



THE 38TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION (WWII)

SEPTEMBER, 1988

The President's Memo:



Harry E. Terrell,
President

"The purpose of the Association shall be to encourage and facilitate camaraderie among former members of the 38th Bomb Group (Medium), World War II, through a biennial reunion of the membership" — Article II, Constitution and Bylaws, The 38th Bomb Group Association (WWII). That's what it is all about, fellows.

The Constitution and Bylaws provide organizational guidelines. Incorporation in the State of California affords officers and members a high degree of protection from possible liability. As an organization exempt from Federal income taxes, we enjoy reduced postage rates and other tax benefits. Our newsletter, *THE SUN SETTERS*, keeps the membership informed and maintains the momentum between reunions. All of this makes it easier for us to get together every two years to renew old friendships.

We have built an informal and unstructured reunion organization and there is no reason why we can't keep it that way. Let us not lose sight of our stated purpose. Let us continue to enjoy the fine comradeship and good times in a relaxed and friendly forum.

They say "virtue is its own reward". I don't believe that I'm big on virtue, but my reward for the effort expended over the past four years has been in watching our numbers grow and seeing such a big response for Reunion 88. Having had such a great time in Anaheim in '86, I'm really looking forward to Nashville!

Just a word or two about the coming election of officers that will take place during the Association Business Meeting. Be sure your nominee is amenable to running prior to placing his name in nomination. I hope many of you will be encouraged to serve by knowing the individual workload has been eased over the past two years with the Association officers taking care of the administrative matters and the Chairman handling the Reunion arrangements. Now we are in the process of making things even better by proposing an C&B amendment to replace the secretary-treasurer with a secretary and a treasurer. The way as been cleared - all we need are "a few good men" to carry on! There will be a joint meeting of the old and the new members

of the Board of Directors on Sunday morning, October 2nd, which should help smooth "the changing of the guard".

In closing I wish to express my appreciation for your continuing support through your membership and your participation in Reunion 88, and I look forward to seeing you all in Nashville.

NASHVILLE — HERE WE COME!

Notes From the 88 Reunion Committee:

"Everything is ready. The Red Carpet will be out and we are awaiting your arrival here in Nashville, Music City, U.S.A. for the '88 Reunion.

"The turnout for the Reunion will be the largest we've had. Total attendance will be in excess of 360.

"We know you will enjoy the scheduled events that are planned for you, and there will also be additional things to do available, according to your interests and time. (See additional information on inside pages.)

"NOTE: For those interested in Opryland, bus service to Opryland is available from the Marriott for those who do not have autos.

"We have received word from Larry Hickey, author of the 38th Bomb Group History, that he will present a colored slide show with narrative at the Reunion. Check the new update schedule when you arrive in Nashville.

"Just a final reminder to bring all those photos and snapshots you have to share with each other. See ya: September 28th,

For the Reunion Committee,
"Suedy"

Attendance Record For Reunion 88?

While final figures will not be available until the Reunion, a record attendance is a definite possibility. At the time of publication of this issue, over 300 have purchased tickets for the dinner-dance, and the 300 Grand Ole Opry tickets purchased by the Association several months ago to assure availability are already committed. You can still be a part of this great biennial get-together — JUST SEND IN YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY!!!

ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA REUNION '88

1. Call to order by President Terrell.
2. Financial Report by Secretary-Treasurer Gilliam.
3. Minutes of Reunion 86 Business Meeting.
4. New Business:
 - a. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws.
 - b. Introduction of new Squadron Representatives.
 - c. Election of Association Officers.
 - d. Selection of Reunion 90 Site.
 - e. Election of Reunion 90 Chairman.
 - f. Any further business from the floor.
5. Meeting adjourned by the new President.

... NOTE: The proposed amendments and any additional information or changes in agenda will be available to the members during registration ...

38th BG ASS'N MEMBERSHIP MATRIX

The following information from Secretary-Treasurer James E. Gilliam touches on some most pertinent information as to where the Association membership stands in relation to its potential, which he and President Terrell feel will be of interest to current members because of the number of queries regarding the status of the membership. The matrix was developed based upon June 30th membership figures.

