



75th
ANNIVERSARY



N 96TH BOMB GROUP NEWSLETTER

413th

FEBRUARY 2017

ISSUE NO. 68

SPECIAL 75th ANNIVERSARY EDITION



IT WON'T BE THE SAME WITHOUT "U"

See story of the cover on page 11

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President's Corner



Greetings to Everyone! I hope this issue of the newsletter finds you and your loved ones well. It only seems like yesterday, but it has already been four months since the last 8th AFHS reunion ended – time does fly!

This is my first newsletter as President of our group, and I have a few things I'd like to touch on:

First, I'd like to say a most sincere Thank You to Joe Garber, and of course his lovely wife Joan. Joe has been a good friend since I first joined this group in 2009, and he was a great mentor as the President of this organization when I became the Vice President. It was with sadness that I read Joe's letter this past summer submitting his resignation due to on-going health concerns. Of course, in the true Joe manner, he was most concerned about the 96th BGA, and he wanted to step aside to make sure that the organization continued forward. Thank You again for everything Joe!

Second, I'd like to thank all the members of this organization. From that night in 2009 when I wandered into the 96th BGA hospitality suite in Cincinnati, I have been included as a part of the group and all activities. I have never been a part of a more inclusive group. Rebecca Lutz and her sister Peggy Davis, Nancy Meshko, Dale Budde and his friend Jeff Jeffers were the first to greet me that night, and I haven't been able to get away since!

Next – This organization is dedicated to preserving the memory of the efforts that the men of the 96th BG performed from January 28, 1942 until December 21, 1945. They were a great part of the Greatest Generation. I'd like to highlight a few ways this association keeps their memories alive:

- This newsletter! Twice a year, Dale Budde puts together 20+ pages of info related to the memories of the 96th BG. Did you know that he accepts articles from others? Well he does!!! If you have an interesting story or article, please let Dale know. Maybe you have a photo of a member of the 96th Bomb Group and an anecdote that goes along with it – please share!
- Attendance at reunions. This is a great way to make new friends, renew old acquaintances, and preserve the memory of the 96th BG. Ask someone who has attended a reunion – I feel certain they will have several memories to share. The next reunion of the 8th AFHS will be in New Orleans, from Sept. 27 to October 1, 2017 - this is a little earlier than in past years, so pencil this into your calendar now. The 96th BGA has historically been a leader in attendance at the events – let's keep that going!
- Website: The 96th BGA has a website that can be found at www.96bg.org. This website was created and maintained by Mr. Bill Taebel. After his passing in 2015, the BGA is

now operating this site. A few new things have been added, and we have plans for additional upgrades and additions. Progress has been slower than I intended, but we are moving forward.

- Facebook: You can find our group on Facebook by searching for “96th Bomb Group Association”. Our page gets a few new 'Likes' each week – interesting questions are posted on occasion. We try to post interesting articles related to WWII groups on occasion as well. Please take a look – maybe you can answer a question or find a connection to a crew member of a relative. You never know until you look! If you are a member of Facebook, and you 'Like' our page, you should be able to post there.
- Museum: Did you know that the 96th BGA has a very informative and well-maintained museum? Did you know the museum is located on the grounds of the original 96th BG base in England? Geoff Ward, and his lovely wife Margaret, do a fantastic job keeping the memory of the 96th BG alive at the location of the Snetterton Heath base in the Norfolk region of England. If you have the opportunity to be in England, please contact Geoff ahead of time and schedule a visit! Geoff's contact info can be found on the back page of this newsletter.

Outside of our group, there are other ways you can connect, research, or just browse:

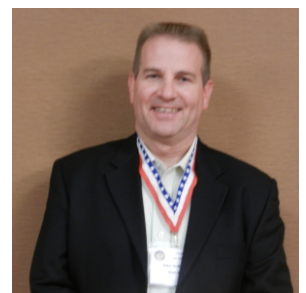
- The American Air Museum at Duxford has a remarkable website – they are endeavoring to have information for every aircraft, every aircrew, and every man and woman who served with the USAAF in England during WWII. If you register with the site, you can enter info for a person, an aircraft, or other things (entries are subject to review by the site administrator). The site can be found at www.americanairmuseum.com
- Facebook pages for the 8th AF Museum, other Bomb Groups and Fighter Groups from the 8th AF, and pages for fans of B-17s or B-24s – search for something you are interested in, there is probably a page out there!

I know some of the above is not new to many of our members and readers of this newsletter, but I thought putting all of these together in one place might be handy.

A final thought – if you'd really like to connect, visit or call a veteran. It could be a member of the 96th BG, or a current member of the Armed Forces. Let them know you are thinking of them, ask them a question about their service, or just say Thank You for your service. It would mean a lot, and I bet you'd get something out of it too!

Thank You for your time!

Mike McIlraith
President – 96th BGA



Regretful Resignation

August 30,2016

Dear 96er's

After careful thought and consideration, it is with regret and deep sadness that I must tender my resignation as President of the 96th Bomb Group. Due to health-related issues, I am no longer able to carry out my duties as efficiently as I would like. My desire is to avoid any disruption of or interference with the activities of the association, so I feel this is the best action to ensure the organization continues to run smoothly.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve in my capacity as President, especially to have the wonderful friendships of the veterans and their families who make the 96th Bomb Group as special as it is to me. It has not only been a great pleasure but also a tremendous learning experience, and I could not have asked for a better group of colleagues.

It is especially gratifying to me that with help from many of you we were able to accomplish our goal to establish the Veterans Museum & Educational Center in Daytona Beach, Florida. I am confident that all visitors to the museum will be delighted to see what has been accomplished here.

Of course, I will be glad to assist, if necessary, in ensuring a smooth transition to a new President. I wish you all the best of luck and prosperity in the future.

Sincerely



Joe Garber

Welcome to our New Officers and Board Members

Stanley Hand

Vice-President

You could say that Stanley Hand was born into the 96th, as he was born in 1943 in Louisville Kentucky while his father Colonel Stanley Hand was in command of the 413th Squadron of the 96th Bomb group at Snetterton Heath. Over the next 12 years he would move 35 times and attend 18 different schools.

He attended the University of Louisville for undergraduate and Medical School graduating in 1969. He married his wife Joanne, also a Louisville native in 1970 and they are both big Cardinal fans. They have Three sons married with eight grandchildren.

Following his fathers foot steps he entered the Air Force as a Flight surgeon in Taipei, residency in Ophthalmology. In 1979 he left military life for private practice in Pediatric Ophthalmology. He is still practicing today.

Stan and Joanne reside in Orlando. Stan is active at First Baptist Church Orlando. He sings in the choir, and teaches a Life Group (SS).

We are fortunate to have him as our new Vice-President.



Stan and Joanne Hand

Merton Thurston

Board Member

Merton joins Bill Thorns and George Bonitz as the third 96th World War II veteran actively serving on our Board. He served from: February 25, 1944 - October 8, 1944 England (Snetterton Heath) 338th Bomb Squadron, 96th Bomb Group, 45th. Bomb Wing, 3rd. Air Division, US 8th Air Force. Duty: Radio Operator - Gunner on B-17. Flying 35 missions over Germany and France.



Francis Palsma and Merton Thurston

He graduate from High school in Romeo Michigan. His enlistment dates from December 5, 1942. Somewhere in the next year he found time to entice Elaine June Perkins to marry him on January 8, 1944 in Dalhart, Texas before departing for England on February 25, 1944.

He and Elaine were married for 60 years and had two children Carol Tucker and James Thurston

On returning from England in 1944 he remained in the service until November 3, 1945. Reenlisting then from May 27, 1948 - April 1, 1968 (Ground Radio Operator and Ground Control Approach (GCA) radar maintenance) He retired at Rank of E-8 (Sr. Master Sergeant).

Military service locations included: United States, Alaska, England, France, North Africa, Kwajalein, Vietnam, Philippines and Thailand.

Civilian employment dates: April 1968 - June 1985. Included: Civilian employers: Chrysler tank plant - Warren MI, US government / Civil Service (catalogue division) Detroit and Battle Creek, MI.

Sadly Elaine passed away May 10, 2004

Merton currently resides in Sun City, AZ.

Richard Hill

Board Member

Richard is a Life Member of the 8th AFHS and became a member of the 96th BGA in 1993. Introduced to the group by Matt Heinzen crew chief on *TARFU* of the 337th Squadron and its pilot Joe Bender. He has attended every reunion since 1993 except the one in Tucson AZ in July 2010.



Richard and Willodean Hill

Richard and his wife Willodean have been married for 63 years. They have a daughter and son, 4 Granddaughters, 2 Great Granddaughters and 1 Great Grandson born in December 2016.

The 179th F.S. was activated in the Minnesota National Guard at Duluth, MN in September 1948. Richard enlisted in early 1949. They met in the Armory in downtown Duluth before they had a base and planes. He was one of 900 men to establish the base. His Basic Training was at Camp Williams, Volkfield in Wisconsin. Activated to the Air Force in 1950 as Korea broke out he served in air defense command in the instrument section on F-51s for about 21 months.

The 179th is now known as the 148th Fighter Wing flying the latest F-16C Block 50 Fighting Falcon.

Meanwhile Back at the Old Base



Events have been pretty normal since our last report from the old base. Interest in the museum has been good from people and there have been several visitors from both sides of the Atlantic. American visitor numbers have been normal, with more family members than veterans. It is obvious with the current advancing age of Veterans, this is going to be the norm in coming years., but it is good to know that the younger generation are still eager to come back to the old base to see what remains of the place and the history of where their grandfathers, fathers and uncles served when they are over here during World War Two. We will always maintain there will be a warm welcome for all of you who come over. And don't forget to let us know when you will be coming, so we can make arrangements for your visit.

This year in November, St Andrews church at Quidenham, hosted the Remembrance Day Service for the Quidenham group of churches. We were delighted to have the presence of a serving officer representing the USAF again. Major Garcea, who is an electronics operator, flying F16s from RAF Lakenheath, joined us along with his wife and family for the service. Major Garcea laid a wreath on behalf the USAF. After the service Major Garcea visited the museum and the airfield memorial and was most impressed with what has been done to honour and remember the 96th BG. We have completed a Roll of Honour, which has now been placed within in the Memorial Chapel, so that now visitors can read the names of all those young men who lost their lives while serving with the 96th. A British group, The Eighth in the East, have produced an information board of the history of the 96th which has now been placed in the Church.

