99TH BOMB GROUP

Volume 23 Issue 4 December 2003

Presidents Message

We returned from our 99th BGHS September 2003 Annual Reunion to learn that the USAF, in its infinite wisdom, decided that the 15th Air Force along with the 21st AF, was not in the present plans of the USAF. The 15th AF will be called the 15th Air Expeditionary unit, reporting to the 18th Air Force located at Scott AFB, IL, the Headquarters for a major command related to transportation. We (the 99th BGHS) had a tour of that base during our St. Louis reunion in 1995. It's a very nice base and can undoubtedly handle its new units, but then so could Travis AFB or March AFB. Fifty years ago the 18th Air Force was the troop carrier Air Force, and part of the Tactical Air Command with the Headquarters 18th Air Force stationed at Donaldson AFB, Greenville, SC, and units scattered all over the United States, from Miami International Airport, FL, to Larson AFB in the state of Washington. Our Associations (both the 99th BGHS and 15th Air Force Association) will not be in good shape without the tremendous support provided by Travis AFB in the past, and then March AFB when it was Headquarters for 15th Air Force, but we will have to live with it. We did it before when some of the units in England got all of the publicity (It's still the same old story the Eighth gets all the glory).

But we, the 99th BGHS, have enough challenges without borrowing some from the 15th Air Force Association. We need to get our individual histories on tape and get our memorabilia gathered together in order to preserve it. My greatest concern in that area is that if we do nothing, our grandchildren will do it for us, and most of it will be lost forever, as they have no great concern for old items pertaining to an era they know little or nothing about. Most high school history books have very little reference to WWII. At our recent Reunions and by mail several of you have provided materials to Gary T. Staffo or Jerry Buckingham who have taken the lead in trying to preserve, organize and share our 99th BG history with a wider and new audience. Working closely with and building upon the outstanding historical research done by Dick Drain for the 99th BG and the 5th Bomb Wing they are trying to fill in some of the gaps and they are pressing forward with great ideas as demonstrated by the 2004 B-17 Flying Fortress Historical Calendar that was unveiled in Colorado Springs to rave reviews. Do not wait until later, do it now, send in your material or contact Gary or Jerry and they will preserve your materials for posterity for the 99th BGHS or work with you to make copies. At the last several reunions our members have brought in photos, scrapbooks, orders, patches, letters, and other memorabilia that Gary and Jerry have preserved for our history. Some of this donated material has already been shared with you in our Newsletter and much more is on the way. They take painstaking care of these original materials and where requested they are safely returned to the owner after duplication.

Another concern is finding a member(s) to be the on-site sponsor for the location of our Spring 2004 Mini Reunion. Our 2004 Annual Reunion hosted by Jim LaVey will be held near Baltimore, MD, and we would like for the Mini Reunion to be on the West coast or closer to the Central US. Several locations have been mentioned, such as Dallas, TX; Wright Patterson AFB, OH; Wichita, KS; and the Los Angeles, CA, area. The final decision will be determined by where we can find the member(s) to volunteer as sponsor(s) and our Site Selection Committee recommendation led by Jules Horowitz and Arkie Clark. If you have ever wanted to have a Mini Reunion in your local area now is the time to wolunteer and contact Jules or Arkie to discuss your thoughts and find out how the 99th BGHS can help you make this happen. WORK WITH OUR COMMITTEE as Jules and Arky can provide the sponsor(s) with all the assistance necessary to help make this event happen.

Best wishes to all of you 99ers. Vince Bell

FIRST FLIGHT By George G. Hilton, Jr.

My Dad, George Sr., was a ground crew member of the 347th BS and for some time now I have been following up with members of the 99th BG, especially the ground crew, to help preserve some of their stories and their contributions for the 99th BG history. This story has survived 60 years and had to be 'dusted' when it was taken off the shelf. Thanks to memory and diaries of Lloyd Averill and several others, the following was under the dust;

When the war was over and the world calmed down, Lloyd Averill, crew chief of the 347th did what everyone seemed to be doing, got married, raised a family, and the memory of a first flight had faded away until he was asked this question a couple of years ago, "What ever happened to that old B-17 of yours?" During the course of answering that question, Lloyd shared his story.

