

The Ragged Irregular

By-Law Amendment
Passes.

1998 Reunion Site
Selected.

See Pages 2-3



322nd SODN



323rd SODN



SUPPORTING UNITS



324th SODN



401st SODN

Vol. 30 No. 1

91st Bombardment Group (H) Newsletter

January 1997

New RI Editor Takes Over

Renton, Wash. After ten years of dedication to the publication of the Ragged Irregular, Rudy Malkin takes a much deserved relief of duty. He leaves behind a tradition of reporting essential news and interesting articles about people, airplanes and places. As announced in the November issue, Phil Mack, formerly 323rd Sq. was elected at the Biennial Group convention in Tucson in September.



Crew of the "Village Flirt" L-R (Standing) Quentin Ellis N, Bob Singer, B, Dave Bramble, P, Phil Mack, CP, John Williams, TTG.
(Kneeling) "Dutch" Reich TG, Paul Zimmerman, RO, Ray Ridings, BTG, Jerry Bernasconi, LWG, Rocco Poppa, RWG. Sept. 1943

Members Invited to Submit Articles

The Ragged Irregular should be a forum for all of its membership. Therefore, all members are invited to submit items of interest, stories of valor, major blockbusters and trivia. The Editor asks that it be legible, positive and in good taste. The address of the Editor is on Page 2.

It is not expected that the "RI" will look any different, except possibly in type style, and certainly its purpose will not have changed. That purpose, as the new Editor sees it, is to be the primary medium of communication among the members of the Association. The use of a different printing process allows greater freedom in choice of type.

Wray "Company" at Bassingbourn

Royston, Herts. Wray's Ragged Irregulars return once again to Bassingbourn, but with a little twist. Steve Pena, our Friend of the 91st and Curator of the Tower Museum, has informed the RI that the British Army Training Regiment stationed at Bassingbourn has been named "**Wray Company**" in honor of General Stanley T. Wray, first Commander of the 91st Bombardment Group (H), who took the unit to Bassingbourn in 1942.

Pena writes, "Wray Company was formed as part of the expansion of the recruit training programme which takes its recruits straight from civilian life providing them with basic military training prior to their posting to their final units for advanced training. Included in this basic training will be the inclusion of a lecture period on the history of Bassingbourn Barracks and its days as an important RAF & USAAF station and will include a visit to the Tower Museum.

"This is the first time that our museum has been brought into the Army Training Programme and will only serve to further cement our relationship with the army. Following a request we will be providing photographs and details of Col. Wray's career to enable the new Company to prepare a montage for their reception area.

"You will agree that the formation of a British Army Company in honour of Colonel Wray is important news indeed and will be of interest to all members of the BGMA."

Editor's note. Thank you Steve and Alison Pena for your devotion and support. I became more deeply aware of the use of Bassingbourn Aerodrome by the RAF when I learned from a Mrs. Kay Gittins, whom I met in London in 1944, that her brother had been killed at Bassingbourn in a training accident flying a Wellington Bomber. Mrs. Gittins and her late husband, an RAF fighter pilot, were themselves stationed at Bassingbourn. She experienced a second tragedy in her life when her husband was shot down and killed in a Hawker Hurricane during the Battle of Britain. Considering the tragedies and suffering of the people of Great Britain during World War II, it is especially appreciated that the airmen of the 91st are also remembered.

Steve Pena invites 91sters to contact him by E-Mail: AN6530@aol.com

See comments of Mrs. Stanley T. Wray on Page 2.

The President's Corner

Dear Fellow Members:

At the Reunion in Tucson, the Members present voted to present to the entire membership, a Bylaw change which was shown in the prior Ragged Irregular. The change would allow the other areas of the United States to bid to have the next Reunion in their area if the scheduled area failed to submit a bid for the Reunion.

The Chairman of the Balloting Committee informed me that he had received 328 ballots with 297 approving the change (90.5 % approval). The Bylaw change will be effective as of the mailing date of this issue of the Ragged Irregular.

It will not be necessary for your President to request bids for the 1998 Reunion because we have a site for our next Reunion. Through the efforts of our Historian, Earl Pate, Jr., arrangements have been made to hold the 91st Bomb Group Memorial Association's 1998 Reunion in Savannah, Georgia, during the last week of August. Earl will be the Reunion Chairman and will be seeking volunteers to join his Committee. Members in the Savannah area please contact Earl Pate, Jr. (See next column for address and telephone number.) Many hands make light work.

