



Francis plenster

### This Newsletter is Dedicated to:

Forrest E. (Tommy) Thompson, Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.) and Helen H. Thompson

They had the foresight, perseverance, and love of the 380th Bombardment Group (H) and its history, traditions, and personnel to organize, succor, and guide the

380th Bombardment Group Association, Inc.

our predecessor organization, for the past eighteen years (1982-1999).

Our everlasting thanks and love go out to them.







### THE 380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION 5th AF - RAAF

AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS



### **NEWSLETTER #13**

December 2002



529<sup>™</sup>



**HISTORIANS** Glenn R. Horton, Jr. Gary L. Horton

HISTORIAN, AUSTRALIA **Bob Alford** 

EDITORS, HISTORY PROJECTS AND QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER Barbara J. Gotham **Executive Secretary** Theodore J. (Ted) Williams **Operations Officer** 

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### Compatriots and Friends:

We had a tremendous Reunion in Salt Lake City, 148 members and guests were present and tours and events were well attended. We hope everyone present had a grand time and the large number of comments received indicated that this was the case. Our thanks to Pat Carnevale for arranging a great program and festivities.

The Memorial Service at the Hill Air Force Base Museum was a moving and memorable event. The use of the old chapel that we remember so well from our WWII days was especially heartwarming. We want to thank Chaplain (Major) Patrick Herring for a very beautiful and stirring service.

The B-24 under renovation at the museum was unfortunately not yet finished so we only were able to view the fuselage and tail assembly. Likewise all guns, etc., were missing. However, the high level of workmanship on the completed sections indicates a future display of which we can all be proud.

The Wendover trip, despite its length, was very successful due to Tom Hunt's planning and leadership and also the hospitality of the Air Base and townspeople who guided us. Our thanks to all responsible.

We look forward to seeing all of you at Williamsburg next September!

To preserve the memory of the 380th.

Sincerely,

Theodore J. (Ted) Williams

### **FUTURE REUNION SITES**

The major item of discussion at our Members Business Meeting at Salt Lake City was the discussion of our future reunion sites beyond Williamsburg. As all members know, we had previously named 5 prospective sites for consideration at this meeting. They were:

Boston Area, Massachusetts Las Vegas, Nevada Louisville, Kentucky New Orleans, Louisiana, and St. Louis, Missouri

Promotional speeches for only Boston and New Orleans were presented by members present. As a result, only these sites received significant votes in the ballot. It was moved and passed by the members present that only these two sites be considered at present. Thus immediate Reunion sites are as follows:

Williamsburg, Virginia 2003 Boston Area, Massachusetts 2004 New Orleans, Louisiana 2005

We hope to see all of you at each of these sites.

### WILLIAMSBURG -- 2003 REUNION

Our 2003 Reunion will be held on September 10-14, 2003, at the Best Western Patrick Henry, Williamsburg, Virginia. A preliminary schedule and a hotel reservation form are enclosed for your information and use. As you know, Williamsburg is a major tourist attraction in the depiction of life in Colonial Virginia and indeed all of America at the time of the Revolution. There is far more to see there than can be accommodated in a one-day visit. Therefore, please be sure to purchase the three-day pass to be offered for \$31.20 (subject to change) as part of your Registration (forms available in near-future issues). Our hotel is right at the edge of the historical area, and you will want to spend a lot of time there.

### PATCHES AND ROSTERS

Squadron and Group insignia patches were available at the 2002 Reunion as announced in the last FLY-ING CIRCUS newsletter. Sales were brisk to the attendees. Since our supplier is local, we have a continuing source of these for anyone interested. Squadron and Group patches are priced at \$10.00 each. Reunion site patches are available for \$3.00 each. Please order by writing us.

We also can supply copies of the 2002 Roster and of the List of the Attendees at the Reunion. Again, please write.