It's a safe bet more than one member of a ground crew considered signing up for gunnery school, and when they saw familiar faces of the flight crews finishing up their 50 mission tour and

heading home, they thought about it a little harder. It wasn't the illusion of the grass being greener. It wasn't the balance of flying 50 combat missions vs. being overseas away from home the duration of the war. It was generic curiosity and sometimes words aren't enough. Sometimes the only way to answer a question is first hand experience. There are occasions when we toss caution aside and forget what curiosity did to the cat. Some spoke of the idea but very few carried through to the point of joining their brothers in the air. Lloyd Averill, crew chief of the 347th, thought about it and then took a first flight on a combat mission.

The idea was nothing new to Lloyd. One of the first things he did when the ground element caught up with the 99th Bomb Group at Navarin, Algeria was ask about joining a flight crew. He was told his services as a crew chief were more in demand and so his visions of flying in combat were postponed, but not forgotten. After the Group had moved on to



99th BG 347th BS Ground Crew enjoy a red hot BINGO game Foggia, Italy 1944 -- Left to right: Joseph G. Celline, Lloyd S. Averill, Sherman Miller, Joe Valeno, & Ralph Honeycutt



Sgt. Lloyd S. Averill, 99th BG 347th BS on a frosty Foggia Field, Italy 1944

Oudna Field, Tunisia, the "flying bug" bit again. Pilot Jim Hager was down to two missions left and informed Lloyd he would have to decide soon if he wanted to fly with him. Jim recalled, "Averill figured I would have to make it back on my 49th and chose to join us on that one."

Some crews were dead serious on mission mornings, but Hager's crew was a happy-go-lucky lot. They seemed more like kids getting together for a game of baseball rather than a bomber crew about to fly into harms way. Jim was an original with the group, but the crew was among the early expansion to the 99th, having arrived in late June, just in time for the hornet's nest at Gerbini on July 5th. Most of them had over 20 missions completed when Lloyd joined them on the B-17F # 4229480 "Cotton Eyed Joe" for the September 4th mission to bomb the airdrome at Capodichino, Italy.

It wasn't uncommon for ground crew personnel to fly during the slow timing of a new engine, a shake down flight after repairs, or if a new pilot was being checked out. However, to hop on a combat mission without authorization created ulcers and furrowed brows among the brass. Those were hectic days in the 99th and the last thing needed was someone not following protocol and having an unauthorized person fly on a combat mission, so...

After preflight Lloyd grabs a parachute and joins the navigator and bombardier in the nose. The time to back out has come and gone and all those questions he had about flying a combat mission are about to be answered as they roll out and finally take off. The climb, assembly, and run to the IP went as briefed, but weather became a factor near the target. The diary accounts of copilot Bill Pixler and navigator Jack Beaird indicate the target was socked in, no bomb drop. There is no mention of a secondary, tertiary, or opportune target. But it was no cakewalk for the newcomer.

Even light flak can be a terror if it's accurate and for the first time in combat it's always too close. The good news was there was no flak hits noted despite some near misses. Some say it's not possible to sweat at altitude. They probably haven't flown through flak.

Lloyd wanted the dollar tour and when a few fighters showed up he got his money's worth. The group was still tucked in close when 109s made a couple of flaring passes from the front of the formation. Lloyd remembers firing one of the cheek guns, "I don't think I hit anything, but I sure tried." 109 drivers were seldom desperate enough to bust into a tight herd of 17s, and no one was disappointed when they broke off to look for easier hunting elsewhere.

Back at Oudna after the adrenaline died down Lloyd thought, "If we had been shot down I would have been AWOL!" The "combat flying bug" was swatted and Lloyd was promoted on to flight chief, content to ride out the war on the ground. Hager finished his 50th the following day; the rest of the crew would complete their tour in due time. There is always one mission that seems to be special, the first, the last, the best, or the worst. Lloyd now had his all rolled up in one. Sometimes you just have to take the first flight.

