



"Jungle" Air Force Newsletter

News and Information for Members of the 13th Air Force Veterans Association

DECEMBER 2010

Dayton, Ohio Here We Come... Oct. 5 – 8, 2011

Mark your calendars – October 5, 6, 7 and 8, 2011. Oh yeah - Indianapolis had lots of possibilities for a great reunion but as we talked with members by phone and in Branson, it seemed now was the time to consider Dayton again. The executive board at Branson discussed locations, and action was taken at the annual business meeting to proceed. We've been to Dayton five times, the last one in 2006. Some wondered if we have held our reunions in Dayton too often. But now, since some are unable to attend, members might appreciate being at Dayton one more time to have the opportunity to include in our reunion the wonderful 13th Air Force Veterans Memorial in the United States Air Force Museum Gardens. A recent visit to that memorial helped confirm the decision. Many memories and generous gifts are involved in our 13th AFVA marble edifice conveniently located near museum parking. So Dayton's advantages include the memorial, and preliminary discussions indicate that our Saturday night banquet will likely be held "Under the Wings" in the middle of the spacious jet plane hangar. Possibilities also exist to have a banquet Friday night in the Wright Patterson Air Force Base Officers Club. Vocal musicians and the band from Cedarville University who gladdened our hearts so much five years ago are possibilities. Dayton does have other good experiences available.

The City of Dayton Airport has convenient flight schedules and is near hotels. Two major interstate highways, I-70 and I-75, intersect near hotels and the airport. We are studying hotel selection and the choice will be convenient and comfortable with

reasonable prices.

Dates are nearly set but members, associate members, and significant others can pencil in these dates which are Wednesday thru Saturday. Plans, thus, do include our usual memorial service at the memorial garden, weather permitting, two banquets, special music, a key speaker, business meeting and a large gathering place for hospitality and reminiscing.

For those with computers, the 13th AFVA website has been upgraded, contains more information, and additional improvements are planned. For example, an updated membership form is available with the new dues amount of \$35. Use the form to recruit new members. The website also notifies members and associate members that the 2011 \$35 fee is now due and should be sent soon to our 13th AFVA Bookkeeper:

Eileen Luck, 135 Oakwood Lane,
Phoenixville, PA 19460

The Branson Reunion under the direction of BC and Sherri Pipes was incredible. It will be difficult to "top that"! Our Dayton Reunion team will certainly try to do so. Remember to put the tentative dates, October 5, 6, 7 and 8 in a safe and visible place like the refrigerator.



Cliff Johnson
President

Ray Perkins
Vice-President

John Reeves
Recording Secretary

Tom Bonney Jr.
Treasurer

Phil Dyer
Newsletter Editor

Phil & Betty Dyer
Reunion Coordinates

Lenore Daniels
Membership Manager

Lucian Doyle
Awards Chairman

**John Reeves
& Ray Perkins**
Chaplains



A Special Thank You

From Cliff Johnson - 2010 13th AFVA President

All the 13th AFVA members and associate members should most sincerely express their thanks to Phil and Betty Dyer and Dick Phelps for their commitment in dealing with the challenging emergency in 2010 due to the passing of Treasurer Bob O'Brien and Secretary Len Daniels. We will certainly miss Bob and Len.

The "Rest of the Story" includes the thoughtful and timely actions of key members who stepped in to fill the important gap left by the loss of key officers. Our gratitude must be given to Newsletter Editor Phil Dyer and his wife Betty Dyer, and Dick Phelps who took the "Bull by the Horns" and kept things going by caring for the important issues that had to happen for the Branson Reunion to take place last September. We also thank 2010 President BC, his wife Sherri Pipes and new

Treasurer Tom Bonney Jr., for "Hanging in There" with Phil and Betty and Dick as financial and planning crises arose. Phil and Betty and Dick have served the 13th AFVA for many years and this time they stepped in once again. Thanks, indeed!

