



The Ragged Irregular

91st Bombardment Group (H) Newsletter

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'76 Reunion Set For Colorado Springs

The 1976 National Reunion, sponsored by the Western Division of the Memorial Association, has been set for Colorado Springs, Colo., July 7,8,9,10.

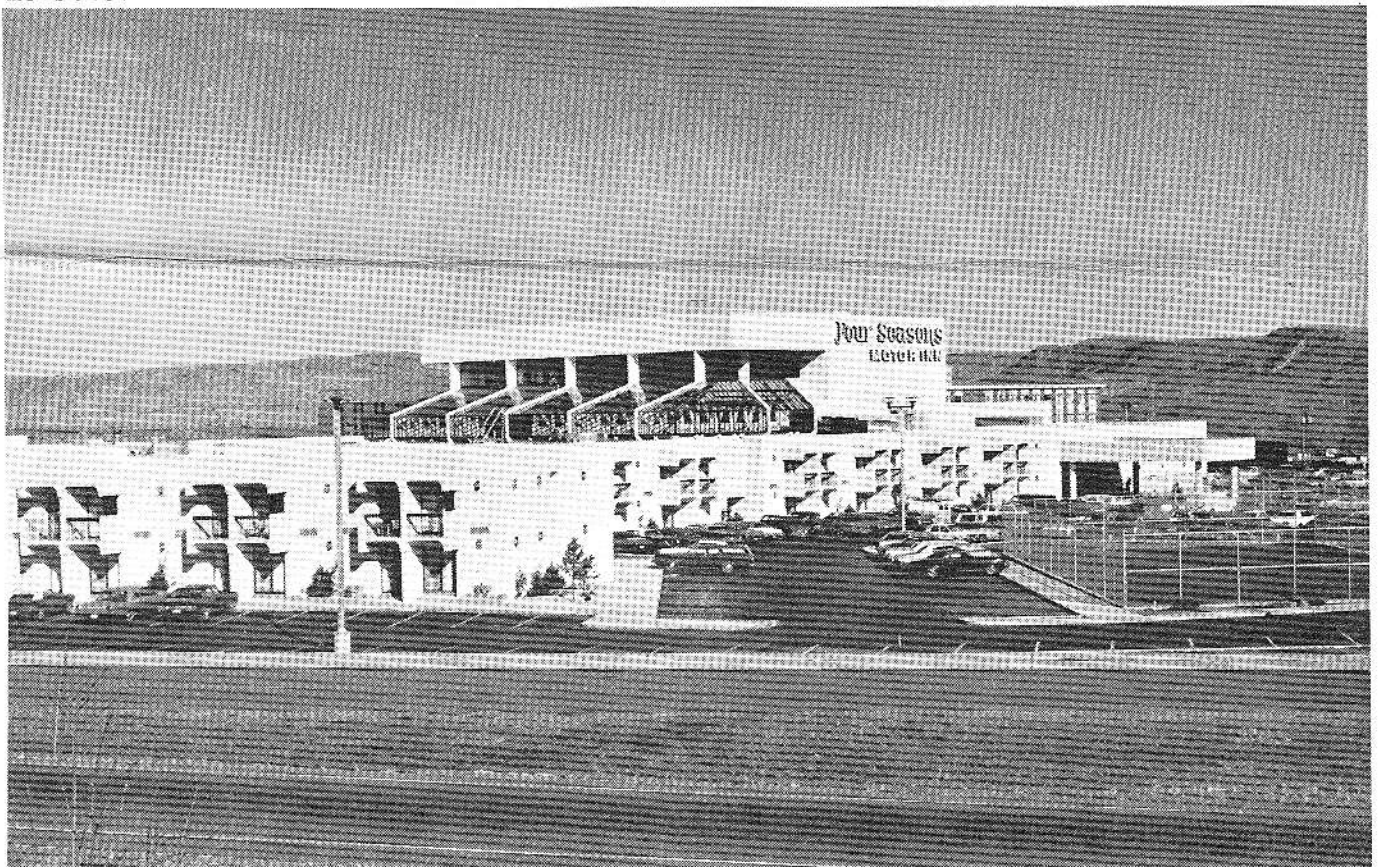
The site is not only the home of the Air Force Academy but is one of the most attractive vacation centers in the Rocky Mountain area. A multitude of local attractions, such as Pike's Peak, the Garden of the Gods, Seven Falls, Cave of the Winds and others will offer a grand family vacation. Colorado Springs also offers easy access to many other outstanding Colorado attractions.

Those who attended the 1968 Reunion in Denver will agree that this is an ideal area for a vacation that is easy to reach for both Eastern and Western division members.