99er SKY PILOT by Rex A. Carnes

Nothing finer than a 99er is my motto. Let me introduce myself to those 99'ers that were no present at Colorado Springs this past September. I was actually most active with the 99'ers from 1980 when I lived in Albuquerque and then in Colorado. Many of you old timers from 80's until 1992 will probably recognize my name. After 1992 I all but disappeared from the 99'er scene. With the encouragement of "ARKIE", "BACHER" and several other friends I am with you once again. Many of you would remember my wife Florence who left me for paradise in May this year. I returned only to be drafted to the Board and requested to fill in for our beloved Chaplain Father Mike Bucci. We await his return to full health where he can resume duties that he so graciously filled for these last few years. Get well quickly Father Mike so that I may return these duties to you. It is a great honor to fill in for you. I trust the good Lord returned you all safely from colorful Colorado in good health. That was surely a wonderful reunion for the 99'ers. The spirit of the group was always tops but now I feel an even closer relationship and comradeship. Having recently experienced the loss of a loved one I would like to express a quote by Robert Louis Stevenson:

"Give us grace and strength to persevere. Give us courage and gaiety and the quite mind. Spare to us our friends and soften our enemies. Give us the strength to encounter that which is to come, that we may be brave of peril, constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath and in all changes of fortune, and down to the gates of death loyal and loving to one another"

God bless you all!

Raymond E. Murray 348th BS 09/15/2003

I am writing to honor a great guy who passed away on September 15th, 2003 in Brewerton, New York at the age of 87. His name was Raymond E. Murray, the Ball Turret Gunner on my crew with the 99th Bomb Group, 348th Bomb Squadron.

I had lost contact with Ray from July in 1944 when he and most of the original crew came home before me due to my having Malaria and I got behind 8 missions that kept me in Foggia until August 3, 1944. I found Ray through the 99th BGHS Newsletter in 1999, 55 years later. We have been in close contact for the past four years and we relived those missions to Ploesti, Wiener-Neustadt and the shuttle mission to Poltava, Russia and all the others including the R&R on the Isle of Capri in June, 1944.

Here is a picture of Ray posing beside his Ball Turret that he loved. In our opinion he was not only one of the best Ball Turret Gunners in the 348th, but his constant information on in-coming Messerschmitts saved our lives many times.

Thanks for your help; Charlie M. Flowe (Member 99BGHS Radio Operator) 3086 F. Spring Hill Pkwy, Smyrna, GA 30080



Our Ball Turret Gunner Raymond Murray from Watertown, N.Y.

99th Bomb Group 2003 Annual Reunion September 17th - 21st, 2003 at Colorado Springs, Colorado

It was another memory making event for the 80+ attendees who traveled to Colorado Springs,

Colorado for the 99th BGHS 2003 Annual Reunion hosted by Robert and Billie Bacher. The Reunion Registration on Wednesday went off smoothly as the attendees came in and were greeted by some of the usual early arrivals and soon old friends had taken up their places throughout the Radisson Inn lobby and were catching up on old times and the latest news. The Hospitality Room as usual was always busy as the members, old and new, sat together to share the



latest information about their lives and to tell the stories from times past that never grow old and often bring recollections of new stories being told for the first time. These conversations and the increasing amount of memorabilia that more members bring to each event continues to be a highlight for many of the attendees and certainly for the 99th BGHS as our historical legacy documentation increases in accuracy and breadth of coverage. But more importantly is the joy and pleasure of seeing the reaction of our members and their families when they see for the first time a photo of themselves, or their crew, aircraft, etc. taken almost 60 years ago and the flood of memories and emotions that often come with this. Thank you, to each of you who have shared these memories with us by bringing in your photos, scrapbooks, letters, orders, newspaper articles, and other material and for allowing us to make copies.

A trip to the Flying W Ranch on Thursday night gave the group an opportunity to buy a few gifts or just browse through the old western town filled with antiques, stores, craft demonstrations and all the flavor of the old west. The air was a little brisk and cool as the sunset, and all were anxious to get inside the rustic covered dining area to sit at the picnic table benches to enjoy a barbeque beef or chicken dinner served buffet line style. The instructions for dinner were detailed with such precision and order that I am sure all of the old Vets who were there (including a B-26 group) had fond memories of the chow lines during their AAF days. The food was delicious and many were seen going back to put a little more on their plate after the first serving was completed! The Flying W Wranglers then proceeded to put on a fantastic western stage show filled with great music and cowboy comedy. Everybody had a great evening filled with laughter and great entertainment that sent everyone home with a smile on their faces and the sound of the western music being hummed in the back of the bus.