The Marriott Hotel has been selected as our Reunion center and plans are in progress to hold some of the Association's activities at the Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum.

I want to thank Charles and Carolyn Holman for volunteering to form and head a Committee to host a Reunion in Boston, Mass. in 1998 but it was not needed. These events prove to me that there is still tremendous spirit in our membership.

/Signed/ Harold E. Johnson, President, 91st Bomb Group Memorial Association.

Mrs. Stanley T. Wray writes.....

November 25, 1996

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Thank you so much for your letter. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. I had a very nice letter from Mr. Pena. I plan to send him the information he wants soon. I have spent the last four weeks recovering from a very bad accident. I'm almost back to normal now so maybe I can accomplish something.

I do appreciate the honor they are bestowing on my husband. I know he would be proud. Sincerely,

/Signed/ Esther Wray

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The Ragged Irregulars of Bassingbourn

By Marion Havelaar with William N. Hess, and
Foreword by Roger Freeman

See Review on Page 4.

Help! Lost at Tucson:

Loose leaf Photo Album, dark gray, 11 1/2"x10 5/8," containing twenty-four 9"x11" pages of photo inserts.

Anyone having any information, **please** contact Louis Montalvo, Col. USAF (Ret), 4154 Clubhouse Rd, Vandenberg Village, CA 93436. Tel: (805) 733-4272.

By-Law Change on Reunions Approved

Paul Limm Reports Historically, in elections and proposed by-law changes, the ballots mailed in by members never exceeded 330, roughly 25% of the eligible membership. Using 350 as a base, the 328 ballots received represent approximately 93.7% of the votes expected by the Nominations and Elections Committee. Of the ballots cast, 297 or 90.5% approved of the by-law change which is discussed below.

Ten years ago our Association divided the United States into three sections: Eastern, Central and Western, for reunion purposes. The 1996 BGMA by-laws on meetings of the membership stipulate that if no host group (from the section scheduled to hold the reunion) volunteers, then the Association Reunion would be held in conjunction with the annual Eighth Air Force Historical Society reunion. Article V, Section 1, of our by-laws deliberately leaves unspecified the exact time period when it would be determined that no host group had volunteered because at several reunions there had been no volunteer host groups only to have them appear months after the reunions. The by-law lack of time specificity, while permitting flexibility, also creates problems for the administration in finding reunion host groups before an unspecified cutoff date, and deciding when to announce the 91st BGMA Reunion in conjunction with the 8th AFHS annual reunion.

Donofrio Proposes Savannah for Next Reunion

At the Tucson Reunion in September 1996, Frank Donofrio proposed that the next reunion be held in Savannah, Georgia (in scheduled Eastern section). However, because Frank did not speak in the capacity of a 1998 Savannah Reunion Committee Chairman or committee member, President Johnson and the Association officers could only consider his proposal a recommendation and not a bid to host a reunion.

In the subsequent discussion, several members suggested that there should be a by-law amendment to permit the other sections of the country to offer to host a reunion if no bids were forthcoming from the scheduled reunion section. If there were no response at all, then, and only then, would the 91st BGMA Reunion be held in association with the 8th AFHS.

Continued.....

By-Law Amendment Proposed to Membership

In accordance with Article IX, Amendments of the By-laws, the aforementioned proposed changes were submitted to President Johnson and assigned to a committee for study and action. The committee's revised version of Article V, Section 1, of the 91st BGMA's by-laws was reviewed and approved by President Johnson and the officers of the Association, and the proposed changes to the by-laws were placed on a ballot and submitted to all eligible voting members of our Association. Tentatively, but in great probability, the proposal has been approved by our membership by a margin of over 90 % if the votes cast.

As stated, about 93.7% of the anticipated ballots have been counted, resulting in 90.5% in favor of the by-law change, 3.2% opposed or abstaining. It would require 309 additional votes, all against, to defeat the proposal; this number would bring the number of ballots mailed in to 606, well above the 350 projected.

The distribution of the votes indicates the Association membership's desire to maintain our organization's independence and uniqueness—going it alone, as it were—for as long as possible. Eventually, of course, the advantages of holding our reunions with the 8th AFHS will become more attractive. Adding more "hash marks" on our sleeves will not compensate for the thinning of the ranks.

