

# ALEPPO PIPE BAND

By AL DODGE

**T**HE Aleppo Pipe Band members performed at the January 24th Ceremonial for the Installation of our newest Potentate, Illustrious **Robert F. Smith**. The Aleppo Highlanders welcome you as you take on your new duties and we wish you the best and that your term in office will be all you wish it to be. Congratulations!

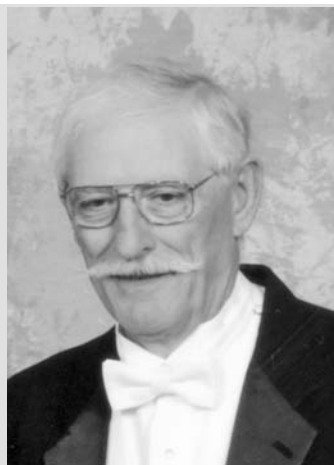
The Pipe Band performed in the Parade of Review with a stirring rendition of "Will Ye No Come Back Again." Members in attendance were: Drums: Dir. **Robert A. Wright**, Band Manager **David T. Wright**, Noble **Rick Bartlett**, Bass Drummer **Michael R. Williams**, Noble **Roger MacKenzie** as Tenor Drummer. Pipes: P/M **Daniel F. Millet**, P/Sgt. **Robert L. MacNeil**, P/Sgt/ **Walter D. Harmer, Sr.**, P.P. **Alexander D. Campbell**, Noble **John M. Bell**, Noble **Douglas A. Yatsunami** and Noble **Albert S. Dodge, Sr.**

It is always a great pleasure to welcome new Nobles' to Aleppo Shriners. We hope that they will seek out and join one of the many units, and most particularly the Pipe Band. All are welcome. You don't have to be Scottish, Irish or of any particular ethnic background. The band could be called a League of Nations Band. All people are welcome to our practice sessions, held every Tuesday evening from 7 to 9 p.m. Those interested may call one of the following: Sec. **Alan B. Archibald** at 508-393-3416, Qtr./Master, **Robert**

**H. Archibald** at 508-481-5469 or Noble **Albert S. Dodge, Sr.** 978-667-7635.

Note: At this time we should mentioned the awarding of the 33rd Degree to a member of this fine Kiltie Unit. We say congratulations to Past Potentate **Alexander D. Campbell** who received the 33rd Degree, Scottish Rite's highest honor, for outstanding service to Freemasonry. Ill. Campbell also serves this unit as Asst. Director and performs with both the pipe and drum sections. A very proud moment for Alex for all your years of hard work and dedication to Freemasonry and a proud moment for all your friends here at Aleppo. Well done Illustrious Campbell

A public service announcement – Yes, it is that time of year again when three members of this unit were called to honor Pearl Harbor Day, December 7th. Ceremonies were held at the AMVETS Post 147, Haverhill, MA, and also to honor the 8th Annual Support the Troops Christmas Dinner and Reception sponsored by V.F.W. Post 2016 Amesbury/Newburyport. This event was held in Saint Joseph's Holy Family Parish Hall, December 23. These two events are held each year in remembrance of the fallen military heroes who gave their lives and in honor of those who are still serving all over the world. The



ILLUSTRIOUS ALEX CAMPBELL  
ALEPPO PAST POTENTATE



A l e p p o Highlanders who donated their time and talent at both events were P/M **Daniel F. Millet**, P/Sgt **Walter D. Harmer, Sr.** and P/Sgt **Robert L. MacNeil**.

Sick list: So nice to see Noble **Roger MacKenzie** returning for drum practice and also to perform at the January Ceremonial as a Tenor Drummer. Nice to see you strutting your stuff and many happy tunes to you. P/M **William P. Davis** also visited and was able to enjoy the January Ceremonial, not able to perform but as a spectator. Good to see you and hope your recovery is quick. P/M Emeritus **Richard N. Rehlander** has been under the care of doctors and we wish Noble **Dick** a fast recovery.