### **B-24 LIBERATOR CALENDAR**

Those of you who were at the Salt Lake City Reunion will recall that we displayed a copy of the 2003 Calendar published by the International B-24 Liberator Club. We provided there an order blank so that our members could send for their copies of the calendar, if desired. The Order Blank is reproduced here (on the next page) for the benefit of those of you who could not be there. The Liberator Club is making a donation to our Research Fund for each calendar purchased by our members.

### IMPORTANT MESSAGES

September 10, 2002

Mrs. Douglas S. Craig

Dear Mrs. Craig:

Thank you so much for your contribution to the 380th Bomb Group Association Research Fund in the name of Joe Roth (Captain Joseph P.), Aircraft Commander in the 528th Squadron and of one of the original deployment crews sent to Australia in the Spring of 1943. We will handle this as your request and very much appreciate your generosity and this memorialization of Captain Roth.

#### **Ted Williams**

Subject:

The 380th BMW.

Date:

Sun, 21 Jul 2002 12:07:01 -0400

From:

Philippe Colin < mephisto@netrover.com>

Organization:

FB-IIIA.net and PHILIPPE's Aviation Pages.

Mr. Williams,

I have some news for you and members of your association concerning the 380th BMW museum at Plattsburgh. I've been trying to save what was left in the old museum for years and finally, things have happened. When the Air Force left, the content of the museum was donated to the Clinton County Historical Association. As a volunteer, I helped moved everything to a new location and my goal is to save all historical items in our possession. It will take time to go through everything and catalog what is left. For now, I have created an exhibit for the upcoming Battle Of Plattsburgh celebration in September. Please, take a look at the following page and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

http://www.FB-111A.net/Updates.html

Best regards,

Philippe Colin.

Creator and webmaster of FB-111A.net and Philippe's Aviation Pages.



## B-24 Liberator Club (380)

1672 Main Street, Ste. E PMB -124 Ramona, CA 92065

Please send the addressee below a copy of the 2003 B-24 LIBERATOR CALENDAR. I enclose \$12.50 (\$10.00 +\$2.50 shipping & handling):

			Date: _	
Name .	27			
Address:				
City .				
State			 Zip	
Thank you				
		Signed:		

## 380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION 2003 REUNION INFORMATION

# TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS WILLIAMSBURG, VA SEPTEMBER 10 –14, 2003

### Wednesday - September 10

9:00am - 1:00 pm Registration in Hotel Lobby

12:00pm - 4:00 pm Optional Tour of Colonial Williamsburg

2:00 pm - 6:00 pm Hospitality Room Open

6:30 pm Welcome Dinner

8:00 pm – 10:00 pm Hospitality Room Open

### Thursday - September 11

9:00 am Buses depart for Langley Field

10:00 am Memorial Service at Langley Field Chapel
11:30 am Lunch at Officer's Club – Langley Field
1:00 pm – 3 pm

1:00 pm – 3 pm Tour of Virginia Air & Space Museum

4:00 pm Buses return to hotel 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Hospitality Room Open

Dinner on your own

### Friday - September 12

9:00 am Optional Tour of Colonial Williamsburg

Other Optional Tours:

Visit Plantations in the Area

Visit Jamestown - America's Home Town

And Jamestown Settlement

9:00 am – 10:00 pm Hospitality Room Open

Dinner on your own

Optional Evening at The Music Theatre
Music from the 40's to the 80's

### Saturday - September 13

10:00 am Meeting of Members

Noon Optional tour of Colonial Williamsburg

Optional cruise on York River

Noon – 6:00 pm Hospitality Room Open

6:30 pm No-host cocktails

7:00 pm Dinner Dance

### Sunday - September 14

Departure day

## 380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION 2003 REUNION INFORMATION

### HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM BW Patrick Henry Inn Williamsburg, VA

### **September 9-13, 2003**

Name	
Spouse or Guest	
Address	
	StateZip
Phone E	-mail
Rate: \$77 (single or double occupancy) This rate includes a continental b	+ 9.5% room tax (Total \$84.32 per night) reakfast each morning.
Arrival Date	Departure Date
(Circle Choice)	D = two people, one bed; D/D = two people, two beds  I/S = Non-smoking; S=Smoking; K=King bed
Guarantee by credit card #	Exp date:
Signature	
Name on cardPlea	ase print
Cancel policy for this event: 24 hours price Reservations made after August 22 are s	or to arrival to avoid penalty subject to availability and possible rate change
Please mail or fax reservation form to:	Carnevale & Associates, Inc. P. O. Box 1230 Sonoita, AZ 85637 fax: 520- 455-5866 phone: 800-659-8808 e-mail: carne@dakotacom.net
As full service travel agents, we are also	able to assist you with your travel arrangements
including air and rental cars. "ONE PHC	ONE CALL DOES IT ALL" (800) 659-8808

### 380TH AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING UPDATE

T/Sgt Tracy L. English, Historian for the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing, has sent us the following message concerning their celebration of our (and their) initial mobilization at Davis-Monahan Air Base on November 2, 1942. As you know, they are stationed at Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates.

Subject: 380th Rocks!

Date: Mon, 4 Nov 2002 11:26:26 +0400

From: 380 AEW/HO Wing Historian <380aew.ho@dhafra.af.mil>

A little bragging here....

My wing (380th Air Expeditionary Wing) has the highest percentage of personnel who know their wing history... better than any other in the AOR....or the Air Force. My personal stamp is on that statement.

We celebrated our 60th Anniversary this past Saturday. We wanted to have a "Combat Dining In" but world events kept us from doing such. Instead, we combined some of the more interesting aspects of the dining in with our Saturday night bingo.... we had a "60th Anniversary Combat Birthday Bash" To answer some of the questions that I had (to win prizes) the assembled mass had to know the history of the 380th... it was great. It bought tears to this poor historians eyes (!!) I saw people printing out the information I made available and studying it!!! Can any other HO (historian) claim such a thing???

Truth be told, this wing has quite a bit of history and most of you reading this letter know this already.

To those before us, our wing has a slightly different mission than from our inception during WWII, but we continue the job you started....we defend democracy. You gave the wing numerous awards and recognitions from WWII, Vietnam, Grenada and the Gulf War. Those of us here and now will add OPERATIONS SOUTHERN WATCH AND ENDURING FREEDOM to the list.

Thank you for showing the way....

Strength and Confidence

Tracy L. English, TSgt, USAF





### A-2 JACKET RAFFLES

We are happy to report that Isabel Williams and Barbara Gotham sold 57 raffle tickets at the Salt Lake City Reunion on the A-2 Jacket so generously donated by Andrew Martinez, son of Conrado Martinez, Gunner on Gus Connery's Crew. Andrew is to decorate the jacket as requested by the winner.

Tickets for the raffle were drawn by Tom Hunt at the Reunion Banquet and the winner was:

John W. Carroll Australian RCM Operator 529th Squadron, 380th Bomb Group

John was overjoyed at winning the jacket and told us he had been envious of us and our leather jackets and had always wanted one for his own! His address is:

Mr. John Carroll



Andrew has most graciously offered to repeat the A-2 Jacket Raffle next year at Williamsburg. We are most grateful to Andrew for his generosity and interest in promoting our 380th Bomb Group Association.



Tom Hunt and Barbara Gotham drawing the winner's name!



At the right is the winner, John Carroll, along with Tom Hunt and Barbara Gotham

Conrado Martinez's Jacket Design





### 380TH REUNION -- SALT LAKE CITY -- SEPTEMBER 18-22, 2002

### Salt Lake City and Area Attractions



Chapel at the Mormon Complex (Gotham)



Mormon Tabernacle Choir Rehearsal (Gotham)



Mormon Temple (Gotham)



Mountains near Sundance (Gotham)



Mormon Temple (Gotham)



Utah Statehouse (Gotham)



Bobsled Run, 2002 Olympic Site, Park City (Gerards)



The White Curve, 2002 Olympic Site, Park City (Gerards)



Utah Countryside (Gerards)