SQDN	TOTAL	ACTIVE	LIFE	EVER HONORED
69	4	1	0	0
70	38	5	0	1
71	290	115	12	44
405	179	118	27	30
822	129	82	7	11
823	85	55	7	7
89	8	5	0	0
HQ	20	14	5	9
W	23	1	0	0
ASC	8	4	0	0
UNK	51	0	0	5

TOTAL 835 400 60 107

The "W" stands for widows; the "ASC" is for Associate Members and the "UNK" is for people for whom addresses are available but lack squadron affiliation, and whom have never responded to any of the association correspondence.

Your Association Contacts

President: Harry E. Terrell, 20475 Upper Bay Dr., Santa Ana Heights, CA 92707. - 5547
Vice President: John Trease, 306 Clay, Broken Bow, OK 74728.
Secretary-Treasurer: James Gilliam, 25475 Jaclyn, Moreno Valley, CA 92387.
71st Sqdn. Rep.: Alonzo Rushing, 1224 Berwick Trail, Madison, TN 37115.
405th Sqdn. Rep.: Lew Pavel, P.O. Box 915204, Longwood, FL 32791.
822nd Sqdn. Rep.: Tom King, 100 Baltusrol Rd., Franklin, TN 37064.
823rd Sqdn. Rep.: Lawton Howell, 133 Ole Hickory Trail, Carrollton, Georgia 30117.
Hdq. Rep.: Harry E. Terrell (see Pres.)
Reunion '88 Chairman: Almon W. Suedekum, 1205 Shiloh Drive, Nashville, TN 37205.
Editor: Lew Pavel (See 405th)

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

The 38th Bomb Group Association (WWII) now boasts 61 life members with the addition of 11 since May.

RICHARD ECKELS	405
JULES V. FISH	405
ROLF A. LAIB	405
JOHN P. LUBACH	405
HERMAN E. BROOKS	823
J. DONOVAN JOHNSON	823
JOSEPH PARA	71
ROBERT M. RENNEISEN	71
THOMAS D. KIRBY, SR.	HG
HENRY D. AHERN	822

HANRAHAN'S NEW GUINEA

(Continued from May issue)

"The nose heavy on landing B-25G was determined to be under fire-powered with the 75mm cannon and was dispatched to Townsville for removal of the 75 and 50s added. However, at Alexishafen, Bill Branden cured Zeros of head-on passes by firing the 75 at them. Tokyo Rose accused the 25s of firing bombs at their aircraft. Later the Japs used phosphorous bombs on formations, but other than colorful, I do not think any damage occurred.

"I witnessed my first B-25 shot down over Madang on the Alexishafen mission. If I am not mistaken, it was a 405th aircraft. Three men climbed out on the wing, but Zeros made passes and by the time we arrived over the airplane, nothing was visible. Incidentally, Zig Zag P-47s were the cover — their first mission. One wag in our squadron informed Zig Zag the fight was on the deck and to get the hell down-stairs. We saw one Zero in the air that day, and he was chasing a P-47 on the deck until he saw us and made a pass.

"I really enjoy reading "The Sun Setters" and I wish there was something I could add to your efforts. Zane Corbin was from my home town in Oklahoma and ended up as replacement for us at Nadzab. I am sure we will all miss him."

(Editor's note: Our thanks to Bill Hanrahan for his graphic vignettes of "early" New Guinea, particularly the purple dope and the snakes — but would add the memory of the volcano that exploded one night southeast of camp, and in the morning everything was covered with a half-inch of volcanic ash.)

"IN EVER HONORED MEMORY"

LAWRENCE F. TANBERG MAJOR GENERAL, USAF

OUR GOOD FRIEND AND LEADER EMERITUS, LARRY TANBERG, PASSED AWAY MAY 10TH IN THE SHAW AFB HOSPITAL AFTER A LENGTHY ILLNESS. HE WAS INTERRED WITH FULL MILITARY HONORS IN EVERGREEN MEMORIAL PARK, SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA. HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE JEANNE AND TWO SISTERS, ALIDA AND DOROTHY.



Larry, born January 19, 1919, to early homesteaders on the outskirts of Dickenson, ND, graduated from high school there in 1937, and went to North Dakota State on a basketball scholarship.

Applying for USAAF Pilot Training during Easter vacation, 1941, he was accepted and ordered to report two weeks before graduation. He took early finals and the State Board of Pharmacy exam prior to reporting to Fort Snelling for induction, and 16 months later he was notified in New Guinea that he was a Registered Pharmacist in the State of North Dakota.

