







THE 380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION 5th AF - RAAF

AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS

The Flying Circzen

NEWSLETTER #56

SEPTEMBER 2014

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HISTORIANS Bob Alford Glenn R. Horton, Jr. Gary L. Horton

HISTORY PROJECT Barbara J Gotham

2014 REUNION COORDINATOR Barbara J Gotham *Norfolk, Virginia* 5 -9 November 2014

NEWSLETTERS – WEBPAGES – FINANCIAL Barbara J. Gotham Address Changes New Members Returned Newsletters

WHAT'S NEW ON OUR WEBSITE:

We are testing a new Blog where people can submit 380th history questions. The weblink is: https://380thww2.wordpress.com/ - please give it a try and let us know what you think (submit a reply on that page or email problems to: 380th.ww2@gmail.com)

YOU CAN FIND US ON FACEBOOK by searching for 380th Bombardment Group (5th AF, WWII) or going to https://www.facebook.com/groups/380th/

380th Bomb Group Association, 130 Colony Road, West Lafayette, IN 47906-1209 USA http://380th.org/ Email: 380th.ww2@gmail.com Phone: 765-463-5390 Cell: 765-412-5370 (Eastern time zone)

2014 380TH REUNION NOTES

Please see the supplement to this issue for Reunion information and event registration form.

DEADLINES:

If you are planning on attending this year's 380th reunion and haven't made your hotel reservations or turned in your event form, please be aware of the following deadlines fast approaching:

HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE: Sunday, 5 October 2014. If you miss this deadline, please contact Barb Gotham to see if she can still get you a room at our group rate.

EVENT REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Unless prior arrangements are made with Barb Gotham, all reunion event payments (and forms) must be received by Friday, 24 October 2014.

REUNION SCHEDULE ADDITION:

We will have two 380th authors at the reunion to sign books ("official" book signing will be at 11:00 AM on Saturday, November 8, after the Member Meeting) - each will also have copies of their books available for purchase:

- KARA MARTINELLI, author of "My Very Dearest Anna: My Grandparents' Letters from WWII"
- ED WALFORD, author of "Letters to Home During World War II: A Son's Journey"

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT THE TRIP TO THE LITTLE CREEK NAVAL BASE (Memorial Service and Naval demonstrations

on Friday, November 7th): Because we are making special arrangements to go through security and onto the naval base, (1) we strongly encourage everyone to ride on the buses provided, (2) everyone needs to bring their IDs with them, and (3) we will need to provide a list of everyone attending at least one week prior to the event. This means we cannot have any late sign-ups for this event and do not encourage you to drive on your own to the base, unless you have the appropriate/required military ID to get on base.

REUNION FUND:

If you are unable to attend this year's reunion but would like to support reunion activities by contributing to the Reunion Fund, please send a check or money order made payable to *380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION* to 380th Bomb Group Association, c/o Barbara Gotham, 130 Colony Road, West Lafayette IN 47906-1209 USA.

2015 380TH REUNION

In looking ahead to the possibility of 2015 380th Reunion, bids have been requested for hotels/venues in the following cities:

Dallas, Texas - This is the hometown of Tom Hunt, one of our association's founders. Tom's colleagues and family have been contacted and seem excited about the possibility of us holding our reunion there in his memory.

Kansas City, Missouri

Kansas City, Kansas

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

We will be discussing whether we will continue with a reunion at the Members' Meeting during our 2014 reunion on Saturday, November 8. If you aren't attending this year's reunion but have a preference for location, please send Barb Gotham a letter or email before October 31!