Recently we held a film night presentation at the

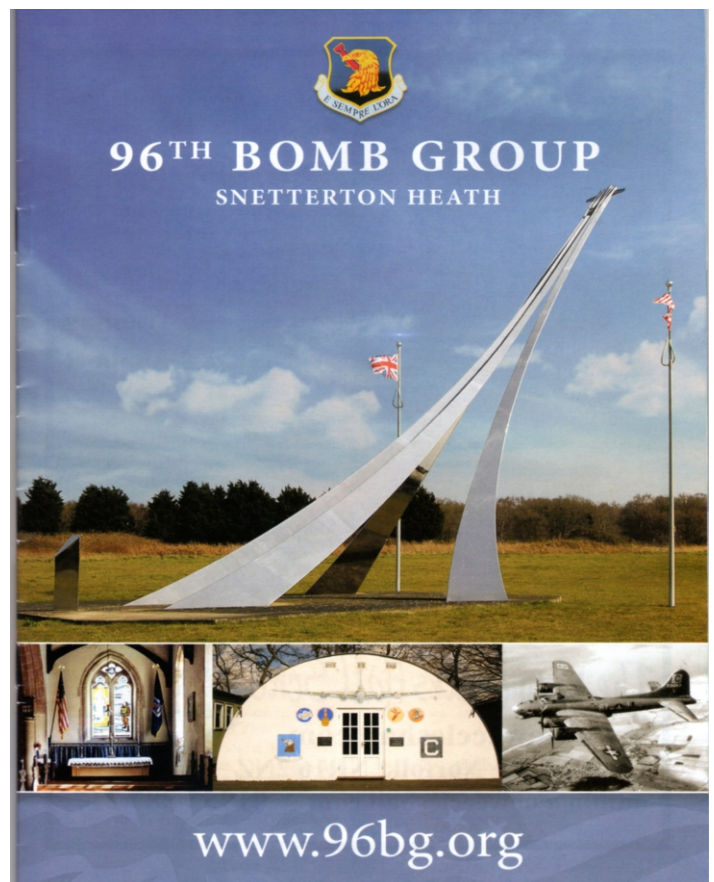
New Eccles Hall School, which was well attended by local people. It was decided not to make an entrance charge, but to ask for voluntary donations for the East Anglia Air Ambulance, a charitable organisation which provides a great rapid response service in East Anglia. Since leaving the RAF, Prince William has been a pilot, flying their helicopters on emergency calls.

Our usual open days will be held this year on the second Sunday of the month from May to September. Two extra fun days to raise funds, one for the Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and a Family Fun Day for the School, have been scheduled for late May and early June.

From all the British Associate members we wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year.

“To the 96th”

Geoff Ward



Brochure cover designed and produced by Jean Wills



96th Bomb Group Recipients French Legion of Honor

Marbury L. Councill Jr.	337th
Joseph Garber	338th
Joseph O. Ingram Jr.	337th
Lloyd Mitchell	413th
Stanley A. Peterson	338th
James A. Rich Jr.	338th
Henry "Ed" Tessien	413th
William M. "Bill" Thorns	338th
Rudolph Villalobos	413th
Frank A. Wiswall	413th
Richard P. Woodson, III	337th

Listed above are those members of the 96th Bomb Group known to have received the French Legion of Honor. If you have received this award and are not listed please let the Newsletter Editor know so you may be included in the future.

If you believe you may be eligible for this award you can find more complete information on the 8th Air Force Historical Society web page link at <https://8thafhs.org/reunion/french.htm>. You will be able to download the actual application forms from this link and begin gathering the information you will need to apply. Should you need help with where to find the information that you will need Joe Garber an award recipient and his wife Joan would be glad to assist you. They can be e-mailed at paljoe2@aol.com or phoned at 386-672-5359. Also Bill Thorns an award recipient would be glad to assist. His contact information can be found on the last page in "Where to Call or Write."

How to request being awarded the French Legion of Honor

The Legion of Honor is France's most distinguished decoration and it can be bestowed to recognize the special contribution and act of bravery while fighting for the liberation of our country during WWII. The decision to honor World War II combatants applies only to living veterans who served on French territory and in French territorial waters and airspace from 1944-1945.

The medal will not be awarded posthumously.

In order to study your request you must provide the following documents:

1. Proposal Memory Form - Attach the form completed in block letters and print legibly (with a detailed personal narrative related to your campaigns in France in which you participated, indicating the dates and locations where you fought, the divisions or units you belonged to and your functions).

2. Honorable Discharge Papers — Attach a copy (do not send originals) of both sides of yours showing proof of service in France between June 6, 1944 and May 8, 1945.

3. A copy of any of the following decorations you or your unit may have been awarded is also required: Bronze Star, Silver Star, Purple Heart, Congressional medal, French Croix de Guerre/French Fourragere.

4. All information (newspaper articles, books, etc describing your actions in France during WWII.

5. Mail to one of the French Consulates on the list below. Please note that upon receipt of these documents your file will be submitted to our Embassy in Washington DC. and then to the Grand Chancellery of the Legion of Honor in Paris, France, for a final decision after a close study of the veteran's record by a committee. The review of application for the Legion of Honor may take over a year. Please don't call: applicants will be contacted directly if any questions or problems arise.

If your request is accepted you will have to go to one of the French Consulates to receive the medal.

FRENCH CONSULATES IN THE U.S.

Consulat Général de France
4101 Reservoir Road
Washington DC 20007

Consulat Général de France
934 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10021

Consulat Général de France
Park Square Building, Suite 750
31, Saint James Avenue
Boston MA 02116

Consulat Général de France
The Lenox Building
3399 Peachtree Rd NE, Ste 500
Atlanta, GA 30326

Consulat Général de France
Espirito Santo Plaza, Suite 1050,
1395 Brickell Avenue
Miami FL 33131

Consulat Général de France
205 North Michigan Avenue, Suite
3700
Chicago, IL, 60601

Consulat Général de France
777 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 600
Houston, TX 77056

Consulat Général de France
1340 Poydras Street- Suite 1710
New Orleans LA 70112

Consulat Général de France
10390 Santa Monica Blvd. Suite 410
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Consulat Général de France
88 Keamy St. Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94108



Henry E. Tessien Receives France's highest military honor Saturday April 16, 2016 in Honolulu

By MAX DIBLE West Hawaii Today

KAILUA-KONA — The skies erupted in blinding flames and ear-ripping cacophony over the munitions town of Schweinfurt, Germany, on Oct. 14, 1943 — a day that would become known to history as “Black Thursday.”

Henry E. Tessien, second lieutenant and bombardier of the 96th Bombardment Group, manned a .50-caliber machine gun in the nose of his B-17 bomber — tasked with the destruction of a plant that manufactured ball bearings for Nazi war machines.

Some time into the battle, Tessien watched as a German JU-88 fighter bomber tore through the chaos on a line toward his plane, a typical mode of attack. Tessien opened fire and seconds later, the enemy aircraft exploded in front of him.

“I got him! I got him!” Tessien later heard on a static recording, which had captured his voice moments after shooting down the JU-88.

Allied forces deployed 262 B-17 bombers to smash German industry in Schweinfurt, each crewed with 10 men. When the fighting subsided, 65 of those planes had been shot down and more than 600 troops were captured or killed. Tessien was not among them.

“It was the greatest battle of the war,” Tessien recalled. “You were always nervous. You were not afraid, but you were always nervous.”

Capt. Richard M. Jerger, Tessien's pilot, and his crew navigated the skies deep in enemy-occupied territory for more than eight treacherous hours before landing at an air base in southern England.

Their airship had lost three of its four engines, the fourth engine dying moments after the B-17 touched down. All 10 crew members aboard survived, but the plane — riddled with bullet holes — never took to the air again.

Tessien, of course, did. Schweinfurt was the 22nd mission of his tour in Europe, which took him to battles in Germany, France, Belgium, Holland, Norway and Africa. Tessien, who arrived in England on Easter Sunday 1943, flew three more missions before heading home.

His final mission — Mission X, as it is listed on his official service itinerary — was completed on Christmas Eve of the same year. Tessien, who earned the rank of captain by war's end, would never fly a combat mission again.

“I had a very merry Christmas,” he said.

It was for his actions over Schweinfurt that Tessien was awarded his second Distinguished Flying Cross. His first came upon the completion of his 20th mission over Emden, Germany.

“For extraordinary achievement while serving as a Bombardier on 20 bombardment missions over enemy occupied Continental Europe,” the reason was written in a letter commissioned at the behest of Brig. Gen. F.L. Anderson. “Displaying great courage and skill, Lieutenant Tessien, fighting from his gun position has destroyed one enemy plane, warded off many enemy attacks and has materially aided in the success of each of the twenty missions.”

During his months flying for Allied forces, Tessien also earned the Air Medal and three oak leaf clusters. On Saturday in Honolulu, the 96-year-old Kailua-Kona resident will be honored one final time.

Tessien and Honolulu resident Joseph Obayashi will be awarded the French Legion of Honor Medal — France's highest

military honor — for their service in the liberation of the country from Nazi occupation.

Guillaume Maman, the honorary consul of France in Hawaii, will present Tessien with his medal in the Solarium Room at 15 Craigside on Oahu. The audience will include two United States generals, local political leaders and international dignitaries.

“I am just happy,” Tessien said of his selection to receive the distinguished honor. “I am being well paid for my action over France.”

Tessien, who was drafted in 1941 at age 21, had applied initially for the aviation cadets to become a pilot. A bout with measles resulted in his elimination from pilot training, and so he became a bombardier — aiming the bombs and manning guns in the nose of warplanes. He completed his training in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in November 1942 before crossing the Atlantic.

After returning home from the war, Tessien met his wife, Suzanne, in a train station in Chicago after she had lost a box of candy her aunt had given to her.

“I asked a military policeman where a candy store might be,” remembered Suzanne, who turns 93 later this month.

“Eddie (Tessien's preferred moniker) overheard me and said to the MP, ‘I will take over from here.’”

The two found they were traveling on the same westward train for two days, Tessien on his way to Oakland and Suzanne to Portland, Oregon.

They were married just three months later.

Tessien spent the rest of the war developing secret weapons — first in Tonopah, Nevada, and later in Utah. He worked on heat-seeking technology and television bombs, operated by a fighter via joystick who guided the bomb to its target with the aid of a camera.

An active reservist until his retirement as a lieutenant colonel in 1970, Tessien's day job was with Western Union. He served in the Korean War as a communications specialist, helping install a worldwide communications system for the Department of Defense — including a relay station in Hawaii.

After spending three days on each island, Suzanne had her mind made up.

“We liked the elbow room on the Big Island,” she said.

