

LLOYD BELLINGER HONORED

Every November, the members of NWSA look for the edition of *The Aerograph* which contains the "Bellinger List", or known more affectionately as the "B List." On the 20th anniversary of our organization, we are honoring the man behind the list - Lloyd Bellinger. For those of you who don't know you Lloyd, this is a brief synopsis of your life.

It was on the 13 of December, 1919 at Forestport, NY, which is near Rome, that you first saw the light of day. The first 10 years of your life were heady years for the nation, but probably had little impact on your life. The Roaring Twenties were lively indeed - the Model "T" Ford, flapper skirts, the Charleston dance and lively music all contributed to the decade. In 1927 the last Model "T" came off the assembly line. It was also the year that Lucky Lindy - Charles Lindberg - flew solo across the Atlantic and captured the heart of the nation. Do you recall those events, Lloyd?

In 1929 when you were 10 years old, these "good times" came to an end. The following decade probably had a very significant effect on your life. In October of 1929, just 2 months prior to your 10th birthday, the Great Depression started. In a family of Mom and Dad, plus 5 boys and 2 girls, the 1930's in a rural New York town dependent upon forest products - life would not be easy. These are the times that build character. One way to put food on the table would be to hunt game. This you did.

In 1936 you joined the Citizen Military Training Group - a forerunner of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). One more family member providing sustenance to the family was undoubtedly much appreciated by the other members of the family.

In April of 1938 you joined the Navy at Utica, NY and set off to boot training at Newport, RI. We know about your naval career from the article in the reunion brochure.

In September of 1944 you married your lovely wife Naomi in her home state of California. From that union came your two children - Jeff and Ann. Looking ahead for a moment - in September of 1994 - this year - you and Naomi will have been married 50 years. What a beautiful anniversary to celebrate, considering today's social climate.

Retiring from the Navy in 1961, you remained in Toms River for several years - selling Fords for the most part.

In June of 1964 you returned to the field of meteorology working as an instructor with the Army Signal Corps at Fort Monmouth here in New Jersey. Subsequent moves took you to Fort Sill in Oklahoma and to Chanute Field in Illinois.

May of 1978 brought retirement from Civil Service and you returned to your roots in Rome, NY. Today it is not necessary to hunt for food as you did as a young boy. Today you and Naomi take trips to Canada and the New England states sampling a variety of dining experiences.

The values that you learned and developed during the formative years of the 1930's have served you well - frugality - hard work - perseverance - devotion to family - and many other desirable characteristics are worth emulation by others.

Lloyd, I am pleased to call you "friend."

The NWSA is grateful for the inspiration that you had back in the summer of 1966 when you started a "weather guessers" roster. Today, the Bellinger List is part of the glue that holds our organization together.

We take great pleasure in honoring you this year. May you collect *Aerographs* for many years to come.

At this time, I would like to have the President of NWSA, Frank McGayhey, present you with a memento of this occasion.

Presented by Norm Macomber - 14 May, 1994 at Holiday Inn Toms River, NJ