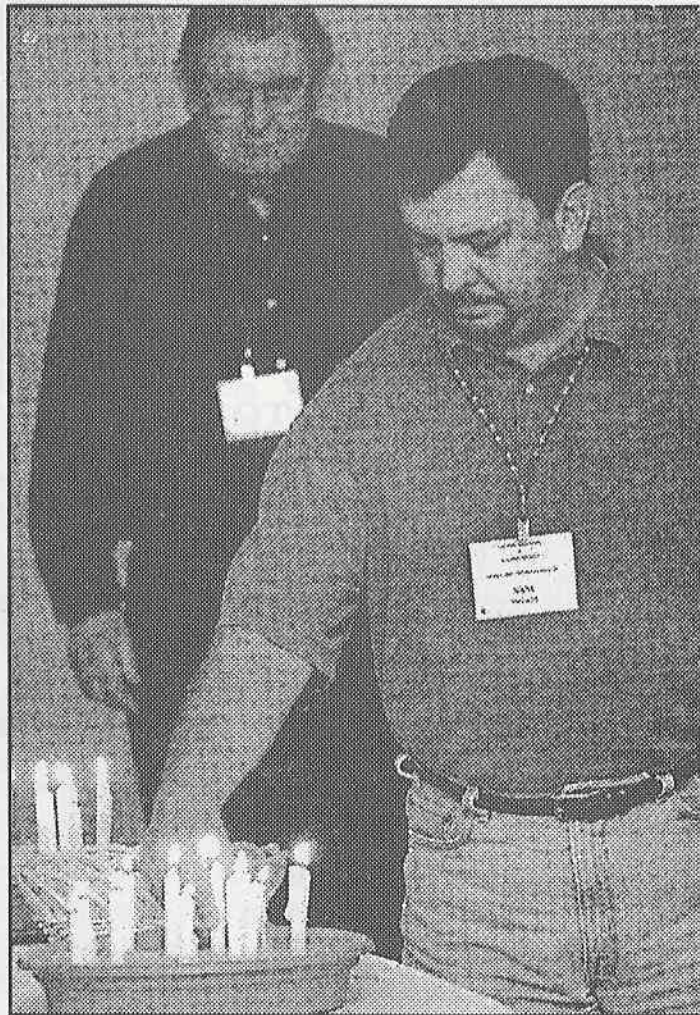
French farmers cared for him

initially, before passing him on to Resistance member Maurice Costa, who put him up in his home.

Weyland repaid the Frenchman's favor by helping assemble weapons for the Free French.

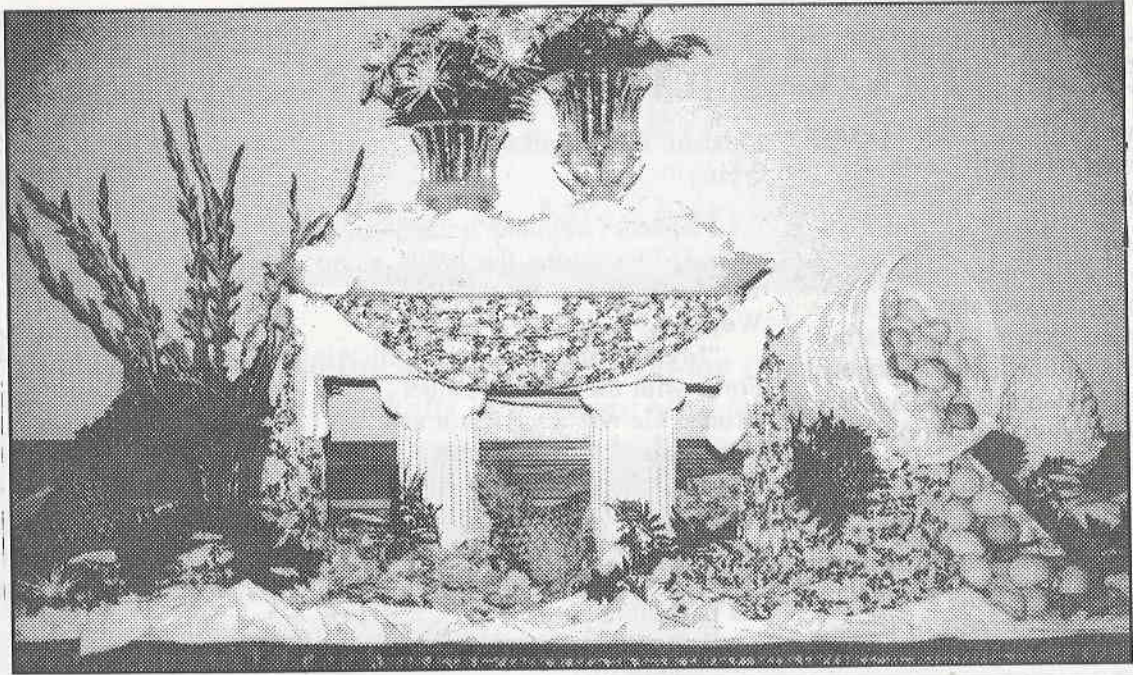
Russel Weyland passed away in April 2000, making the AFEES reunions that much more meaningful, Francene Weyland said.

"They're all people you know. You feel comfortable. You feel welcome," she said. "I talk to the guys just like we both used to. I'd encourage more widows to come down."