Assigned to Cadet Class 42A, Larry attended Primary and Basic Flight training at Cal Aero, Chino, CA, and was in Advanced Flight School at Stockton, CA, when war was declared. He received his wings and commission January 9, 1942. Eight months later, following B-26 training in Jackson, MS, and B-25 training in Columbia, SC, he was on his way overseas with the Air Echelon of the 38th Bomb

Group.

Larry flew his first bombing mission in New Guinea with the 71st Bomb Squadron October 3, 1942. A year later, Col Brian "Shanty" O'Neill turned the 38th Bomb Group over to Lt. Col Tanberg. On June 3, 1944, five months after his 25th birthday, Larry had his Eagles pinned on while commanding the group in Merawke, Dutch New Guinea. In July, 1944, Larry joined Shanty in the 308th Bomb Wing. He was in Okinawa on V-J Day, and after TDY in Kyushu, Japan, returned to the States on Armistice Day, 1945 — from Australia to Japan in 38 months.

Bismark Sea, Rabaul, Wewak, Kavieng, Hollandia, and Jefman were among his many WWII missions. Later he saw action in Korea and Southeast Asia. He was rated Command Pilot, and among his many honors were three Distinguished Service Medals, the Legion of Merit, the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal and the Purple Heart.

Major General Tanberg served at Shaw AFB in 1963-64 and in 1966-67 as Vice Commander, then Commander of the 9th Air Force. He held command positions in Libya 313th Air Division in Okinawa, CINCPAC in Hawaii, the Pentagon, Hq TAC at Langley AFB, Stewart AFB in Tennessee and various other bases.

After 35 years of distinguished service as an Air Force Officer he and Jeanne returned to Sumter to make their home, where he continue to serve in all facets of community life.

Members of The 38th Bomb Group Association (WWII) owe Larry Tanberg a debt of gratitude for the interest, assistance and inspiration in making the Association the outstanding organization that it is today. He was truly our Leader Emeritus and will be sorely missed.

Hail, Farewell and God-speed, Larry!



Who is briefing whom? Anyone you know?



"IN EVER HONORED MEMORY"

WILLIAM D. BRANDON	71
DAVID KIRK	71
F.E. "CISCO" MESA	71
LEWIS M. MILLER	71
CHARLES F. PHILLIPS	71
DAVID THORNTON	71
WILLIAM TUSS	71
JOSEPH WORKMAN	71
RICHARD P. SLYE	405
JOHN DITULLIO	822
R.C. CAIN	822
JOHN F. CAMPBELL	UKN
JAMES A. GEYER	UKN
EDWARD F. HAWKINS	UKN

The Editor's Comments

Right next door to this column Rolf Laib tells of his efforts to track down the 38th Bomb Group Association. His persistence paid off, but unfortunately few potential members will work that hard to join — and that leads me into this sermon.

In my 35 years of association work, most successful membership development programs have been those involving existing members — and the toughest part of initiating that type of program was convincing members they could make a major contribution with a minimum of effort.

President Terrell has often suggested each of us review our copy of the 38th B.G. veterans (your latest came with the May newsletter) and call or drop a note to anyone whose name we recognize but cannot find on the membership roster. Those of us who have tried it can attest the initial reaction is "I didn't even know there was a 38th Association", and it goes on from there with several of our life members gained through such "cold" contacts.

The prevailing fact is we of the 38th have a common bond — a partnership in the most dramatic, traumatic and unique period of our lives — in the tents, the mess halls, on the line, in briefing rooms, and in the planes. It is almost impossible for anyone who wasn't there to even imagine the impact of those experiences or to appreciate the tribulations, the triumphs, the thrills, the shocks, the highs of elation, the cold fear. It is difficult to share those experiences with any but our own. Certainly those who served in Europe and Africa fought a different war than did we — and those never in a combat zone can have no real conception of how it was. We can really only empathize with our comrades — and that's what makes our Reunion such a great event — and it is also what makes the Association so important, because without the Association there could be no Reunion.

There's still time — check your roster, make a few calls and/or write a few notes. You CAN help strengthen our organization.

"The Difficult Today — The Impossible Tomorrow!"

That old 38th Bomb Group motto sustained Crew Chief Rolf Laib of Balboa, CA, who recently wrote THE SUN SETTER:

"For years my wife Ruth and I have been watching newspapers and going to the Chino Air Field WWII Museum at Chino, CA, where some B-25s are still in flying status, hoping to learn if a 38th B.G. organization existed. Belatedly we heard of the 38th reunion at Disneyland, but were unable to locate a contact.