Report on Membership

December 1996

Associate Life Members.....	66
Life Members.....	318
Associate Members.....	64
Full Members.....	787
Public Relations Members.....	18
Total.....	1,253

There were 61 joined the folded wings squadron during the year. There were 76 members who opted not to pay dues for 1996; however, there were 68 who responded to a reach out letter sent to members of the 8AFHS listed as 91st members, but were not on our rolls.

/Signed/ Asay B. Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer

The Book Beat

The Ragged Irregulars of Bassingbourn

by Marion H. Havelaar with William N. Hess

A 264 hard cover 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ x11 $\frac{1}{4}$ history of the 91st Bomb Group (H). A foreword by renown author Roger Freeman, succinctly depicts the magnificent contribution of the 91st Group and a tribute to Marion for compiling such a memorable document.

This is a must own book.

Relive all your moments at Bassingbourn through this easily read documentary. The book covers all the missions flown plus all planes assigned to the Group. Statistical details are amazingly complete. Pictures are added lavishly to convey a true feeling of reality. It is an addition to a library that will be used by, not only 91st members, but by history buffs of all ages. Here's what they are saying:

"The Ragged Irregulars of Bassingbourn' is a wonderful History of the 91st. You are to be congratulated".....Hilary H. "Bud" Evers, Past Unit Historian

"My congratulations on an excellent production; comprehensive and well produced"....Roger Freeman, Author of 40 Titles. (England)

"Your book was just great. Best on 91st History as you put it together".....Roger Armstrong

"This is an outstanding historical account of the activities of one of the first, pioneer, groups in the 8th Air Force. It may be the best group history published thus far".....James W. Hill, Managing Editor, 8th Air Force News.

Order your copy from **Marion Havelaar at 5421 Calvary Post Dr., Arlington, TX 76017-4516, \$49.**

Memories of the 91st Bomb Group

A 70-minute video tape produced by Ken Wells, based on interviews with 91sters attending the Tucson Reunion, is now available. Wells reports a number of copies have been sold in the U.K. and there appears to be a lot of interest. A review of the video will be published in the April issue of the R/I.

In the meanwhile, it may be ordered directly from Aviacam Productions, Ambleside, Bourne End Road, Cranfield, Beds, MK43 0BD, U.K. Fax your order to 44-1234-751784 giving your MasterCard or Visa Card number and expiry date, or send check by mail. Cost per copy is \$24 + \$6 S&H for U.S. delivery. Checks in U.S. currency are acceptable.



Plane Names and Fancy Noses

by Ray Bowden

A 288 page, hard cover, 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ "x8 $\frac{1}{4}$ " documentary of 270 planes and 140 named aircraft of the 91st Bomb Group, authored by English historian Ray Bowden with input from former crewmen of the 91st Bomb Group.

An excellent coverage of the planes of the triangle "A." The book includes a brief history and ultimate disposition and pictures of over 270 planes assigned to the group. The input by previous members adds a distinctive personal touch.



The book makes for easy reading and is organized for easy access to all planes. A must for everyone who flew from AAF Station 121. The book may be ordered directly from the 91st BGMA by using the P-X order form inserted in this issue. The first books cost approximately \$90 but by ordering in quantity, our Secretary/Treasurer has effected savings in postage and money exchange fees.

Editor's Note. By use of this book and some other references I was able to identify the names of B-17s I flew on each of my missions. The AAF Form 5, Pilot's log, showed only the model of the airplane flown, i.e., B-17F or B-17G. The squadron daily report showed only the last three numbers of the tail number. Putting this together with Bowden's book, I could identify that I had flown "The Village Flirt," "Chennault's Pappy," "Careful Virgin," "Outhouse Mouse," "Nine-O-Nine," "Wolf," "Demo Darling," "Merry Widow," "Gay Caballeros," and "Bunky."



Tales to Noses over Berlin

by Ray Bowden

A 128 page soft cover book abounding with pictures and personal experiences.