*Sam Sweatt of Big Sandy, Tex., lights a candle in memory of his father and his father's crew who flew a bomber over Europe. The memorial candle-lighting service closes each year's reunion. Paul Kenney of Atlanta, Ga., awaits his turn.*





**The Saturday night International Dinner for the Wichita Falls Reunion featured ethnic food stations, each presenting foods of the respective nation.**

**It proved to be a highly popular buffet arrangement.**

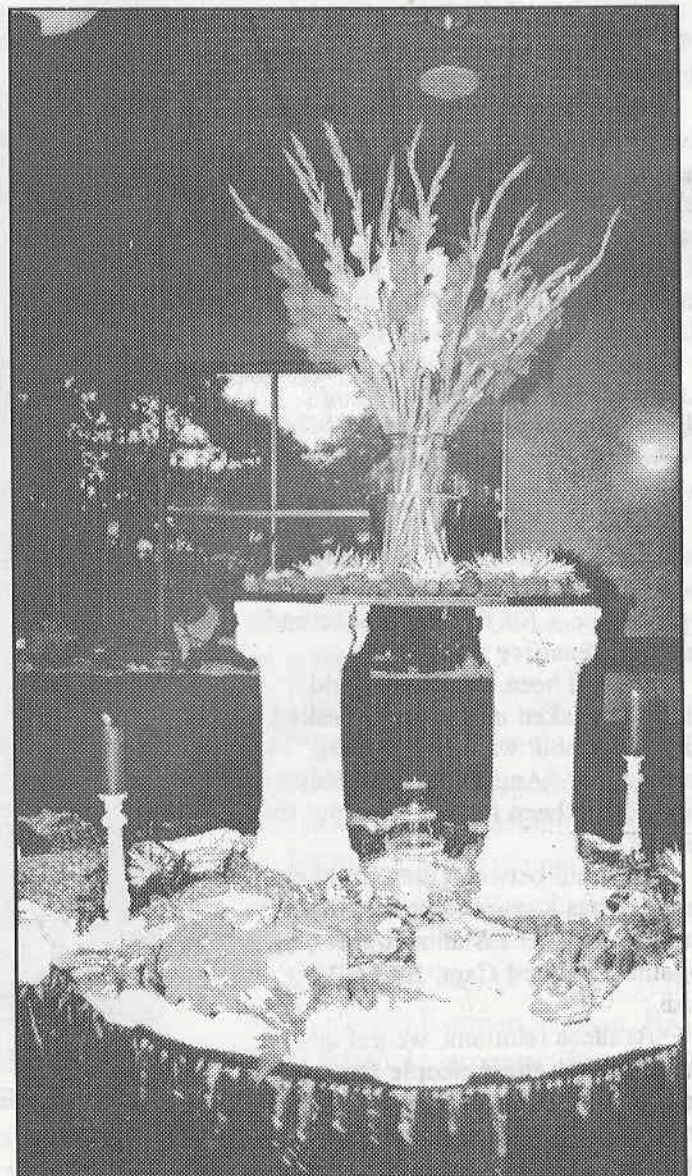
**Several officers from the NATO flying training wing at Sheppard AFB were special guests of AFEES.**

**The English station offered Steamship Round of Beef, silver dollar rolls, marmalade and other condiments.**

**The German table featured Bratwurst, knackwurst, breads and a variety of mustards.**

**The Italian station menu included penne and bowtie pasta, Alfredo and Marinara Sauces, fresh vegetables and chips.**

**The French-Dutch station offered canapes, quiche, eclairs, apple fritters, fresh strawberries and a cheese display.**





# ... a promise is a promise

By YVONNE-DALEY  
Dunedin, Fla.

Where did Yvonne go after the successful reunion in Wichita Falls? She headed for the Five Lazy S Ranch where Robert and Mary Sweatt live in South Texas.

Before I report on my stay with them, let me describe Oleo Acres (the Cheaper Spread for those who remember the margarine ads), where Larry and Ruth Grauerholz preside over dozens of pecan trees (that word is pronounced pa-kahn, not pee-can), and a forest of mesquite trees as far as the eye can see. Mockingbirds, cardinals, Bobwhite quail, purple martins, robins and other feathered friends have all found sanctuary with Inky and spouse.

However, I defy anyone to find the place without help, not even a GPS would do it. No address, no mailbox, just a gate to a house hidden at the end of a long narrow swerving driveway.

I can't forget some of the local critters such as armadillos, and especially the nightly serenade of the coyotes.

One evening what Larry called a Texas breeze almost sent us to the underground shelter. (Eek, scorpions, which Larry warned do come up through the drain into the bathtub.)

I had been warned to expect Texas and Oklahoma sandstorms but no one told me about hurricane force winds. Yes, everything is bigger in Texas; even rain drops were the size of a half dollar!

If Oleo Acres was difficult to find, it took three cellular phone calls and the help of a Texas policewoman to guide me to the Lazy S Ranch. Memories of my 36-hour stay at this sprawling 200-acre spread with an oil well will linger for a long time.

It took no time for my bassett hound Sir Lancelot to make friends

with horses, Angus and Hereford cattle, though he kept away from the two bulls.

That evening we dined under the stars, lingered in the cool of the night, reminiscing about the reunion, the friends we visited with, and Bob and Mary's friend, Anne Brusselmans.

Many years ago, Mother promised to visit the Sweatts and Bob had vowed to take her for a hay ride. She was never able to keep her promise, so my visit was the chance to do it in her name.

Next day was exhilarating for a city gal as we embarked on a tour of the three parcels of land making up the 200 acres. Now, we could have taken the yellow Jeep I saw in the barn but it had overturned with Bob and Mary in it the week before and it certainly showed signs of the mishap. I guess the truck was safer!