On Friday morning we got back on the buses and traveled out to see the United States Air Force Academy. Everyone was impressed by the beauty of the Chapel with it's fascinating stained glass windows and modern design. Many of us gathered around to watch the Cadets running between the buildings to line up on the parade field and fall into formation. Several of

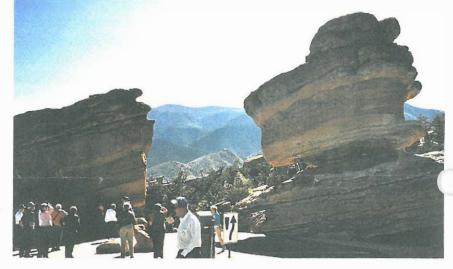


our members were seen having their photo taken in front of the B-17G statue that is one of many memorials honoring various service groups. We then proceeded to the USAF Academy Visitor Center and gift store where we had a chance to find out about the history of the Academy, what Cadet life is like and see some of the highlights from its traditions and achievements. From there it was off to the USAF Academy Golf Course Clubhouse for a great lunch and a relaxing view overlooking the golf course. After



lunch we headed for the Garden of the Gods park to see some of the most magnificent redrocks

and other natural rock formations in the world. Many of the formations in the 1350 acres are over 300 million years old and sculpted through time by erosion. The Visitor Center brings the Garden of the Gods to life with its state-of-the-art exhibits and movie that highlight the areas cultural history, Native American heritage and unique ecology. It was a perfect way to end the day by standing outside on the great porch of the Visitor



Center and enjoy a snack or treat as we watched the setting sun paint these natural wonders with

the colors of light and shade.

Saturday morning we headed out for "Cripple Creek" which was once a major gold mining camp. The trip to there gave us some beautiful views of the Rocky Mountains and other local scenic sights. Many of us upon arriving at Cripple Creek headed over to visit the three story County Historical and Mining Museum, while others went straight in to the local Double Eagle Casino to try out their luck. Another highlight



of the day was the steam train ride back into the mining area to see some of the abandoned mines and communities that at one time prospered and made millionaires out of a few and brought hundreds of thousands out to the west only to fail miserably.

The Saturday night Banquet got an early start as many of the attendees gathered outside of the



Radisson where a group photo was taken to create another memory. The left half of photo:



The right half of photo:



The Banquet opened with some words from our 99th BGHS Officers to thank Robert and Billie Bacher for all the work they had done to set up not only this Reunion but the many others they have worked on. Rex Carnes, who has volunteered to act as Chaplain while Father Michael Bucci is working his way back to good health after two knee operations and heart bypass surgery this past year, led us in a moving prayer of respectful remembrance for all of our members who have departed us and thanksgiving for our opportunity to be together in good health to share the joy of our fellowship. After an excellent meal the music played on and members moved about the tables to tell stories, share laughter, and to dance to the tunes they remembered from earlier days when all were in uniform and futures were so uncertain. As the evening wound down good friends parted with kind words and hopes that they would be around to return for the next 99th BGHS event and share the bonds of friendship that many started about 60 years ago and continue today.

99th BGHS NOTICE - 2004 B-17 Flying Fortress Historical Calendars Now On Sale!

We are proud to announce that we are now selling to members the 2004 B-17 Flying Fortress Historical Calendar. This Calendar has color photos on the front and rear covers and opens up to be 18 inches tall by 12 inches wide. The 9" x 12" top of each page features a full size black and white photo of a B-17. The bottom 9" x 12" half has two small pictures and the calendar for the month which is annotated with key facts about the B-17 history and WWII. This calendar includes photos provided by members of the 99th BGHS for September and October 2004. It was a smashing success when we introduced it at the 99th BGHS 2003 Reunion in Colorado Springs where we quickly ran out of our first supply. To order your calendar(s) please make your check payable to the "99th BGHS" and include \$8.00 for each calendar (this includes shipping by USPS First Class Mail in the US). The calendar can be purchased from other sources at a higher cost and usually does not

include shipping. Checks payable to the "99th BGHS" should be mailed to:

Gary T. Staffo 99th BGHS Newsletter Editor 6226 Garden Road Springfield, VA 22152-1504

For any questions please contact Gary at the above address or by e-mail at GStaffo@gis.net or daytime phone 202-586-9577. Gary is still looking for more 99th BGHS WWII photos for our historical collection and for possible use in the 2005 Calendar.