This book vividly recaptures the fears, thrills and anxieties associated with "Big B." Anyone participating in a Berlin raid can relive the personal memories of this, the most feared target of World War Two through actual

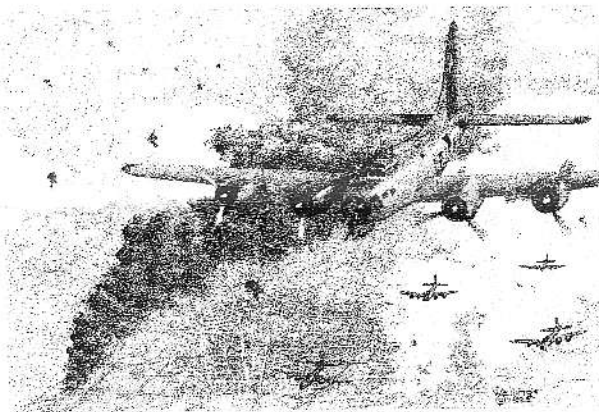
photographs and experiences related by those who actually flew the missions. A must for anyone who flew a mission to Berlin and a necessary addition to all military libraries. Available from the Secretary/Treasurer by use of the P-X order form inserted in this issue.

P-X Offers Paintings of Don Wellings, Former 323rd Navigator

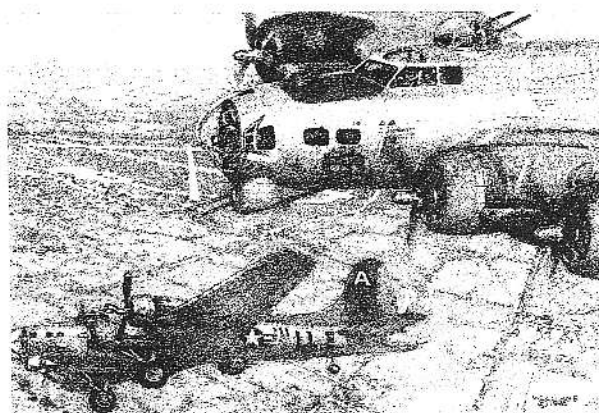
Don Wellings whose prints are now available in the 91st P-X, tells us that they are "my remembered images of the sights and occurrences of more than fifty years ago. Perhaps some of them will rekindle memories for you."

Wellings flew his first mission July 31, 1944 with Hugh Donohue, Pilot and soon they became a lead crew. He remembers his last mission on February 22, 1945 to an FW-190 plant at Stendal. Charlie Hudson got a shack from 12,000 feet and Wellings and Harry Dooley "had an easy job—it was VFR all the way."

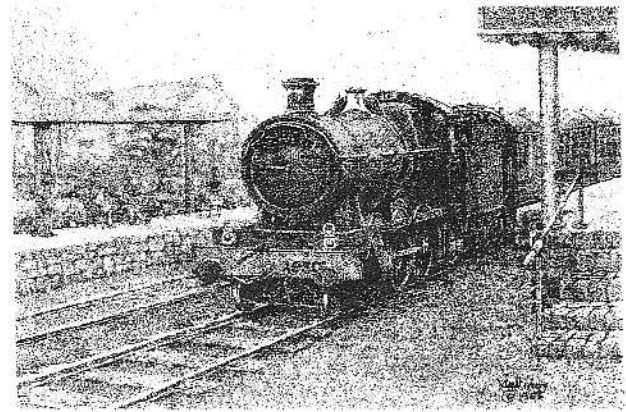
With that background, here are some reduced B&W reprints from the 11X14 in. color originals, and are unfortunately in black & white.



OFF THE TARGET
DAILY POINT



ON THE BREAK
HOME AGAIN



ROYSTON STATION
BALDOCK TO LEITCHWORTH TO LONDON

How many times have you made this run? Does anyone remember a small tea shoppe in Baldock not far from the station? Or enjoying a pint of nut brown ale on a cold winter's evening in front of a roaring fireplace in a Baldock pub? Can't you hear the train whistle now?

91st BGMA Financial Report — 1996 January 1-December 4, 1996

Income/Expenses

Income

Dues	12,648.10
Memorial Fund	3,793.00
Reunion Fees	48,287.70
Other Income	1,186.51

Total Income

65,915.31

Expenses

'96 Reunion Exp.	46,320.67
Memorial	180.35
Misc. Expenses	93.96
Office Expenses	0.00
Phone	609.62
Postage	857.43
PX Expense	9.00
R/I Expenses	
Editor Misc. Exp.	1,340.00
Postage	1,154.00
Printing	5,400.00
Other	500.00
Total R/I Expense	8394.00
Subscriptions	12.00
Supplies	430.30
Expenses - Other	4,353.30

Total Expenses

61,328.73

Total Income/Expenses

4,585.58

Letters to the R/I

Don Hayes, President of **The B-17 Flying Fortress Association**, asks that we inform our membership of the existence of this organization which publishes a newsletter four times a year titled Splendor in the Skies. Annual dues is \$10. For further information, contact, Don Hayes, Major USAF (Ret), 1640 Cambridge Drive, Walla Walla, WA 99362.