Every year, the couple would travel from Oakland to Hawaii. At first, it was for a few weeks at a time. Then, a few months. Finally in 1997, they bought their home on the Big Island where they've lived ever since.

Now in their 90s, the Tessiens don't spend a lot of time island hopping, but receiving France's highest military honor certainly constitutes a weekend trip to Oahu.

“We are thrilled to death,” Suzanne said with a smile.



Email Max Dible at mdible@westhawaii.com.

Published April 15, 2016 - 1:30am

Richard P. Woodson III

World War II veteran Richard Woodson III, right, of Raleigh, NC receives the French Legion of Honor medal from Consul General of France Denis Barbet during a ceremony at the Levine Museum of the New South on Wednesday, June 15, 2016.



The National Order of the Legion of Honor is the highest honor in France. Founded by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802, it recognizes eminent services to the French Republic. Recipients of this honor are designated by the President of the Republic, Francois Hollande. More than 70 North Carolina veterans have received it since the early 2000s.

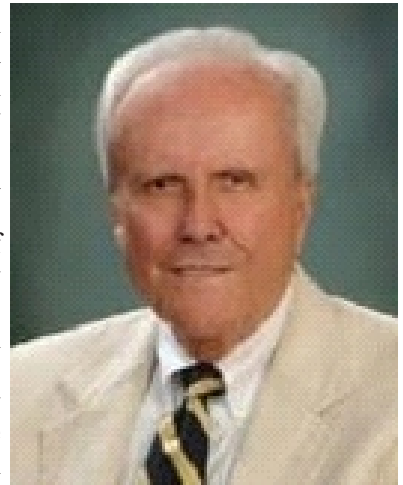
“It is thanks to them, who fought against tyranny and for a free world, that we were able to celebrate the peace restored to a democratic Europe,” said Denis Barbet, the Consul General of France in Atlanta, who presented the awards. “Dear veterans, you are our heroes. By fulfilling your duty to your country, you helped ensure liberty and democracy for the French people, and we will never forget that.”

“Each time, I can assure you that I was and I am deeply humbled and moved by the opportunity to meet those veterans and express to them officially the eternal gratitude of the French for their brave service more than 70 years ago,” Barbet said.

Richard Peyton Woodson III, was born March 1, 1923 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, only son of Richard Peyton Woodson, Jr. and Katherine McMillen. Peyton grew up in Albuquerque, New Mexico and attended Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire. He was honored to serve his country in World War II flying 26 missions as a B-17 pilot in the Eighth Air Force in the air war over Europe. While experiencing life changing events, the most memorable for him was the mission one week before VE day. Operation Chowhound flown over The Netherlands to drop crates of food for the starving Dutch masses who were still suffering under German occupation.

After the war, Peyton returned to Princeton and in 1949 graduated cum laude. He then attended Stanford Business School where he was elected President of his class. After his father's death, Peyton was called upon to return to Albuquerque to run the family grocery business. There he met and married Martha Avison. They soon moved to Raleigh, where he took a role in the family insurance business of Occidental Life Insurance Company of North Carolina and British-American Insurance Company, Ltd based in Nassau, Bahamas. He spent more than thirty years in the insurance industry. His greatest honor was to serve as the chairman of LOMA, the life insurance industry's largest professional association.

Peyton served on many boards and committees in Raleigh and the Triangle: Shaw University, NC Symphony Society and it's Foundation Board, United Arts, Chairman of the Triangle Community Foundation board, Triangle Foundation Investment Committee, West Raleigh Rotary Club, Chairman of the "Mayor's Committee" on Community Relations to



Richard Peyton Woodson III

bring about the peaceful integration of Raleigh's public spaces and services. For close to three decades, he served on the board of FHI360, a company that has tackled the challenges of family planning and the spread of HIV/AIDS in more than seventy countries around the world. Several of the years were spent as chairman, as well as serving on the Family Health International Foundation Board. In 2013 Peyton was honored to be inducted into the Raleigh Hall of Fame. He has been grateful for the opportunities to give back to the community as thanks for the many blessings of family, friends and a fulfilling life.



The **Boomerang** Crew August 1944

(Back L-R) Robert Fuller -Ball Turret, Jack Jayroe -Waist Gunner, Victor Loesh -Top Turret Gunner, Carroll Johnson -Waist Gunner, George Johnson -Tail Gunner, Joseph D. Pace -Radio Operator
(Front L-R) Lt. Frank Voscnar -Navigator, Lt. Richard Peyton Woodson, III -Co-Pilot, Lt. Gerald H. White -Pilot, Lt. Carl Miller -Bombardier

Sadly Richard Payton Woodson “Woody” flew his Final Mission January 5, 2017 in Raleigh, NC. Peyton's wife, Martha Avison Woodson, originally of Greenfield, MA, pre-deceased him in 2011 after 58 years of marriage. He is survived by his daughter Sheila W. Horine (Stace) of Asheville, NC; son Richard P. Woodson IV (Susan); daughter Martha W. Dunnagan (Clay), both of Raleigh; seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

A Chat From Your Chaplain

I am most grateful that time and our Lord have been so kind to me. I JUST TURNED 93 in October while you were all in St. Louis. Dorothy and I certainly missed the opportunity to share in the fellowship and friendship of the 96th Bomb Group as well that of our fellow 8th Air Force Historical Society members.

We were both pleasantly surprised with the visit of our new president Mike McIlraith and his wife Terri recently on their way through to southern Florida. We are becoming more accustomed to our new home here in Santa Rosa Beach with each passing day.

Hopefully attendance at this years reunion will be a do-able trip to New Orleans just to the west across Alabama and Mississippi. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

The three items that follow are all things that I have collected or come across in my readings, Bible study group and daily life. I hope you enjoy them and that they bring your life some small pleasure and understanding of the wonders of our Lord's love.

Here are some more "**More Than**" additions for the Newsletter:

1. Parenting is more important than any profession.
2. How willingly you follow is more important than how well you can lead.
3. Behavior is more important than brilliance.
4. The beauty of the rainbow is more important than the inconvenience of the rain.
5. Your reputation as a person is more important than your rank or status.
6. Being there for your family is more important than what you had to miss to be there.
7. Anonymous acts of kindness are more important than public acts of generosity.
8. Maintaining the relationship is more than winning the argument.
9. Whether or not you forgive is more important than whether or not you receive an apology.
10. Your actions are more important than your intentions.

Ten Ways to Love

1. **Listen without interrupting.** (*Proverbs 18*)
2. **Speak without accusing.** (*James 1:19*)
3. **Give without sparing.** (*Proverbs 21:26*)
4. **Pray without ceasing.** (*Colossians 1:19*)
5. **Answer without arguing.** (*Proverbs 17:1*)
6. **Share without pretending.** (*Ephesians 4:15*)
7. **Enjoy without complaint.** (*Philippians 2:14*)
8. **Trust without wavering.** (*1 Corinthians 13:7*)
9. **Forgive without punishing.** (*Colossians 3:13*)
10. **Promise without forgetting.** (*Proverbs 13:12*)

Good Morning God

*You are ushering in another day
untouched and freshly new,
So here I come to ask you, God
if you'll renew me too?*

*Forgive the many errors
That I made yesterday,
And let me try again dear God,
to walk closer in Thy way.*


*But Father, I am well aware
I can't make it on my own,
So take my hand and hold it tight,
For I can't walk alone.*

Author Unknown

In closing, I ask all of you to keep love in your life as you count your blessings.

Remember there's power in prayer, and kindly pray for all of our membership and their families

In God we trust, and take our refuge!



Bill Thorns

*Bill as our Chaplain tries to write a personal letter on the behalf of the 96th Bomb Group to the family of all our members that have flown their **Final Mission**. You can help him and the 96th Bomb Group by letting him know in a timely manner of a members passing and the address to which he might send the letter.*

Address your correspondence for our Chaplain to:

William (Bill) Thorns
164 West Hewett Road #241
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459

Phone (708)-408-8066
E-mail b17fertilemyrtle@att.net



A Wish Come True

Jeannette Batton to lay wreath at
Netherlands American Cemetery
Memorial Day Service
Sunday 28 May 2017

By Dale Budde

Jeannette Batton, in pursuit of her family ancestry, has visited the Netherlands American Cemetery near Margraten several times. Her Grand Uncle, Charles Paul Wilder, is among those listed on the Wall of the Missing there. He was a member of the 96th BG and he was killed-in-action in December 16th of 1943. His plane was lost off the coast of Holland after a mid-air collision.



Jeannette Batton at the location of her Grand Uncle Charles P. Wilder's name on the Wall of Remembrance at Netherlands American Cemetery with Kristof de Geyter a member of the Adopt a Grave program.

Inspired by the activities of the many Dutch people who have adopted all of the graves in Netherlands American Cemetery Jeannette sought permission to participate in the annual Memorial Day ceremonies by laying a wreath to honor her uncle, the 96th Bomb Group and 8th Air Force veterans.

Jeannette is a retired USAF veteran and her first active duty assignment was at Barksdale AFB, as a member of the current day 8th Air Force. As a member now of the 8th Air Force Historical Society as well as the 96th Bomb Group Association, she will make an excellent representative.

Jeannette will attend the ceremony in her full uniform, and she is very excited for this opportunity. The 8th Air Force Historical Society and the 96th Bomb Group Association were delighted that she would be representing them.

We look forward to a full report and pictures in our next issue.



#61 DEC, 16, '43: BREMAN, GERMANY

(Excerpt from Snetterton Falcons)

This was a bad day for the 96th. Thirty-six aircraft took off in the morning. Thirty-three went all the way to bomb Bremen, but of these, seven went MIA. In addition to that, one crashed and three others were forced into emergency landings at strange bases.

Of B Group's low squadron, all but one bomber was destroyed. Of the 631 planes dispatched by the 8th, 10 never came back. That's not a bad percentage. But it's horrible when one realizes that 7 of the 10 came from Snetterton!

The A Group fared the better because the fighter escort kept the Germans at bay. But even so, there was chaos in the skies

Fighter attacks on the B Group were much more intense. Five B-17s went down in short order. Fifteen FW -190s came roaring out of the sun and scattered B Group momentarily like a gaggle of hysterical geese.