380th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

2014 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION INFORMATION

New Renewal		Date:	
Your Name			
Squadron	380th Duty		
Please check if you a	re a * Regular Member	or an **Associate Member	
* Regular me	mber means an original memb	er of the 380th Bomb Group or the 380th Bomb Wing.	
	ate, please give the name of th	er (or other affiliation) of an original member. If you ne original member, your relationship to that person,	
**Associates: 380th V	/eteran's Name:		
Relat	ionship:	Sqdn:	
Your A	Address:		
City/S ⁻	tate/Zip/Country		
Phone	2		
E-mail			
Spous	e's Name:		

An annual donation of \$20 payable to **380th Bomb Group Association** will help defray costs of mailings throughout the year. (Cash or checks only, no credit cards.) Please mail your donation and registration form to:

Barbara Gotham 380th Bomb Group Association 130 Colony Road W Lafayette IN 47906-1209 USA

380th Bomb Group Association GEAR ORDER

PATCHES (Mark on line # requested) Squadron/Group patches: \$10.00 ea. Group: 528th: 529th: 530th: 531st:	Group-6"x4-1/2" 528 th -5"x5"	$ \begin{array}{c} \overbrace{529^{th}-5''x5''} \\ \overbrace{530^{th}-4-3/4''x4-3/4''} \\ \overbrace{531^{st}-5-1/2''x4-3/4''} \\ \end{array} $
Wings patches: \$3.00 ea. Pilot: Navigator: Bombardier: Gunner: Air Crew Member: Size: 3-1/8″ x 1-1/4″	Pilot Navigator Aircrew	Bombardier Gunner
RAAF wings patches: \$3.00 ea. RAAF: Navigator: Bombardier: Engineer: Size: RAAF 4-1/4" x 1-1/2" Others: 3-1/2" x 1-1/4"		Tucson 1942-1999 patches: \$3.00 ea. Size: 4-1/2" x 5"
CAPS, \$8.00 ea. One size:		REUNION PATCHES SEATTLE-2013 \$3.00 ea. NORFOLK - 2014: Older: Year Place:
JACKETS (long sleeves) Blue nylon, \$25.00 ea. (Mark on line # requested) Small Medium: Large: XL: 2XL:	Back Front	T-shirts (short sleeves) - Blue cotton/polyester, \$9.00 ea. Medium: Large: XL:

Name:		
Address:		-
City, State, Zip:		-
Phone:	Email:	

Send this form & payment to: Barbara Gotham, 130 Colony Road, West Lafayette, IN 47906-1209 USA *Cash or checks only, made payable to: 380th Bomb Group Association (no credit cards)*

CONNECTION BETWEEN "UNBROKEN" AND THE 380TH

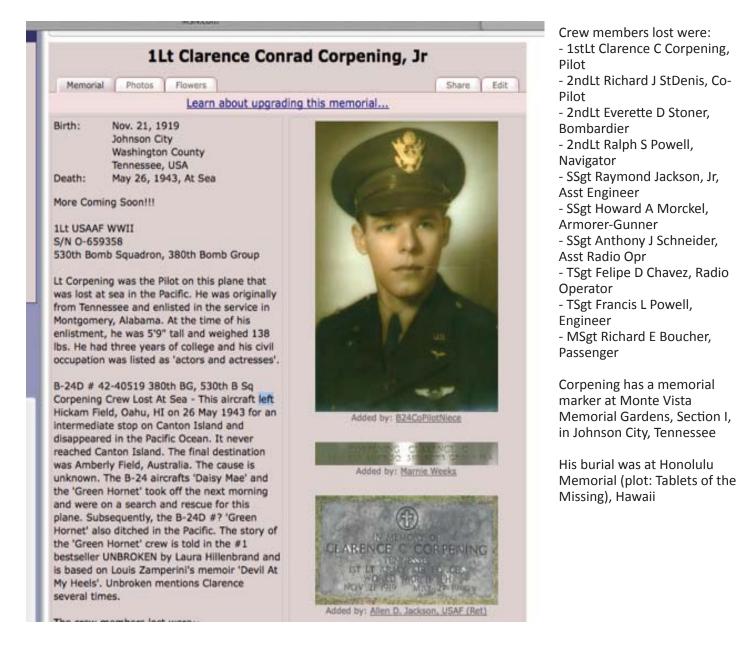
Email received from Glenn Horton on July 15, 2014:

Subject: Louis Zamperini and Mutsuhiro Wantanabe

I made the connection between those two men and the 380th BG. As you recall, Zamperini was a former Olympic runner and had crashed landed in a B-24, only to spend 46+ days at sea and then survived the sadistic brutality of Wantanabe in several prison camps.