So now we press on for the Dayton reunion featuring once again our splendid 13th AFVA Memorial at the United States Air Force Museum and dinner "under the wings". The memorial is a remarkable example of the exacting work of leaders like those mentioned above so that we 13th AFVA Jungle Air Force members can admire with pride this outstanding marble memorial including the 13th AFVA black marble bench right next to the museum.

From the Editor

It is with a heavy heart that I write this message and I hope you understand why. In case you didn't know, we have lost the following members just to name a few: Len Daniels, Bob O'Brien, past president and treasurer, Al Wright presented a man of few words but real hard worker for the 13th AFVA, Mauro Messina, our Historian from day one, and I bet the historians in Washington DC will be glad to hear of Mauro's demise.

I have been told that the Branson, Missouri reunion was a fine one and will be difficult to top. Cliff Johnson, John Reeves, Billie & Sherri Pipes, all sent me minutes of the business meeting, thank you one and all. John Reeves sent me a condensed copy of the minutes which you will find in this newsletter. Great job John, I am certainly glad you accepted the position when I called after hearing of Lennys death, thank you. We cannot forget Dick Phelps whom I contacted to fill the Treasurers spot until the reunion and/or we have one elected. Good job Dick and you Tom Bonney was the man for the treasurer job - thus we had a smooth transition.

The dues were set at \$35 per year, if anyone finds this too expensive please notify Tom Jr. or Eileen Luck and the matter will be taken care of. With Tom and Eileen running our cash register you can rest assured the money will be well spent and accounted for.

Who may I ask are the Life members mentioned in the minutes of the meeting?

We shall hold the "Executive Board Meeting" as mentioned in our rules of organization.

Let me thank the following members for calls, letters, cards, that have been sent to me and Betty: Lucian Doyle, Bruce Johnston, John Van Buiten, Lee Railsback, Jim Brazzil, Joe White, Peg Money, Tony Perri. Thank you Cliff and Pam for the great reunion pictures.

Dayton - October 5, 6, 7 & 8 2011
See You There!



*May God Bless
Each and Every One of You!*

Phil & Betty

MAILBAG



November 10, 2010

Phil and Lucian:

Thought you might like to see what I got from the new Prez. Guess they need some more money. I don't know where the new bulletin is coming from but they better get it out before the New Year.

I miss seeing the two of you but I do not know many of these people or where they fit in as far as where they were in the South Pacific. When I was in Grand Rapids and talked about New Caledonia they looked at me as if I was talking a foreign language. So I guess they just didn't know. Have a nice Holiday Season. We miss being with you both.

Bruce & Mary Johnson

July 20, 2010

Dear Phil:

I enclosed an article about Sherwood Wadsworth and his wife who died from heat exposure in their elevator in their home.

The Wadsworth family lived only three houses from my house and Sherwood and I grew up together. His brother and I were best of friends and we spent a lot of time together.

Sherwood was a B-25 pilot in the 42nd Bomb Group 390 Bomb Squadron. I was in the 307th Bomb Group 372 Squadron. In the fall of 1943 I spent a few days at Hickam Field waiting to get our B-24 modified and Sherwood was also there getting work done on his B-25. He took me up in his B-25 for a test flight. When I was on Guadalcanal and he was at the Russell Islands he visited me one day. After the war, Sherwood went to Philadelphia where he went to college and married.

We still kept in contact with each other by phone and mail. I thought you might be interested in this article for news in the newsletter.

Sincerely,

Lewis H. Smith

P.S. I am a member of the 13th AFV and I know at one time Sherwood was a member but do not know if he still is.

Monday, October 25, 2010

Greetings Bruce. A newsletter should be in the mail in a month. the Branson Reunion was great. While there we raised The dues to \$35, necessary because we have fewer members and printing costs have gone up. We appreciate your continued interest even at 90. By the way, several at Branson were in their 90s. Send your check for the 2011 year to Eileen Luck, 13th AFVA Bookkeeper, 145 Oakwood Lane, Phoenixville, PA 19460.

