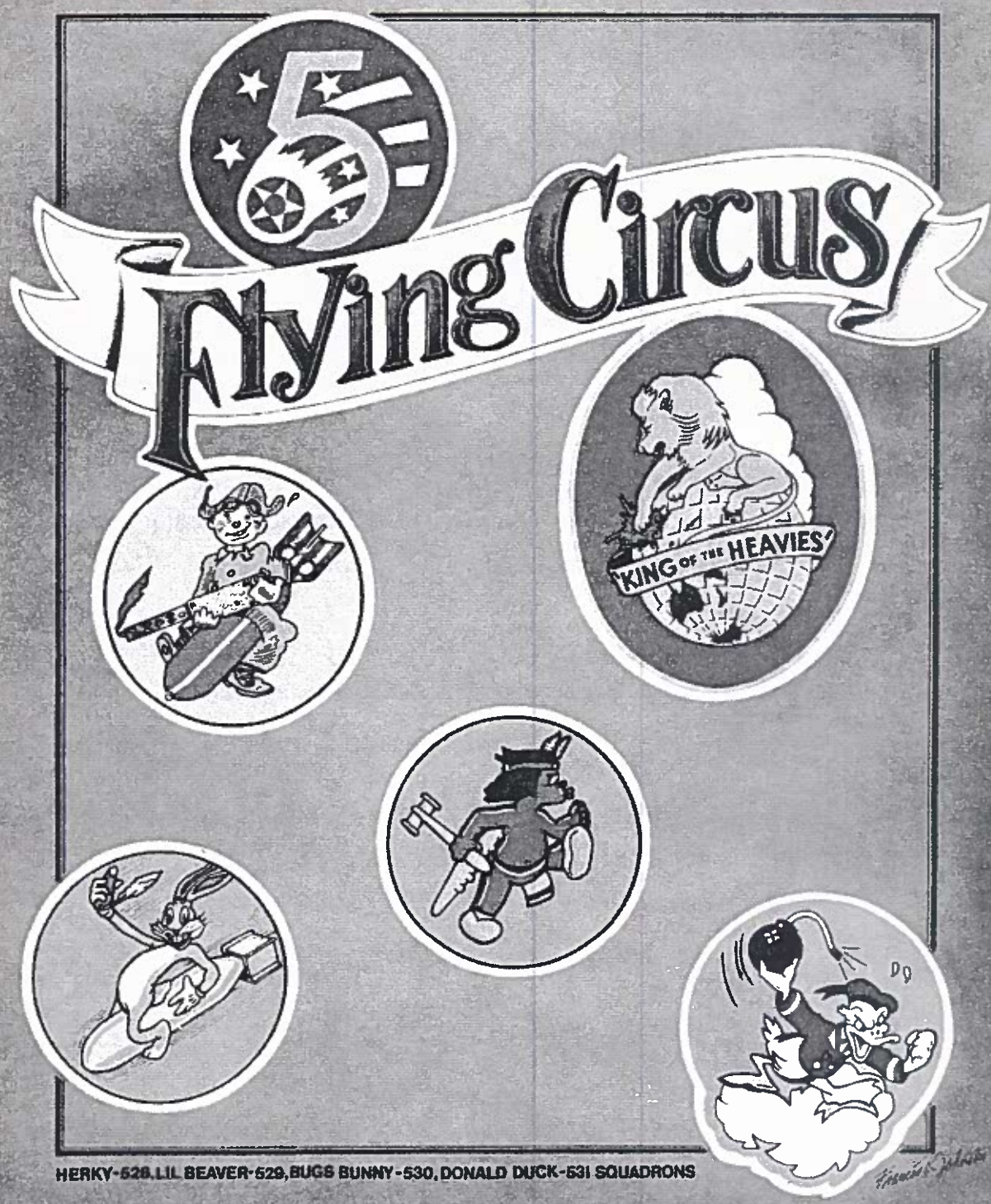


# 380<sup>TH</sup> BOMB GROUP



HERKY-528, LIL BEAVER-529, BUGS BUNNY-530, DONALD DUCK-531 SQUADRONS

*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 person-  
nel 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.*



