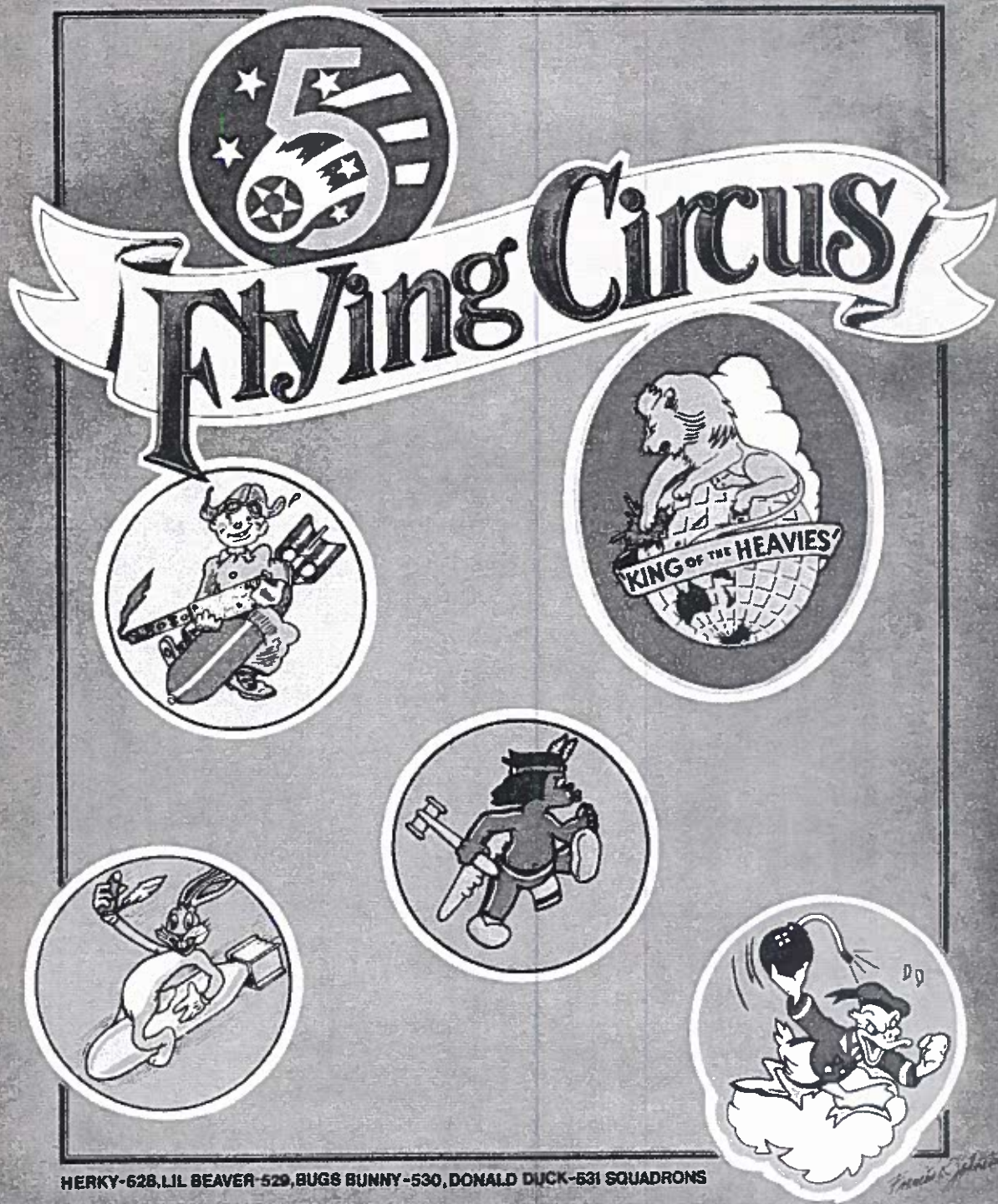


380TH BOMB GROUP



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).*

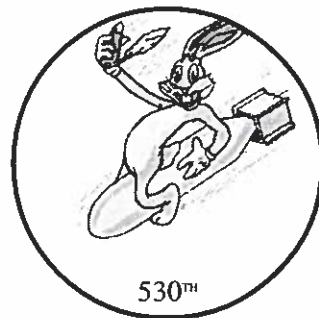
Our everlasting thanks and love go out to them.