As we toured, it reminded me of movies depicting wagon trains headed West. Up and down, crossing creeks, looking for bluebonnets which unfortunately were no longer in bloom. We finally reached a clearing. Suddenly, having called the herd, several cows

showed up from way back behind some bushes, accompanied by baby calves. One or two of them were born during the reunion.

Back at the ranch house, I was taken to the "tack" room where perched on "wooden horses" were saddles of all sizes, a silver-studded one belonging to Bob, a smaller one less ornate for Mary and then one for each child and grandchild.

My hosts seem to work from sunrise to sunset. Feeding chickens, gathering eggs, counting the herd, making sure all is well in the corral . . . and loving it all.

These young-in-heart Sweatts are planning a build a bridge across a creek to facilitate driving from one lot to another.

It was time to resume my drive to Florida, delighted that I had kept a promise Mother could never make.

Texas was all I envisioned, blue skies, long winding roads without a house in sight and hospitality long to be remembered.

Yes, in my book, DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS!

I will be back; I need to take a picture of the completed bridge!



*The Sweatts (Mary, Sam, Bob) have many other friends in AFEES*



## Best wishes from overseas:

### *Some friends were with us at least in spirit at reunion time*

**From Jean et Godelieve Pena, Laucourt, France:**

"To members of the U.S. Air Forces Escape & Evasion Society:

"Nous regrettons de ne pas être avec Vous. But we remember your sacrifice and generosity.

"Thank you very much. God Bless America and bring your boys safely home."

**From Pietje Remco and Pia Van Veen, Leimuiden, Holland:**

"Dear People of AFEES:

"We want you to let you know that our mind and heart is with you during the reunion in Wichita Falls! We hope you all enjoy the reunion very much and we wish you all happiness and especially good health!

"During the memorial service on the 4th of May from 9:45 till 11:00, we will light candles too and think about the people who are in heaven. We are not at the same place, but we are there too!

"Hopefully this will reach you in time and with a little bit of luck and help from above, we hope to see you next year wherever it may be.

"Lots of love!"

**From Jacques & Letti Vrij, Rijswijk, Holland, May 3, 2003:**

"We send our regards to all members and friends of the AFEES. We think of you in these remarkable times with war and peace to attain good relations in some countries.

"We hope the best of the efforts of your people in the interest of the world.

"Have a good time!"

## More reports about escape maps in use

Chairman Ralph Patton has received more responses to his question in the Winter 02 newsletter (Page 5) concerning the escape maps included in survival kits on combat missions.

Scott Goodall, our friend in Southern France, sent Ralph a snail mail in which he reported that a friend with the RAF made good use of the map in crossing the Pyrenees near St. Girons after being helped by the legendary Marie Dissart in Toulouse.

He wonders whether RAF maps and AAC maps were the same size. The RAF map is 54 cm. square. John Franklin still has two maps.

AFEES Director John Rucigcay says, "I had an escape map, and did not use it in the first hour, but it was a real help later on as we planned routes the next four weeks." John still has the map today.

Member Claude Murray hung on to his escape map and escape kit and now both are on display at the 8th AF Heritage Museum in Savannah, Ga. Claude says, "Yes, I had two escape maps. I landed in the water. Using the dingy and the Mae West, I floated into an abandoned Dutch fortress close to shore on the Zyder Zee. The maps were a real help to me."

The full story is in Claude's book, "Flight Boots to Wooden Shoes to Flight Boots."

Beetle Bailey





# AIR FORCES ESCAPE & EVASION SOCIETY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

**For Year Ending December 31, 2002**

<b>RECEIPTS:</b>			
ANNUAL DUES		1,880.00	
LIFE MEMBERSHIPS		1,000.00	
GIFTS		965.00	
INTEREST		264.30	
ROYALTIES		549.73	
RAFFLE - NET		6,484.03	
POST EXCHANGE - NET		2,980.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS			14,123.06
<b>DISBURSEMENTS:</b>			
NEWS LETTER & POSTAGE		4,488.06	
MEMBERSHIP		396.13	
CHRISTMAS CARDS & POSTAGE		675.83	
REUNION - DISBURSEMENTS	38,970.52		
- RECEIPTS	26,847.00	12,123.52	
DEPOSIT ON 2004 REUNION		500.00	
MISCELLANEOUS		112.00	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			18,295.54
<b>EXCESS OF DISBURSEMENTS</b>			(4,172.48)
<b>CASH BALANCE - BEGINNING</b>			34,063.79
<b>CASH BALANCE - ENDING</b>			29,891.31
<b>SUMMARY OF ENDING CASH BALANCE</b>			
CHECKING ACCOUNT		15,896.04	
CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT		13,995.27	
TOTAL		29,891.31	