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## Major Emeritus Robert M. Carlton Visits England 63 Years After Being Shot Down

**S**ATURDAY, January 13, 1945 wasn't the best day for Major Emeritus **Robert M. Carlton**, then the radio operator and upper turret gunner on "Rum Dum" a B-24 bomber based at Halesworth, England (Yes, Bob chose the name!). While flying his 30th mission over Germany, Rum Dum was crippled by flak and the pilot, Captain **Ed Wall**, struggled to control the plane while the crew bailed out. Wall sent Carlton below to check on the bombardier (killed instantly) and navigator (injured). Bob helped bandage the navigator, put his parachute on, and pushed him out the Rum Dum. Wall then sent Carlton the rear of the plane to tell the rest of the crew to bail out, which he did.

Carlton and another crew member started talking about their chances of making it back when they saw the parachute of Wall and the co-pilot open. They realized they were the last two on the plane and quickly bailed out. Bob was twenty-one years old at the time. He was quickly captured by the Germans, endured a forced march from Nuremberg to Moosburg, was imprisoned in a POW camp, later escaped, and made his way to Paris.

He never returned to England until last September, roughly sixty-three years later. Bob, now 85, his wife, Lady **Lois**, their daughter **Roberta Russell**, and their sons **Phillip** and **Robert** all traveled to the United Kingdom.

The primary purpose of the trip was for Robert to visit where he served during WWII as a member of the United States Army Air Force, and to reunite with relatives, friends, and a gal he befriended during his tour of duty.

Memories of WWII may be fading in the US, but not in the UK. Bob and his family report that they were greeted like royalty wherever they went and were deeply touched by the desire of the many people they met to show their appreciation for US efforts in WWII and to share their own stories. Bob's grandfather, **Albert Turner**, was originally from the UK and Bob had the opportunity to spend time with that side of the family when he was stationed there. This trip allowed him to reunite with relatives he had known previously, plus many new ones.

Bob and his family spent three days sightseeing in London including Winston Churchill's underground bunker, the Changing of the Guard, the London Eye, and tea at Kensington Palace.

The group then traveled to Southwold for a week, which was close to the site of the Halesworth base where Bob was stationed. Six of Bob's English relatives also traveled to Southwold for a continuing family reunion. In Southwold he was reunited with an old girlfriend, **Peggy (Doy) Hurren**, who had

been a member of the ambulance service during the war. Bob would visit the Doy family often and Peggy's parents adopted the Rum Dum crew. He never saw Peggy again until their recent reunion. Bob and his family, and Peggy and her family had a fantastic time reminiscing about old times and bringing each family up to date on what has transpired in their lives. Peggy married **Joe Hurren** and they are a former mayor and mayoress of Southwold.

Bob visited the former Halesworth airfield and noted that with a modest cutting of the grass, planes could take off from there today. At the 489th Bomb Group Museum, Bob signed the Wall of Honor, above the signature of his pilot, **Ed Wall**, and assisted in raising the American flag. At the Halesworth Airfield Memorial Museum, he laid flowers in an emotional private ceremony, and was presented with a signed limited edition of a painting by **Joe Crowfoot** depicting a B-24 Liberator at Halesworth. He was welcomed at the Imperial War Museum in Duxford and given a private tour, which allowed he and his group to view a lot of war memorabilia not available to the public.

Before returning to the US, they visited the American Military Cemetery in Cambridge, the only WWII Cemetery in the British Isles. It contains the Wall of the Missing and lists 5,127 names including Glenn Miller and **Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr.** While there, Bob laid a memorial wreath and assisted in lowering and folding the American flag. Bob's lasting impression is of the many who wanted to shake his hand, and say "thank you," and who said, "We can never repay you for what you did. If it wasn't for the Americans we would be speaking Russian or German today."



VISITING THE 489TH BOMB GROUP USAAF Halesworth Suffolk Museum are, from left to right: **Peggy (Doy) Hurren**, **Robert Carlton**, **Lady Lois**, their sons **Robert** and **Phillip**, and daughter **Roberta Russell**.