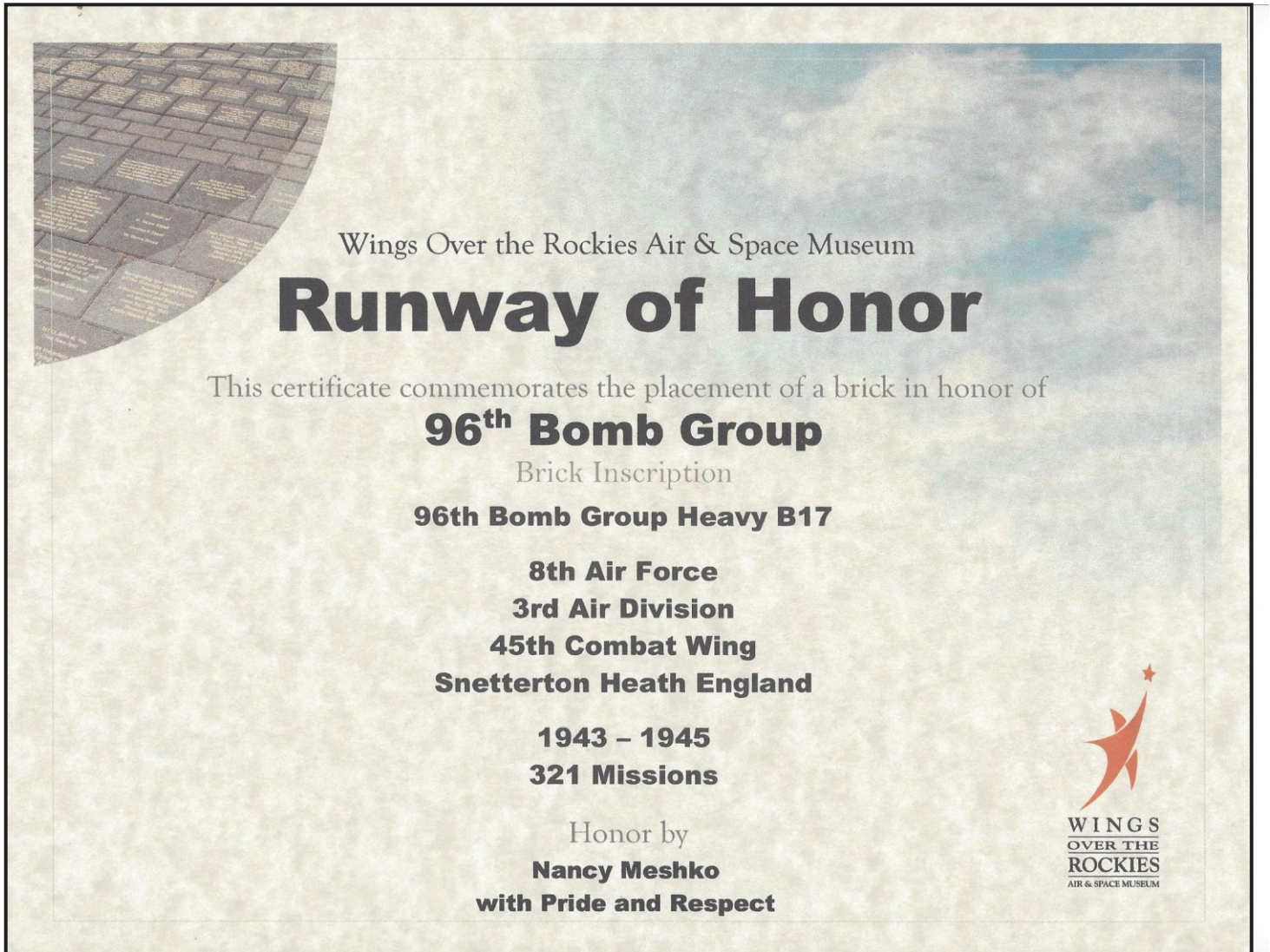
Suddenly, there was another collision. This one was witnessed by Lt. Jim Attaway who was flying lead in the high squadron. Below him, enemy fighters literally shot an engine off Captain Harold Mott's 339th 42-31113. Having been severed from the wing, Mott's engine plunged down onto the wing of 1/Lt. Lewis Kerrick's 42-30872, *Blonde Bomber* of the 337th. *Blonde Bomber* ascended sharply. On the other hand, Mott's plane descended. Both planes tangled wings and plunged into the sea. The toll was extracted in full. Twenty men!



A/C42-30872.B17F-125-BO.337thSqdn.AW-R.'BLONDE BOMBER'
Collided with A/C 133. 339th Sqdn. MACR 1565
P.1/Lt.LewisM. Kerrick, CP. 2/Lt. George V.Bleyle, N. 2/Lt. LloydThompson,
B.2/Lt.FloydW. Eakman, RT/Sgt. RaymondW.Wright,TT.T/Sgt.Alton B. Walker,
BT. S/Sgt. Donald R. Denmead, WG. S/Sgt. Stanley J. Maruso,
WG. S/Sgt Charles P. Wilder. TG. S/Sgt. Benjamin L. Haynes.

Runway of Honor

brick honoring the 96th Bomb Group to be placed in ceremony Memorial Day 2017



Our thanks to Nancy Meshko for adding yet another lasting remembrance to the 96th Bomb Group and the men who served our country in it's ranks.

The Runway of Honor is located at Wings Over the Rockies Museum at historic Lowry AFB. It has been placed beneath the B-52 that is taking off and flying west.

Bordered by runway lights, the Runway of Honor is comprised of commemorative bricks inscribed with names of Veterans, aviators, family, friends, events and organizations. These bricks will forever link the honorees to the past and present of Aviation history and our country's Veterans.

The Runway of Honor is located in the Veterans plaza that displays the flags of all six agencies that are eligible for Veteran status -- the four branches of the DOD - the Army, Marine Corps, Navy and the Air Force - the Coast Guard and the Merchant Marines are represented.

Each year Wings conducts two ceremonies to celebrate commemorative bricks being added to the Runway of Honor - near Memorial Day and Veterans Day weekends.



96th Bomb Group Celebrates 75th Anniversary

1942 - 2017



The *Snetterton Falcons* reports the birth of the 96th in it's opening pages as follows. In the August 2017 issue of the *Newsletter* more of the history of the 96th Bomb Group will be explored as well as that of the 96th Bomb Group Association that was formed after the war by its veterans to remember the contribution and sacrifices of those who served.

BIRTH OF A BOMB GROUP CONSTITUTION

The 96th Bombardment Group (H) was CONSTITUTED on 28 January, 1942 in War Department Letter 320.2 from the Adjutant General.

ACTIVATION

For almost six months nothing else happened (except for rumors). But when that letter was amended on 1 July '42, to change the place of ACTIVATION from Oklahoma City to Salt Lake City, the mills of the gods began grinding faster. And so it was that General Orders 113 dated 10 July' 42 from headquarters Second Air Force (2AF) mandated that this new B-17 outfit be activated at Army Air Force Base Salt Lake.

As early as June the very efficient 29th Bomb Group commanded by Colonel Bob Travis had begun transferring from McDill Field, Tampa, Florida to Gowen Field near Boise, Idaho. Since Pearl Harbor the 29th had already supplied start-up personnel for other new bomb groups. Now it would help supply the nucleus for the 96th.

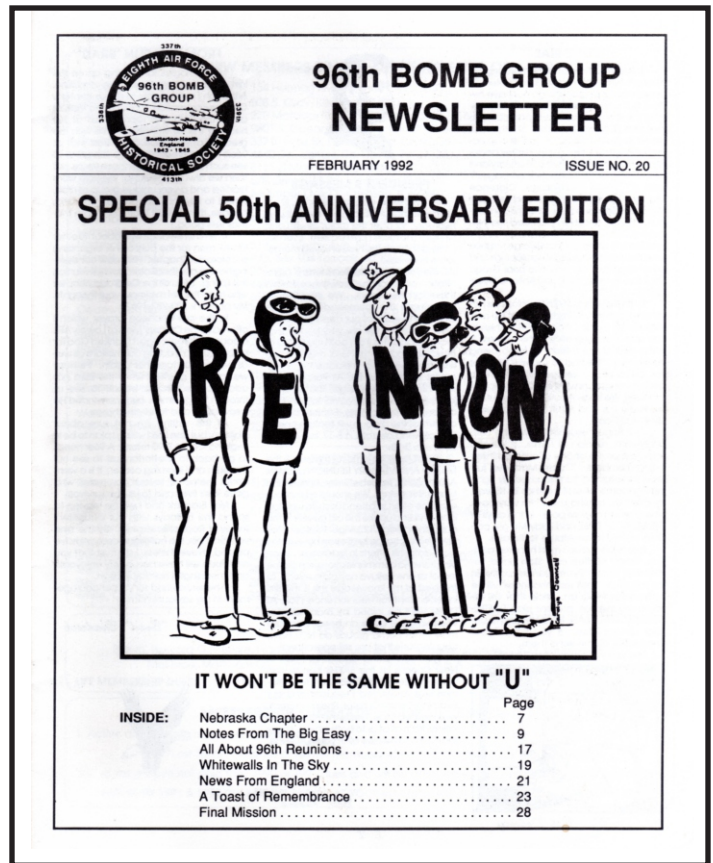
The United States had determined that it would dedicate its forces to the defeat of Germany before Japan. A consequence of that decision required beefing up the Air Force and deploying a great part of it to the European Theater of Operations (ETO). To that effect General Hap Arnold had already sent a task force to England under the leadership of General Ira Eaker for the purpose of working with our British allies in order to convert East Anglia into the world's largest aircraft carrier. Within this monumental war-plan, the 96th was just one of many B-17 and or B-24 outfits that would be constituted, activated, trained and deployed against the Nazi menace.

With so many new groups entering the process from activation to deployment, Army paperwork often lagged behind the activities it authorized. For example, the 96th first appears on orders other than SECRET August 5, 1942 on General Orders 130, HQS. 2AF. These orders indicated that such a group should be activated at Salt Lake City, use that base as a temporary station but be prepared to move to permanent quarters at Walla Walla, Washington. Yet, within a day or so Section II of General Orders 132 changed things so that the temporary station would be Gowen Field, Boise and the permanent one would be Pocatello, Idaho. This order also called for the activation of four 96th Bomb Group squadrons; the 337th, 338th, 339th and the 413th. But as for people, the order ended in uncertainty. "Cadre to be announced", were the actual words. Thus by August 8, '42 many remotely stationed Air Force administrators considered the 96th to exist only on paper.

But there were a few who knew better. Rumors, the verbs and vibes which could electrify life in the service, had besieged the men of the 29th since June. On June 20th Captain Garey Lambert flew his B-1 7E from Tampa to Boise as part of the 29BG transfer. "According to my flight records," Lambert told the interviewer some forty years later, "I flew for the 29th until August 26. So I must have been transferred somewhere between the 26th and September 5 because on that day I was ordered to fly to Walla Walla as a 96er."