## *Hawaiian teenager finds a treasure in the sand*

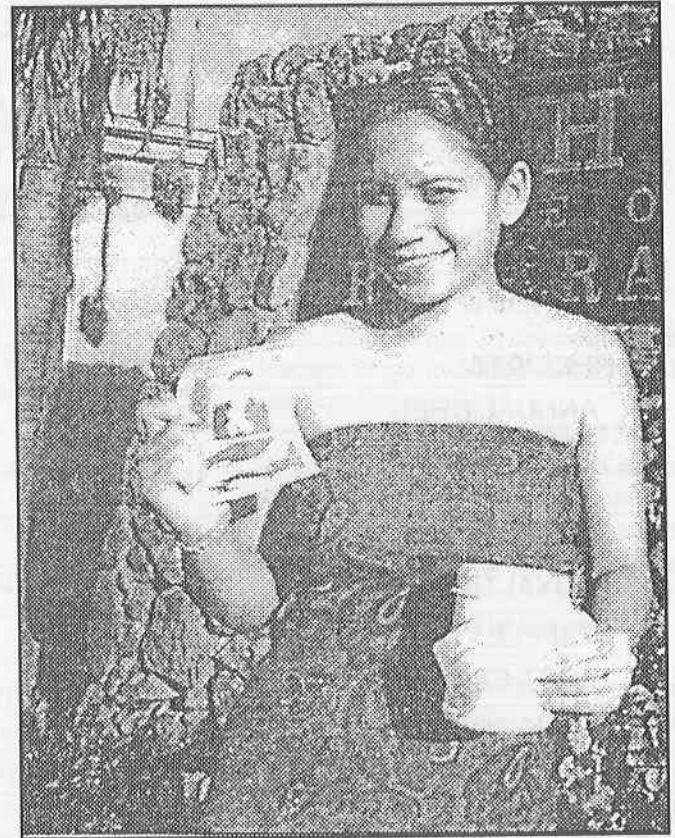
**From the North Shore News, Oahu, Hawaii,  
Jan. 10, 2001**

It was supposed to be a morning of community service spent stomping through the wet sand and collecting dirty, smelly ocean debris along the Malaekahana shoreline. Seventeen-year-old senior Reuntai Juliano was part of a handful of students from Kahuku High School National Honor Society and Environmental Club combing the beach for trash in a volunteer effort to clean up the environment.

What she found was more than trash. Reuntai discovered a priceless treasure, a time-capsule of sorts of a man's life tucked into a container and tossed into the deep more than 17 years ago by a defecting fighter pilot fleeing the Chinese Communist Air Force. His short message was still intact. In part, it reads, "Because I hate the Communist Party and I hate the Communist system, on October 16, 1982, I left a base in Shandong (in a fighter plane) and flew to free Taiwan."

Written in Chinese characters, the pilot identifies himself as Wu Rong-gen. Enclosed in the water-tight container was a photo of himself and the aircraft he defected with. At the time, it is believed that Taiwan was offering an award in pounds of gold for Chinese pilots that would defect by arriving in a fighter plane.

Reuntai said she walked past the container once, and went back for a second look. It was partially open with the lid detached and resting in the sand a few



*High School Senior Reuntai Juliano displays the plastic air-tight mug and its contents that she found on the shore at Malaekahanba Beach, Oahu, Hawaii inches away. After she stooped for a closer look, her eyes discovered the color photograph and a calendar for the year 1982.*

## **'01 Directory Changes**

1. Nona Adcock "W", 1314 Winchester Drive, Conroe, TX 77385
2. Betty Bolken "W", 1431 Lindberg, Alamogordo, NM 88310
3. Robert Brill "LF", 645 Ferry Street, Easton, PA 18042-4447; Ph.: 610-250-9966
4. Jess W. Britton, 10033 County Road 1125, Tyler, TX 75709-9702
5. Mrs. Susan Caldwell "W", <elisiadot@comcast.net>
6. Col. Glendon V. Davis "L", 301 White Oak Drive, Apt. 144, Santa Rosa, CA 95409-5999; Ph.: 707-539-3977
7. Norman Elkin \*S\*, NJ, <nelkinaz@aol.com
8. Walter L. Harvey "L", 5434 E. Lincoln Dr., #27, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253; Ph.: 480-483-4658
9. William B. Hayes, "L", 55 W. Rainsong Street, Apt. 37, Farmington, AR 72730-8634;
10. A. Ray Kubly, Watertown, WI <rkubly@charter.net>
11. Everest L. Marks "L", Box 349, Saco, MT 59261
12. Eugene P. McDonnell "L", 2925 Lincoln Drive, Apt. 701, St. Paul, MN 55113-1351; Ph.: 651-628-3852
13. Milton Moen, 2901 271st St. Ave., Madison, MN 56256-3020 (Same phone number)
14. Claude C. Murray "L", 7211 North 7th Street, Apt. C-3, Phoenix, AZ 85020; Ph.: 602-943-4373
15. Ms. Mary Murrell "W", 816 Maplewood Lane, Cumberland, MD 21502-1425
16. John A. Neal, Apt. 2310, 9600 Southland Circle S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2V 5A1 Canada; Phone: 403-873-1353
17. Mrs. Kate Spinning "W", 3280 Walton Blvd., Apt. 18, Rochester Hills, MI 48309-1287



# THE RAVING

(Author Unknown)

*With apologies to Edgar Allen Poe*

Once upon a mission dreary,  
When of combat I'd grown weary,  
I had flown three hundred hours,  
And was sure to fly some more.

Suddenly there came a knocking,  
Sounded like some ack-ack popping,  
Popping like the very devil,  
Just beneath my bomb-bay doors.

"Tis some Jerry," then I muttered,  
"Trying to improve his score."  
I shall use evasive tactics,  
Even if he does get sore.

Turning then, I saw before me,  
Blacker now than 'ere before,  
Ack-ack bursting close and heavy,  
Guess I'd better turn some more.

Wide, I swing the bomb-bay doors,  
And to my surprise and horror,  
Flashing bright and fast before me,  
Were some ninety guns or more.

And above the shrapnel's screeching,  
I remembered then the briefing,  
When they tell us with much speaking,  
There were only three or four.

Leveling then, I made the bomb run,  
Which was not a long and dry one,  
For the Varsity was on duty  
And I'd seen their work before.

Then an engine coughed and clattered,  
And the glass around me splattered,  
And I knew they had my number,  
Just my number and nothing more.

Then at last the bombs were toggled,  
And alone, away I hobbled,  
Drawing 47 inches,  
And a feathered Number Four.