#### Registration and Hospitality Room



Jack Banks, Tom Hunt, Ted Williams (Gerards)



Alice Nemcek, Barbara Beilstein, Pat Carnevale (Gerards)



Isabel Williams, Elizabeth McPherson, Jean Stevens (Gerards)

THESE AND MORE PHOTOS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE IN JANUARY (IN COLOR AND LARGER):

http://www.ecn.purdue.edu/IIES/PLAIC/380/REUNION/ 2002Reunion/Reunion.html

### 380TH REUNION -- SALT LAKE CITY -- SEPTEMBER 18-22, 2002

Tiny & Russ Brooks, John Carroll, Joe Wells (Stevens)

#### Welcome Dinner, September 18



Joe Wells and Colin Campbell (Stevens)



Olga & Richard Bill (Beilstein)



Cliff & Georgia
Toepperwein (Stevens)



Arriving at the Chapel (Gotham)

View of Chapel from Museum

(Maloney)



Memorial Service

September 19

Outside the Chapel (Gotham)



The Chapel (Gotham)



The Chapel (Gotham)

#### Luncheon at Hill AFB Officers Club



(Gotham)



(Gotham)



Emil & Dorothy Smolek, Chris & George Gerards (Gerards)



Betty Maloney, Sara Bejoian, Jim Bejoian, Bud Offerle, Joe Maloney (Bejoian)



(Gotham)





Standing: Jim Bejoian, Dexter Baker, Joe Maloney, Bob Daffer, Jack Banks Sitting: Betty Maloney, Sara Bejoian, Bud Offerle (Maloney)

### Hill Aerospace Museum





B-24 (Under Restoration) (Debevec)



B-24 (Debevec)



B-24 (Debevec)



B-24 (Gotham)



Joe Maloney & George Poy (Maloney)



Stealth Bomber (Debevec)



Sculpture Outside Museum Entrance (Gotham)







AT6 Trainer (Gotham)

### Miscellaneous Photos



Marie & Robert Daffer, Marilyn & Robert Daffer, Jr. (Gerards)



Elizabeth McPherson & Jean Stevens (Stevens)



Tom Hunt, Joe Wells, Al Busedu At Peppermill Casino, Wendover, Nevada (Gerards)



Bob Daffer & Joe Maloney (Gerards)

### 380TH REUNION -- SALT LAKE CITY -- SEPTEMBER 18-22, 2002

Dexter Baker, Bill Moran, Jack Banks (Maloney)



Colin Campbell, Annabelle & Jim Scalese (Maloney)



Oeth (Maloney)



Marvin Gardner & Ray Tony & Donna Gioia (Maloney)



Pat Carnevale (Maloney)



Gwen & Glenn Horton (Maloney)



Marian Hritz & John Annesser (Maloney)



Marian Robinson & Lloyd Fry (Maloney)



Paul & Barbara Beilstein, George Stevenson, Alice & Syl Nemcek (Beilstein)



Tom Hunt (Maloney)



Geoff Paddock, Kathleen & Bud Offerle (Maloney)



Lyle & Clara Sears (Maloney)



Greg & Crystal Baker, Dexter Baker Sr., Dexter Jr. & Georgia Baker (Gotham)



Barb & Doug Gotham (Gerards)



John Shultz Family: Steve & Jenny Galos, Catherine Rein, John Sr., Linda Childers, Andrea & John III, Donna & John Jr. (Maloney).