528<sup>th</sup>



529<sup>th</sup>



530<sup>th</sup>



531<sup>st</sup>

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

AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS

## The Flying Circus

208 CHIPPEWA ST.  
WEST LAFAYETTE IN 47906-2123

### NEWSLETTER #19

June 2004

#### Compatriots and Friends:

This latter part of this quarter has been an exciting one for us veterans with the Dedication of the WWII Veteran's Memorial in Washington, D.C., and the ceremonies regarding the D-Day Landings in France. Several of our members were able to attend the dedication in person, particularly Paul Beilstein (529th) and his family. We all thought the Dedication and the Memorial itself were wonderful. We hope that all of the rest of you were able to see it on TV. The only sorrow here is that so many of our compatriots from the 380th have already passed on and could not therefore take part in this grand, but long-delayed recognition of our service.

The Boston Reunion, with hotel at Braintree, Massachusetts, for cost and access reasons, is proceeding well. Pat Carnevale has worked up a very nice program for us, and we look forward to seeing you all there.

I hope you all enjoyed the discussion of the machinations in getting us to Australia in WWII instead of England. I have some equally interesting details of the arrangements for The Philippines which I will bring to the Reunion.

See you there.

To preserve the memory of the 380th.

Sincerely,

Theodore J. (Ted) Williams

#### HISTORIANS

Glenn R. Horton, Jr.  
Gary L. Horton

#### HISTORIAN, AUSTRALIA

Bob Alford

#### EDITORS, HISTORY PROJECTS

#### AND QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Barbara J. Gotham  
Theodore J. (Ted) Williams

Phone: 765/494-7434

Fax: 765/494-2351

Email: [tjwil@ecn.purdue.edu](mailto:tjwil@ecn.purdue.edu)

<http://www.ecn.purdue.edu/>

[IIES/PLAIC/380/380.html](http://www.ecn.purdue.edu/IIES/PLAIC/380/380.html)

---

## **BOSTON REUNION INFORMATION**

---

The 380th Bomb Group Association Annual Reunion will be in the Boston area from September 29 to October 3, 2004. Lodging has been arranged at the Sheraton Braintree Hotel in Braintree, Mass., which is south of Boston. Hotel rates are \$99 (single or double occupancy) + 9.7% room tax (total \$108.60 per night).

Activities include the traditional welcome dinner on Wednesday evening, group tours of the Boston historical district and Quincy Market on Thursday, a tour of Lexington and Concord on Friday afternoon, and our Members Meeting on Saturday morning. Our Memorial Service will be at Hanscom Field on Friday morning, followed by lunch at the Officer's Club at Hanscom Field.

The planned schedule of events, hotel registration form, and event registration form are all included in this issue.

Boston's role in shaping American history is unique among all other cities.

You will be eager to see the places where the American Revolution was conceived and began. From Paul Revere's House to the Boston Tea Party Ship to the Old North Church, history is on every corner in Boston.

Our tour of Lexington and Concord will compliment our visit to the Boston area. It was on Lexington Green in the early morning hours of April 9, 1775, that Captain John Parker of the Colonial Militia announced "Don't fire unless fired on. But if they mean to have a war, let it begin here." Those words and the battle that followed changed the course of history.

According to the Convention and Visitors Bureau, the average high temperature in Boston for September and October is between 62 and 72 degrees and the average low is between 46 and 56 degrees, so be sure and bring your 380th jacket for the cool evenings.

Please call Carnevale Travel if you would like to extend your trip to take in other sites in the Boston area or other parts of New England.