While outside like ducks migrating,  
Was a drove of MEs waiting,  
Waiting all, with fingers itching,  
Set to even up the score.

## *Story of 'The Young Ones' should be out in August*

**THE YOUNG ONES**, by Eric Dyreborg (675 pages, 50 graphics) is a collection of stories from the wartime experiences of American airmen who served in Europe and in the Pacific during World War II.

The 33 stories are narrated by airmen or submitted by relatives, and recount missions over enemy territory, encounters with enemy fighters, struggles to control battle-damaged planes, crash landings, and bailout from exploding planes, often leaving behind dead and wounded.

Many airmen who survived these experiences were captured and spent the rest of the war as POWs. Some airmen managed to evade captivity and escaped. Some were on the run for months throughout Europe, some hiding for almost a year until war's end.

During WWII, more than 26,000 young American airmen lost their lives over Europe and over 21,000 became POWs. About 3,000 managed to evade capture after being shot down.

These are stories of some of those airmen, most of them only 19 or 20 years old. These are stories of *The Young Ones*, expected to be available in August 2003 from the publisher, iUniverse, Lincoln, Neb.

*Eric Dyreborg lives in Copenhagen, Denmark. A crashed B-17 near his boyhood home fuelled his historical interest in the WWII air war and has resulted in his authoring three books in the past three years about American airmen.*



4 juillet 1943: une stele en memoire des aviateurs et des resistants

*(July 4, 1943: a stele to the memory of airmen and Resistants)*

## Ceremonie du souvenir a Belfonds *(Ceremony of Remembrance at Belfonds)*

From *QUEST-FRANCE*,  
July 5, 1999

*(Translated  
by Marie-Antoinette McConnell)*

By GERALDINE BREMAND

On July 4, 1943, 56 years ago, a B-17 American bomber crashed under fire from the German army to the name place "La Val-de-Vey" at La Coulonche.

Last week, ceremonies were held at La Coulonche and Belfonds to honor two survivors, Col. John M. Carah and Lt. Paul McConnell.

While it is true that Mr. Rougeyron saved and hid many parachutists, things went a little differently for John Carah.

In fact, John Carah, co-pilot, had parachuted at the village of Juvigny-sous-Andaine and had been picked up by Mr. Pardieu from the manor of Lessard, then hidden for 3 weeks at La Haudupierre and La Poussifere (at Chapelle d'Andaine) by Messrs. Jean Retoux and Paul Monsallier, during which time his return to England was planned.

Everyday, until his departure, Marie-Therese Guesnon, 15 years old at the time, a basket in her hand and her cat on her shoulder, brought him food.

With his friend Paul David from the Hotel of Tesse, Jean Retoux organized the departure of the aviator, who hid in the "gazo" tank (previously emptied) of a truck. At Lassay thanks to the gendarmes and to Mr. Jousset and Mr. Bretau, John Carah remained in hiding for one more month until Daniel Chevrier, from Montreuil-Poulay, then 19 years old, led him to



**Paul McConnell (left) and John Carah return to the French village where they were rescued after their B-17 crashed on July 3, 1943. Several of the villagers paid with their lives for helping the Americans.**

Switzerland.

Daniel now relates: "It was not as easy task because the Germans were everywhere. We reached Laval in a moving truck. Then in order to reach the American Embassy at Berne, Switzerland, we had to go through Paris, Dijon, Besancon, Neuchatel. The trip took 8 days.

"In the train we had to be very careful, so I asked the aviators to pretend they were deaf and mute."

Until the end of the war, Daniel Chevrier managed to get through to Switzerland some ten other

parachutists and yet, 56 years later, he still has not been awarded any medals.

Mr. Jean Retoux, after the liberation, received a letter and citation from General Eisenhower.

It was on Tuesday, July 6, 1999, that John Carah and Paul McConnell were welcomed back to the villages where the underground saved them from the Germans.

A memorial was built and dedicated to make sure that the historical details of the rescues be recorded.



\*\*\*\*\*

# Philadelphia!

## ***Reunion: April 29--May 3, 2004***

*In addition to the city tour of Philadelphia, with lunch at the Union League Club on Friday, April 30, and Valley Forge National Park with Parade of Cadets on Sunday, May 2, both to be included in the Reunion Package, your input is needed to select optional tours for the Reunion.*

### ***Suggestions:***

**Thursday, 29 April -- U.S. Army War College, Pa.**  
Carlisle Barracks is 110 miles from the King Of Prussia area (2 1/2 Hr. drive). It is the most prestigious institution for the education of strategic leaders. It also collects, preserves, and makes available material on military history.

***Estimated Cost of Tour: \$25.00, Duration: 8 hrs.***

### ***Alternate for Thursday, 29 April***

**Pennsylvania Dutch Country, Lancaster County**  
Briefing on Amish lifestyle. Experience a wedding ceremony, learning traditions involved. Visit a quilt shop and lunch in an Old Order Amish home; special wedding luncheon. Browse through Kitchen Kettle Shopping Village.

***Estimated Cost: \$55.00, incl. guide, admissions, lunch***

***Duration: 8 hrs.***

***(Saturday, May 1, is a free day)***

## **Monday, May 3: World War II Memorial**

To be completed April 2004 and dedicated on Memorial Day weekend 2004. Trip will require about 3 hours each way with meal stop on the way. Bus transportation only, no guide.

**Estimate Cost: \$25.00, plus meal. Duration: 8 hrs.**

Please respond by Aug. 1, 2003, and indicate choice of tours, one, two or three in order of preference. A tour of the WWII Memorial would extend the reunion to Monday, May 3.