Al & Alicia Jansen (Maloney)



Dave & Jonell Kalamar, George & Chris Gerards, Dorothy & Emil Smolek (Gerards)



Curly Sprowls (Gotham)



Isabel Williams, Elizabeth McPherson, Ted Williams (Stevens)



Jo Ellen Mitchell, Betty Maloney, Anne Watson, Joe Maloney (Beilstein)



John Shultz & Anna Debevec (Gerards)



Harry Bandow & Mary Snyder (Gotham)



Donna Crowell & Anna Debevec (Beilstein)



Sara & Jim Bejoian (Gotham)



Ted Williams & Tom Hunt (Stevens)



Emil & Dorothy Smolek (Beilstein)



Claire & Richard Benson (Gotham)



George & Chris Gerards (Gerards)



Iohn Carroll & Joe Wells (Stevens)



Tiny & Russ **Brooks** (Debevec)

### Dinner/Dance, September 21



Colin Campbell, Cliff & Georgia Toepperwein, Sharon & Bil LaFlech (Gotham)



Robert & Marilyn Daffer, Jr., Marie & Robert Daffer, Sr., John Shultz, Jr., Donna Shultz, Jen & Steve Galos (Gotham)



Marvin Gardner Sr., Fran Allor, Marvin Gardner Jr. (Gotham)



Lawrence & Lana Gardner, Kathy & Dave Clements (Gotham)



Bill Moran, Robert DiDomenico, Colin Campbell (Gotham)



Doug & Barb Gotham. Anne Debevec, Donna Crowell, Alice Nemcek, Pat Carnevale (Gotham)



Albert Jansen, Marilyn & Gail Stephenson (Gotham)



Virgil & Jean Stevens (Gotham)



Jessie & George Poy (Gotham)



Donna & Loyd Oakes (Gotham)



Syl & Alice Nemcek, Olga & Rich Bill, Gwen Horton, George Stevenson (Gotham)



Chuck & Jack Parrott (Gotham)



Chuck & Carolyn Parrott (Nemcek)



Jim & Annabelle Scalese, Russ & Verna McCrea (Gotham)



Steve Borgstrom, Terry & Terry Snyder (standing), Helen & Carl Borgstrom, Barbara & Bill Fortenberry (Gotham)



Peggy Baker & Bill Vance (Gotham)



George Stevenson & Glenn Horton (Nemcek)



(Gotham)



Raymond & Janie Oeth (Gotham)



On the Dance Floor (Gotham)



Sam & Mickey Leiner (Gotham)



Terry Snyder & Carl Borgstrom (Nemcek)

# 380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION 2003 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

		Date
Your Name		
Squadron380th Duty		
Please check if you are a * Regular Member		
**Associates: 380th Veteran's Name:  Relationship:		
Your Address —		
City	State	Zip
Phone E-mail		
Spouse's Name		
* Regular member means an original member of the same as the same and the original member (or other are an Associate, please give the name of the original rand his squadron number.	er affiliation) of	an original member. If you
Annual payment of \$20 payable to <b>Carnevale &amp; As</b> mailings throughout the year. Please mail your registra		

Carnevale & Associates P.O. Box 1230 Sonoita AZ 85637

Membership runs from Reunion to Reunion.

### **TAPS**

Day is done, gone the sun, from the lake from the hill from the sky. All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.

Thanks and praise for our days 'neath the sun, 'neath the stars, 'neath the sky. As we go, this we know God is nigh.



### LEST WE FORGET



Please send TAPS information to: Theodore J. Williams, 208 Chippewa St., West Lafayette IN 47906-2123 Phone: 765/494-7434, 765/463-7828 530th Jones, Paul D., Flight Engineer, Morris Crew (24), Mesa, Arizona, DOD 2001, reported by Curly Sprowls

530th Koumarelos, Tally P., Flight Engineer, Connery and Vick Crews (25, 56), Northern California, DOD Summer 2002, reported by Curly Sprowls

530th Merklin, Edward H., Crew Chief-Airplane and Engine Mechanics, Indianapolis, Indiana, DOD 07/02/1998, reported by his daughter, Pamela S. Yohler

530th Savanovich, George (NMI), Gunner, Tovarez Crew (65), Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, DOD 08/15/2002, reported by Gerald Englert

531st Buss, Fred J., Radar Navigator, Various Crews, George, Iowa, DOD 1988, reported by his daughter, Betsy Buss

531st Engel, Donald A., Nose Gunner, Henderson Crew (92), Syracuse, New York, DOD 09/29/2002, reported by his son, Thomas Engel