528TH



529TH



530TH



531ST

THE 380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION 5th AF - RAAF

AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS

The Flying Circus

208 CHIPPEWA ST.
WEST LAFAYETTE IN 47906-2123

NEWSLETTER #21

December 2004

Compatriots and Friends:

The Boston Reunion was a great success despite a lot of rain and some travel problems by the attendees. As noted herein, we decided to move the 2005 Reunion to San Diego, California, with the hope of attending the Dedication Ceremony for the B-24 Memorial to be placed in Balboa Park at the Aviation Museum there.

We gladly welcome Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Glenn Rogers as our Honorary Chaplain for the 380th Bomb Group Association. He gave our Memorial Service at the Boston Reunion and had been Chaplain for the 380th Bomb Wing at Plattsburgh, New York, when we were there.

We wish you all a Happy Holiday Season and All Best Wishes for 2005. We look forward to seeing all of you at San Diego in November next.

To preserve the memory of the 380th.

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
<http://www.ecn.purdue.edu/IIES/PLAIC/380/380.html>

Sincerely,

Theodore J. (Ted) Williams

2005 AND 2006 REUNION INFORMATION

At the Boston Reunion it was decided that we would hold the 2005 Reunion in San Diego instead of in New Orleans. The reasoning for this is that (1) the dedication of the B-24 Memorial in San Diego is expected to be on Veterans Day, November 11, 2005, and (2) the WWII addition to the museum at New Orleans will not be open until after 2005. Therefore, the members present voted to make this change: the 2005 Reunion (November 9-13) will be in San Diego, and the 2006 one in New Orleans (date to be determined).

2004 MEMORIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS

If you did not attend the Reunion but would like a copy of the Memorial Service Program, please contact Barb Gotham, 130 Colony Road, West Lafayette IN 47906 - Email: barb@purdue.edu

The names of those honored at our service can also be found on the 380th webpages at:
<http://fairway.ecn.purdue.edu/IIES/PLAIC/380/REUNION/2004Reunion/2004MemorialSvc.htm>

FUTURE REUNIONS

In the past, only members who attended the reunions voted on future reunion sites. For the sake of fair play, it was decided that we would present to all members the list of suggested future reunion sites, and use the feedback from them to plan for future reunions of the 380th Bomb Group.

Here is the list of suggested sites. Please rank your top 5 choices (with 1 being your first choice, etc.), and return to Barb Gotham or Ted Williams before **February 28, 2005**. If you have email, you are welcome to send us your choices that way.

Please remember that the 2005 Reunion is already planned for San Diego, and that the 2006 one is in New Orleans. Choices made here will be for reunions in 2007 and beyond.

	Ranking
1. Rapid City, South Dakota (Ellsworth AFB)	_____
2. Colorado Springs, Colorado (AF Academy)	_____
3. Fort Walton Beach, Florida (Eglin AFB)	_____
4. St. Louis, Missouri (Scott AFB)	_____
5. El Paso, Texas (Fort Bliss-Army)	_____
6. Tucson, Arizona (Davis-Monthan AFB)	_____
7. Dayton, Ohio (Wright-Patterson AFB)	_____
8. Montgomery, Alabama (Maxwell AFB)	_____
9. Albuquerque, New Mexico (Kirtland AFB)	_____

Other: _____

Comments: _____

Name (optional): _____

Send to:

Barb Gotham, 130 Colony Road, West Lafayette IN 47906 - Email: barb@purdue.edu

OR

Ted Williams, 208 Chippewa Drive, West Lafayette IN 47906 - Email: tjwil@ecn.purdue.edu

380th PATCHES

The following 380th Bomb Group and Squadron Patches and the 380th Jackets are available for sale from Ted Williams. If you would like to purchase any, please fill out this form and mail to Ted along with your check.