Send your response to: Yvonne-Daley Brusselsmans,  
Reunion Coordinator, 1962 Brae Moor Drive, Dunedin,  
FL 34698-3250, <AFEES127@webtv.net>

\*\*\*\*\*



# FLASHBACK

*From the Queens (N.Y.) Examiner, Sept. 5, 2002*



(Left) Ralph V. Vollono, Coordinator – Dinner Committee, Extreme Right of Sir William is Jeff Jones, talking to Sir William. Jones was President of Veterans of OSS which was a WWII American spy military unit.

***On September 22, 1983 aboard the Intrepid Sea-Air Space Museum Intrepid Square New York City. The Veterans of OSS William J. Donovan Award Medal was presented to 87-year-old, Sir William Stephenson who was called Britain's Master Spy during World War II and had the code name Intrepid. With the Fall of France and the Battle of Britain in the balance, Sir William was sent to America to seek aid and to coordinate all British Secret Intelligence and special operations in the American Theatre, from 1940 to 1946 based in New York City.***

## NEW MEMBERS

**CW-2 FREDERIC A. BEHRENS**

2525 Maiden Road  
Powhattan, VA 23139-5622  
Phone: 804-598-2868  
Vietnam Air Ambulance Pilot  
101st Airborne Div.

**RICHARD T. "Dick" ENNIS**

80 North Ninth Street  
Miamisburg, OH 45342-2426  
Phone: 937-866-5462  
E&E #1750, 95 BG  
Wife: Dorothy

**EUGENE R. HODGE**

4 Arnold Drive  
Texarkana, AR 71854  
Phone: 870-772-4723  
15th AF, 460 BG  
Wife: Nancy

## NEW FRIENDS

**JOHN & ELLEN FLEMING**

201-102 East Byron Place  
King of Prussia, PA 19406  
Phone: 630-962-0344  
<jpfleming@premusa.com>  
Army Air Corps Historians

**FRANK C. HARRISON**

436 Christopher Avenue  
El Paso, TX 79912-5024  
Phone: 915-584-8065  
Naval Air, WW II  
Wife: Roberta

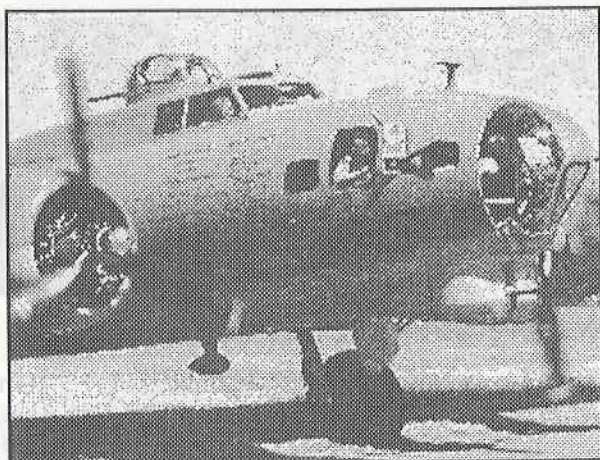
## Raiders honor fallen comrades

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. -- The Doolittle Raiders held their traditional goblet ceremony April 16 during the group's 61st annual reunion, held here.

During the goblet ceremony, the men toast with cognac and then turn over the goblets of those who have died since the last meeting.

Each silver goblet bears the name of one of the 80 Doolittle raiders who were part of the pivotal mission April 18, 1942, to bomb Tokyo.





TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. -- Maj. Gen. John Becker (top), 15th Air Force commander, copilots a B-17 Flying Fortress at Nut Tree airport in Vacaville, Calif., after performing a flyover May 27.

Chief Master Sgt. David Spector from 60th Air Mobility Wing here monitors the aircraft's movement. The B-17 was the first plane operated by Travis' 6th Air Refueling Squadron.

### **Harry C. McCool**

#### **Doolittle Raider**

Harry C. McCool, one of the Doolittle Raiders in World War II, died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, in San Antonio, Tex. He was 84.

In 1942, McCool was a navigator on Crew 4 among the B-25 bomber crews, led by then-Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle, who took off from the USS Hornet for the first U.S. strike on Tokyo after Pearl Harbor.

His plane was attacked by Japanese fighters and the bombs were jettisoned over China and when they ran out of fuel, they bailed out. The Chinese helped them get to American lines.

After the raid, McCool flew 13 missions in China. On one, he was shot down off the coast of Burma. British forces rescued him after he had spent three days on a raft.

After the war, McCool continued his military career and became a deputy director for the Strategic Air Command. He retired from active duty in 1966.

Le Prix Littéraire de la Résistance a été attribué à

**Georges BROUSSINE**

pour

**« L'évadé de la France Libre  
le Réseau Bourgogne »**

## **COMITE D'ACTION DE LA RESISTANCE**



**REMISE DU PRIX LITTERAIRE  
DE LA RESISTANCE**

**LE LUNDI 2 DECEMBRE 2002**

**A 16 H 15**

**AU SENAT, SALONS DE BOFFRAND**

Shoe





# **-FOLDED WINGS-**

## **MEMBERS**

- #449 Charles E. Adcock, Lexington, NE, 94 BG, Dec. 26, 2002
- #286 Arthur R. Beach, Meridian, ID, 92 BG, March 2003
- #1292 Magnus G. Bolken "L", Alamogordo, NM, 305 BG, Mar. 29, 2002
- 8 AF John M. Carah, El Dorado Hills, CA, 381 BG, Feb. 3, 2003
- #541 Shirley V. Casey, Midland, TX, 92 BG, April 29, 2003
- 15 AF Frederick DeMatteis, Old Westbury, NY, 464 BG, Oct. 16, 2001
- # 258 Howard M. Harris "L", Wolcott, NY, 100 BG, March 26, 2003
- # 2863 Jack A. Murrell, Cumberland, MD, 316 TCG, Jan. 29, 2003
- # 2030 Richard E. Wright, Houston, TX, 493 BG, March 26, 2003