Thanks - Cliff

Dear Members:

Many thanks to the members for electing me president for 2012. It is a lot of work but I enjoy the challenge. The reunion in Oklahoma City is starting to take shape for 2012. I have received several proposals from hotels for our stay there that are very attractive. The Chamber of Commerce has sent me many attractions for the city. I am going to try for a tour of the air base at nearby Midwest City. I believe many will be interested in touring the Murrow Federal Building Museum that was destroyed by Timothy McVey (www.oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org) the Cowboy Hall of Fame (www.nationalcowboymuseum.org) 45th Infantry Museum (www.45thdivisionmuseum.com) These are a few of the many attractions for this city.

Raymond Perkins, President Elect 2012

13th AFVA Business Meeting Minutes

Meeting held on September 17, 2010 – Condensed version

- Meeting Called to Order: Billy Pipes called the membership business meeting to order at 9:30 am on Sept. 17, 2010. Ray Perkins gave the invocation, followed by the pledge to the flag.
- First Order of Business: Pipes called the minutes of the meeting of September 2009 at Grand Rapids to be read. The minutes were not available.
- Second Order of Business: Pipes requested the treasurer's report. Interim Treasurer Dick Phelps, reported \$2,082.58 in the account. This does not include unpaid bills of about a \$1,000.00 nor the 2010 reunion balances.
- Third Order of Business: A break in the order at this time was taken to elect a recording Secretary replacement for Bob O'Brien. Reeves volunteered and was nominated by Ray Perkins and seconded by Richard Hahn. No other names were placed in nomination. By a show of hands, Reeves was elected by acclamation.
- Fourth Order of Business: A new Treasurer must be elected. Tom Bonney, Jr. volunteered and was put in nomination by Dick Phelps and seconded by Ray Perkins. The nominations were closed and Tom was elected by acclamation.
- Fifth Order of Business: Financial problems were discussed. Due to the cost of the newsletter, it is necessary to only mail to dues-paying members. It was suggested that costs could be reduced by providing the newsletter by e-mail and the website for those who have computer access. Members who do not have access will receive it by mail. Increased income is needed, and it was recommended that the dues be raised. Chuck Kim suggested \$35 and we found general agreement, so he moved for \$35 for 2011 and on. Solomon seconded the motion and it was passed. Cliff Johnson will mail postcards to those on the last dues paid-up membership list who do not have email access to apprise them of the new dues level, and to request membership intent. To gain some quick cash, a 50-50 drawing was held at five dollars a ticket. Half of the take went into the treasury. The other half was split by two winners.
- Sixth Order of Business: Was to choose a president elect for 2012. Ray Perkins was nominated by Dick Phelps and seconded by H.D. Solomon. Ray will accept on the condition that the 2012 reunion be held in Oklahoma City. Phil Dyer was nominated by John Reeves and seconded by Keith Anderson. The vote was called for and Ray Perkins was elected by secret ballot.
- Seventh Order of Business: Selection of the 2011 reunion site was limited to Indianapolis or Dayton at the Air Museum. The latter was selected and Ray Perkins so moved; it was seconded by (name missing). Dayton was approved by a majority of the vote. Cliff Johnson observed that going to Oklahoma City for 2012 was apparently the sense of the group and so moved. The motion was seconded by Dick Phelps. The motion passed unanimously.
- For the good of the order: Were any new members present? One new member was Joe Shepherd attending his first reunion. A second new member was present, George Tait. Billy Pipes expressed kudos to Sherry Pipes, Dick Phelps and Tom Bonney for their considerable help in the success of the reunion planning and organizing, (applause).
- Meeting Adjourned: Pipes declared the 2010 meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.
- Respectively submitted by John Reeves, Recording Secretary

Just Jokin...

Only a grandparent would understand these! Others will just laugh!

My young grandson called the other day to wish me a Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, "62"... He was quiet for a moment, and then asked, "Did you start at 1"?

After putting her grandchildren to bed, the grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin, finally she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard the 3-year old say with a trembling voice "Who was that?"

A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like: "We used to skate outside on a pond, I had a swing made from a tire, it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony and picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this all in... then spoke up and said "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"

My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo while I asked, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old", he replied.