99th Bomb Group Historical Society Annual Financial Statement

General	Reunion	T . 1		General	Reunion	
						Total
\$29,303.86	\$11,056.05	\$40,359.91	Balance 30 June 03	\$31,294.91	\$10,769.66	\$42,064.57
			Third Quarter			
\$1,985.00		\$1,985.00	Income: Dues/Donations	\$655.00		\$655.00
\$18.71	\$6.93	\$25.64	Interest	\$15.69	\$5.20	\$20.89
		\$0.00	Reunion Returns		\$398.32	
\$2,003.71	\$6.93	\$2,010.64	Income Total:	\$670.69		
\$66.00		\$66.00	Expense: Postage	\$302.70		\$302.70
\$173.77		\$173.77	Printing	\$633.79		\$633.79
		\$0.00	Reunion		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
		\$0.00	Miscellaneous			\$0.00
\$239.77	\$0.00	\$239.77	Expense Total:	\$936.49	\$1,000.00	\$1,936.49
\$31,067.80	\$11,062.98	\$42,130.78	Balance 30 Sept 03	\$31,029.11		
					,	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
\$990.00		\$990.00		\$552.00		\$552.00
\$19.08	\$6.68	\$25.76	Interest	\$15.61	\$5.12	\$20.73
		\$0.00	Reunion Returns			\$0.00
\$1.009.08	\$6.68	\$1,015.76	Income Total:	\$567.61	\$5.12	
\$74.10		\$74.10	Expense: Postage	İ		\$0.00
\$534.00						\$0.00
	\$300.0	\$300.00	Reunion		\$500.00	\$500.00
\$173.87		\$173.87	Miscellaneous	\$497.13		\$497.13
\$781.97	\$300.00	\$1,081.97	Expense Total:	\$497.13	\$500.00	\$997.13
	Fund \$29,303.86 \$1,985.00 \$18.71 \$2,003.71 \$66.00 \$173.77 \$31,067.80 \$990.00 \$19.08 \$74.10 \$534.00	Fund Fund \$29,303.86 \$11,056.05 \$1,985.00 \$18.71 \$6.93 \$6.60 \$173.77 \$239.77 \$0.00 \$31,067.80 \$11,062.98 \$990.00 \$19.08 \$6.68 \$74.10 \$534.00 \$173.87 \$300.00 \$173.87	Fund Fund Total \$29,303.86 \$11,056.05 \$40,359.91 \$1,985.00 \$1,985.00 \$18.71 \$6.93 \$25.64 \$0.00 \$2,003.71 \$6.93 \$2,010.64 \$66.00 \$66.00 \$66.00 \$173.77 \$173.77 \$0.00 \$239.77 \$0.00 \$239.77 \$31,067.80 \$11,062.98 \$42,130.78 \$990.00 \$990.00 \$990.00 \$19.08 \$6.68 \$25.76 \$0.00 \$74.10 \$74.10 \$534.00 \$300.00 \$300.00 \$173.87 \$173.87	Fund Fund Total Item \$29,303.86 \$11,056.05 \$40,359.91 Balance 30 June 03 \$1,985.00 \$1,985.00 Third Quarter \$1,985.00 \$1,985.00 Interest \$2,003.71 \$6.93 \$25.64 Income: Dues/Donations \$2,003.71 \$6.93 \$2,010.64 Income Total: \$66.00 \$66.00 Expense: Postage \$173.77 \$173.77 Printing \$0.00 Reunion Miscellaneous \$239.77 \$0.00 \$239.77 Expense Total: \$31,067.80 \$11,062.98 \$42,130.78 Balance 30 Sept 03 Fourth Quarter \$990.00 Fourth Quarter \$990.00 \$990.00 Income: Dues/Donations \$19.08 \$6.68 \$25.76 Interest \$0.00 Reunion Returns \$1.009.08 \$6.68 \$1,015.76 Income: Dues/Donations \$74.10 \$74.10 Expense: Postage \$534.00 Printing \$300.00 \$300.00	Fund Fund Total Item Fund \$29,303.86 \$11,056.05 \$40,359.91 Balance 30 June 03 \$31,294.91 \$1,985.00 \$1,985.00 Income: Dues/Donations \$655.00 \$18.71 \$6.93 \$25.64 Income: Dues/Donations \$15.69 \$2,003.71 \$6.93 \$2.010.64 Income Total: \$670.69 \$66.00 \$66.00 Expense: Postage \$302.70 \$173.77 \$173.77 Printing \$633.79 \$0.00 \$0.00 Miscellaneous \$239.77 \$0.00 \$239.77 Expense Total: \$936.49 \$31,067.80 \$11,062.98 \$42,130.78 Balance 30 Sept 03 \$31.029.11 Fourth Quarter \$990.00 Income: Dues/Donations \$552.00 \$19.08 \$6.68 \$25.76 Interest \$15.61 \$74.10 \$74.10 Expense: Postage \$534.00 \$300.00 Reunion \$173.87 \$173.87 Miscellaneous \$497.13	Fund Fund Total Item Fund Fund Fund \$29,303.86 \$11,056.05 \$40,359.91 Balance 30 June 03 \$31,294.91 \$10,769.66 \$1,985.00 \$1,985.00 Third Quarter Income: Dues/Donations \$655.00 \$18.71 \$6.93 \$25.64 Interest \$15.69 \$5.20 \$2,003.71 \$6.93 \$2.010.64 Income Total: \$670.69 \$403.52 \$66.00 \$66.00 \$66.00 Expense: Postage \$302.70 \$173.77 \$173.77 Printing \$633.79 \$0.00 Reunion \$1,000.00 \$239.77 \$0.00 \$239.77 Expense Total: \$936.49 \$1,000.00 \$31,067.80 \$11,062.98 \$42,130.78 Balance 30 Sept 03 \$31.029.11 \$10,173.18 Fourth Quarter Fourth Quarter \$990.00 \$990.00 Income: Dues/Donations \$552.00 \$19.08 \$6.68 \$25.76 Interest \$15.61 \$5.12 \$74.10 \$74.10