And on July 8 Sergeant Clifford Byrd, freshly graduated by mechanics and gunnery schools arrived at Tampa only to be whisked immediately to Boise where he was assigned engineering duties and the top-turret aboard Captain Ralph Ward's Fortress.

Colonel Alexander S. (Sandy) Moffett was with the 96th from beginning to end during WWII. This former ground executive was the right hand man to all four of the 96th's commanding officers. In the early summer of 1942 he was serving as group adjutant to the 29th at McDill. In an office across from his was his dear friend, the group operations officer, the then major Archie Old Jr. Archie Old would become the 96th's first Commander.



This cover from February 1992 Issue No. 20 with cartoon by Carolyn Council has been reproduced on the cover of this issue to mark the 96th Bomb Groups 75th Anniversary.

"As rumors began to fly," Moffett recalls, "Archie began to dream of being one of the first commanders to take a Bomb Group overseas who was not a West Point grad. I will never forget that night late in July of '42 when the newly promoted Lt. Colonel came to my apartment to inform me that the 96th Bomb Group was being formed, that he was to be Group Commander and that he had requested me to be his ground exec."

Another such recollection comes from Master Sergeant Woodrow Hilton. "At Group Operations," Hilton writes, "I met the then major Archie Old around January '42. He introduced himself, asked where I was from (probably knew by my accent) and told me he was from Texas also. He then sent me on the first of noontime trips to the PX for a barbeque sandwich, an RC cola and a pack of Pall Malls. This was his lunch. Never varied," In early July, Old, who had been promoted to Lt. Colonel, summoned *M/Sgt.* Hilton to his office.

"It was then he told me he was going to take over a new group and would like me to be chief clerk of operations," Hilton remembers. "I said 'yes' and he then told me to begin concentrating on cadre personnel and that we would be meeting at 0900 daily to form a cadre."

Forty seven years after the event, *M/Sgt.* Hilton recalls Colonel Old's invitation with pride. "I figured there would be very few first choices and I was honored to be one of them."

Another first choice was the then *2/Lt.* Stanley Hand. "In February of '42 I was called to Col. Old's office where he gave me a book about how to be a squadron commander. He told me to study it because I was going to need it. "I know" Hand writes, "that history will say that the 96th was organized in August '42, but I'll tell you how I learned about it. It was as early as May, when Marjorie, my wife now for more than 47 years, asked me one night why I hadn't told her we were going to Boise, Idaho."

"I asked her where she learned this, for I certainly did not know about it. She said they were talking about it in the beauty parlor. I asked her when we were leaving and she said 'in three weeks.' Three weeks to the day and we were on our way to Boise."

Between July 10 and August 4, Lt. Col. Old, Major Moffett, the major's right hand, *MjSgt.* Tom McGeehan, Sergeant Hilton and a few others conducted those 0900 meetings. "There was much negotiating between our small group and Colonel Bob Travis," Moffett writes. "By and large we did well with some strong arm help from friends in Second Air Force headquarters."



Faces and Places St. Louis

Registered & or In Attendance for the 96th

Lydia Anderson	Melissa McIlraith
Jeannette Batton	Mike McIlraith
Dale Budde	Beverly Miller
Kathy Budde	Jerry Miller
Donald E. Colvin *	Brooks Mitchell
Donald E. Colvin Jr.	Lloyd Mitchell*
Cathy Duncan	Mark Mitchell
Charles Dunn	Nancy Mitchell
Usha Dunn	Frances Palsma
Laura Edge	Walter Peter
Joanne Hand	Derek Reynolds
Stan Hand	Patricia Reynolds
Allison Harrison	Nancy Severson
Glenn Harrison*	Janet Strizic
Glenn Harrison Jr.	Merton Thurston*
Richard Hill	Roli Villalobos
Willodean Hill	Rudy Villalobos*
Nadine Huylebroeck	Johnny Wearing*
Wim Jacobs	Tom Wearing
Jerry Lutz	Bruce Weise
Rebecca Lutz	Gary Weise

* Indicates 96th Veteran



Four of the six Veterans registered for the reunion left to right Glenn Harrison, Merton Thurston, Donald E. Colvin and Johnny Wearing. They are still an active bunch and it is hard to get them all in one spot. Not pictured here are Lloyd Mitchell and Rudy Villalobos

The 96th Bomb Group Association made a good showing in St. Louis six veterans and 36 others comprised our group. Most are pictured below at the rendezvous dinner.



Back Row: Janet Strizic, No ID, No ID, Kathy Budde, Dale Budde, Bruce Weise, Gary "Bud" Weise, Kristof de Geyter, Stan Hand, Melissa McIlraith, Joanne Hand, Glenn Harrison Jr., Jerry Lutz. Third Row: No ID, No ID, Nadine Huylebroeck, Wim Jacobs, No ID, Nancy Severson, Derek Reynolds, Richard Hill, Laura Edge, Jeannette Batton, Mike McIlraith. Second Row L/R: Lydia Anderson, Rebecca Lutz, Allison Harrison, Frances Palsma, Cathy Duncan, Patricia Reynolds, Willodean Hill. Front Row L/R: Glenn Harrison, Merton Thurston, Donald E. Colvin Jr., Donald E. Colvin, Johnny Wearing, Tom Wearing

October 19 - 23 2016



Sixty 8th Air Force Veterans at 42nd Annual Eighth Air Force Historical Society Reunion



Lloyd Mitchell 96th Veteran left and Stan Hand share memories of Stan's father the 413th Squadron Commander.



Daughters of Stanley Peterson Cathy Duncan and Nancy Severson remembering their father.



Janet Strizic with our Dutch friends Wim Jacobs and Nadine Huylebroeck.



Glenn Harrison center with daughter Allison left and son Glenn Jr. right.

Families and Friends make the 96th Bomb Group Association Strong

No one will soon forget the tribute Donald E. Colvin left read to his Dad Donald E. Colvin right at the reunion



Johnny Wearing front center Patricia Reynolds left and Susan Brockman right. behind left to right Tom Wearing, Bruce Weise, Gary Weise and Derek Reynolds. Besides his son Tom the rest are all family members of others on Roy Brockman's 338th crew.



**43RD ANNUAL 8TH AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY REUNION
HILTON NEW ORLEANS AIRPORT
SEPTEMBER 27 – OCTOBER 1, 2017**

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS: Please see the information on the hotel and make your reservations **immediately**. Once your hotel reservation is confirmed, proceed with the activity registration. See choices below and complete the Registration Form noting your event choices and personal information. By "WWII GROUP," we're asking for the group or unit in which you served (specific Bomb Group, Fighter Group, PRG, HQ, etc.). We use this information for tallying totals for each group, nametags, and seating arrangements. If you prefer to sit with a different group, please give us that information too. We do not need your squadron. Remit by mail with check or money order payable to Armed Forces Reunions by August 25, 2017. You may also register and pay with credit card online at www.afr-reg.com/8afhs2017. A 3.5% convenience fee will be added to online credit card reservations. Forms received after August 25 will be accepted on a space available basis only. Hotel reservations should also be made by August 25, 2017

ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. CANCELLATION POLICY For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less a \$10 per person processing fee. Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less a \$10 processing fee. Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 4:00pm Eastern Time, excluding holidays. Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. Canceling your hotel reservation doesn't cancel your reunion activities.

MEALS / EVENTS CHOICES

Meal Packages are intended only for those staying at the headquarters hotel, The Hilton New Orleans Airport. Please confirm your hotel reservation first, before proceeding with the activity/meal registration.

MEAL PACKAGE 1 \$232

Package includes 4 breakfasts at the hotel on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, and dinners on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

MEAL PACKAGE 2 \$162

Package includes 3 breakfast at the hotel on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, along with dinners on Friday and Saturday.

The continental breakfasts include juice, assorted breakfast breads, oatmeal, and coffee. The breakfast buffets include juice, fruit, hard-boiled eggs, sausage biscuits, cereal/milk, and coffee/tea.

CHOICE #3 INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

Thursday's Buffet at \$51 is included in Package 1 but can be purchased separately. Friday's Rendezvous Dinner at \$40 and Saturday's Banquet at \$50 can be purchased separately as well, but are included in both packages above.

TOUR OPTIONS

Tours and trips are described on the Reunion Highlights Pages. Prices are listed on the registration form. Driver and Staff gratuities are not included in the tour prices. All trips require a minimum of 35 people. Please be at the bus boarding area five minutes prior to the departure time.

HILTON NEW ORLEANS AIRPORT – NEW ORLEANS, LA

901 Airline Drive, Kenner, LA 70062

Located directly across from the Louis Armstrong International Airport and just minutes from downtown New Orleans

(504) 469-5000 or (800) 445-8667

Reservation Information Please call (504) 469-5000 and reference the 8th Air Force Historical Society or you can go to:

www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/louisiana/hilton-new-orleans-airport-MSYAHHH/index.html and use Group Code **AFH**

Group Name: 8th Air Force Historical Society

Reunion Dates: September 27-October 1, 2017

Rate: \$129 + tax (currently 14.75%). Group rate will be available three days before and after the reunion dates, based on space and rate availability.

Room Rate Discount: In an effort to make the reunion more affordable, the Society will offset the room rate by \$10 (plus tax) each night (up to 4 nights). Rates will be confirmed at \$129, and then the \$10 discount will be adjusted at the front desk. Please confirm the final rate of \$119 at check-in.

Cut off Date: 08/25/17. Late reservations will be processed based on space availability at a higher rate.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations must be made 24 hours prior to arrival date, after this time a charge of one nights room plus tax will be charged to credit card. An early check-out fee of \$50 will be charged if you depart the hotel prior to your original check-out date. Please advise the hotel of any changes to your dates before arriving at the hotel to ensure no extra charges occur.

Overflow Hotel: There is a strong likelihood that the Hilton Airport will sell out of rooms at the group rate. Please make your hotel reservation first, and then proceed with the activity registration form. Only those confirmed at the Hilton Airport should register for a meal package, as transportation to/from the overflow hotel can't be guaranteed for the group breakfasts.

If you find the hotel has sold out, please check the following webpages for updates on overflow hotel plans:

www.afr-reg.com/8afhs2017 or www.8thafhs.org/reunion/. You may also call 757-625-6401 for more information.

We strongly discourage you from making reservations at other hotels without first finding out where 8th AFHS has contracted additional rooms.

Parking & Shuttle Information The Hilton New Orleans Airport will offer reunion attendees a 50% discount off the daily parking fee which is currently \$10. The hotel offers complimentary airport shuttle service to and from the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport; operating 24 hours a day on demand. The van pickups at the Transportation Center, located on the first-floor lower level across from the baggage claim area. The shuttle drops off curbside on the second-floor departure level per airport regulations.