It turns out that Zamperini and crew were searching for Clarence Corpening and his 530th crew that disappeared crossing from Hawaii to Palmyra Island! It says so in "Unbroken" and "Devil at My Heels."

If you look at our first book "King of the Heavies" and read in the back about "POW Tales," Paul Stansbury mentions this war criminal by name. Unfortunately he escaped justice and reappeared in Japanese society in 1952 when war trials were over and the US needed friendly relations with the Japanese because of the Korean War.



B-24 LIBERATOR MEMORIAL RESTORATION FUND - MEMORIAL PAVERS

In June I received an email from Judy Gilbert of the B-24 Liberator Memorial Restoration Fund (Werribee, Australia) requesting expressions of interest in support of a fund raiser (purchase of memorial pavers used to build their Memorial Wall) for the establishment of a museum complex to house their restored B-24 Liberator and related artifacts. Thanks to all of you who replied enthusiastically to this request!

On August 18 I received a follow-up email from Judy saying that they now had enough interest to offer the pavers for a limited time.

The offer expires on OCTOBER 31, 2014.

1. The pavers come in two sizes: individual (3 lines of engraving) (\$50 Australia) and double (6 lines) (\$100 Australia). The paver measurements are: Single paver-9"x4.5"x1.5" (230 x 115 x 40mm) / Double paver-9"x9"x1.5" (230 x 230 x 40mm)

2. The forms for payment and engraving details are provided on the next two pages of this issue.

3. Payment is in Australian Dollars (AUD). Note that they are unable to take credit card payments. Here are the options available to you for payment:

(a) *Mailing a money order or personal check* to the address on the form (you may have to pay bank fees to get your check or money order converted to Australian dollars (AUD): please check with your bank).

(b) *Paying electronically by PayPal* (you must be a Pay-Pal member to do this, but it is fairly easy to set up at **https://www.paypal.com**) - PayPal will automatically convert your payment into AUD. You can pay electronically online via PayPal by going to the B-24 Restoration website - **http://b24australia.org.au/home.html** - and click on the "Donate" button. The B-24 Restoration Fund monitors PayPal payments, so they will have a record of your payment before they receive your application form. (c) **Paying by a bank draft or electronic funds transfer through your bank** (again, there may be bank fees associated with paying by this method, so check with your bank). Here's the information your bank needs to make the transfer from your account to the fund:

Name and mailing address of Fund: B-24 Liberator Memorial Restoration Fund Inc., PO Box 156, Werribee VIC 3030 AUSTRALIA

Name and address of B-24 Liberator Fund bank: NAB / National Australia Bank, 424 St Kilda Road, Melbourne VIC 3004 AUSTRALIA

Bank account name, BSB and number: B-24 Liberator Memorial Restoration Fund Inc. - BSB 083-155 - Account number 04-832-7029 - SWIFT Code: NATAAU3303M

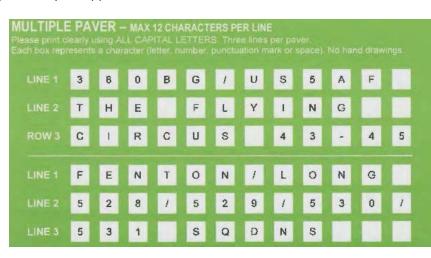
4. The form says that they prefer that you print out and mail them the forms--they need to keep a paper trail (their mailing address is on the form). Be advised that the offer expires on October 31, 2014. A first-class letter takes anywhere from 1 to 3 weeks to get to Australia, so take that into account when mailing. Express or Priority mail will be expensive.