A little girl was diligently pounding away on her Grandfather's computer. She told him she was writing a story. "What is it about?" he asked. "I don't know," she replied. "You know I can't read yet."

Our 5-year old grandson Mark couldn't wait to tell his grandfather about the movie he had seen on television, "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea." The scenes with the submarine and the giant octopus had kept him wide-eyed and during the story my husband interrupted Mark and asked "What caused the submarine to sink?" With a look of incredulity Mark replied, "Grandpa, it was the 20,000 leaks!"

A Sunday school class was studying the Ten Commandments. They were ready to discuss the last one. The teacher asked if anyone could tell her what it was. Susie raised her hand, stood tall, and quoted, "thou shall not take the covers off thy neighbor's wife."

Branson, Missouri **REUNION FUN**



Branson, Missouri Reunion Attendees

Adcox, Susan
7711 Spring Creek
Baytown, TX 77523

Blair, Earnest W.
1680 Knollwood Dr.
Pasadena, CA 91103
72nd BS

Brazzil, James W.
214 N. 12th St.
Highlands, TX 77562
12th Hq Sq
Guests: Adcox & Tankursley

Cook, Jim
7 Crape Myrtle Place
Little Rock, AR 72210
Host: Jim Cook

Hatch, Richard & Donna
304 Duncan
Alvin, TX 77511
Host: B.C. Pipes

Johnson, Dale & Beverly
1619 6th St.
Bedford, IN 47421
HqSq

Lee, Cathy
22132 Torrence Ave.
Sauk Village, IL 60411
Host: Dave Lee

Leveke, Joseph
43226 New York Ave
Des Moines, IA 50310
Host: Don Huntoon

Olson, Max L. & Juanita
Cambridge, IA 50046
23rd BS

Perkins, Raymond
5505 S 93E Ave
Tulsa, OK 74133
72nd BS

Anderson, Keith & Shiley
2772 Shanley Road
Auburn, CA 95603
75th BS

Bonney, Thomas E.
1352 E. Berks St
Philadelphia, PA 19125
Guest: Thomas I. Bonney

Cook, Darla
9700 Cascade Dr.
Mobile, AL 36695
Host: Jim Cook

Cooling, Ellen
8009 Harvey St.
Omaha, NE 68714
(402) 537-9038
ellen.cooling@gmail.com
Host: Richard Paul

Huntoon, Don
2710 41st Place
Des Moines, IA 50310
419th NFS
Guest: Joe Leveke

Kemp, Charles E
1409 Holly Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63119
868 BS

Lee, David & JoAnn
616 Ginseng Rd
New Castle, CO 81647
42nd BG
Guests: L,B, & C Lee

Linton, David
106 Pleasant St.
Elkhorn, WI 53121

Paul, Richard
2130 Harrison 40-B
Quincy, IL 62301
370th BS
Guest: Ellen Cooling

Phelps, Richard A. & Sharon
3641 Allegheny Loop Rd
Maryville, TN 37803
Host: Richard G. Phelps

Bailey, Richard O
1257 S Center St. EXT
Grove City, PA 16127
344 Svcs Sq
Guest: Loretta Reynolds

Bonney, Thomas I
1352 E. Berks St.
Philadelphia, PA 19125
Host: Tom Bonney

Cook, James H.
1403 Westgate Lane
Pine Bluff, AR 71601
31st BS
Guests: D.J. & N. Cook

Johnson, Clifford & Pamela
1779 Wilmington Rd
Cedarville, OH 45314
419th NFS

Lee Barry
22132 Torrence Ave
Sauk Village, IL 60411
Host: Dave Lee

Lee, Linda S.
8259 Fountain #5
Los Angeles, CA 90046
Host: Dave Lee

McGuire, Earl J.
707 S. Dettman Rd
Jackson, MI 49203
370th BS

Pelle, Thomas & Betty
3733 Cove Ct.
Jacksonville, FL 32277
371st BS

continued on next page

Branson, Missouri Reunion Attendees (continued)