Wheelchair Rental ScootAround rents both manual and power wheelchairs by the day and week. Please call (888) 441-7575 or visit www.scootaround.com for more information or to make reservations.



**43RD ANNUAL 8TH AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY REUNION
HILTON NEW ORLEANS AIRPORT
SEPTEMBER 27 – OCTOBER 1, 2017**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

- 1:00pm - 6:00pm **Reunion Registration**
- 1:00pm Memorabilia/Gathering room open throughout reunion
- 6:00pm - 7:00pm Welcome Reception, followed by dinner on your own
- 7:00pm - 9:00pm 8th AFHS Board Meeting
- 7:00pm - Hospitality Suites open

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

- 7:30am - 8:30am Continental Breakfast for Package #1 participants
- 8:00am - 11:30am **Reunion Registration Open**
- 9:30am - 2:30pm WWII MUSEUM *(description follows)*
- 1:00pm - 6:00pm **Reunion Registration Open**
- 3:00pm - 4:30pm Curator's Corner
- 6:00pm - 9:00pm Cash Bar Reception
- 7:00pm - 9:00pm Buffet Dinner w/ Speaker (tbd)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

- 7:30am - 8:30am Full Breakfast for Meal Package participants
- 8:00am - 11:30am **Reunion Registration Open**
- 8:00am - 9:15am Group Meetings
- 9:30am - 2:30pm WWII MUSEUM *(description follows)*
- 1:00pm - 6:00pm **Reunion Registration Open**
- 3:00pm - 4:30pm Q & A WWII Vets
- 6:00pm - 9:00pm Cash Bar Reception
- 7:00pm - 9:00pm Rendezvous Dinners

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

- 7:30am - 8:30am Continental Breakfast for Meal Package participants
- 8:30am - 12:00pm **Reunion Registration Open**
- 8:45am - 10:15am General Membership Meeting
- 10:30am - 12:30pm Researchers/Webmasters Meeting
- 10:30am - 3:30pm CITY TOUR *(description follows)*
- 10:45am - 3:45pm PLANTATION TOUR *(description follows)*
- 12:00pm - 3:30pm 8th AFHS Board Meeting
- 4:30pm - 5:30pm **Reunion Registration Open**
- 5:30pm - 6:30pm Cash Bar Reception at the hotel
- 6:30pm - 7:00pm Transport from hotel to WWII Museum for Banquet
- 7:00pm - 10:00pm Gala Dinner and Program, followed by transportation back to hotels.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

- 7:30am - 8:30am Full Breakfast for Meal Package participants

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less a \$10 per person processing fee. Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the processing fee. Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays. Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. Canceling your hotel



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8th AFHS ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM – SEPTEMBER 27 – OCTOBER 1, 2017

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will participate in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order. Your cancelled check will serve as confirmation. You may also register online and pay by credit card at www.afr-reg.com/8afhs2017 (3.5% will be added to total). All registration forms and payments must be received on or before August 25, 2017. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. Your contact information will be shared only with reunion attendees.

Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.
322 Madison Mews
Norfolk, VA 23510
ATTN: 8th AFHS

OFFICE USE ONLY

Check # _____ Date Received _____
Inputted _____ Nametag Completed _____

CUT-OFF DATE IS 8/25/17

	Price Per	# of People	Total
REGISTRATION FEE			
Includes meeting expenses and other reunion expenses.	\$40		\$
Reg. Fee for children ages 8-16 attending more than 1 function & staying at hotel	\$25		\$
MEAL PACKAGES			
Package #1 includes 7 meals beginning with breakfast on Thursday	\$232		\$
Package #2 includes 5 meals beginning with breakfast on Friday	\$162		\$
SEPARATELY PRICED MEALS (if not purchasing a package)			
Thursday, 9/28: Dinner Buffet (Braised Beef & Fried Catfish)	\$51		\$
Friday, 9/29: Rendezvous Dinner (Chicken Piccata)	\$40		\$
Saturday, 9/30: Banquet Buffet at the WWII Museum – transportation included. (Beef Tips & Mildly Blackened Redfish)	\$50		\$
TOURS			
Thursday & Friday, 9/28-29: World War II Museum (box lunch included both days)			
WWII Veterans Price	\$66		\$
All Other Attendees Price	\$94		\$
Please choose one of the following two tours:			
Saturday, 9/30: City Tour	\$39		\$
Saturday, 9/30: Plantation Tour	\$77		\$
Total Amount Payable to Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.			\$

Please Print. If a WWII Veteran is registering on this form, please list his name first.

MEMBER NAME (for nametag) _____ VETERAN NEXT GEN OTHER

IF A VETERAN, PLEASE CIRCLE: WWII Cold War Era Korea Vietnam Gulf War Desert Storm Iraq Other _____

WWII GROUP AFFILIATION FOR UNIT TOTALS & SEATING ARRANGEMENTS (please list BG, not BS) _____

SPOUSE NAME (if attending) _____

GUEST NAMES _____ NEXT GEN

PHONE # (____) _____ - _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____ @ _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS _____

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? YES NO (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).

PLEASE MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION BEFORE SUBMITTING THIS FORM. WHERE IS YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION CONFIRMED? HILTON AIRPORT 8AFHS OFFICIAL OVERFLOW HOTEL OTHER

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ PH. NUMBER (____) _____ - _____

By submitting this form you will be enrolled in AFR's monthly newsletter subscription. To opt out of this service, please check the box.



**43RD ANNUAL 8TH AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY REUNION
HILTON NEW ORLEANS AIRPORT
SEPTEMBER 27 – OCTOBER 1, 2017**



**NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MUSEUM
Thursday & Friday, September 28 & 29**

Dedicated in 2000 as the National D-Day Museum and now designated by Congress as the country's official WWII Museum, this remarkable attraction illuminates the American experience during the WWII era. From the Normandy invasion to the sands of the Pacific Islands and the Home Front, you will see the courage, teamwork, and sacrifice of the men and women who won *the war that changed the world*. Explore moving personal stories and powerful interactive displays. Visit the U.S. Freedom Pavilion: The Boeing Center, which tells the story of our nation's unprecedented industrial capability during the war years. Explore the evolving strategy for fighting across the Pacific and in Asia, and the cultural differences and tremendous range of extreme conditions that confronted our soldiers. Learn about the faltering first battles in North Africa to the bloody struggle at Germany's doorstep. The immersive galleries recreate actual battle settings and villages. Included in your ticket price is the film, ***Beyond All Boundaries***, narrated by executive producer, Tom Hanks. Embark on a 4D journey through the war that changed the world. ***Beyond All Boundaries*** features dazzling effects, CGI animation, multi-layered environments, and first-person accounts from the trenches to the Home Front. The film will be shown on Thursday at 11am and noon. Your time slot will be determined by which bus you are riding and announced that morning. Simple box lunches including a sandwich, chips, cookie, and a bottle of water will be provided each day.

9:30am board bus, 2:30pm back at hotel

\$94/Person includes bus and escort for both days, two-day admission, a box lunch for both days, and the film.

WWII Veterans Price is \$66 per person which covers bus and escort for both days and a box lunch for both days. Admissions are complimentary for WWII Veterans.

**Tour Options for Saturday, September 30
Choose Only One**



CITY TOUR

Today's tour takes you into the French Quarter, where a blend of French and Spanish cultures intermingles with a modern lifestyle. Also witness the bustling seaport activities, which are such an important aspect of the city's economy. Lunch is on your own in Jax Brewery, an old landmark transformed into a modern complex of shops and eateries. Today's tour also includes a trip down historical St. Charles Avenue complete with universities, parks, old oaks, stately charm, and an operational streetcar line. Hear the stories of Hurricane Katrina and see first-hand the long-lasting effect it has had on New Orleans. Your tour of the Crescent City includes views and stories of unique above-ground cemeteries and Lake Pontchartrain as well.

10:30am board bus, 3:30pm back at hotel

\$39/Person includes bus and guide. Lunch on your own.



PLANTATION TOUR

A day learning about plantation life awaits. Hear stories and learn the history of several local plantations. Once at Oak Alley, built in 1839, experience a bygone area in one of the South's most beautiful settings. Marvel at the unbelievable view of a quarter mile long alley of twenty-eight magnificent oak trees, each over 250 years old. Perhaps the most photographed plantation ever, Oak Alley has been the setting for many motion pictures. Enjoy a Cajun buffet outside under a tent. Lunch includes a salad bar, soup, crawfish etouffee with rice, jambalaya, red beans & vegetables, rolls, dessert, coffee, tea, and water. Your guided tour will reveal the fascinating stories of the home and its history. Notes: The second floor of the house is only accessible via stairs. This tour is limited to the first 150 people registered.

10:45am board bus, 3:45pm back at hotel

\$77/Person includes bus, guide, admission, and lunch.



S Mrs. Yvonne A. Short
10629 Hallwood Dr
Temple City, CA 91780-4125



11-10-16

Dear Ma Batton:
Thank you for the 96th Bomb Grp. booklet. I was rather teary-eyed at the pictures of Stinky (originally known as "The Howling Harlot" until a D.C. politician wanted it named after his nephew Stinky. The crew members of other B-17's used the soft G and called Stinky "the flying tightwad". Kolsad also slept with Lady Mae one night when he came back to the

base matter inebriated. My husband was a remarkable man and I miss him terribly. He passed away on Jan. 23, 2009.

He wrote lovely letters of condolence to the wives of all his crew mates. I believe they are all gone now the Greatest Generation. Sincerely, Yvonne Short

The lovely note to the right was received by Jeannette Batton in response to the note she sent Yvonne Short after our St Louis reunion in which she had enclosed a copy of the 96th Bomb Group booklet recently done by our English members to promote our Memorial Window at St. Andrews, the Muesum at New Eccles Hall School and the Memorial at Snetterton Heath.