---

---

**380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION**  
**2004 REUNION INFORMATION**

---

---

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**  
**BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**September 29-October 3, 2004**

**Wednesday – September 29**

9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Registration in Hotel Lobby
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Optional Tours of Boston
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open
6:30 pm	Welcome Dinner - Madison Room
8:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open - Suite 1007 and 1008

**Thursday – September 30**

9:30 am	Buses depart hotel
10:00 - 3:30 pm	Tour of Boston Historical District & Quincy Market
4:00 pm	Buses return to hotel
3:30 pm - 10:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open - Suite 1007 and 1008
	Dinner on your own

**Friday – October 1**

10:00 am	Buses depart hotel
11:00 am	Memorial Service at Hanscom Field
12:15 pm	Lunch at Officer's Club - Hanscom Field
1:15- 3:00 pm	Tour of Lexington/Concord
4:00 pm	Buses return to hotel
4:00 - 10:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open - Suite 1007 and 1008
	Dinner on your own

**Saturday – October 2**

10:00 am	Meeting of Members - Madison Room
Noon	Tours on your own
Noon – 6:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open - Suite 1007 and 1008
6:30 pm	No-host cocktails - Madison Room
7:00 pm	Dinner Dance

**Sunday – October 3**

Departure day

---

---

**380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION**  
**2004 REUNION -- HOTEL RESERVATION**

---

---

**380<sup>th</sup> BOMBARDMENT GROUP**  
**HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM**  
**Sheraton Braintree Hotel**  
**Braintree, MA**  
**September 29 - October 3, 2004**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse or Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Rate: \$99 (single or double occupancy) + 9.7% room tax (Total \$108.60 per night)

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

Room type: S = one person, one bed; D = two people, one bed; D/D = two people, two beds  
(Circle Choice)

Special Needs: H=Handicap facilities; N/S = Non-smoking; S=Smoking; K=King bed  
(Circle choice)

Guarantee by credit card # \_\_\_\_\_ exp date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Please print

Cancel policy for this event: 48 hours prior to arrival to avoid penalty

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](mailto:carne@dakotacom.net)

NOTE: Carnevale & Associates is a full service travel agency. Please call on our toll free number for assistance with your travel plans.

---

---

## **WWII MEMORIAL - A TRIBUTE TO A GENERATION WASHINGTON, D.C. -- MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2004**

---

---

Forty-two 380th members and their families attended the dedication ceremonies for the WWII Memorial on the Mall in Washington, D.C., on Saturday, May 29th. They included:

Paul and Barbara Beilstein and 29 members of their family on a week-long family reunion were by far the largest group - 529th

Pete and Pat Carnevale, their son, daughter-in-law, and 3 grandchildren

Ralph and Evelyn Figueroa - 530th

Bill and Sharon LaFlech - 528th

Tom Hunt - 531st and Group

Ted and Isabel Williams - 531st

The weather was beautiful and bright, not too warm and with a welcome breeze. The crowd was boisterous and happy. I have never seen so much patriotism displayed in one place at one time. The speakers were all first-rate and the music and ceremonies most exemplary.

The Memorial is beautiful, a bit garish and overwhelming, but to me just right. It dominates the center of the Mall, midway between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument — as it should for WWII was the largest and probably the most important of our wars in the development of our country — since we became the world power as the result of it.

We wish many, many more of you could have been with us. Hopefully all of you saw it on TV. Truly an event of a lifetime.

Ted Williams

Pictures from the ceremony and of the Memorial follow on the next few pages.

The following pictures and others from the dedication are available on the WWII Memorial Website:  
<http://www.wwiimemorial.com/>



---

**WWII MEMORIAL - A TRIBUTE TO A GENERATION**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. -- MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2004**

---



Paul and Barbara Beilstein



The Beilstein Clan



Ralph Figueroa, Ted Williams, Paul  
Beilstein, Tom Hunt,  
Bill LaFlech



Our Entrance



Close-up of Entrance Gate; piles are of water  
for the attendees donated by Wal-Mart



Part of the Sea of Chairs



Washington Monument looking back  
from the Memorial



---

**WWII MEMORIAL - A TRIBUTE TO A GENERATION**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. -- MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2004**

---



The Atlantic Column from the Entrance Steps and Ramp  
(pictures taken Friday, Memorial closed during Ceremony)



