

380TH BOMB GROUP



HERKY-828, LIL BEAVER-529, BUGS BUNNY-530, DONALD DUCK-531 SQUADRONS

Francis Penobscot

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.



THE 380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION 5th AF - RAAF

AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS

The Flying Circus
208 CHIPPEWA ST.
WEST LAFAYETTE IN 47906-2123

NEWSLETTER #5

December 2000

Compatriots and Friends,

We are happy to hear both at the Reunion and afterwards that all of you enjoyed our stay in San Antonio. We look forward to equally enjoyable gatherings at Dayton, Ohio, next year.

Several of you have sent us copies of pictures you took during the Reunion. We have used these to assemble the montage of you on the Reunion Pages included here. We hope you like it. We have included as many of you as we could.

During the past year and for this issue we have sent copies of the Newsletters to all of those individuals who were on Helen Thompson's mailing list, as well as new members who joined during the year. Helen's list was for the old Association. We very much appreciate the many of you who have chosen to join our current Association. We hope very much that others on Helen's mailing list will also.

Because of mailing costs involved, we must now convert our mailing practices over to include only those who are members of our present Association plus others who have especially asked to be considered, such as some of the widows of our deceased compatriots.

We are sorry to have to do this but pure economics requires it. A membership blank is enclosed for those who may wish to join our group.

Barbara and I enjoy very much preparing these Newsletters and the several history projects we have undertaken. We have appreciated very much the several messages from you expressing your enjoyment of our efforts. In addition, we are open to any suggestions or criticisms you may have.

To preserve the memory of the 380th.

Sincerely,

Theodore J. (Ted) Williams

HISTORIANS

Glenn R. Horton, Jr.
Gary L. Horton

HISTORIAN, AUSTRALIA

Bob Alford

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November 21, 2000

Dear Flying Circus Members,

Comments to me indicate that all of you enjoyed the meeting in San Antonio. I think that you join me in the appreciation of the Veteran's Day memorial service at Fort Sam Houston. San Antonio does honor service personnel on both Memorial Day and Veteran's Day.

Since you indicate a desire to continue annual meetings of "The Flying Circus" we, Ted, Barbara, Pat Carnevale and TH, can only do our best with prior input from you. We need your suggestions, comments and even gripes. Thinking of that, send your gripes to me and I guarantee that I'll answer them or even telephone you. We don't have too many years left for meetings so let's make the one's we have the best. After all, one of the group's nicknames was "Best in the Southwest."

Pat Carnevale, Barbara and Ted all deserve our thanks for San Antonio 2000 and now let us help them make Dayton 2001 a resounding success.

Sincerely,



Tom Hunt

TH/dlw

ASSOCIATION NEWS AND BUSINESS ITEMS

FUTURE REUNIONS

At the Business Meeting in San Antonio, you chose Dayton, Ohio; Salt Lake City, Utah; and Williamsburg, Virginia, as our future Reunion sites in that order. We are making arrangements with the Marriott Hotel in Dayton for October 3-7, 2001. The reason for that date was for the color change of the leaves in the East. We propose late September 2002 for Salt Lake City because of the Aspen leaf color then. Several of you have asked for a reunion in early August so our grandchildren can be with us. Let's plan for that for the Williamsburg visit in 2003, if the vacation period cost premium is not too high there.

Please let us know your comments.

THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY PLAQUE

All arrangements have been completed for moving our 380th Memorial Plaque to the 5th Air Force Memorial Wall in the USAF Academy Memorial Cemetery. Work will be carried out as soon as the weather breaks next spring. The USAF Academy has offered us a formal Rededication Service Ceremony if we want it. We would like to have us accept their offer. This would probably be in mid-May.

Please send us your comments and interest in attending.

FRANCIS R. JOHNSTON

Most of you know that much of the artwork associated with the 380th post-war was designed and drawn by "Johnny" Johnston, including that in the WWII Rosters, our Reunion materials over the years, and these Newsletters. We are sorry to have to report that his name is now included in our ever-lengthening TAPS list, along with so many of our comrades. We will miss him as we do all of the others.

NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA

We received email from Jon Joubert of Largs Bay, Adelaide, reporting that over the past 5-6 years he has made four trips to Fenton Airfield in the Northern Territory. He wanted our members to know that the airfield is still in very good order and still quite landable in a sizeable aircraft. Mr. Joubert notes that there is still a lot of bits and pieces of our damaged aircraft still in what was the aircraft graveyard; in fact, the entrance is marked by the tail and part of the elevator of a B-24. There is a map erected near the crossover taxiway halfway along the strip to show visitors where the graveyard is situated. In addition, at the campsite the plaque that was erected at the corner of the Officers Recreation Club was still in good order the last time he was there. There is a map of the camp erected at the gate and by following it, it is very easy to make out the various layouts of the buildings, etc. If anyone is interested in communicating with Mr. Jon Joubert, his email address is: loujon@tne.net.au, and his mailing address is: 8 Railway Terrace, Largs Bay, Adelaide, South Australia 5016, Australia, phone: 61 8 93416556.