Heading up the Reunion Committee is Glenn Boyce of Lakewood, Colo., who has hosted several Colorado area Rally Rounds. The committee includes Sam Newton of Denver, who led the 1968 Reunion; S/Sgt (Ret) Lewis Simpson, Hudson; Col. Paul D. Jessop, Colorado Springs; Col. (Ret) Herbert F. Egender, Aurora; LTC (Ret) Milton Green, Denver, and LTC (Ret) Charles H. Silvernail, Evergreen.

Reunion headquarters will be the Four Seasons Motor Inn, with more than 300 beautiful rooms, inside and outside swimming pools, tennis courts, putting green, and outstanding dining and lounge facilities.

Mark the date on your calendar now-- "Pike's Peak or Bust" in '76!



New York Rally Round Big Success

New York area 91st-ers had another outstanding Rally Round at Middletown May 31.

Oscar Dino and Bill Harris headed the mission. More than 40 members and guests took part in an afternoon of nostalgia, a cocktail hour, and a Surf and Turf dinner.

Matt Kryjack (323 sqdn.) was surprised by his wife Helen's presentation of a check for \$100 to make Matt a Life Member. The money was earned and donated by their son, Matt Jr., as a special Father's Day present for Matt.

Col. Manny Klette, of Columbus, Ohio, was awarded the Jack Fearheller gift of an English pewter mug for having traveled the greatest distance to attend.

Attending were: Charles and Carolyn

Holman (324), John and Peggy Taylor (324), Arvid and Betty Lou Malvik (324), John and Madeline Kurylo (322), Charles Booth (401), William R. Harris (401), John and Mary Perrone (324).

Bernard and Ruth Rogers, William and Hazel Merkert (401), Ted Green, Vern Proulx (1st A.D.), Matt and Helen Kryjack (323), Dr. I. Klette and Margurette Unger (324), Oscar Dino (322) Garret and Angela Saunders (324), Sally Park, Rich and Isabelle Stewart.

Tony Gaeta (323), Congressman Ben Gilman, Paul and Nancy Chryst (401), Joe and Mary Camelleri (324), Joe and Mary Jane Giambrone (324), Robert and Trudie Gerstemeier (401), A.H. Renholz (92 BG), Robert Ginsberg (97 BG) and Hubert Green (381 BG).



Enjoying the Middletown hospitality room are: Front, seated, John Taylor, John Perrone.

Middle row, Bob Gerstemeier, Ted Green, Paul Chryst, Charles Holman,

Arvid Malvik.

Back row, Bill Harris, Oscar Dino, Congressman Ben Gilman, Bill Merkert, John Kurylo.



Matt Kryjack and wife Helen receive congratulations from Bob Gerstemeier for the Life Membership Helen and son, Matt Jr., gave to Matt as a Father's Day gift.



Eastern Division treasurer Joe Giambrone presents the mug for having travelled the farthest to attend to Col. Manny Klette of Columbus, Ohio.



Charlie Holman and Bill Merkert are presented with a cake recognizing that both combined their birthday parties with the Middletown Rally Round.



Eastern Division committeeman Joe Camelleri (r) congratulates smiling Oscar Dino for his outstanding job as host for the group. He awards Oscar a 5-foot bottle of Chianti.

Florida Rally Round Set

A Florida Rally Round has been set by the Eastern Division for Orlando, Fla., October 7-8.

Hosts for the event will be Bob and Lora Lackey. Headquarters will be the Carlton House Resort Hotel.

Memorial Association president Maj. Gen Stanley T. Wray will attend, as will the Eastern Division Committee and Western Division Secretary-Treasurer George Parks.

Orlando is near many of Florida's outstanding attractions, including Walt Disney World, Sea World, Cypress Gardens and the Kennedy Space Center.

There will be an Open House hospitality room and an informal evening of nostalgia for 91st-ers on Tuesday, Oct. 7. Wednesday, Oct. 8 will have the morning and afternoon free for sightseeing, with cocktails, dinner and dancing for the evening.

Members who expect to attend should make their own room reservations directly with the Carlton House. Be sure to mention that you are a 91st-er. The address is Carlton House Resort Hotel, 6515 International Drive, Orlando, Fla. 32809. Telephone (305) 351-3500.

'The Bull'-Your Home Away From Home

By Charles Gallagher

This story was contributed to the R/I by Charles Gallagher, 99 Kinross Road, Cambridge CB4 1QU, England. Mr. Gallagher is a founder member of Friends of the Eighth, an informal group of aviation historians and enthusiasts with more than 250 members. The Bull was a spot dear to the hearts of many 91st-ers.

The ancient and beautiful city of Cambridge, seat of learning, whose university is one of the most famous in the world, found itself playing host to thousands of Americans from all states of the union during World War II.