Phelps, Richard G.
931 Portsmouth Circle
Maryville, TN 37803
868th BS
Guests: Richard & Sharon Phelps

Pipes, Billie & Sheri
P.O. Box 14
Concord, TX 77850
403rd TCG
Guests: Hatch

Rockefeller, Edward & Grace
3 Reed St
Gt. Barrington, MA 01230
13th Hq SC

Strawman, Gene
6018 Terrace Dr
Johnston, IA 50131
394th BS

Tankursley, Bonita
515 Irene
Highlands, TX 77562
Host: Jim Brazzil

Wichers, Will & Dina
4715 61st Ave Dr. W
Bradenton, FL 34210
320th FS

Reeves, John & Ila "Tudy"
3460 4 Mile Rd NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525
424th BS

Russo, Arthur & Arlene
407 Prescott Rd
Union, NJ 07083
868th BS

Sullivan, H. Thomas
P.O. Box 937
Blairsville, GA 30514
868th BS
Guest: Wilma Yates

Van Buiten, John & Hester
504 Ivy Lane
Wyckoff, NJ 07481
13th Hq Sq

Yates, Wilma
3170 Largen
Blairsville, GA 30514
Host: Sully Sullivan

Reynolds, Loretta
Host: Dick Bailey

Shepherd, Joseph & Barbara
400 Country Circle Dr.
Port Orange, FL 32128
Host: 13th AFVA

Tait, George R.
250 Stratford Place
Los Altos, CA 94022
403rd TCG

Warner, William
N8005 975th St
River Falls, WI 54021

Daniels, Lenore
9142 Arlington Ct
Ypsilanti, MI 48197



13th "JUNGLE" AIR FORCE VETERAN'S ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/ RENEWAL

(Please PRINT clearly)

New () Renewal () () if renewing, please put year originally joined.

Date: _____ APPLICATION IS FOR **MEMBER** () **ASSOCIATE** ()

YOUR NAME: _____

SPOUSE (if applicable, if not please state so) _____

ADDRESS: _____ APT/SUITE/NO _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP+4 _____

PHONE (INCLUDE AREA CODE) _____

CELL _____ E-MAIL _____ FAX _____

UNIT(S) SERVED WITH? (Command, Group, Squadron, Avn Battallion, etc.)

DATES WITH THE 13th: From _____ 19 ____ to _____ 19 ____ RANK _____

WHERE? (base, island, etc.) _____

BIRTH DATE (Optional) _____

Other Information, comments, etc.: Use back of form if necessary _____

*Membership dues are payable each January, or earlier, for the calendar year (January 1 thru December 31) Per vote at the 2002 Reunion. Membership dues are **NOW \$35.00 PER YEAR** for member or associate member. Any descendant, surviving spouse, or supporter shall be considered an "associate" member, and ALL are welcome to join! Dues cover newsletter, mailing, website maintenance, administrative expenses, memorials, and reunion committee expenses. We strive to notate your dues expiration date on the mailing labels for periodical newsletters, directory, or similar correspondence.*

Mail completed application form with check or money order made payable to:

13TH AIRFORCE VETERAN'S ASSOCIATION

**c/o Eileen Luck, Bookkeeper
135 Oakwood Lane,
Phoenixville, PA 19460**

OR

**c/o Tom Bonney, Treasurer
1352 E. Berks St.
Philadelphia, PA 19125**



PENTAGON ORDERS REWRITE OF AIR FORCE HISTORY!

25 June 2010

By M.J. Messina, Pacific War Historian

Never before has any Military History or Military Service ever required re-writing. The Pentagon thus, by re-writing, is acknowledging inaccuracies in the History of the World's First Air War, and its responsibility for correcting them.

As a 13th veteran and journalist, I was prepared for inaccuracies when I signed on as Historian in 1996 and began comparing our actual wartime activities against what we found was a questionable Official History. I expected minor reporting errors, but instead I found gross intentional mis-reporting, by America's renowned Theater Commander Halsey under whom we served.