2004 Membership Directory Update –NEXT NEWSLETTER – PLEASE HELP!

The next newsletter will include the 2004 Membership Directory. Please provide us with any changes and we especially seek current e-mail addresses and phone numbers. With an updated computer database we will be able to efficiently and promptly keep our Newsletter mailing list current, ensure annual dues are properly recorded, and respond to your letters and those written by others seeking long lost 99th BG crew members and friends. **PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL CHANGES TO:**

Jerry Buckingham, 99th BGHS Treasurer,

20 Flathead Drive,

Cherokee Village, AR 72529-1805	e-mail: JABuck@centurytel.net
	Bomb Group Historical Society Application/Address Change
Name:	Squadron: 346 347 348 416 (circle)
Address:	Dates in 99 th :
City,State,Zip:	Phone:
E-mail:	 -
Membership Class - Check one of the	following:
Member (A veteran or a	member of the Armed Forces)
Associate (Related to M	ember (circle one): Spouse, Brother, Widow, Other)
	Member name:
Check one of the following:	
Address Change/Update	
Membership Application	n Date Completed:
REMINDER: Annual dues \$15	5 per calendar year payable January 1 st each year
PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL	го:
Jerry Buckingham 99 th BGHS Treasurer 20 Flathead Drive Cherokee Village, AR 72529-1805 JABuck@centurytel.net	

YOUR 2004 99th BGHS DUES ARE DUE NOW!

On the Home Front

With Amy Buckingham

Here is a great recipe from Jeanne Sholtis that I sampled at the Colorado Reunion. This will be great for coffee time and cold winter days ahead. It's very flexible; because many varied fruits and nuts can be added. Enjoy!

Bread or Muffins - any flavor

3/4 cup orange juice

2 tbsp. oil

1 egg

1-cup sugar

1-cup fruit or nuts-see note below

2 cups flour

½ tsp. salt

½ tsp. baking soda

Grease a loaf pan or muffin tins well. Mix orange juice, oil, egg, and sugar, add fruit or nuts and mix. Stir together the flour, salt and baking soda. Stir all together. Spoon the batter into a loaf pan or muffin tins. Bake loaf at 350 degrees for 60 minutes or until done. Bake muffins at 400 degrees for 15 minutes.