5. *Alternatively, if you have prepaid by either bank draft or PayPal,* you can scan and email your paver form and a copy of your paid receipt to **judithone@optusnet.com.au**. Please let her know that you're a member of the 380th Bomb Group Association.

6. You can either have the paver inscribed with information about yourself as contributor, or (preferred) information about a 380th veteran.

I have ordered a double paver in honor of the 380th Bomb Group. Please see below for what our paver will say.

Barb Gotham (with thanks to Bill Shek for contributing to this article)





MEMORIAL WALL

B-24 Liberator Memorial Australia

Your assistance is asked to help raise funds for the establishment of a museum complex at Werribee suitable to house the Liberator and related artefacts.

OFFER 1: \$50

INDIVIDUAL PAVER

Your donation of \$50 or more entitles you to have your name engraved into a paver as a lasting record of your valued support. The paver will be permanently installed in the Memorial Garden at Werribee proudly showing your donation.

Size: 230 x 115 x 40mm

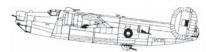
OFFER 2: \$100

DOUBLE PAVER

Your donation of \$100 or more entitles you to have your names engraved into two pavers as a lasting record of your valued support. The pavers will be permanently installed in the Memorial garden at Werribee proudly showing your donation. Size: 230 x 230x 40mm

Simply print out and complete this form and return along with full payment by cash, cheque or money order to: Overseas participants have an attached information sheet about payment.	B-24 Liberator Memorial Australia PO Box 156 Werribee Victoria, Australia, 3030		
Contact Name	Phone		
	()		
Street			
City	State	Post Code	
	Our Donation		
Offer 1 Offer 2	\$		
Offer closes on the 31 st October 201	4		

Please copy and pass on to any friends & family. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!



ENGRAVING DETAILS

Offer closes on 31st October 2014}

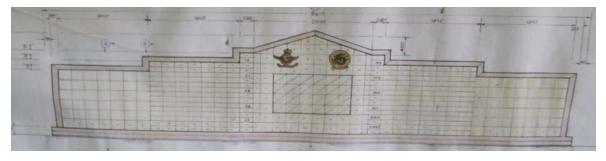


Information on pavers may include names, ranks, organizations, service details, family details, etc as long as they fit in the boxes.

Payment can also be made through PayPal, contact on the Liberator webpage www.b24australia.org.au

B-24 LIBERATOR MEMORIAL RESTORATION FUND - MEMORIAL WALL

Here is a pic of the proposed wall. The brick is a soft beige color. The two emblems will be cast in bronze.



MAIL CALL

Aug 9, 2014

Dear Barbara

Many thanks for sending me the 380th newsletter. Our members of the B24 Restoration Group were delighted that you had reproduced my earlier letter to you. They have threatened that when I pass on that I will be sent to a taxidermist and that i will be placed in the Captain's seat of our B24 when it is completed.

Our National Trust has now taken a great interest in us and we now have new plans for the hangar and other buildings.

We will be creating a memorial wall out of terra-cotta bricks with names inset into the face and i would like you to know that I have paid for one for Gus Connery and another for Joe Cesario as well as my own. Due to my association with both I have arranged to have those placed either side of mine, and I am indeed very proud of that.

Our regards to all and hoping that the reunion is successful. Ed Crabtree Malvern, Victoria 530th Squadron Oct 43 - July 44 In early summer Mario Piantedosi (531st) received a card in the mail from The World War II Preservation Trust in Groton MA (http://worldwar2preservation.com/) looking for help in acquiring WWII items for their research and planned museum. He sent Barb Gotham a letter asking her opinion of its legitimacy. Barb posted his question in Facebook and got this response:

"As a former federal historian (for Department of Defense), I don't think I'd be donating money or artifacts to this group--the press release is filled with poor punctuation, misused capitalization and basic bad writing--not hallmarks of a professional organization. If someone has artifacts to donate, best to go local--a local historical society or state historical society might be interested--or at least they can direct you in an appropriate direction."