(See the cover of the booklet on page 4)

Pictured at the bottom of the page is a copy of the photo of Stinky that prompted Yvonne's response. This wonderful booklet as well as all the things our English associates do for the 96th are greatly appreciated. They all go a long way towards keeping the memory of the 96th and the sacrifices that were made by so many alive for us and future generations

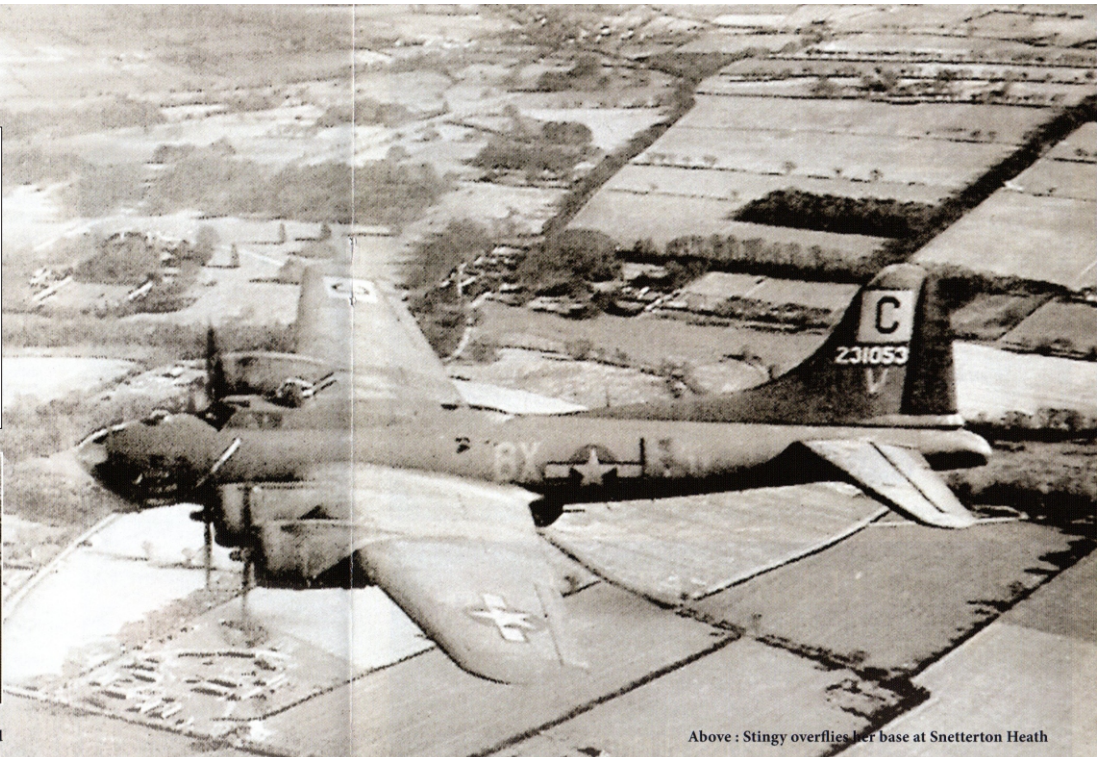
We hope all the recipients of the Veterans Day notes appreciated them as well as the booklet. We would enjoy hearing from all of those who can not make it to the reunions. We wish you could all be with us and will try to reach out to you more often than just through the Newsletter.

STINGY

Outdoing FIVE GRAND for popularity on the base was the 338th's BX-W, 42-31053, STINGY. When she became Snetterton's poster-girl and probably was the most photographed plane. She was lost in a mid-air collision involving three aircraft on October 11th, 1944 over Wood End near Towcester, Northamptonshire. A 337th ship 42-3510 came up under another ship, 43-37684 and hit its tail section. 510 broke in half just as STINGY was above. It too broke in half and both crashed to earth. Only 510's pilot, Lt. Core was saved by his chute. 684, badly damaged, returned to base.



Above: Stinky with wheels down preparing to land



Above: Stinky overflies her base at Snetterton Heath

E-Mail

Subject:Inquiries
Date:5/3/2016 9:43:35 P.M. Central Daylight Time
From: rainorshine101@yahoo.com
To: dlbudde@aol.com, gdmh.w33@tiscali.co.uk

I recently became acquainted with the son of a 337th/96th. If there's any information either of you might have, that would be great. His message to me follows. Janet

Hi Janet. My father was 2nd Lt. Kenneth Brown (no middle name). On March 29, 1944 he was assigned to the 337th Bomb Squadron. He joined the crew piloted by Captain Jack C. Link as the bombardier. Robert Federman the bombardier of a crew piloted by Captain Otto Brandau became ill or was injured (not sure which) so dad filled in for him on April 13, 1944. On this mission they were shot down and dad was captured and sent to Stalag Luft 1 in Barth, Germany. Bob Federman replaced dad on his original crew. They were shot down on May 12, 1944. Only the navigator survived. My sister and I would love a photo of him and his crew. I have one of the Otto Brandau crew but with Bob Federman as the bombardier. Any information you can find out would be greatly appreciated and you can contact me at: paulbrown@utexas.edu. Thanks again

Can anyone of you reading the Newsletter help Paul? Contact him at the e-mail address above.

Subject:RE: 96th Bomb Group Newsletter
Date:1/17/2017 9:49:38 A.M. Central Standard Time
From: jrich@applied.com
To: DLbudde@aol.com

I am sad to inform you that Dad passed away 1/9/17. The highlight of his year was the trip to the French embassy to receive the award, his trip to the WWII Memorial and then having the story published in your newsletter. He kept a copy of it next to his chair to entertain visitors. Thank you for your part in making his last days a good memory.

Jim Rich

Rich

So sorry to hear of your loss. Glad to know that our Newsletter can bring so much cheer to our veterans and readers.

Dale Budde

Subject:Rum Boogie Crew Information
Date:2/1/2017 4:56:46 P.M. Central Standard Time
From:ekmarv62@hotmail.com**To:**DLbudde@aol.com

Hi Dale,

My name is Vicki Ekmark. I am Alvin Neff's daughter. My dad was a tail gunner in the 96th BG, 337th squadron during WW2, flying on the plane Rum Boogie. I got your name from Geoff Ward as a person who may be able to help me. I have built a website commemorating my dad's crew. One of my goals for my website is to find a living relative for each crew member and post as much information about each of them as I can find. Out of the 10 members of the Rum Boogie crew, I have found living relatives for 7 of them. It's always an amazing and emotional day when I find someone. The last 3 members of the crew, I have been searching and searching for but have yet to find any relatives. Part of the reason is they have more common names, and for the officers, I am having trouble researching their serial numbers as they are a different format than the enlisted men. I am hoping you might have any old information about any of them, such as an old address, or a relative's name - really anything no matter how small - could be what I need to locate these families. I am always amazed at how I can find people using the Internet with a small amount of information. The men I am still searching for are 2nd Lieutenant Harry L. Miller, the Navigator, 2nd Lt. William H. Spencer (not to be confused with another William Spencer who was at Snetterton at that time), who was the Bombardier, and S/Sgt. Charles F. Goyette, who served as the Assistant Radio Operator. I do know Harry L. Miller was from Chicago, William H. Spencer was from Indianapolis, and Charles F. Goyette was from Detroit. Most of the relatives I have found still reside not far from where their fathers lived.

I appreciate anything you can do to help me. I invite you to visit my website:

<https://ekmark.wixsite.com/rumboogie/histories-of-5-rum-boogies>

It is still a work in progress, and I am planning to work hard on it this summer as I still have a lot of gathered information to post.

Thanx,
Vicki Ekmark
1605 South Euclid Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83706

Editor's Note: Be sure to click on the numbers at the top of the web page to open individual profiles.





96th Bomb Group Association

General Meeting Minutes
20 October 2016
Sheraton Westport Chalet, St. Louis, MO



President Mike McIlraith called the meeting to order at 8:47.

He reported that Joe Garber had resigned for health reasons and thanked Joe for all his help to him as Vice-President and expressed his wish that Joe and Joan were here.

Board Members Present: Mike McIlraith, Rebecca Lutz, Lydia Anderson, Dale Budde. Absent: Joe Garber, Bill Thorns, George Bonitz and Geoff Ward

Approval of Minutes: of the General Meeting 16 October 2015 as printed in the April 2016 Newsletter

Report of Officers: Mike McIlraith reported that with the resignation of President Joe Garber, Vice-President Mike McIlraith will now become President.

He also reported our Secretary Treasurer, Dan Bradley, has also asked to resign, leaving the elected offices of Vice President and Secretary Treasurer vacant. Mike recommended Laura Edge for Secretary Treasurer. Dale Budde nominated Laura Edge, seconded by Rebecca Lutz, accepted by acclamation. Mike asked to delay the discussion regarding a new Vice-President's nomination until the Rendezvous dinner tonight

Secretary Treasure Report: submitted by Dan Bradley and read by Mike McIlraith in Dan's absence.

We have received \$1,501.00 in dues and had total expenses of \$3,709.63..

We have a year to date deficit of \$2,208.63 and have a balance of \$21,810.73.

We are current with the IRS and the State of Illinois in regard to our Non-profit status.

Committee Reports:

Newsletter: Dale Budde reported that we have a roster of 325 names, and 51 Newsletters were returned as not deliverable. We have 275 actual members plus 27 from England and Europe who receive the Newsletter via e-mail. There are 135 members who had positions as squadron members, so almost half of our members are Veterans. We have 5 Veterans in attendance at the reunion this year.

We need to be more aggressive in notifying members as to whether their dues as current. We need to look into doing a better job in telling members that their dues are due and Dale and Mike have been exploring options for doing that.

Librarian: Janet Strizic suggested that we no longer loan out the Snetterton Falcons, it is too valuable. She will continue to bring it to the reunions, but will not loan it out. She has put book plates in all of our books.

Dale asked that those of us with photos that would be interesting in the Newsletter send them to him so he can include them. He likes to publish letters and items that 96th members can relate to. The Newsletter is on the website so non-members can also view it.

Mike reported that we have a Webmaster vacancy due to the death of Bill Table. Mike has made arrangements for the website to be transferred to us, so we now have control over the website. Mike has a neighbor who is a computer whiz and they have been working together on the website. He would like to add photos so if we have any photos or suggestions, let him know.

We also have a Facebook page and Mike has been posting photos that Wim Jacobs has taken in Europe.

There is some confusion as to why some members are able to post photos and others are not, and we need to find out what the issue is.

Lydia Anderson reported that there is another 96th Bomb Group, 339th Squadron Facebook page that is separate from ours. She has joined it and will keep up with them also.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Mike has been trying to determine the best way to make the Snetterton Falcon available on-line. He went to Taylor Publishing in Dallas and they will scan it for us for \$10.00 a page, for 304 pages, or Taylor would republish the book but that would require 250 copies to be printed.

Wim Jacobs suggested that he might have the capability to scan it but the European page size is a little different.

Janet reported that her office has a scanner and she should be able to scan it there. The scanner would also be able to scan the pages front and back. Dale said he could cut off the binding of his copy and he and Janet can get together, since they live in close proximity, to see if she can scan it. We need to explore all of our options. Mike said Taylor Publishing is fine with our reproducing the book as are Geoff Ward and Bob Doherty's sons.