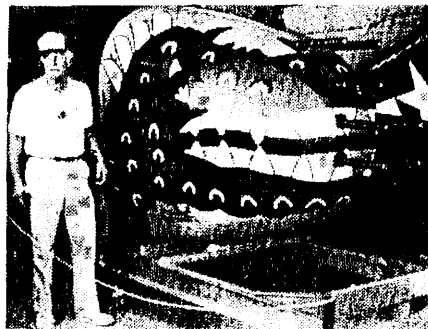
"One day we made another trip to Chino to see, touch and to thrill again this old crew chief who spent so many hours working on them and still loves them so deeply. This time we experienced a far greater thrill as we entered a new hanger for there sat the beautiful nose section of a B-25 strafe, all 8 guns in place and the 405th Green Dragon painted on the nose in all its glory. I was overwhelmed to the point of tears.

"A short but nice explanation of the 405th B.G. strafe carried the name of Harry Terrell at the base. I half-recalled a pilot by that name and asked museum employees if they knew him, but all they could offer was that he lived in the Newport Bay area. Once home I called all the Terrells in the phone book and "Bingo", made contact with Harry who built and painted that Green Dragon nose section — a real tribute to the 405th and the 38th.

"I got together with Harry and I have since become a life member of our Association. In addition I've contacted two former 405th crew chiefs (Frank LaMar from Kansas City and Jack Settles of Escondito, CA) and am hoping to see their names on our roster soon. I am also eager to meet many of our former comrades at future reunions.

"This tale of mine simply proves there are many old comrades out there who need to be contacted. Let's all keep trying to locate them even if it is a bit tough. Like our old New Guinea motto, "The difficult today, the impossible tomorrow".

"One old, very happy Crew Chief, Plane #025 — Rolf Laib."



Squadron Business Meetings

Meetings of each of the Squadrons will be held at Reunion 88 during which Squadron affairs will be discussed.

Perhaps the most important issue is the matter of Squadron representation on the Board of Directors of The 38th Bomb Group Association. Current representatives are serving as appointees by the President; however, the Constitution and bylaws presented to and

accepted by the members in order to permit the Association to apply for recognition as a "Not for profit" organization stipulate in part:

"Each Squadron shall, in its Squadron meeting held prior to the general session, elect from among its members IN ATTENDANCE at the Reunion, a representative to the Board."

You will be informed of the time and place of your Squadron meeting upon registration at the Reunion.

Taps For Dick Slye

President Terrell recently received the following letter:

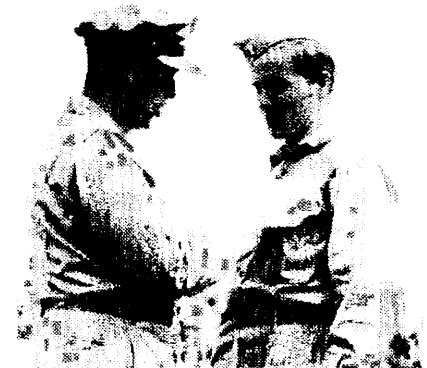
Sirs,

I am sad to inform you that Richard P. Slye died May 6th of this year.

He was as proud as a man could possibly be to have served with the 405th and his memories of his friends and comrades in arms were always as fresh in his mind as the day he came home from the war. His two sons and I have always heard of the good experiences of having a common goal with other men and the friendships that are found and last a lifetime. I know that his spirit will be with you.

Regards,
Ann Slye.

(Editor's note: I was a contemporary of Dick at 17-Mile at Port Moresby and remember him well as a fun guy with a sort of easy-going attitude which would make it difficult for a casual acquaintance to think of him in any sort of heroic sense. Yet when his B-25 landed at 17-Mile so badly damaged it simply gave a sigh, collapsed and burst into flame, Dick scrambled to safety but immediately noted one of the crew had not made it and dashed back into the plane to pull him out, receiving severe burns in the process. That's why we think it appropriate to honor his memory with the photo of his receiving the Soldier's Medal from General Kenney at Durand Drome, N.G.)