Ray Ward, former Pilot of *Texas Chubby*, has informed us of an error in the July Issue of the R/I. In a photograph of 91sters attending a Florida 8th Air Force Association event, the third person from the left in the rear row is Nelson Hillock, not Helleck as reported. Hillock was Ward's Radio Operator in the 322nd Sq. "and a darn good one."

Editor's Note. Nelson A. Hillock, Jr. is newly elected Editor of the Newsletter for the Florida 8th Air Force Association.

Frank G. Donofrio, well-known 91ster with The Memphis Belle Association, asks why 8th Air Force Historical Society has listed someone else as Editor for the 91st Group. Your new Editor of the R/I, will be making contact with Jim Hill, Editor of the 8th AFHS, and with Jim Otto who is listed as Editor of the "91st Bomb Group, Contrails." More information will be published when a response is received.

Walter C. Byrnes, 390th BG, informs us of the availability of color prints, 20in. X 30 in., of a WWII photo titled Top Cover. Send a check for \$45 payable to Mr. Byrnes at 4572 N. Trocha Alegre, Tucson, AZ 85750. Indicate on your check that you were with the 91st.



C. E. Cantrell, 323rd, writes, ".....C.C. Carter [also 323rd] and I talked at length about the publication [R/I] and how much we enjoyed it. During the conversation the fact was brought up that we could not remember seeing a story about either of our Chaplains and we both agreed no doubt there were many stories in which a Chaplain was a participant.We would enjoy a short biographical sketch of the Chaplains and an stories that might be submitted."

[Ed. Note: Readers take notice.]

Paul D. Kahl, LM, 322nd, an alumnus and antipode [which means he lives on the opposite side of the globe] from New South Wales, Australia, recently wrote to Paul Limm expressing regret that he missed the Tucson Reunion, and hoped that he could attend the next one. Limm tells us that Kahl also complimented the 91st BGMA officers for their dedicated work, in particular, the Editor of the Ragged Irregular [Take a bow, Rudy]. In appreciation, he enclosed a generous check to help pay for the postage of the R/I. We look forward to seeing you at the next Reunion, Paul, and if there is a prize for the person who traveled the greatest distance to attend the 91st BGMA Reunion, we know who the winner will be.

Terry Grummett, from England writes for information about a Carl L. [or S] Canipe, possibly from the 324th Sq. who may have lost a bible at Bassingbourn. Via E-mail, he has written: "When moving house in Nottingham, England, I found the bible in my loft. I thought Carl might have been part of the 91st Bomber Groupwhich was based at Bassingbourn. When a Company Sergeant Major in the British Army, I was based at Bassingbourn for a couple of years, which was somewhat of a coincidence.

"I put all the details I had on the Military Forum of Compuserve and sat back. One of the replies I received directed me to Vince Hemmings, Curator of the 91st Museum at Bassingbourn, a man of unbelievable knowledge about the 91st. He checked his records and Carl was not listed as missing.The bible now resides in the new "Mighty 8th Museum in Savannah."

Anybody know Carl Canipe?

●JOHNSON, EARL H, 401st, 76, 4314 Snow Camp Rd. Graham, NC 27253, Feb. 26, 1996. On Feb 25, 1944, 52 years and one day earlier before Johnson's death, then Lt. John B Davis and his crew crash landed their first "Buckeye Boomerang." Johnson, a ground crew member of the next plane assigned Davis, surprisingly proved to be a near Burlington, NC neighbor of one of Davis' crewmen - George A. Parrish.

Johnson and Parrish became life-long friends and Johnson, who became a barber, regularly continued cutting Parrish's hair even while in semi-retirement. Johnson was an original member of the 91st BG(H) personnel. He is survived by his widow, Hilda.

Memorials may be made to the Bethel United Methodist Church, 6040 Snow Camp Rd, Graham, NC 27253 where Johnson was a former Sunday School Superintendent, choir member and former member of the church's official Board. Reported by George A. Parrish.

●KING, C PATRICK, 322nd, 73, 2026 Crestline Dr, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814, July 26, 1996. King flew 35 missions as a 322nd gunner. After the War he obtained a journalism degree from the U of Idaho and, some six months after graduation, began his life-long journalism career with the Coeur d'Alene Press from which he subsequently retired in 1988.