His daily communiques, by suppressing the fabulous air achievements of the 13th Air Force heroes, falsely established the Pacific as a Navy war, which it was not. Though that's how Americans today recall that war, facts now confirm it actually was an Air war.

Contrary to Halsey's beliefs, the vast distant regions of the Pacific that Japan controlled since shortly after Pearl Harbor could never be cracked by the infrequent attacks of Navy task forces. Only a resolute force of big, powerful, long-distance Army bombers can claim that achievement.

Many Americans have detected the resolute determination of our 13th Air Force heroes, but have no knowledge we actually acquired it on 7 April 1943 when Yamamoto sent 177 aircraft to wipe the small force of Americans on Guadalcanal off the face of the earth; who were able to send up in defense only 85 fighter planes. But by that determination, Yamamoto instead suffered heavy 5 to 1 losses, when Coastwatchers reported that fewer than 50 of his 177 airmen returned to base.

That engagement also cost Yamamoto his life, when eleven days later on 18 April 1943 his plane was shot down by 13th Air Force Lieutenant Rex Barber during Yamamoto's morale-building visit to grieving airmen in the Northern Solomons.

We were able to establish that official history is fiction when we compared it against the data in our Unit Histories that were published postwar. Even then the Pentagon insisted repeatedly that their official history was authentic and accurate. Today's Pentagon's re-writing confirms the untruths.

Halsey's omissions and distortions, and an incompetent historian, are why Americans have no knowledge of the

extensive and achieving activities of the unheralded 13th heroes whose unbelievable series of victories include the wars in all three Pacific theaters. That also terminated the great long Pacific War which enabled reassignments of Halsey and the 13th.

On 15 June 1944 the 13th heroes were relocated and reassigned to MacArthur for his upcoming Phillipines invasion. But prior to invasion, the heroes achieved an additional very major victory: the destruction of Japan's primary source of fuel oil and lubricants at Balikpapan, Borneo.

That distant achievement horribly required five eternally long 18-hour missions in cold, bare, vibrating, propeller-driven B-24s. Which shortly converted to a happy experience when only weeks later we learned that troops entering Manila found numerous vehicles and aircraft laying inoperative with empty fuel tanks.

With such an unbelievable history of major victories, we 13th Air Force heroes were indeed the Greatest War's Greatest Achievers. No other Air Force contributed so much to the great Pacific victory. All of which is unknown to Americans due to Halsey's deceptions.

Since WWII was the World's First Air War, we must also realize that the great distant war against Japan could never have been won without big long-distance Army bombers: including the huge B-29s in addition to the workhorse B-24s. No way could Navy task forces and their small planes have done it. We brave, skilled, 13th heroes are indeed Proud to be Airmen who bravely never shirked any task assigned to us.

Regarding the re-write, we 13th veterans learned it was completed in January 2009, after 12 years of work by military historians at Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii, under guidance of Senior Historian Timothy Keck. Apparently it has not yet been released to the public.



Mauro, this is beyond a doubt the very best article you have ever submitted for publication. - Phil

Regrettably Mauro is now deceased - God Bless His Soul

*The plans were made for this important ATTACK
 "Get Yamamoto" off our back
 Now! Who will be the one's upon the scene
 ARMY, NAVY, or.....maybe MARINE?*

*The only plane that could keep this date
 Was infamously known as the P-38.
 All other aircraft fell far too short
 With their limited range they'd of had to abort.*

*Now this was a plan not just for one
 Meticulous teamwork would get it done
 The 339th had a Major named Mitchell
 Everyone knew this son of a bitch'll (it had to rhyme)
 "Get Yamamoto".*

*Alas and alack
 there was no turning back
 as the 339th took to the air.
 Their target they knew
 and what they had to do
 "Get Yamamoto" and they knew just where.*

*The mission a success and all now serene
 The 339th left the scene.
 Yamamoto was finished, the battle won.
 All returned except just one - Lt. Ray K. Hine - God Rest
 Your Soul.*

*"I got him! I got him!" is what Capt. Lanphier said
 I alone shot Yamamoto dead,
 Let no other man make this claim
 He'd steal my honor and soil my name."*