38th Bomb Group History

Historian Larry Hickey has provided another insert for this newsletter requesting additional historical material and photographs. During a July visit to his office, Hickey exuded enthusiasm about his progress on the project, but emphasized repeatedly, the more material, the better the book. As editor of THE SUN SETTER we can well appreciate his philosophy.

Nashville — Reunion 88 By Interstate

... FROM EAST ON I-40, take Exit 215 onto Briley Parkway North and Exit 7 to Elm Hill Pike East. Turn right at stoplight on Elm Hill Pike. At next stoplight turn right onto Marriott Drive.

... FROM WEST ON I-40, stay on I-40 East to Exit 215B, then turn onto Briley Parkway North. Take Exit 7 to Elm Hill Pike East. Turn right at stoplight on Elm Hill Pike. At the next stoplight, turn right again onto Marriott Drive.

... FROM EAST ON I-24, take Exit 54B onto Briley Parkway East. Take Exit 7 to Elm Hill Pike East. Turn right at stoplight on Elm Hill Pike. At next stoplight turn right on Marriott Drive.

... FROM WEST ON I-24, turn North on I-65. Exit I-65 North at Exit 90 onto Briley Parkway. Stay on Briley past Opryland to Elm Hill Pike (Exit 7). Left at stoplight on Elm Hill Pike East. At second stoplight on Elm Hill Pike turn right onto Marriott Drive.

... FROM NORTH ON I-65, exit at Exit 89 circling to the right onto Briley Parkway. Stay on Briley past Opryland to Elm Hill Pike (Exit 7). Turn left at stoplight on Elm Hill Pike East. At second stoplight on Elm Hill Pike turn right on Marriott Drive.

... FROM SOUTH ON I-65, take 440 Parkway East towards Knoxville, then I-40 East. Exit on Briley Parkway (Exit 215B). Exit off Briley at Exit 7 to Elm Hill Pike East. Turn right at stoplight on Elm Hill Pike. At next stoplight, right on Marriott Drive.

It's A Small, Small World

Two Freds in the 71st Squadron (Corning of San Antonio, TX, Crain of Kansas City, MO) were constant companions — tent mates at Moresby, Nadzab, Biak; pilot/co-pilot on many missions; both pilots in the same formation on others. The relationship was ruptured when Corning went home from Biak, Crain on to Morotai.

Time marched on — 43 years later Crain retired from a Houston bank after 25 years and moved to Kerrville, Tx. As was his wont, one day he drove 30 miles to Lady Bird Johnson Park, Fredericksburg, to golf. While on the putting green, he noticed a couple walking along an adjoining road in the quiet seclusion of an almost empty park. Crain was stunned! The pair were 50 yards away. He could not see the man's face, but there was no mistaking that walk — distinctive, unique, straight and military, but still with a swing to it. As they neared, Corning stopped suddenly and stared in amazement. It WAS Crain on the green.

Corning retired as an Air Force Lt. Col. to a little town in Washington. Because relatives of his wife lived near San Antonio, the couple travelled to an RV spot in Lady Bird Park each winter — this time a 43-year hiatus was ended by a distinctive military walk the width of a continent away, resulting in several get togethers and plans for future reunions.

(Okay, Hondo navigators — you ALL remember Kerrville from your celestial navigation training flights — triangulating Deneb, Arcturus and Kerrville! — Ed.)

Early History of The 38th

(Francis F. Kellogg of San Jose, California, recently shared with *THE SUN SETTERS* a random history of the formative years of the 38th Bomb Group, and while he didn't feel the material was worthy of publication in the newsletter, we believe many of our members will find it interesting and are, therefore, sharing this information with a minimum of editing.)

"One time reading the 'Letters' section of 'The Retired Officers' magazine I noticed an insert titled 'What about the men who received \$21.00 a month?' signed Ed Lauder.

"Edmund Lauder was the Chief Clerk in our Orderly Room of the 15th Reconnaissance Squadron attached to the 38th Bombardment Group at Jackson, MS. We named ourselves the "Jackson Army" as the base was Jackson Army Air Base. I was the First Sergeant of the 15th and we had a well trained organization.

"I had been promoted to Technical Sergeant just 7 days before Pearl was attacked, and was Crew Chief on a B-26. We all went to San Francisco. Officers lived at the Drake Wilshire Hotel and we enlisted men at Fort McDowell (Angel Island). After a month we learned most of the enlisted men had left for New Guinea. We were sent back to Patterson Field, Ohio and reformed the 'Tokyo Raiders', still the 15th Recon, but changed to the 482nd Bomb Sqdrn, 17th Bomb Group.

"Of all those good men, including Master Sergeant Richard Saleme who made Master Sergeant with me, only two of us and Ed Lauder went to the 405th Bomb Sqdn. We went to Barksdale Field while the 17th went to North Africa. I was Line Chief of the 482nd Bomb Sqdrn (B-26 Marauders).

"Now for the history of the 405th which was originally the 15th Reconnaissance Sqdn. as a cadre of the 18th Reconnaissance at Mitchel Field, NY, a crackerjack squadron and a separate sqdn same as the 15th Recon. The 432nd Bomb Sqdn was originally the 89 or 88th Recon, a separate sqdn of the 17th Bomb Group. The 17th was organized in 1934; however, the squadron from WWI joining the 17th in 1934 was the 34th, 73rd and 95th. The 89th Recon was attached, a separate squadron later 432nd Bomb Sqdn. So the Composite Squadron under Lt. Col. 'Jimmy' Doolittle was made up from picked men of the 17th Bomb Group and the 38th must have absorbed many of the men along with the men we lost.

"I attended the 38th Bomb Group Reunion at Anaheim, CA, near Disneyland to meet with Ed Lauder. I looked up his address in the San Antonio telephone book and we corresponded.

"I am very proud of having been a Regular Army "Air Corps" soldier. I graduated from New England Aircraft School, East Boston Municipal Airport (now Logan Field) in 1934. I had 4 years prior military training in Battery "A", 103rd Field Artillery, 43rd Division, Rhode Island National Guard. It was the only way to enlist in 1936. The Crew Chiefs in the 18th were Staff Sergeants with a least 15 years service. 18 Technical Sergeants were made in one day after the Germans attacked. I made Sergeant Air Mech 1st Class on

February 3rd, 1940. Two new outfits were organized later that year after we moved to Langley Field, VA, and then we went to Jackson, Miss, as a new Squadron in the 15th with 40 picked men. It was the beginning of an era!

"I was appointed Tech Sergeant from the Chief of the Air Corps, Washington, D.C. Made Master Sergeant June 1, 1942, held it 17½ years, and was promoted to 2nd Lieut AUS on October in the field, North Africa. At Fort McDowell I had to serve as acting 1st Sergeant, being a Tech Sgt, when the 1st Sergeant went to New Guinea. Also, just arriving at Telergma in North Africa, I had to do same as we were an advanced detail and in operation with a 1st Lieut in command! — and a very good one, too! So I had two hats — Line Chief and 1st Sergeant. Nobody knew how to make out the papers."

Kellogg is very interested in obtaining a copy of the personnel of the original 15th and understands someone who worked in 38th Group Headquarters may be able to help him. His address is 1059-67 Foxchase Drive, San Jose, CA 95123.

NASHVILLE Optional Activities

... THE GENERAL JACKSON, spectacular, turn-of-the century showboat — a floating palace with food, drink, glamour, shows, music, singing and dancing by costumed characters reminiscent of the showboat era. Morning, midday, afternoon and evening cruises.

... THE HERMITAGE. Home of President Andrew Jackson, a national historic landmark, on 600 acres of gently rolling farmland, offering an insight into a 19th century plantation and a glimpse of Andrew Jackson, 7th President of the United States.

... THE OPRYLAND HOTEL. Adjacent to Opryland and the Grand Ole Opry House, exemplifying traditional southern hospitality with a 2-acre tropical garden, an indoor water garden and a skylighted shopping boulevard.

... OPRYLAND SHOWPARK. America's only musical showpark with more new music and more new shows than ever before.

... BELLE MEADE MANSION. The house of an early southern 5300-acre plantation and world famous thoroughbred breeding farm, with victorian barn, smokehouse, garden house and dairy.

... CHEEKWOOD, once estate of Leslie Cheek, the georgian-style mansion is now home of the Botanical Gardens and Fine Arts Center.

... THE PARTHENON, only existing full scale replica of the original in Athens, Greece. Located in Centennial Park, it now houses statuary and art exhibits.

... TRAVELERS REST. Welcoming visitors since 1799, Nashville's oldest home open to the public. Home of Judge John Overton, Andrew Jackson's law partner, it served as confederate headquarters during the Battle of Nashville.