His life-time contributions to community affairs and participation in professional associations are too numerous for R/I listing. Survivors include his widow, Dorothy, "Chick," four sons, two daughters and 10 grandchildren.

His family prefers memorials be made to St. Pius Catholic Church or Hospice of North Idaho. (The addresses of the above may be obtained by contacting his survivors at the address listed above. Reported by his widow, Dorothy, and Curly Pyrah, 324th and apparent fellow U of Idaho alumnus.

●LALLIE, MACHAEL, 322nd, 81, 105 Blue Bell Rd, Blue Bell, PA 19422, Aug 31, 1996. Lallie was the navigator of "Chief Sly's" crew. During his 25 mission tour the attrition rate ran as high as 90 per cent for 322nd Sq. members. When he was discharged as a decorated Captain he was and remained most proud of his DFC, according to his daughter, Loren.

He retired in 1982 after a 24 year tenure as a sociology professor at Temple U. He was a highly respected member of the American Sociological Society, the New York Academy of Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Sons of Italy's Mencei Lodge 306.

Also surviving is his wife of 39 years, Edna Davila and a sister. It is suggested contributions be made to the King Foundation, 325 Chestnut St. Suite 904, Philadelphia, PA 19106.

●MINER, PAUL F, 322nd, 84, 4820 Hillcrest Dr, Boise, ID 83705, Oct 7, 1996. Miner served as a Flight Surgeon with the 91st from early on till July 1945. Setting up private practice in 1948 he specialized in Internal and

—Continued to next column

MINER - Continued

Cardiology medicine until retirement in 1985. In 1991 he received the American College of Physicians Laureate Award as Physician of the Year for Idaho.

Survived by his widow, Mary, three siblings and nieces and nephews, he was a member of the Presbyterian Church. Contributions to favorite charities are suggested by the family. Reported by Curtis Pyrah, 324th, Boise, ID.

●PIERCE, CLIFFORD O, 401ST, LM, 81, Rt. 1, Box 186, Kodak, TN 37764, Sept. 23, 1996. Carol Varner, a niece, reported the East Tennessee Veteran Honor Guard participate in his funeral arrangements. "It would have made Uncle Cliff very proud," she wrote.

Also, she said, publication of his death will explain his failure to send Christmas cards this year to the many 91st friends with whom he kept in contact.

●ROLLINSON, HARRY JR, 322nd, 146 Terriwood Ct, Fern Park, FL 32730, Sept. 5, 1996. Rollinson was the co-pilot of the original "Hikin-for-Home" and near his combat tour end, flew missions as a first pilot.

David L Hanst, his first pilot during his "Hikin..." stint, remembers him as "A fun-loving, down-to-earth guy...well-liked by all who knew him." After completing his combat tour Rollinson served as an instructor at Lockbourne Air Base, Columbus, OH.

With Rollinson's death only two original "Hikin..." crew members remain: Hanst, pilot CA and TTG Ed Reilly, NY. Reported by Hanst.

●YOUNGBLOOD, RUFUS W, 324th, 72, 38 Clarendon Rd, Savannah, GA 31410, Oct. 2, 1996. Youngblood was a navigator on "Jack the Ripper." After the War he joined the Secret Service and served as a personal bodyguard to five Presidents. At the time of Kennedy's assassination, detailed to protect Vice President Johnson, he distinguished himself by protecting Johnson with his own body when it was not known if the assassin's fire would continue. He subsequently wrote a book, "20 Years in the Secret Service: My life with Five Presidents."

He is survived by his widow, Peggy, three daughters, a son, a sister, eight grandchildren and nieces and nephews. Reported by Hilary "Bud" Evers and Clifford and Barbara Schultz.

●PARKER, VERNON A, 324th, RR4, Box 30, Floydada, TX 79234-9804, May 30, 1995. Reported by his widow, Eva.

●ROCKROHR, GLEN M, 401st, 8 Red Fern Circle, Johnson City, TN 37604-7673, July 1995, Reported by USPS.

●SMITH, WILLIAM T, 323rd, LM, 15225 Metropol Dr, Hacienda Hghts, CA 91745, Oct. 1993. Reported by his widow.

●YANSON, CHARLES H. JR, HQ/324th, 134 E Front St. Stikeston, MO 63801, Nov. 21 1994. Reported by his daughter, Carrie, who said, "He always looked forward to each issue of 'The Ragged Irregular.'"