June 12, 2014

Going thru my wife's photos I came across some from the 530 Bomb Squadron of which her uncle was a crew member. In addition, have an 8x10 of the crew of his plane piloted by Robert Riehle with a list of the crew names. My wife's uncle was Stephen Halner who was killed the end of June 1945 on the ground. It also says the photo was taken in October 1944 at March Field CA.

Officers Standing - left to right Robert A Riehle, Pilot John G Singer, Co-Pilot George L Avery, Navigator Jack D Ganaway, Bombardier

Enlisted Men -Robert E Schwab, Engineer Gerald M Schippers, Radio Opr Carless R Spencer, Martin Gunner

Johnnie D Ezell, Armorer Gunner

Theodore Artinjan, Tail Gunner Stephen F Halner, Gunner



MAIL CALL

July 27, 2014

I finally located a picture of Corporal Author Gill. Author was the weather observer on Thornton crew when they crashed on Ceram Island. Author survived the crash and was taken prisoner by the Japanese. He was eventually transferred to Japan and died in a POW camp there. I was also able to track down Author's military records.

Craig M. Kirwin, CMSgt, USAF Weather Operations Division, ACC



Cpl Author H. Gill Jr. Weather Observer

September 1, 2014

I rang Jim Wright last week. He indeed does have an office and a personal assistant and still works (at the grand age of 92!) at the Texas Christian University! He is a little difficult to talk to as he has had throat surgery and has had to relearn how to speak but I could understand most of what he said. He was enthusiastic to assist me with my thesis project! Thanks for the contact!

On another note do you (by chance) still have the following ex USAAF RCM member on your books and have his address(?):

Swallow, George N. / 530 / / RCM Opr, Various Crews / - /

Thanks again!

Craig Bellamy

If anyone knows of George Swallow's current whereabouts (or TAPS info), please contact Barb Gotham so she can get the info to Craig.

July 10, 2014

Michael Bradley is seeking information on his father, William S. Bradley, 531st Squadron, Gunner on the Christensen Crew (they served with the 380th at the end of the war). I have no information about anyone on the Christensen crew (nor do I have any TAPS information on any of them), but if anyone out there does, please let me know so I can put you in contact with Michael.

Here's his email:

I have just found a book that must have belonged to my father, William Stanley Bradley, titled "The Flying Circus, 380th Bomb Group." I knew that my father had served in the Army Air Corps in WWII, as a member of an air crew flying in B-24 Liberators, but little else. He passed away in April, 1965, when I was eleven, so I never got the chance to ask him about his war time service. The only picture I have of my father at all happens to be from the period of his war time service. It is dated December, 1944, when he was nineteen years old, and shows him assembled with air Crew #127, all ten men kneeling or standing in front of Plane #422 (if the hand written captions on the photograph are correct). But upon finding the book about the King of the Heavies, I was able to find his name in the section in the rear titled "Subscribers to This Book" under the 531st Squadron.

Last night I thought to go on line and see if there was any material about The Flying Circus, and that lead me to the website that identifies you and others who have done such a great job keeping up with those who served in the 380th Bomb Group.

I know so little about my father, and I so wish that I had stumbled across the information in the book many years ago, when it would have been more likely that I would find one or two of Crew #127 who might have remembered him. That said, any suggestions or help you can offer that would permit me to determine if any of those who flew with Commander Christensen still survive, will be greatly appreciated. I know it is an incredible long shot, but just the chance to speak to any of those men, whether or not they remember my father, would be a cherished opportunity for me.

Michael Bradley

July 30, 2014

I got my newsletter today and I see where you advised a John Watts that the UCIP code was for the 8AF.

It is actually the code for "Manila, Luzon Philippine Islands 7AF".

My notes indicate that LITTLE LULU (later MADAME QUEEN) was abandoned in flight by the crew after its undercarriage was damaged; crash site not known.