The Atlantic Column taken from the Pacific Column



Entrance Ramp and Fountain  
Wall of Stars in background



Approaching the Wall of Stars



Pacific Column



Pacific Column



---

**WWII MEMORIAL - A TRIBUTE TO A GENERATION**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. -- MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2004**

---



The Wall of Stars -- 4,000 stars to memorialize the over 400,000 killed in WWII



Tom Hunt at the Wall of Stars



Parade of the State Flags at the Ceremony



Our seats at the Ceremony. That is Isabel Williams in the wheelchair under the straw hat. The lady in the red hat is an attendant. Note the piles of water bottles.



View of the Stage from our seats before the Ceremony. As is evident, we had very good seats and could see everything.

## 380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

## 2004 REUNION -- EVENT REGISTRATION FORM

September 29 – October 3, 2004

## Sheraton Braintree Hotel

**Braintree, MA**

<b>Registration Fees:</b>	Members	\$10.00 pp	x _____	\$ _____
	Spouses/Guests	\$10.00 pp	x _____	\$ _____

**Wednesday** – Welcome Dinner at Hotel      \$40.00 pp      x \_\_\_\_\_      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday –**

9:30 am – 3:30 pm	Tour of Boston Historical District & Quincy Market		
	Transportation -	\$ 12.00	x _____ \$ _____

**Friday** – Memorial Service at Hanscom Field w/ lunch at Officer's Club

## Afternoon Tour of Lexington and Concord

**Luncheon Entrée Choice of:**

Hawaiian Ham Steak #\_\_\_\_\_

Sliced Roast Beef a Champignon #\_\_\_\_\_

\$25.00 pp      x \_\_\_\_\_      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday -**

Banquet	\$44.00 each	x	\$
---------	--------------	---	----

TOTAL: \$

Member Name (for name tag)	Squadron/Hdqtrs
----------------------------	-----------------

Guest/Spouse (for name tag)

Other guests (as printed on name tag)

**Refunds:** No refunds will be made if cancellation occurs after Friday, September 20th

Please make checks payable to Carnevale & Associates Inc.

Mail form to: P O Box 1230 Sonoita, AZ 85637

Need help with travel plans? - Complete request below or phone (800) 659-8808

Travel dates \_\_\_\_\_ Departure City \_\_\_\_\_ Aisle or Window seat  
(circle choice)

Preferred Airline \_\_\_\_\_ Frequent Flyer Number \_\_\_\_\_

---

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

---

### **Donations to the 380th Research Fund:**

The following members have made recent donations to the 380th Bomb Group Association Research Fund to help research the WWII Records of the 380th participation and our members' places in them.

Jack Banks (January 2004)

Robert Rhoden (March 2004)

Our research project scope and our successes to date are documented in various places in our preceding issues of *THE FLYING CIRCUS* and on our website under the title WE WENT TO WAR.

We want to thank, most sincerely, all those who contributed to this important effort. We believe that the 380th's history is now equal to that of all B-24 equipped bomber groups in WWII and much better than most. We are actively continuing this work. Our thanks to you all!

### **B-24 Memorial Project — San Diego Balboa Park:**

As the members know, the 380th Bomb Group Association was solicited last fall to make a \$1,000.00 donation to the above project (Newsletter #17) for which we receive recognition as a sponsor of the project. All bomb group associations whose members flew B-24 Liberators were also contacted. The Liberator will be displayed by the San Diego Veterans Memorial Center and Museum at Balboa Park.

We are most happy to report that Member Tom Hunt has most generously made a donation to our Research Fund for this amount. We can report that this donation has been transmitted to Development Committee for the project and accepted by them. The 380th Bomb Group Association's name will be prominently displayed near the B-24 model.

We are grateful and thankful to Tom for his donation to the 380th and this project.

### **Virginia Dare Knighton Stoll:**

Elmer Bryant, Gunner, Zeigler's Crew, 531st (TAPS, December 2003), had an aunt, Ms. Virginia Dare Knighton Stoll, who served in the Women's Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) during WWII. His family has asked that we honor her service. This we are always happy to do. With their concurrence, she will attend our Boston Reunion with many members of Elmer's family, and be formally introduced with her story at our Banquet. It will be great to meet and talk with this notable lady.