*But the man who did it with no after elation,
 I think lost out to poor public relation.
 No animosity did this pilot harbor
 For he too was a hero named "Rex Barber".*

*Yet, nothing is settled as of this late date
 As to who was the pilot in that P-38?*

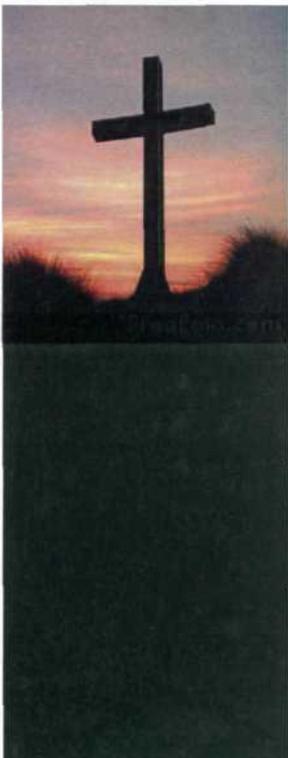
*I believe the right thing to do
 Award the Medal of Honor to the two.*

*They both did their job as was expected
 Now let Congress do theirs and get this corrected.*

Composed and written by: Robert Pappadake
 Formerly A&E w/13th Jungle Air Force
 18th Fighter Group 70th Fighter Squadron

This was written either in late 1943 or early 1944

Fixing electric, hydraulic and ignition we ground crew didn't get much recognition. The heroes they thought were up in the air. But without ground crew they'd never get up there. So come on people let's be fair. Give all concerned their rightful share.



Gone but not forgotten...

James K. Lyons – Died April 2008

Arthur Russo – Always had a twinkle in his eye and a smile on his face.

Gerald Ladner – Died January 17, 2010

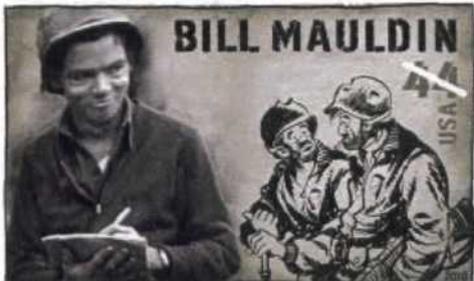
Proud and quiet man, proud to serve his country.
 Wonderful 13th AF friends.

*Mrs. Ladner - Thank you kindly for the donation
 in memory of Gerald.*



The 13th Air Force Veterans Association
 7049 W. Illinois St.
 Ludington, MI 49431

PreSrtStd
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Ludington, MI
 Permit No. 50



BILL MAULDIN COMMEMORATIVE U.S. POSTAGE STAMP

Bill Mauldin's stamp honors grunt's hero. The U.S. Post Office gets a lot of criticism, always has, always will. With the renewed push to get rid of Saturday mail delivery, expect complaints to intensify.

But the United States Postal Service deserves a standing ovation for something that happened last month: Bill Mauldin got his own postage stamp. Mauldin died in 2003 at age 81. The end of his life was rugged. He had been

scalded in a bathtub which led to terrible injuries and infections; Alzheimer's disease was inflicting its cruelties. Unable to care for himself, he became a resident of a California nursing home, his health and spirits in rapid decline. He was not forgotten though. Mauldin and his work meant so much to the millions of Americans who fought in World War II

and to those who had waited for them to come home. He was a kid cartoonist for *Stars and Stripes*, a military newspaper, Mauldin's drawings of his muddy, exhausted, whisker-stubbed infantrymen Willie and Joe were the voice of truth about what it

was like on the front lines. In 1945 he won a Pulitzer Prize "for distinguished service as a cartoonist". That year his character "Willie" appeared on the cover of *Time Magazine*.

Mauldin was an enlisted man just like the soldiers he drew; his gripes were their gripes, his laughs their laughs, his heartaches their heartaches. He was one of them. They loved him.



1945, K. O. F. THE COVER, POST 2003



BILL MAULDIN, 1921-2003