FRISCO FRANNIE (later RAMEY'S WRECK) was salvaged in the Philippines.

Lae was never a location where B-24s were routinely salvaged; any B-24 there would probably have been a crash or forced landing, and I am not aware of any such. All B-24s I am aware of lost in the Lae area are in the mountains well away from the township.

Bob Livingstone

MAIL CALL

July 27, 2014

This is a picture of the crew my uncle flew with. He is front, center and his name is Ewald Andrisek. They were in the 380th Bomber Group, 528th Squadron. My dad was in the Marines, in the Pacific, My Uncle Red was in the tank corp in Germany and another uncle, Johnny, was infantry in Europe, I think. They all came home from the war, but have since all died. Dad was the last one to go in Dec. 1997. Uncle Ewald died in 1994 in Las Vegas. -- Dave Andrisek



Left to right in back row:

- Lt John Herbst, 1st Pilot * Lt Anthony Cannas, Co-Pilot Lt Willard H Gehman, Navigator
- Lt Myron Leghart, Bombardier
- Left to right front row: SSgt Lester Romans, Engineer Cpl Glenn Drury, 2nd Engineer Sgt Ewald Andrisek, Armoror Gunner
- * Cpl Eldon Schneider, Gunner Cpl Charles Rooth, Gunner/RCM Opr

Under the handwritten list of names on the back of the photo, it says: (a swell crew)

* There is no record of an Anthony Cannas (could be Carras) or Eldon Schneider in the 380th, but not sure when/where this photo was taken. (The Co-Pilot of record for the Herbst crew was Robert Ingersoll.)

May/June 2013

Dear 380th

My Grandfather, Eugene Maurice "Tim" Moran, was a Thunderbolt Fighter Pilot. 525th Fighter Squadron 86th Fighter Group 12th AF

This picture (he knew this Crew) was given to me when my mom died in 2004. I wanted to send y'all a copy!!

Also, Attached is a Picture of his Training class.

Sean Moran



Eugene Maurice "Tim" Moran



530th Bomb Squadron, 380th Bomb Group, Crew 23, Clarice A. Cook, William J Trollinger Jr., B uford C. Hornecker - B24 Bomber (*Note that although the photo caption says Crew 23, all these men were on Bratton's Crew 21.*)

L-R Richards, Moran, Nash, Orton-Nov 1943 Goodfellow -San Angelo,TX



TAPS

LEST WE FORGET

Newsletter #56 - September 2014

GP/531st - Caputo, Roger W., Ground Staff, Intelligence, Adm Section, DOD December 15, 2013, St. Genevieve, Missouri, reported by his son, David Caputo

GP/531st - Caputo, Virginia, widow of Roger W. Caputo, DOD April 30, 2014, St. Genevieve, Missouri, reported by her son, David Caputo

528th - Isaack, Margaret Mary (Peggy), widow of Thomas Isaack, DOD June 30, 2014, Morgantown, West Virginia, reported by her daughter, Terry Isaack Knight

528th - **Italiano, Lawrence A.**, Ground Staff, Orderly Room Clerk, DOD June 1, 2014, Westerly, Rhode Island, reported by his companion, Anastatia Troyan

529th - Beegle, Woodrow W., Pilot, Hawkey's Crew (57), DOD April 1, 2010, Vallejo, California, reported by his daughter, Trudy Hull (his widow, Betty, survives)

530th - Lysaker, Gene C., Gunner, Turiak's Crew (70), DOD May 5, 2012, Twin Valley, Minnesota, reported by Bill Shek

531st - Bradley, William Stanley, Gunner, Christensen's Crew, DOD April 5, 1965, Wilmington, Delaware, reported by his son, Michael Bradley





Please send TAPS, address changes and other membership info updates to: Barbara Gotham 130 Colony Road West Lafayette IN 47906-1209 Phone: 765/463-5390 Email: 380th.ww2@gmail.com