Folded Wings

●ANDERSON, SPARLING B, 401st, 1606 Greenbrier Dr. Norman, OK 73072, Feb 2, 1996. Reported by his widow.

●BADER, DON C, 322nd, 5800 Forest Hills Blvd. A D119, Columbus, OH, reported by Sec/Treas Johnson.

●DALEY, JAMES F, 401st, LM, 181½ Kentucky Dr. Newport, KY 41071, Sept. 1, 1996.

Daley, retaining vivid memories of his service as a radio operator-gunner and, later, as a radio operator at Bassingbourn, looked forward toward sharing them with fellow 91st BGMAers "every two years."

Remembering the biennial reunions they attended, Mrs. Daley recalls going to California, Colorado, Pennsylvania and Florida—some more than once. She says the reunions "...weren't wild affairs." She found them more like quiet get-togethers with the men who had shared much. He always regretted not being able to make a return visit to Bassingbourn, she says.

Daley, after 30 years service, retired from Cincinnati Bell about 20 years ago with a disability. Prior to that he enjoyed bowling and played semi-professional baseball as a shortstop.

A member of the Cincinnati Telephone Pioneers of America, St. John's United Church of Christ, Newport, and Newport Masonic Lodge No. 358, he celebrated his 50th Wedding Anniversary before his death. His survivors, in addition to his widow, include a daughter and siblings.

EATINGER-Continued

to list. He was a member and an elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Sun City West, AZ.

He and his wife organized the Western Kansas Ex-POW Chapter and led it for seven years. He was also a Life DAV, American Legion and VFW member. He is survived by his widow, Rose, a son and a brother. Memorials may be sent to the Lakin Presbyterian Church, P O Box 811, Lakin, KS 67860.

●GAWLEY, JOHN E, 401st, 10 Brush Neck Rd, Marlboro, NJ 07745, Apr 27, 1995. Gawley completed 30 missions with R R Goldsmith's Lead Crew. Goldsmith credits him with making it possible to nurse damaged planes safely home numerous times. On one occasion he successfully dealt with flak riddled Tokyo tanks, cut hydraulic lines and fire in the hydraulic fluid pump.

"He successfully transferred our remaining fuel back and forth for four harrowing hours while returning from Leipzig on three engines," Goldsmith says.

Gawley retired from the AFR after 26 years as a Senior M/Sgt. His civilian careers included 23 years as Asst Supt of a Shell Oil Terminal and 12 years as Plant Engineer for Marlboro Municipal Authority.

He is survived by his widow, Mabel, whom he married at Chanute Field in 1943. Other survivors include a son, two daughters and twelve grandchildren. Reported by Richard R. Goldsmith, Houston, TX.

91st BG Memorial Assn.
590 Aloha Dr.
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

FIRST CLASS MAIL

FORWARDING AND ADDRESS
CORRECTION REQUESTED.

LET US KNOW BEFORE YOU MOVE!

THE RAGGED IRREGULAR

These Newsletters are published quarterly. October, January, September and July are the publication months. The R/I's purpose is to keep alive the spirit of the 91st Bombardment Group (H) and to maintain the fellowship of all of those who fought together in World War II from AF Station 121 in Bassingbourn, England from 1942-1945.

Material for publication should be sent to the Editor, Phil Mack, 17521 155th Ave. SE, Renton, WA 98058-9087. "Time-value" items must be received three weeks before the first day of the month of publication to permit necessary priority consideration for inclusion in that issue. Every effort will be made to utilize other submitted material in the scheduled or later R/I issues.

● EATINGER, NORMAN C, 324th, RT#1, Box 2, Lakin, KS 67860, Mar. 15, 1996 at 76. Eater, a bombardier, was downed on his 23rd mission and spent two years as a POW. He was discharged in Jan. 1946 with the rank of Captain.

A former Kearny County, KS Commissioner, he served on too many state and private boards to even attempt

—Continued to top of next column

● HARE, LEROY B, 322nd, 75, 984 E 9005 #16, St. George, UT, May 1, 1996. He achieved the rank of Major before becoming a POW during WWII. He later served in Japan with the National Guard as a commander of an Air Division.

After retiring he owned and operated a Chevron Station in Camarillo, CA and later headed the water company in Bass Lake, CA. He is survived by his widow, Helen, five children, 26 grandchildren, one great grandchild and siblings. Reported by his widow.

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