PLEASE NOTE: WE MUST USE LAST YEAR'S MEMBERSHIP LIST PLUS ALL NEW MEMBERS THIS YEAR TO CONTINUE TO SEND YOU THESE NEWSLETTERS IN 2001. IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY ON THESE LISTS, PLEASE JOIN IF YOU WANT TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THESE NEWSLETTERS. A MEMBERSHIP BLANK IS INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER.

380th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

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

380TH REUNION -- SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS -- NOVEMBER 8-11, 2000



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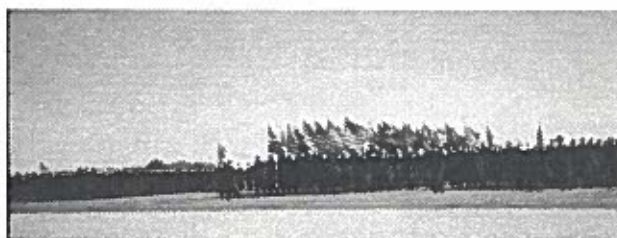


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Lackland AFB, Graduation Ceremony, 11/9



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380TH REUNION -- SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS -- NOVEMBER 8-11, 2000

Get-Acquainted Dinner, The Menger, November 9



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Randolph Air Force Base, November 10



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380TH REUNION -- SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS -- NOVEMBER 8-11, 2000

Fort Sam Houston, Veterans Day Ceremonies, November 11



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Dinner/Dance, Ballrooms at The Menger, November 11



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380TH REUNION -- SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS -- NOVEMBER 8-11, 2000

Dinner/Dance, Ballrooms at The Menger, November 11



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PHOTO CAPTIONS and CREDITS

San Antonio

1. The Menger (taken by Barb Gotham)
2. The Alamo (Gotham)
3. Riverwalk (Joe Dally)

Lackland Air Force Base, 11/9:

4. Graduation Parade (Gotham)
5. Colors and Troops Forward (Joe Burdick)
6. 380th Group Members (Gotham)
7. Syl and Alice Nemcek (Burdick)
8. Isabel & Ted Williams, Barb Gotham (Burdick)
9. Joe & Ruth Wells (Burdick)
10. Marian Hritz, Annabelle & Jim Scalese (Burdick)
11. Joe Burdick, Clyde Packer, Ann Debevec, John Shultz (Burdick)
12. Lyle Sears (Burdick)
13. "Plastic" B-24 (Ted Williams) [It seems like an abomination at first view, but remember, it is better than a "real" B-24 rusting away under the elements!]

Get-Acquainted Dinner, The Menger, 11/9:

14. Joe & Betty Maloney, Julie Zaph, James & Sara Bejoian, Slim Powers, Mike & Mike Jr. Maresca (Gotham)
15. Campbell Family — Doris & John Campbell, Jan & Charles Balch (Joe Maloney)
16. Chuck Parrott, Dave Olson, Steve Olson, Chris Grover (Gotham)
17. Lloyd Fry, William & Kathleen Butts, Georgia & Topper Toepperwein, Bill LaFlech (Gotham)
18. Annabelle Scalese, Les & Betty Kelly, Lois & Walter Hill, John Annesser, Marian Hritz, Karen Jacobs (Gotham)
19. Betty Swanson, Eunice Callaghan, Joe & Irene Dally, Gail & Marilyn Stephenson (Gotham)
20. The Piano Man, aka Jim Bejoian (Gotham)
21. Ila Muchow, Marjorie Smith, Marlys & Joe Chutich, Jim & Jeanne Meredith, Janie & Ray Oeth, Bob Muchow (Gotham)
22. Dee Smith, Evelyn & Fig Figueroa, Viola Peterson, Jim Smith, Gladys Brandt, Don Oatman (Gotham)
23. Bill Sloane, Fritz Schmitz, Joe & Irma Brooks (Gotham)
24. Isabel & Ted Williams, Ruth & Joe Wells (Gotham)
25. Jean & Virgil Stevens, Russ & Tiny Brooks, Donna & Loyd Oakes, Pat & Bob Alford, Bill Brew, Leonard Slama (Gotham)

PHOTO CAPTIONS and CREDITS

Memorial Service, Randolph Air Force Base, lunch at Officers Club, 11/10:

- 26. Chapel, after Memorial Service (Burdick)
- 27. Entering Officers Club (Gotham)
- 28. Waiting for lunch (Gotham)
- 29. Schoenemann Family — Brian, Nikki, Ozzie, Mary, Klayton Burrows, Debbie (Burdick)
- 30. Shultz Family — Catherine Rein, Linda Childers, Jenny, John Jr., John Sr., Lisa, Mike, Donna (Burdick)