380th Bomb Group: _____ at \$10.00 ea. = \$ _____

528th Squadron: _____ at \$10.00 ea. = \$ _____

529th Squadron: _____ at \$10.00 ea. = \$ _____

530th Squadron: _____ at \$10.00 ea. = \$ _____

531st Squadron: _____ at \$10.00 ea. = \$ _____

Reunion Patches:

Place _____ Year _____ at \$3.00 ea. = \$ _____

Jackets (blue nylon) _____ at \$25.00 ea. = \$ _____

Please circle the size(s) you require: S M L XL 2XL

Total Payment: \$ _____

Checks payable to: Theodore J. Williams
Mail to: 208 Chippewa St.
 West Lafayette IN 47906-2123

Name _____

Address: _____

City _____

State: _____ Zip _____

BOSTON REUNION PHOTOS

Hospitality Room Photos



John Annesser &
Marian Hritz



Isabel & Ted
Williams



Ted Williams & Tom
Hunt



Sara & Jim Bejoian
& Grandchild



Topper & Georgia
Toepperwein



Cecelia Meade &
Bud Offerle

Dinner Dance



Mickey & Sam
Leiner



Gwen & Glenn
Horton, Diane
Whetstine,
Cecelia & Scott
Meade



Doug & Barb
Gotham



Nemcek Family



Jim Bejoian thanking every-
one for "finally!" coming to
Boston



Julie & Richard Zapf

Gwen Horton, Ann
Debevec, Glenn Horton

Jacket Presentation to Glenn Rogers, Honorary 380th Chaplain, by Ted Williams & Tom Hunt



Dinner Dance



Marge & Bob Smith



Kate & Bud Offerle



Cal Killingsworth &
Viola Peterson



Marie & Bob Daffer

Additional photos will be available on the 380th Website / Reunions / 2004 Reunion:
<http://fairway.ecn.purdue.edu/IIES/PLAIC/380/REUNION/2004Reunion/Reunion.html>

BOSTON REUNION PHOTOS



Lou & Irene Lanners



Baker Clan

Dinner Dance



Jo Ellen Mitchell, Julie & Richard Zapf



Paul & Barbara Beilstein



Jo & Ann Debevec



Diane Whetstine & Joe Wells



Annabelle & Jim Scalese



Pete & Marie LaLena



Gerry & Michelle Foote, Joe Dally, Sharon Miller



Isabel & Ted Williams



Nicholas & Norma Lamicella



Clara & Lyle Sears



Pete & Pat Carnevale



William & Eileen Burns



Bill & Sylvia Gordon



Len Kroes, Paul Beilstein, Bill Gordon, Syl Nemcek, Lou Lanners



Toepperwein Family



Gladys Brandt, Joan Pounsett, Cal Killingsworth, Viola Peterson, Nancy Walsh

Len & Jimmie Lou Kroes, Paul & Barbara Beilstein, Bill & Sylvia Gordon, Syl & Alice Nemcek, Lou & Irene Lanners



BOSTON REUNION PHOTOS



U.S.S. Constitution



Copps Hill



Boston Harbor



Bunker Hill Memorial



Paul Revere Park

Welcome Dinner



Irene & Lou Lanners, Sylvia & Bill Gordon, Alice & Syl Nemcek, Barbara & Paul Beinstein



Bill Gordon, Alice & Syl Nemcek, Barbara & Paul Beinstein, Irene & Lou Lanners, Sylvia Gordon



Jim and Annabelle Scalese



Memorial Service, Hanscom Chapel, Oct. 1



Honor Guard



Chaplain Rogers



Dexter Baker & Jim Bejoian



Georgia & Cliff Toepperwein & Bill Bever

Boarding Buses for Hanscom AF Base



Bakers & Jim Bejoian



Photo Credits: Jim Bejoian, Bill Bever, Joe Dally, Jo Debevec, Barb Gotham, Glenn Horton, Jo Ellen Mitchell, Bud Offerle, Diane Whetstine