## **HELPERS**

- M. Pierre GUILLERM, Chevreuse, France, Dec. 10, 2002
- Mr. Willem WOLTERINK, AR Enschede, Holland, Dec. 26, 2002
- Mrs. Elsie "Charlotte" AMBACH, Belgium Helper living at Green Valley, AZ, April 9, 2003

### **Jack A. Murrell**

Jack Allen Murrell (E&E 2863), 9th Air Force, died Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2003, at his home in Cumberland, Md. He was born April 25, 1922, in Wilmington, N.C.

As a lieutenant in the Army Air Corps, he was pilot of a C-47 that was shot down in Holland on Sept. 18, 1944. He was taken prisoner immediately, but soon he and five others escaped from a German hospital in Utrecht, being helped by an electrician and a nurse at the hospital.

Jack and Ray Kubly (E&E 2864) lived with Underground helpers until they were evacuated from Ardenbout.

Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Mary (Weakley) Murrell, one daughter and one sister.

### **Richard E. Wright**

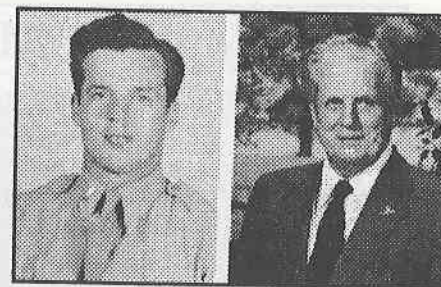
Richard E. Wright (E&E 2030), a World War II bombardier whose aircraft was shot down over Belgium, died March 26, 2003, at his home in Houston, Tex., of an apparent heart attack. He was 80.

He was a native of Racine, Wis.

On June 14, 1944, his B-24 Liberator was brought down by anti-aircraft fire. He parachuted from the stricken plane, breaking his ankle upon landing.

He was befriended by villagers, nursed back to health and put to work in the fields. "They told everyone he was a deaf mute to disguise the fact that he didn't speak French," his daughter said.

After the war, he earned an engineering degree at Lehigh University.



### **Howard M. Harris**

Life Member Howard M. Harris (E&E 258) died March 26, 2003, in Wolcott, N.Y. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Jeannette, one son and one grandson.

Howard was born on July 28, 1918, in Port Byron, N.Y.

He served in WWII and in Korea as a pilot and bombardier. His medals included the Purple Heart and Air Medal with cluster.

As a member of the 100th Bomb Group, he was shot down Sept. 3, 1943, near the Renault factory near Paris. On the third day, he was hidden by Vi Comtesse Henri de Sugny. From there Andre and Pauline LeFevre and daughter Paulette, hid him and his crewmate Alfred Zeoli for several months in their home at Juvisy, France.

He moved from Paris to Spain and spent 12 days in a Spanish prison before his release was arranged by the British.

### **S. V. Casey**

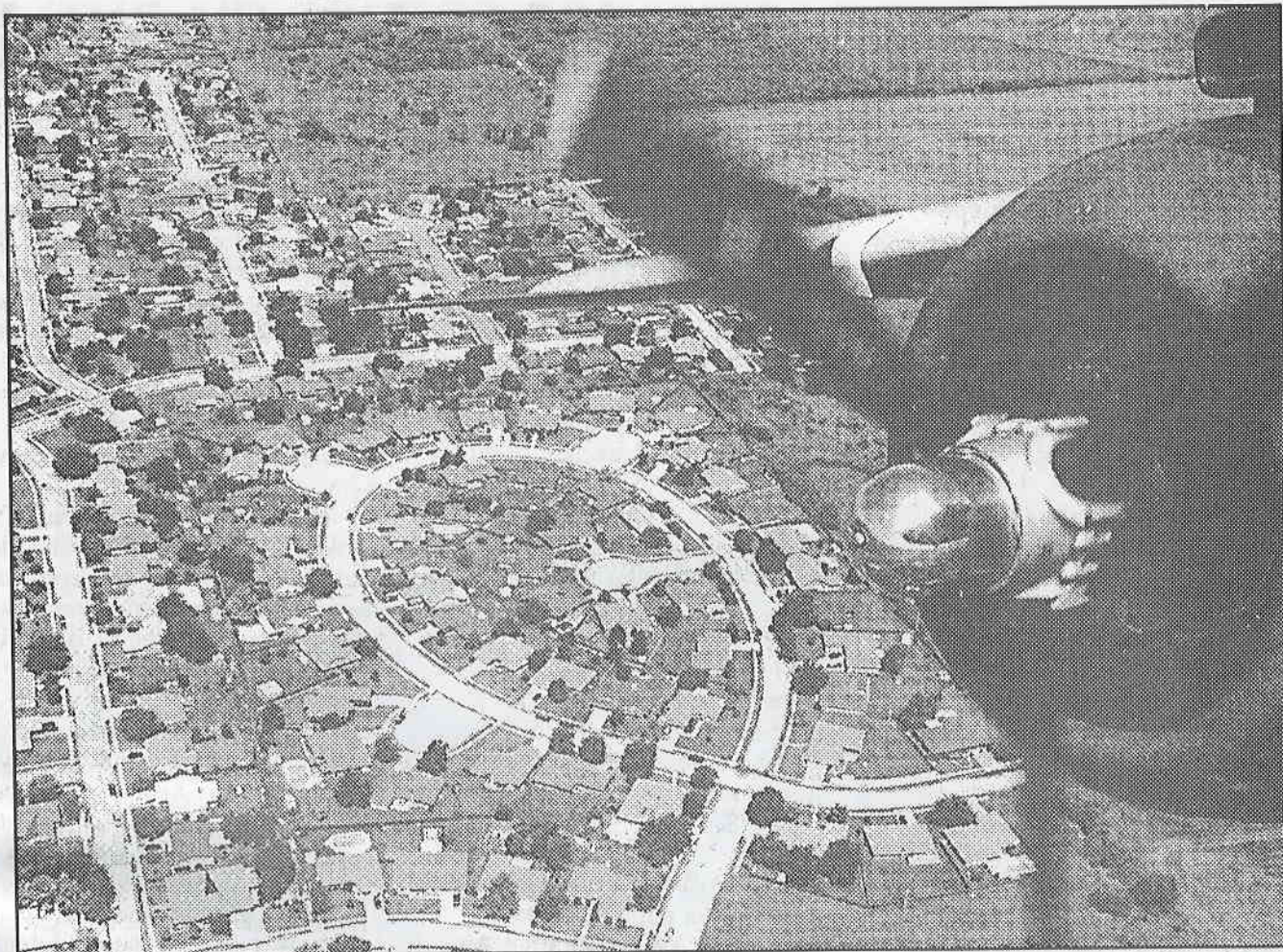
Shirley V. Casey (E&E 541) of Midland, Tex., was born Dec. 12, 1919, in Sapulpa, Okla. He passed away Tuesday, April 29, 2003, in Austin, Tex., with his wife, children and grandchildren at his side.