Fort Sam Houston, Veterans Day Ceremonies, 11/11:

- 31. Highlanders (Gotham)
- 32. Barb & Doug Gotham (Dally)
- 33. Flag at half-mast (Gotham)
- 34. Ted Williams, speaking to the crowd (Pete Burris)
- 35. Balloons released when flag was raised (Gotham)
- 36. Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery (Gotham)

Dinner/Dance, The Menger Ballrooms, 11/11:

- 37. Pat Carnevale (Maloney)
- 38. Joan Pounsett, Donna Oakes, Loyd Oakes, Gladys Brandt, Viola Peterson, Cal Killingsworth (Phil Shaw)
- 39. George & Jessie Poy, Marilyn & Gail Stephenson, Betty Swanson (Gotham)
- 40. Emil & Dorothy Smolek, Byron & Alma Moore, George & Chris Gerard (Gotham)
- 41. "Slim" Powers and John Lardin (Maloney)
- 42. Joe Burdick, Anna Debevec, Clyde Packer, Janie Oeth (Maloney)
- 43. Marjorie & Bob Smith (Maloney)
- 44. Viola Peterson and Glad Brandt (Maloney)
- 45. Maloney Family — Bob & Anne Watson, K.C. Watson, Betty & Joe Maloney (Maloney)
- 46. Marian Robinson and Lloyd Fry (Maloney)
- 47. Marie Johnson and Robert "Andy" Anderson (Burdick)
- 48. Jeanne & Jim Meredith, Ray & Janie Oeth (Maloney)
- 49. Gwen & Glenn Horton (Maloney)
- 50. Helen Thompson and Tom Hunt (Gotham)
- 51. Irene & Joe Dally and John Miller (Maloney)
- 52. Dexter Baker, Slim Powers, Jack Banks (Shaw)
- 53. The Band (Shaw)
- 54. Dexter Baker, Jr., Dexter Baker, Sr., Mike Maresca, Mike Maresca, Jr., Ray Banks, Jack Banks, Jr., Gregory Baker, Jack Banks (Shaw)
- 55. Shaw Family — Steve & Patti Ludwig, Phil Shaw, and Travis Hage (Shaw)
- 56. Many still had plenty of energy left to dance Saturday night! (Gotham)

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 Merrill, William A. (Bill)**, Navigator,
Ray Hill's Crew (25), Eastsound,
Washington, DOD 10/13/00, reported
by his wife, Carol M. Merrill
- 528th Boeshaar, Robert W.**, Acft Cmdr,
Boeshaar's Crew (4), Overland Park,
Kansas, DOD 9/00, by Eugene Gaddis



- 529th Levandoski, Stephen A., Jr.**, Acft Cmdr/Pilot,
Levandowski's Crew (43), Wadsworth, Illinois,
DOD 10/19/00, reported by his family and Virgil
Stevens
- 529th Schroeder, Franklyn S.**, Ground Staff, Quartermas-
ter Supply Technician, Sheboygan, Wisconsin,
DOD 9/27/00, by his son, Mark Schroeder
- 529th Wells, Cecil F.**, Pilot/Acft Cmdr, Craddock's Crew
(11) and Wells' Crew (37), Woodinville, Washing-
ton, DOD 1/00, by his wife, Phyllis Wells
- 530th Engen, Lyn** (wife of Donal E Engen),
Thousand Oaks, California, DOD 2/14/00, by
Ralph A. Figueroa (Fig)
- 530th Henderson, Rosemary** (wife of Ralph Henderson),
Dallas, Texas, DOD 6/28/00, by her husband
- 530th Planck, James B.**, Acft Cmdr/Operations Officer,
Planck's Crew (66), Lula, Georgia, DOD 2/28/00,
by James Cavallero
- 530th Walsh, Richard F.**, Flight Engineer/Gunner, Kiel's
Crew (68), Thompson's Crew (55), Quincy,
Massachusetts, DOD 11/20/00, by his wife,
Nancy M. Walsh
- 531st Johnston, Francis R. (Johnny)**, Gunner, Baptist's
Crew (87), Kenosha, Wisconsin, DOD 11/21/00,
by his daughters, Marie Blasi and Norma Tyler
- 531st Landau, Morton M.**, Radio Operator, Deaton's
Crew (78), Boynton Beach, Florida, DOD 8/22/
00, by his daughter, Debra Landau-West
- 531st Lees, Deane H.**, Navigator, Gorman Smith's Crew
(94), San Antonio, Texas, DOD 10/12/99,
returned newsletter
- Group Henderson, Dorothy** (wife of Harold Henderson),
Tucson, Arizona, DOD 8/16/00, by her husband

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