BOSTON REUNION PHOTOS

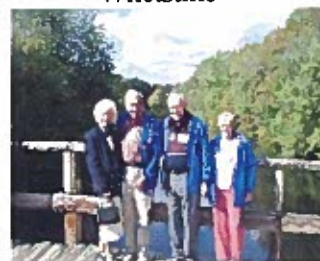
Luncheon at Hanscom AFB Officers Club



Minute Man National Historical Park, Concord



Glenn Horton & Diane Whetstine



Clara & Lyle Sears, John Annesser, Marian Hritz



Daffer Family

Hospitality Room Photos



Joe Dally



Wil Moran



Syl Nemcek



Tom Hunt



Diane Whetstine, Joe Wells, Cecelia & Scott Meade



Pat Carnevale



Jimmie Lou & Len Kroes



Ted Williams, Paul Beinstein, Bill Gordon, Cliff Toepperwein

THE 380TH IN THE PHILIPPINES CAMPAIGN

At the Boston Reunion we included among the WE WENT TO WAR historical documents a set of the Southwest Pacific Headquarters Planning Documents for the Invasion of the Philippines. These showed that the 380th was originally selected to be the first heavy bomb group involved in these plans.

These notes will be a short overview of the Philippines Campaign because of the lack of space in this issue. We will expand this material in the March issue with some associated maps.

The planned invasions of the Philippines were as follows:

Operation GOSSIPMONGER, Talaud Islands,* October 15, 1944 (380th to be sent here)

Operation KING I, Sarangani (Davao) Mindanao, November 15, 1944 (90th to be sent here)

Operation KING III, Misamis, Mindanao, December 7, 1944

Operation KING II, Leyte, December 20, 1944 (22nd and 43rd to be sent here)

Operation LOVE II, Aparri, Luzon, January 31, 1945

Operation LOVE III, Mindoro Island, February 15, 1945 (90th and 380th to be sent here)

Operation MIKE I, Lingayen Gulf, Luzon, February 20, 1945 (All 4 heavy bomb groups to be sent here when Clark Field captured and repaired)

Operation MIKE II, East Coast of Luzon, Opposite Manila, March 5-15, 1945

History now tells us that the Philippines Sea Battle on June 19-20, 1944, during the invasion of Saipan, and the follow-up carrier attacks up until mid-September so decimated the Japanese Air Forces that United States Forces cancelled GOSSIPMONGER, KING I, and KING III, and went directly into Leyte (KING II) on October 20, 1944. As noted on the set of locations of the heavy bomb groups (following this article), the 380th's and 90th's early assignments were skipped and the 22nd and 43rd were the first groups stationed in the Philippines proper. WE had to wait until Mindoro.

LOVE III for Mindoro was moved up to December 15, 1944, and Lingayan Gulf (MIKE I) to January 9, 1945. Note that Operation LOVE II for Aparri (LOVE II) was never carried out and that of MIKE II for Eastern Luzon became an attack on Legaspi on April 1, 1945, in which the 380th participated.

A major airbase development around the Clark Field area was planned for all four heavy bomb groups for use by summer 1945. We were to be at Florida Blanca and many of our personnel worked on the initial phasing of this. However, the successes on Iwo Jima and Okinawa showed the lack of need for this base and we went to Yontan Field, Okinawa, to prepare for the invasion of Kyushu Island of Japan.

We were scheduled to be based at Kanoya, Kyushu by January 15, 1946, after the proposed invasion on November 1, 1945, along with the 90th Bomb Group.

As we all know, the atomic bombs changed all this and the war was over by August 15, 1945, just about the time we reached Okinawa. The peace treaty on September 2, 1945, ended it all and most of our personnel were back in the States by November 1945.