He and his wife had recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary, commemorating it with a month-long stay at Horseshoe Bay.

Casey attended West Texas State University and then joined the Army Air Corps.

During World War II, Casey served as a B-17 pilot with the 92nd Bomb Group. He was shot down over France on Dec. 31, 1943, and was listed as MIA for three months.





*Streets and houses of Wichita Falls, Texas, are below as YELLOW ROSE, a B-25 Mitchell bomber of the Commemorative Air Force, does a flyover during the Sheppard Air Force Base Centennial Air Power Celebration the weekend of June 14-15.*  
*There are only about 20 of the B-25s flying in the world today.*

+++++

## Moved recently? New Area Code? New ZIP?

**Please complete and clip or copy this form to remit dues or to report changes.**

**(Dues are \$20 per year. Life Membership is \$100. Make checks payable to AFEES)**  
**Send checks and changes to Clayton C. David, Membership Chair, 19 Oak Ridge Pond,**  
**Hannibal, MO 63401-6539, U.S.A.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Included \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City and State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_



# The editor has the last word

By LARRY GRAUERHOLZ  
<afees44@hotmail.com>

OR

<archerco@wf.quik.com>

WICHITA FALLS, Tex. -- One more AFEES reunion is history. The pace was a bit slower this year, the steps were a little shorter, but the spirit of Tom Brokaw's Greatest Generation was in full force.

We were treated royally by today's military, both at Fort Sill and at Sheppard AFB. I believe we all came away with the feeling that today's soldiers and airmen are the finest in the world.

There was a bit of excitement that was not on the program.

At the Thursday night Western dinner, the Longhorn steer stampeded when the mock gunfight began. We had a mini rodeo on our hands for a bit.

Ralph V. Vollono writes from Flushing, N.Y., that he has placed a copy of the SOE syllabus, *Lessons in Ungentlemanly Warfare WWII*, in the Borough of Queens Public Library. He received the publication from the British Public Record Office in London.

It was the actual training manual for SOE/OSS agents in WWII.

Miodrag Pesic from Serbia made it to the reunion last month, but it was not easy. He wound up in the Dallas airport and had to take a cab from there. Cost him 300 bucks.

No wonder he is trying to sell his book, *Operation Air Bridge* which reports on his adventures as a Balkan helper. Mio left me a few of his books, so if you want one, let me know. I will tell you how to handle the international exchange thingy.

Via the Internet, Member Gil Shawn has learned the identity of the Luftwaffe pilot who shot his B-24 down on April 12, 1944, near Waterloo, Belgium.

It was the 16th victory for Waldemar Radener, then the commander of the 6/JG26.

The German ace survived the war, but was killed in a training accident on Jan. 8, 1957.

Shirley Casey, who passed away recently, has quite a reputation around the Commemorative Air Force museum in Midland, Tex.

As a member and docent, he livened up many tours with his colorful stories.

THIS MAY BE THE TIME that

we get some recognition from our hired hands in Washington.

A friend, Brett Quillin of Granbury, Tex., has gained the attention of our senior Texas U.S. Senator, Kay Bailey Hutchison.

Brett's original letter is shown on Page 5. What with the surge in national patriotism since 9/11, perhaps now is the time. To contact Senator Hutchison: <senator@hutchison.senate.gov>

Member Bob Kelley couldn't make the '03 reunion, but he did the next best thing. He arranged for two Frenchmen, Henri Francois and Michel Ney, to attend. Both Henri and Michel are relatives of Bob's wartime helpers.

The video team from Sheppard AFB who worked with Cappy Bie in recording experiences of our members, reports that they are getting the interviews into VHS format and should have them finished by the end of June.

Another Gus Says: "A fellow can't keep folks from having a bad opinion of him, but he can keep them from being right about it."

--The Scandal Sheet, Graham, Tex.

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