



DEAR FALCONS AND FRIENDS,

DECEMBER 1996

WE ARE PLEASED TO REPORT THAT THE REUNION IN HAMPTON, VIRGINIA WAS A SUCCESS WITH OVER 200 PEOPLE ATTENDING. THE ACTIVITIES WERE WELL RECEIVED AND WELL ATTENDED; EVERYONE SEEMED TO HAVE A GREAT TIME. THE HOTEL WAS OUTSTANDING AND WE WERE IMPRESSED WITH THE STAFF AND THE SERVICE. LOCATION IS SO IMPORTANT AND THIS HOTEL ON THE WATER WAS VERY WELL LOCATED. IT WAS ALSO CLOSE TO THE VIRGINIA AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM, WHICH DREW A LOT OF INTEREST. THOSE FOLKS WHO CHOSE TO TAKE THE HARBOR CRUISE WERE TREATED TO A VISIT ABOARD ONE OF THE SHIPS IT WAS A WONDERFUL DAY TO BE ON THE WATER. THE 86TH FIGHTER GROUP WAS ALSO IN HAMPTON FOR A REUNION---IT'S THE OTHER GROUP THAT EARL BATES COMMANDED DURING THE WAS YEARS. EARL WAS ABLE TO GET OVER TO THEIR HOTEL FOR A VISIT AND SOME OF THE MEN FROM THE 86TH STOPPED AT OUR HOTEL TO SEE HIM--WE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE BILL COLGAN, 79TH AND 86TH WHEN HE CAME BY.

THE RAFFLE ON SATURDAY NIGHT BROUGHT \$860.00 INTO THE POSTAGE FUND. THIS COULDN'T BE DONE IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE GENEROSITY OF THE FOLKS IN THE GROUP WHO DONATE GIFTS FOR THE RAFFLE, ESPECIALLY RITA BROX (FRED 85TH) WHO HAS NEVER ATTENDED A REUNION BUT ALWAYS SENDS A WONDERFUL RAFFLE PRIZE. THIS YEAR HER GIFT WAS A RAGGEDY ANN AND ANDY AFGHAN AS WELL AS OVER 50 CROCHETED HOT PADS, WHICH WERE BEAUTIFUL! SHE IS A VERY TALENTED LADY. FRED HANDCRAFTED AND SHIPPED AT LEAST 100 CANES, WHICH EVERYONE LIKES--THESE ARE FRED'S GIFTS TO US ALL. BETTY HODGSON (HARRY 85TH) ALWAYS MAKES AN AFGHAN OR TWO TO RAFFLE AND THEY ARE ALWAYS BEAUTIFUL. WAYNE SHERER (86TH) IS OUR CLOCKMAKER, AND WHAT A GREAT JOB HE DOES---THIS YEAR THERE EVEN WERE CHIMES TO THE DELIGHT OF LOUISE SOLLEY (MEL 86TH) WHO WON THE CLOCK. ANN GINGHER BROUGHT SOME BEAUTIFUL APPAREL ITEMS, REALLY IMPRESSIVE! THE "GROUP" DONATED TWO \$100.00 BILLS TO THE RAFFLE. THEY WERE WRAPPED AND NOT IDENTIFIED SO A BIG SURPRISE TO THE RECIPIENTS WHEN THEY OPENED THEIR PACKAGE. ALBERT AND EDITH HAGER (85TH) BROUGHT SOME WONDERFUL MAPLE GIFTS FROM THEIR FARM IN COLRAIN, MA---THE MAPLE SYRUP IS ALWAYS A BIG HIT WITH EVERYONE. I FEAR THERE ARE SOME GIFTS THAT WEREN'T IDENTIFIED WITH THE DONORS NAME AND SOME THAT I MAY HAVE FORGOTTEN---THANKS AND APOLOGIES TO THOSE GENEROUS FOLKS.

THE NEW ROSTER WAS WELL RECEIVED BY THOSE PEOPLE AT THE REUNION. WE WANT TO POINT OUT THE DEDICATION INSIDE THE FRONT COVER TO FREIDA SANDERS. FREIDA HAS DONE SUCH A GREAT JOB KEEPING RECORDS THROUGH THE YEARS---YOU JUST DON'T KNOW HOW IMPORTANT THAT WAS AND HOW INSTRUMENTAL SHE WAS IN CREATING THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE THESE REUNIONS. SHE WILL ALWAYS HAVE A SPECIAL PLACE IN OUR HEARTS. I ALSO NEED TO POINT OUT THE MISSPELLING IN THE DEDICATION PARAGRAPH, IT WAS SPELLED AND USED CORRECTLY WHEN THE COPY LEFT HERE---UNFORTUNATELY THE

PRINTER DIDN'T REFER TO THE COPY WHEN SETTING IT UP. I AM MOST APOLOGETIC FOR THIS ERROR. WHAT STARTED OUT TO BE A KIND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BECAME AND EMBARRASSMENT. YES, THE SAME PRINTED TO DOING THIS LETTER BECAUSE HE'S A NICE GUY---I'M PRETTY SURE HE WON'T EVEN NOTICE HE'S BEEN CHASTISED. AND---FREIDA COULD USE SOME KIND WORDS FROM US ALL.