Jeanne and Joe Sholtis (347th) CO reunion, Sept. 2003

Variations-

- -1/2 pt. blueberries or raspberries fresh or frozen
- -1 20 oz. can crushed pineapple (drained)
- -3 bananas- chopped slightly, plus walnuts and raisons to taste
- -1 cup dried dates-soaked a bit to make softer-and nuts as desired
- -1 cup cranberries-about ½ pound
- -May add nuts to any recipe above as desired

Thank you Jeanne, I love the variety of fruits that can be used with this one basic recipe. You may want to try other fruits as they are in season or available.

Remember When?

- *There were no silk stockings available and ladies used brown suntan lotion for the stocking color and eyebrow pencil for the seams.
- *Hemlines were below the knees during the war and went above the knees when the boys came home.
- *Rationing was an everyday word for items such as gas, sugar, coffee, and leather shoes.
- *Billie Bacher remembers donating all her rationing stamps to her mother for leather shoes for her baby sister who was growing rapidly and needed them. Billie remembers wearing the plastic and wooden shoes that were nearly worn out by just putting them on.
- *Marge Swingen worked at Nash Motors, Kenosha, WI for \$14.75 per week. Before the war they built Nash cars, during the war they tested airplane engines.
- *Betty Kidwiler remembers grownups talking about the war and nearly scaring her to death. She lived in SE Kansas near Ft. Riley where planes were flying constantly and trainloads of troops made the war very real.

SEND YOUR Home Front Memories to:

Amy Buckingham, 20 Flathead Drive, Cherokee Village, AR 72529

99th Bomb Group 2004 Annual Reunion

September 8th to 12th, 2004 in Timonium, MD

Holiday Inn Select/Baltimore North
2004 Greenspring Drive
Timonium, MD 21093
410-252-7373, www.hotel-ballt.com, FAX 410-561-0182

There are 50 rooms held for the 99th Bomb Group at a rate of \$87.00 per night plus 13% tax. This is the same location as the Reunion in 1997 and the airport is Baltimore Washington International (BWI). Continental breakfast will be served each morning Wednesday through Sunday in the Hospitality Room from 7 to 9 am, except Thursday will be 6:30 – 7:30am. Reservations must be received by August 10₃.

2004 in order to ensure a room at the group rate. All rooms have coffee makes, hair dryers, and irons & boards. There are indoor/outdoor swimming pools and a game area. There is a full service Restaurant serving Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner, and room service. Convenient to many restaurants and shopping including Towson Town Mall. Please phone the Holiday Inn 410-252-7373 directly to make your room reservations. Additional detailed information for the Reunion will be in the next newsletter.

99th BGHS 2004 Annual Reunion Registration Form

Please complete and mail this <u>99th BGHS 2004 Reunion Registration Form</u> with your check payable to our Host, <u>Jim LaVey 99th BGHS</u> at the address provided below.

	Per Person Number of people	Total
Registration (Noon – 11pm Wednesday 09/08/04		\$
D.C. Tour (8am – 4pm Thursday 09/09/04)	\$10.00	\$
Luncheon (11:30am -1pm Friday 09/10/04)	\$10.00	\$
Dinner Theatre (6 – 10pm Friday 09/10/04)	\$10.00	\$
Racetrack (11:30am – 5pm Saturday 09/11/04)	\$10.00	\$
Banquet (6:30 – 10pm Saturday 09/11/04)	\$10.00	\$
Total		\$
WOW 3 40		
Send check to Host: Jim LaVey Phone	: 410-252-5688	
2414 Girdwood Road		
Timonium, MD 21093		
imoman, was 21075		
Your name:	Spouse or Friend:	
Address:	Phone:	
City, State Zip:	Squadron: 346 347 348 416	
City, State Zip:	Squadron: 346 347 348 416	
City, State Zip:	Squadron: 346 347 348 416	
City, State Zip: Questions or Comments:		

Editors Note:

Our special "thank you" to Jim and Rose LaVey for being such gracious hosts once again.

The 99th Bombardment Group Historical Society Gary T. Staffo, Newsletter Editor 6226 Garden Road Springfield, VA 22152-1504 NON PROFIT ORG US POSTAGE PAID SPRINGFIELD VA PERMIT NO 231

E-mail: Gstaffo@gis.net

99th BG Associate Member 2005 Robert H Penoyer 348 123 N. New Ave., Apt D Monterey Park, CA 91755

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EDITORS NOTE

YOUR 2004 99th BGHS DUES of \$15.00 for 2004 Are DUE NOW!

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