---

---

**380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION  
2004 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM**

---

---

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Squadron \_\_\_\_\_ 380th Duty \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if you are a \* Regular Member \_\_\_\_\_ or an \*\*Associate Member \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Associates:** 380th Veteran's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Sqdn: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

*\* Regular member* means an original member of the 380th Bomb Group.

*\*\*Associate member* means a family member (or other affiliation) of an original member. If you are an Associate, please give the name of the original member, your relationship to that person, and his squadron number.

---

Annual payment of \$20 payable to **Carnevale & Associates** will help defray costs of mailings throughout the year. Please mail your registration form and check to:

**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

**528th English, Robert A.B.**, Ground Staff, Engineer, Maintenance, Instrument Mechanic, Akron, Ohio, DOD 01/2004, reported by his daughter, Barbara Snodgrass

**528th Fern, Richard S.**, Assistant Flight Engineer/Gunner, Banks' Crew (3), Beverly, Kansas, DOD 06/1986, reported by his daughter-in-law, Abigail Fern

**528th Kelly, Leo P.**, Radio Operator, Hegner's Crew, DOD 01/02/1971, reported by his son-in-law, Patrick Cheevers

**528th Oeth, Janie**, Wife of Raymond Oeth, Elberfeld, Indiana, DOD 12/24/2003, reported by Jim Meredith



Please send TAPS information to:  
Theodore J. Williams, 208 Chippewa St.,  
West Lafayette IN 47906-2123  
Phone: 765/494-7434, 765/463-7828



**528th Romans, Lester**, Flight Engineer, Herbst's Crew (10), San Antonio, Texas, DOD 05/27/1975, reported by his son, James Romans

**528th Romans, Helen**, Wife of Lester Romans, North Little Rock, Arkansas, DOD 05/10/1985, reported by her son, James Romans

**528th Roper, Ernest D.**, Gunner, Dally's Crew (9), Greer, South Carolina, DOD 04/07/2004, reported by Joe Dally

**528th Stovell, Thomas H.**, Aircraft Commander and Squadron Operations Officer, Stovell's Crew (3), Southlake, Texas, DOD 03/26/2004, reported by Tom Hunt

**529th Pellegrini, John**, Co-Pilot, Swanson's Crew, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, DOD 10/19/1978, reported by Peter La Lena

**530th Lemar, Roland James**, Radio Operator, Gildersleeve's Crew, Pawcatuck, Connecticut, DOD 07/13/1971, reported by his daughter, Kathy Davis

**530th Miller, Atlee R.**, Ground Staff, Maintenance, Crew Chief, Baltic, Ohio, DOD 03/01/2004, reported by Anna Debevec and his wife, Thelma

**531st Brown, Eugene E.**, Gunner, Winston's Crew (107), Holliston, Massachusetts, DOD 02/27/1993, reported by his son, Michael P. Brown

**531st Brown, Jesse B.**, Ground Staff, Airplane Mechanic, Lake Park, Georgia, DOD 02/29/2004, reported by his wife, Evelyn, and Tom Hunt

**531st Johnson, Alton M.**, Gunner, Wilson's Crew (102), Vista, California, DOD 08/06/2003, reported by Joe Burdick

**531st Kohrt, Carl E.**, Navigator, Paul's and Thomas' Crews (50, 34), Columbus, Ohio, DOD 04/10/2004, reported by his son, Col. Douglas Kohrt

**531st Odders, Melvin N.**, Flight Engineer/Gunner, Eden's and Hinman's Crews (99, 84), Fort Pierce, Florida, DOD 12/23/2003, reported by his wife, Shirley

**531st Peck, Franklin I.**, Radio Operator, Purinton's Crew, Fairfield, Connecticut, DOD 11/28/1968, reported by his son, Dave Peck