The American Red Cross established no fewer than eight clubs in the city--more in proportion to its size than any other city in the United Kingdom. As a leave centre for the Eighth AAF its narrow, mediaeval streets were choc-a-bloc with khaki and olive drab, as the G.I.'s rubbernecked around its many colleges, sought to assuage their thirsts in its quaint pubs, or ogled the pretty girls with their peaches and cream complexions.

The 91st-ers at Bassingbourn, distant only 12 miles or so, were regular patrons of the ARC Clubs at Market Street, Sussex Street, Kenmare House, Burleigh House, Brooklands Avenue, Hobson Street, Chetwynd Court, and - possibly the most famous of them all - the Bull Hotel, in Trumpington Street.

Outside its ancient portals many a liberty truck pulled up to disgorge its bunch of energetic, frenetic, eager young

men, anxious to sample the delights or mild dissipations of a war-time English town.

The Bull was truly an ancient hostelry. There is written evidence that it existed before 1546, when it was known as the Bull Inn.

The Bull Book Club flourished within its walls from 1784 until 1841, consisting of book lovers who met weekly, and whose library contained over 2,000 volumes. During the great days of the Tory and Whig political parties the Bull served as election headquarters for each party in turn.

When the nearby Suffolk town of Newmarket developed its famous racecourse the Bull was often patronised by English and foreign royalty.

This, then, was the building taken over by the American Red Cross, and through whose doors passed innumerable G.I.'s, many of them Ragged Irregulars. Here they could find a cup of coffee, American style, listen to the polyglot accents of the Forty Eight States, savor the tang of a Coke, even dunk a doughnut-- as the late, great Glenn Miller used to say, here was "a hunk 'o home."

Some, too, luxuriated in the hot showers, wasking away the weariness and grime of long hours spent on the flight lines, or in the cramped confines of wildly bucking aircraft. To many, the Bull was a haven of peace in a world seemingly gone mad.

In 1945 the Bull received its accolade. In October of that year, 150 American servicemen arrived in Cambridge, having

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Trumpington Street and The Bull 1944



Trumpington Street and The Bull 1974
(Photo by Steve Gotts)

'THE BULL'...

been nominated under the U.S. Army's Educational Programme, to attend Cambridge University for the Michaelmas Term. The then Provost of King's College, Dr. J. T. Sheppard, suggested the name Bull College to describe the newly arrived freshmen, since the majority were billeted in the Bull Hotel. And so it has gone down in the illustrious and venerable history of the University. It even had its own coat of arms! This consisted of the Stars and Stripes and Union Jack side by side, underneath which was an ermine cross, and the four lions of the University. On the right was the Bull's head, below, the American Eagle.

Today, the surging crowds along King's Parade and Trumpington Street hurry heedlessly past the Bull, without knowing of its colourful history. The building is now the offices of a firm of architectural consultants. Externally, it has changed little as the accompanying photographs show. But for many 91st-ers the Bull must conjure up nostalgic memories. And as the winter mists roll in from the Fens, dimming the street lamps and blurring the stately outlines of King's College Chapel, it isn't difficult to imagine youthful, exuberant, uniformed figures, momentarily outlined as a shaft of light escapes from a carelessly opened black-out curtain. But then the mist rolls back, and the facade assumes its normal time-worn appearance, and all is quiet. Ghostly quiet!

Northern California Rally Set

A Northern California State Rally Round has been set for Oakland, Calif., Saturday, Sept. 27.

Honcho of the get-together will be Phillip R. Taylor. Headquarters will be the Oakland Hyatt House, 455 Hagenberger Road, near the Oakland International Airport.

"Pene's Pub," the hospitality room, will open at noon. There will be a no-host cocktail hour beginning at 1800 hrs. and dinner is at 1930 hrs.

For additional information contact Phillip R. Taylor, 3158 Figi Lane, Alameda, Calif. 94501. Phone (415) 865-1914 after 7 p.m.



LTC Jim Fletcher represented the 91st at the annual Memorial Day services at Madingley. This was one of the largest memorial services ever, since the Second Division reunion was in England at the time. Col. Fletcher is shown before the altar bowl presented to the chapel by the 91st some years ago. The card carried this message from Gen. Wray: "This wreath is presented in the name of the 91st Bombardment Group Memorial Association...to the memory of all the dead of the 1st Air Division, the 2nd Air Division, and the 3rd Air Division."

The First Reunion of the 8th Air Force to include all heavy bomber and fighter groups will be held at the Marco Polo Resort Hotel, Miami Beach, Fla., on Oct. 10-12. Anyone interested in attending this first for the 8th Air Force should contact LTC (Ret) John H. Woolnough, Reunion Services, Box 1304, Hallandale, Fla. 33009.

Washington State Rally Round Scores Big

Washington State held their first ever Rally Round on April 26 at the Double Tree Inn in Seattle, with more than 40 members, wives, and guests attending. Flt. Leader Joe Harlick headed the event.