* The Talaud Islands lie midway between Morotai, which is part of the Halmahera Islands, and Mindanao, the large southern island of the Philippines chain.

CONTINUATION OF HISTORY

STATIONS OF OUR COMPANION GROUPS

22ND BOMB GROUP (H)

Converted to B-24s, Nadzab, New Guinea	11 Feb 1944
Owi Island, Geelvink Bay, New Guinea	16 Aug 1944
Anguar, Palau Island	26 Nov 1944
Samar Island, Philippines	20 Jan 1945
Clark Field, Luzon, Philippines	12 Mar 1945
Motobu, Okinawa	15 Aug 1945

43RD BOMB GROUP (H)

Converted to B-24, Port Moresby, New Guinea	Summer 1943
Nadzab, New Guinea	~ 15 Mar 1944
Owi Island, Geelvink Bay, New Guinea	28 July 1944
Tacloban, Leyte Island, Philippines	15 Nov 1944
IE Shima Island, Okinawa	20 July 1945

90TH BOMB GROUP (H)

Port Moresby, New Guinea	10 Feb 1943
Nadzab, New Guinea	23 Feb 1944
Biak, Geelvink Bay, New Guinea	10 Aug 1944
McGuire Field, Mindoro Island, Philippines	26 Jan 1944
IE Shima Island, Okinawa	~ 10 Aug 1945

HONORARY CHAPLAIN FOR OUR ASSOCIATION

Chaplain (Lt. Col. and Wing Chaplain for Hanscom AF Base) Glenn Rogers gave a beautiful Memorial Service for us as part of the Boston Reunion Program on Friday, October 1st. He told us of his service as Chaplain of the 380th Bomb Wing at Plattsburgh, New York, when we were there for our Reunions in 1983 and 1986 and his love for the 380th. He also described his meetings with Chaplain (Captain) Harry M. Roark, 380th Chaplain during WWII.

We made him an Honorary Member and Honorary Chaplain at our Saturday evening Banquet at the Boston Reunion, and presented him with a blue jacket, all of which he happily and proudly accepted.

Chaplain Rogers will retire from the Air Force next summer and has promised to attend the San Diego Reunion with us.

You can see pictures of him and the jacket presentation in the Reunion photos section of this issue.

**380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION
2005 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



Group Schroeder, Charles E.,
Group Adjutant, Group Executive
Officer, DOD 11/05/2004, Murrell's
Inlet, South Carolina, reported by his
wife, Dorothy



528th Brunner, Naomi, Wife of Tilford Brunner, DOD
08/22/2004, Pilot Mountain, North Carolina, reported by her
husband

528th Chamberlain, Beverly, Wife of E. Curt Chamber-
lain, DOD 01/2004, Los Altos, California, reported by
Wilfred Moran

528th Moran, Betty, Wife of Wilfred Moran, DOD 11/11/
2004, West Seneca, New York, reported by her husband

529th Hansen, Reginald G., Co-Pilot, Ivey's Crew (40),
DOD 11/17/1987, Pueblo, Colorado, reported by his son,
Roger Hansen

530th Klief, Robert, Photographer/Radar Bombardier,
Various Crews, DOD 11/05/2004, Lake Havasu City,
Arizona, reported by Joe Burdick

530th Sprowls, Delmar ("Curly"), Radio Operator,
Kimlau's Crew (67), DOD 10/10/2004, Olathe, Kansas,
reported by his son-in-law, Shawn Jordan, and friend, Malia
Webb

531st Dec, Walter F., Flight Engineer, Haas' Crew, DOD
01/03/1994, Auburn, New York, reported by his son,
Michael Dec

531st Grambley, Timothy, Gunner, Smolek's Crew (111),
DOD 11/07/2004, N. Ridgeville, Ohio, reported by his wife,
Velma

531st Benedict, Raymond K., Gunner, Fowler's Crew
(96), DOD 10/31/1978, Warwick, New York, reported by
his daughter, Norma Lamicella

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