Mike also reported that we need to think about how we want to go forward in the event that we eventually disband, with one of our priorities being the museum in England. To clarify previous positions, Dale enumerated what our Articles of Incorporation had outlined over the years. The original 1983 Articles stated that all funds were to be sent to the church at Quidenham for maintenance of the window. In 1986 they were amended to state one half would go to the church and one half would be sent to the museum at Snetterton. The Articles were again amended and currently state that one-third of the funds be sent to the church, one-third, be sent to the museum and one-third to a similar group or organization with the same philosophy as ours, which is also a non-profit.

There was general discussion that we need to talk to Geoff to see what the long-term plans are for the New Eccles Hall School. What would happen if the school were to close? We need to have a plan.

The window at St. Andrew's Church does not belong to us, but we have given money to help maintain the window and the roof.

The Silver Dream belongs to the racetrack. The flags do not last long, due to the relentless wind, so perhaps we could have a fund raiser to pay for the flags in Honor of our 96th Veterans, such as Dads or Uncles. Perhaps we could put a picture in the Newsletter of the Veteran the specific flags are flying in Honor of.

Mike reported that Dale has scanned in some old Newsletters and they are working on scanning all of them. Mike is going to research how much space we have on our website and how much we might need if Dale is able to do this.

Dale reminded everyone that November 11 is Veteran's Day and we have 135 Veterans who are members. He is going to cut the master roster into strips of 7 or 8 Veterans from the master list and ask us to pick a list and send Veteran's; Day cards or make a phone call to them to thank them for their service. It would also be nice to include a copy of the 96th Bomb Group brochures that Jean Willis developed and Geoff has sent over.

Dale has also talked to Bill Thorns, who wishes he could be with us. Mike said he is going to Florida next week, so he and Terri will go by to see Bill and Dorothy.

Janet asked when we last raised dues. Dale said it was in September 2002 and the dues basically pay the Newsletter cost and he doesn't think we need to raise the dues.

Janet reminded the Vets present to collect the \$250 rebate from the 8th AFHS to help with their registration cost.

Meeting adjourned by President Mike McIlraith at 9:45 to reconvene to the Rendezvous Dinner tonight.

The meeting was reconvened at the Rendezvous Dinner and called to order by President Mike Maclraith. Mike nominated Dr. Stan Hand to be Vice-President, seconded by Jerry Lutz. The nomination was accepted by acclamation.

Mike also recognized Wim and Nadine Jacobs and Gustof DeGeyter, who have come from Belgium to join as at the reunion.

The meeting was adjourned for dinner.

Respectfully submitted, Rebecca Lutz, Recording Secretary



96th Bomb Group Association

TREASURER'S REPORT

2016



January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2017

		\$23,732.06
Beginning Balance January 1, 2016		
Wells Fargo Checking Account (non interest bearing account):		
<u>INCOME 2016:</u>		
Membership Dues/Donations:	\$1,891.00	
Total Income	\$1,891.00	
<u>Expenses 2016:</u>		
April Newsletter # 66 Buddes Print Shop (ck# 1040)	\$1,738.35	
August Newsletter # 65 Buddes Print Shop (ck# 1042)	\$1,429.86	
State of Illinois NFP Filing (ck# 1039)	\$13.00	
Rendezvous Dinner/Flowers Willa Seemann (Ck# 1038)	\$68.85	
Darrel Lowell Flowers (ck# 1041)	\$172.27	
2016 Hospitality (check # 1043)	\$294.69	
Total Expenses	\$3,717.02	
<u>Income for 2016:</u>		\$ (1,826.02)
(income - expenses)		
<u>Total Assets (12/31/16):</u>		\$21,906.04
Notes:		
All funds are currently deposited in a not for profit checking account which is non interest bearing.		
State of Illinois non profit status to "Active"		
Agent Name: Dale Budde (agent needs to reside in Illinois)		
IRS Filing Submitted August 12, 2012 Form 1024 to get Tax Exempt Status reinstated with Fed. Govt.		
IRS Status: Reinstated Retroactive. Current 2016		
Respectfully Submitted		
Daniel Bradley		
Secretary/Treasurer 96th Bomb Group Association		

BULLETIN BOARD



Space will be limited at the designated reunion hotel in New Orleans. Please make your reservations as soon as possible to avoid being housed in an over flow hotel. They are separate from the reunion activities reservations and they can be cancelled. It would be nice to see the 96th Bomb Group Association well represented at this reunion at which we will celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the creation of the 96th Bomb Group.



Our cover on this issue suggest, **IT WON'T BE THE SAME WITHOUT "U"**. Times like this to visit with our veterans, listen to their accounts and recognize them for there service are a rare opportunity for all today.

96th Bomb Group Library

Janet Strizic, our librarian, will not be transporting the Library to the reunion. Be sure to check out the many titles and valuable resources that are available. You might just like to check one out and take it home. If you have books that you borrowed in St. Louis please bring them with you or return them by mail to Janet.

A complete list of our holdings was printed in Issue No.64 February 2015 of the Newsletter and can be viewed on line at www.96bg.org. To borrow your choice by mail contact

Janet Strizic
10303 N. Ellendale Road
Edgerton, WI 53534
(608) 290-3611
rainorshine101@yahoo.com

WANTED OLD ISSUES 96th BOMB GROUP NEWSLETTERS

Issue # 35 August 1999

This last letter is the only one not accounted for. to complete the set for the Newsletters. If you could donate or loan it to be copied it would be greatly appreciated. The process of putting all of the back issues into a printable PDF format that can be posted to our web page or made available on a CD to the membership has begun and needs only this issue to be complete.

Please send them to or contact our Editor to arrange for their loan.

We need a Secretary /Treasurer

Unfortunately our newly elected Secretary/Treasurer has had to resign due to unexpected complications at home. Laura Edge is the author of *On the Wings of Dawn* the story of her father, Lawrence L. Witt tail gunner 338th. She has been a regular attendee and active participant these past several years at our reunions. Presenting programs for the 8thAFHS and speaking in panel discussions on the experiences of POWs. We were eagerly looking forward to her service in this capacity. It is with great regret and understanding that we accept her resignation.



Laura Edge

Daniel Bradley has volunteered to continue in this capacity till we can find a replacement. Please send your dues and new member applications to him at the address in the directory on the back cover.

The person holding this job is essential to our organization. They maintain our membership records and mailing list and serve as the the contact for written communications with the group. As Treasurer they receive our annual dues and maintain our banking services.

If you think you might be interested in this position please contact our president to discuss the possibility. A new Secretary/Treasurer will be elected at our reunion in New Orleans.

Michael (Mike) McIlraith
1801 Bolton Street
Fort Worth, TX 76111
(817) 834-4620
mmc@flash.net

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Since August, 2015



Clark, Chris A.
Clark, Mark S.
Brooks, Dylan Kieth
Tritsch, David O.

RR1 Box 183C, Colwich, Kansas
3131 North 151 Street W, Wichita, KS 67223
1435 Highway 213, Covington, GA 30014
222 Sandlewood Blvd, Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Nephew of Lt. Eugene Blue
Nephew of Lt. Eugene Blue
Son of David Tritsch 338th CP

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ + _____
 Phone # A/C _____ - _____ - _____ E-mail address: _____
 Squadron _____ Number of Missions _____ Position _____ Ground Crew _____
 Other crew members or information that you feel might be useful to the 96th: _____

Dues are \$20.00 per year payable to: 96th Bomb Group Association, 31 Brinckerhoff Avenue, New Canaan, CT 06840

YOUR 2016 DUES SHOULD BE PAID NOW



This may be your last *Newsletter!*
if not unless you are a Life Member
Send your **\$20 annual dues**

To: Daniel Bradley
96th Bomb Group Association
31 Brinckerhoff Avenue
New Canaan, CT 06840

(Annual Dues were raised to \$20 at General Meeting September 2002)
Due January 1st each year.

SNOWBIRDS, VACATIONERS BEWARE
BE SURE TO LET Dan Bradley KNOW
YOUR WHEREABOUTS.
To Insure YOU RECEIVE YOUR
NEWSLETTER



UPCOMING MEETINGS



96th Bomb Group Reunion 2017
with the
8th Air Force Historical Society
43rd Annual Reunion
New Orleans, LA
September 27 - October 1, 2017

HILTON NEW ORLEANS AIRPORT
901 AIRLINE DRIVE
KENNER, LOUISIANA, 70062, USA
TEL: +1-504-469-5000 FAX: +1-504-466-5473

<http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/louisiana/hilton-new-orleans-airport-MSYAHHH/index.html>

*Complete program and reunion information in this issue or
in March 2017 8th Air Force News
also on line at: 8thafhs.org*

WHERE
TO CALL
OR WRITE



PRESIDENT (2018)
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1801 Bolton Street
Fort Worth, TX 76111
(817) 834-4620
mmc@flash.net

VICE PRESIDENT (2018)
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1016 Ridgecrest Road
Orlando, FL 32806
(407) 855-4244
stanhand@bellsouth.net

SECRETARY/TREASURER (2018)
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New Canaan, CT 06840
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nessei@outlook.com
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twolutz@att.net

ENGLISH CONTACT/HISTORIAN
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IP22-4PW England
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Web address:
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Dbudde@aol.com

PHOTOGRAPHER
Richard Hill

Texts and/or photos are sincerely solicited. If requested, photos will be returned. The Editor reserves the right to edit text. July 30, 2017 is the deadline for the August 2017 issue.

96th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION
31 Brinckerhoff Avenue • New Canaan, CT 06840



Final Mission

Those Who Served Their Country
With Honor and Distinction

Bettes/Siebels, Nelda		Spouse
<i>(Bettes, Martin 413th - Siebels, Vern 339th))</i>		
Cook, A. W. Jr.	339th	ENG
Corley, Henry S.	413th	WG
Michel, John H.	338th	TG
Mullenbach, John L.	338th	ENG
Putman, John W.	413th	TG
Rehberger, Bobi		
Rich, James A., Jr.	338th	WG
Sacks, John R.	413th	NAV/B
Tearney, Thomas C., Sr.	413th	CP
Wilson, Darrel Dean	??th	NAV
Woodson, Richard P., III (Woody)	337th	CP

*We will print the names of all deceased 96th airmen sent to us whether or not they are current members of the 96th BGA.
We will also print the names of members of other Bomb Groups if they are current members of the 96th BGA. Written notification is required.
Send to: Daniel Bradley/Treasurer, address on this page.*

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U.S. POSTAGE

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60188