CHANGES AND ADDITIONS:

Calvin L. Curry 85th

Jeff C. Lanier 87th

Dahlonega, GA 30533-9807

Benton Foy 85th
C/O Forrester

Lee V. Gossick 87th

Tullahoma, TN 37388

Destin, FL 32540-1853

Arthur H. Staton

Albert V. Bratt, Jr. 87th

Lincolnton, NC 28092

Lake City, FL 32025

Don Lawless 85th

Roseville, CA 95747

ADDITION:

Russell Fillmore 86th

Bellaire, MI 49615

LAST FLIGHT:

George Lux, Sr. 85th
12-09-90

Robert G. Saurey 87th
No information

George W. Trefts HQ
No information

Matthew F. Hasbrouck, Jr.
06-29-96 85th

Robert C. Woodbury 85th
11-05-96

Clarence Barnes 85th
11-96

Ralph Swartz 85th
07-05-95

DANIEL WEAVER 86TH
10-12-96

WE MUST ALSO REPORT THE DEATH OF OUR DEAR FRIEND EDWARD LUKAS ON AUGUST 13, 1996. EDWARD WAS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL CHICAGO REUNION COMMITTEE, WE'LL MISS HIS ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT---HE WAS A GOOD FRIEND.

WE HAVE BEEN REMINDED BY A COUPLE OF MEN THAT WE HAVE NEVER REPORTED THE DEATH OF JOHN HILDEBRAND---WE THOUGHT WE HAD, IF NOT WE CERTAINLY APOLOGIZE TO VERNA. JOHN PASSED AWAY JUNE 10, 1994.

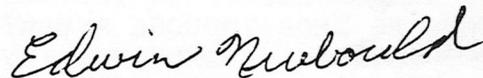
WE MAY, THROUGH THE YEARS, HAVE NEGLECTED TO MENTION SOME FACTS, BUT NEVER INTENTIONALLY. THANKS TO THOSE FOLKS WHO SEND REMINDERS.

AT THE MEETING IN HAMPTON WE BROUGHT UP A REQUEST FOR A DONATION TO AN AIR FORCE MUSEUM BEING BUILT IN ENGLAND. IT WAS AGREED BY THOSE PRESENT TO SEND \$1000.00 OF THE GROUPS FUNDS TO BENEFIT THIS CAUSE. IN THE PAST WE HAVE SENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CAROLINA AIR MUSEUM IN CHARLOTTE, N.C. \$500.00 --- A PLAQUE IN THE GRISSOM AIR MUSEUM "HALL OF HONOR" AT GARB. IN (THROUGH PAUL CHURCH, 86TH) --- \$500.00 TO THE P-40 WARHAWKS TOWARDS THE BRONZE P-40 DISPLAYED AT THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY --- A MEMORIAL PLAQUE IN THE MEMORIAL GARDENS AT THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY, \$500.00 --- A DONATION OF \$500.00 TO THE KALAMAZOO AIR MUSEUM, THIS TO IN SOME WAY REPAY SUE PARRISH FOR THE P-40 PROP WHICH IS INSTALLED AT OUR MONUMENT AT THE AIR FORCE MUSEUM IN DAYTON. WHEN WE WERE UNABLE TO LOCATE A P-40 PROP ANYWHERE WE LEARNED THAT SUE PARRISH, WHO IS THE HISTORIAN FOR THE WARHAWKS HAD ONE. WHEN WE APPROACHED HER ABOUT IT SHE VERY GRACIOUSLY AGREED TO DONATE IT TO US. THOUGH IT HAD BEEN BENT, WHEN IT WAS RECEIVED FROM HER IT WAS IN PERFECT CONDITION AND HAD BEEN COMPLETELY REFINISHED. IT WAS ALSO SHIPPED AT HER EXPENSE. WE HOPED THE DONATION TO "HER MUSEUM" WOULD IN SOME SMALL WAY SHOW OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION.

AT THE MEETING HELD ON THE LAST MORNING OF THE HAMPTON REUNION THE GROUP VOTED TO MAKE SAN DIEGO THE DESTINATION FOR THE 1997 REUNION. ROGER FILES HAS ALREADY MADE CONTACT WITH THE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU AND THEY ARE CONTACTING THE LOCAL HOTELS. IF YOU LIVE IN THE AREA OR HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS, WE'LL BE HAPPY TO HEAR FROM YOU.

WE'VE HAD INFORMATION FROM THE SAN DIEGO CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU AND SEVERAL HOTELS. ENOUGH INTEREST HAS BEEN SHOWN IN HAVING US THERE THAT I AM PLANNING TO TRAVEL THERE IN EITHER EARLY JANUARY OR FEBRUARY. AS YOU HAVE PROBABLY GUESSED---THE THIRD BACK SURGERY DONE ON OCTOBER 18TH HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE. I'VE BEEN PAIN FREE SINCE NOVEMBER 6TH AND AM VERY GRATEFUL.

HEALTHY, HAPPY HOLIDAYS.



EDWIN NEWBOULD

PLEASE---IF YOU MOVE, LET US HAVE THE NEW INFORMATION. REMAILING THE ROSTERS PROVED TO BE AN EXPENSIVE PROPOSITION. WE'RE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR: MILTON CLARK, PAUL MC GINNIS AND FRED MARX, M.D. IF YOU HAVE A NEW ADDRESS FOR ANY OF THEM PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU.