

A HISTORY OF THE 306th BOMBARDMENT GROUP - EIGHTH AIR FORCE

Russell A. Strong 2041 Hillside Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Name Charles M. Bayless  
Address Box 634 Stevenson, Wash. 98639  
Home Phone 509-427-4462 Date 4-20-81  
Occupation Golf Professional Employer self-employed  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. Phone 509-427-5730  
Serial No(s) A0 683944

Service Record:

Before joining the 306th: Reeves Provisional Group Dyersburg, Tenn.  
Joined 306<sup>th</sup> at Grand Island, Neb. Oct 20, 1943

After leaving the 306th:  
POW at Barth, Germany Stalag Luft 1

306th Record

Arrival date at Thurleigh October 1943  
Squadron or other unit(s) 368<sup>th</sup> Sq.  
MOS # 1051 Specialty Pilot  
Missions Completed (and date of last) 15 Feb 25, 1944  
Promotions 1<sup>st</sup> Lt.  
Decorations 3AM\_olcs\_DFC\_olcs\_SS\_DSM\_DSC\_MH\_SM/PH\_Battle Stars

(On unusual DFCs, and Silver Stars and above would like to see a copy of the citation)

Name Charles M. Bayless Address Box 634 Stevenson, Wash.  
Telephone 509-427-4462

MISSING AIRCRAFT REPORT

Pilot Charles M. Bayless Plane # and Name new  
Mission Date Feb. 25, 1944 Target Augsburg, Germany  
Cause of loss: AA fire  Fighter attack  Other, explain \_\_\_\_\_

Describe conditions in the plane as completely as you can:

Two engines out + wings on fire, control cables  
shot out - crew bailed out successfully - we were  
all captured at the ground.

How and where did you leave plane?

Bailed out front hatch

What happened when you got on the ground?

captured at once Offenbruch, Germany

Did you meet any of your crew mates?

yes

How were you treated, if captured?

Rough

Any additional details, reminiscences, letters, or documents of these events would be appreciated. If you do send such materials, I will copy them and put them back in the mail to you within 24 hours.





## Beacon Rock Golf Course

Max Bayless

P.G.A. GOLF PROFESSIONAL

BOX 162, NORTH BONNEVILLE, WASH. 98639

PHONE 509-427-5730

B

II

airforce up; when we left Thurleigh we were in the second element but by the time we left the target we were on Col. Robinson's right wing. We saw so many 109's and 190's that day that I fully understand what Custer thought at the Little Big Horn. If a group of P-47's hadn't shown up none of us would have made it back. As it was we landed at the first English base we saw and there I learned how much smarter the English were than we when I was awakened the next morning by a comely A.T.S. girl with "Your breakfast is ready Sir."

Memories, memories, some good, some bad. On the day I was shot down, with death so near, my thoughts were of those back at the base and the hope that they would know - We had done our very best.

Yours Truly  
Charles M. Bayless  
Maj. AF Res (Ret.)



(over)



## Beacon Rock Golf Course

Max Bayless

P.G.A. GOLF PROFESSIONAL

BOX 162, NORTH BONNEVILLE, WASH. 98639

PHONE 509-427-5730

B

I

Russell A. Strong  
2041 Hillside  
Kalamazoo, Mi

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a check to help with the production of "Echoes" Keep up the good work.

Following are a few anecdotes I thought you might be interested in —

Our crew joined the 306<sup>th</sup> in October 1943 and I was shot down Feb 25<sup>th</sup> 1944 on my 15<sup>th</sup> mission. (Augsburg) pickup crew We joined the Group on the eve of the Schweinfurt mission. The night we arrived the barracks were so crowded we had to sleep in double bunks on hard pads, next day because of the losses, we had private rooms if we so desired. Needless to say this dampened our "desire" to get at those Nazis somewhat.

C.J. Crowl who was prominently





# SPORTS

## Softball Team Loses To Camas

By Katrin Cameron

Stevenson's girls' softball team was soundly defeated 14-0 by Camas on Tuesday, March 12.

"I think we could have won, but it was our first game and we were all really nervous," said player Tracy White.

The girls played again on March 15 at home where they lost 18-25 despite home runs by Heather Arterbury and Dea Taylor.

Their next game is Wednesday, April 10, against Cathlamet at Ridgefield. Game time is 3:30.

## Men Have St. Patrick's Play

Forty-four enjoyed a breakfast of ham, eggs, hot cakes, orange juice and coffee.

Thirty-nine played "Texas Scramble". Three teams tied with a score of 34. Winners: Allan Shipp, Mark Hughey, and Curt Hackett; Dennis Weibe, Greg Weber, and Jim Duffus; Jim Croy, Dave McKenzie and Stan Barber.

Women's Club members who served and helped with the occasion were Elsie Krueger, Vivian Schindler, Rhoda McEvoy, June Kilpatrick, Grace Quoss and Fran Childers.

—Fran Childers, secy.

## Sports Council To Meet April 3

Skamania County Sports Council will have a meeting April 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Rock Creek Center in Stevenson.

Guest speaker is Lyle Burmeister from the U. S. Forest Service. The topic will be, "Stream Habitat Improvement Project on Wind River District."

13c

—Tom Linde

# A's Home & Garden Sale.

## 7 DAYS ONLY!

## MARCH 28, 29, 30

# 50% OFF

## On All

## Price & Supply



B

# Beacon Rock Golf Course

Max Bayless

P.G.A. GOLF PROFESSIONAL

BOX 162, NORTH BONNEVILLE, WASH. 98639

PHONE 509-427-5730

Box 634  
Stevenson, Md - 98648

306th Bombardment Group Association

Gentlemen of the 306th -

I am very sad to inform you  
of my husband's death -

As far as I enjoyed your paper so much  
and looked forward to receiving it -

I feel had the V.A. in Portland  
Oregon been more thorough with their  
examination he could have been saved.  
But he has had the run-around from  
them for 40 years -

Sincerely

Mrs. Max Bayless