Mr. Harl Bracken, Boeing Company Historian, was speaker for the evening.

Three new members were found for the reunion from a story carried in Boeing publications about the Rally--Charles Thorp (322), Charles Hackstock (322), and Manuel Hadley (401).

Bob Hanson, of Spokane, who was a member of the "Memphis Belle" crew, came the longest distance to attend and was awarded the 'mug' by Joe Harlick.

Maj. and Mrs. Larry Baird were presented a floral arrangement made by Jenny Harlick as the 91st-ers married the longest--39 years together!

Attending were: Mr. & Mrs. Donald McBey, Mr. & Mrs. Ed Ehret, Maj. & Mrs. Larry Baird, Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Thorp, Mr. & Mrs. Al Myers, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Harlick, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Hackstock, Mr. & Mrs. Phil Mack.

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Mooney, Mr. & Mrs. Quentin Ellis, Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Danekas, Mr. & Mrs. Hubert Donohue, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Hanson, Mr. & Mrs. Donald Gauthier, Sr., Mr. & Mrs. Richard McCoy, Mr. & Mrs. Rudy Steele, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Schuck, Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Hadley, Mr. & Mrs. Harl Bracken, and Tom Masotto.



Members attending the Washington State Rally Round were: Front row, Donald McBey, Ed Ehret, Larry Baird, Chuck Thorp, Al Myers, Joe Harlick, Charles Hackstock, Phil Mack.

Back row, Charles Mooney, Quentin Ellis, Ralph Danekas, Hubert Donohue, Bob Hanson, Donald Gauthier, Sr., Richard McCoy, Rudy Steele, Bob Schuck, Manuel Hadley.



Wives at the Washington Rally Round were: Front row, Molly McBey, Rena Ellis, Jenny Harlick, Virginia Baird, Agusta Hackstock, Eunice Steele, Roberta Gauthier, Sr.

Back row, Jan Myers, Lucille Moon-ey, Dorothy Danekas, Evelyn Donohue, Eleanor Ehret, Irene Hanson, Margaret McCoy, Ann Thorp, Eppie Mack, June Shuck, Adele Hadley.



Bob Hanson, "Memphis Belle" crew member, holds mug for coming the greatest distance awarded by Flt. Leader Joe Harlick.



Maj. and Mrs. Larry Baird receive the floral arrangement made by Jenny Harlick for 91st-ers married the longest-39 years together.

Colorado Rally Round Hits Target

Another Colorado Rally Round drew a good turnout of area 91st-ers April 19.

The group met at the Country Dinner Playhouse in Englewood, operated by 91st-er Sam Newton, pilot of "Time's A' Wastin'" of "Serenade To A Big Bird" fame.

The get-together was directed by area Flt. Leader Glenn Boyce of Lakewood.

After dinner the members and guests enjoyed a play "Send Me No Flowers."

The coveted engraved mug awarded to

the member attending from the greatest distance went to Col. Paul Jessop, of Colorado Springs. The trophy was awarded by Col. (Ret) Herbert F. Egender.

Attending were: Col. (Ret) and Mrs. Paul D. Jessop, Col. (Ret) and Mrs. Herbert F. Egender, LTC (Ret) and Mrs. Charles H. Silvernail, LTC (Ret) and Mrs. Milton A. Green, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Newton, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Boyce, and Paul Chryst's daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James Klokis.



Attending the Colorado Rally Round were: (wives seated, husbands standing) Mr. and Mrs Sam Newton, LTC and Mrs. Milton A. Green, LTC and Mrs. Charles H. Silvernail, Col. and Mrs. Herbert F. Egender, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Boyce, Col. and Mrs. Paul D. Jessop, and Mr. and Mrs. James Klokis.

Col. Manny Klette, former group C.O. and Memorial Association Life Member, has donated a check for \$100 to be used as a membership in memorium for his wife Margaret. This memorium is an example others members may wish to follow.

Eastern Division secretary Bob Gerste-meier passes along his appreciation for the many cards from 91st-ers following his recent heart attack. He had a call from Gail Garner, who suffered a heart attack in February.



Holding the mug awarded for traveling the greatest distance is Col (Ret) Paul D. Jessop. On his right is Col. (Ret) Hebert F. Egender, and on his left, Glenn Boyce.

Phill Taylor, former Western Division committee member and honcho of the upcoming Northern California Rally Round in Oakland, is looking for 91st-ers who made the second Schweinfurt raid 14 Oct. 1943, Black Thursday.

He and Col. Budd Peaslee, who led the mission, are attempting to form an organization of men who flew that day, the most vicious air battle ever fought in any war. If you made the mission contact Phill Taylor, 3158 Figi Lana, Alameda, Ca. 94501.