

FORTRESS FOR FREEDOM

388th Bombardment Group (H) Association



8th Air Force, 3rd Air Division, 45th Combat Wing

Station 136, Knettishall England, 1943–1945



333 Total Missions

306 Combat Missions, 19 Aphrodite Missions, 5 Chowhound Missions, 1 POW Mission, 2 Revival Missions

388th Bombardment Group Headquarters

Station 136 Weather Detachment, Fersfield Air Base (Aphrodite Project), 434th Headquarters Squadron, 860th Squadron, 684th Squadron, 434th Air Service Group, 1211th Quartermaster Company, 1284th Military Police Company, 273rd Medical Dispensary,

1751st Ordnance Supply and Maintenance Company, 2019th Engineering and Fire Fighting Platoon, 452nd Sub Depot, 29th

Station Complement, 587th Postal Unit, 877th Chemical Company, 214th Finance Detachment

560th Bombardment Squadron, 561st Bombardment Squadron, 562nd Bombardment Squadron, 563rd Bombardment Squadron

VOLUME 72

ISSUE NO. 2

SUMMER 2016



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<http://www.388thbga.org> (main website)

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From the President's Desk

Greetings everyone! I hope this Newsletter finds you well. Once again, you'll find information about the two proposed motions that will be under consideration during this year's Annual Meeting at Oshkosh. Thank you to those who have provided us your feedback on the two proposed motions, including sending us your preferences for how you would like to receive future Newsletters. Some have felt strongly that the proposed \$30 raise in dues should be no more than \$20, so we will discuss that option during an upcoming Board of Directors meeting and during the Oshkosh reunion in August. You still have time to provide us your feedback, so please feel free to let us know how you feel about the two motions. Remember that any ratified changes would not go into effect until 2017.

I hope you enjoy this Newsletter that Steven Butner did such wonderful job publishing, and once again, I would like to reiterate my profound respect and gratitude to the original members of the 388th Bomb Group--you helped secure freedom and liberty for an entire continent and future generations. Staci and I look forward to seeing you at Oshkosh, and may God continue to bless you and your families.

Scott

Our Treasurer

Hi Everyone!

As the new treasurer, it truly is an honor to be put in such a trusted position among men and women, whom I consider real heroes.

During my first months in this position, and being a financial analyst professionally, I helped the Board identify areas where we could be better financial stewards of our limited resources. I found myself very passionate about the mission of this organization, which is to preserve and honor the memory and



legacy of this amazing group of men who served in the 388th Bomb Group. I feel very blessed to have this opportunity and will give my best, because their service is something I am very grateful for.

There are 5 main areas that our Association generates funds to help preserve:

1. Annual insurance payments and grounds maintenance for the 388th Bomb Group Memorial, which memorializes those who paid the ultimate sacrifice and stands just outside Knnettishall, England—the airfield where our brave members conducted heroic feats.
2. Annual upkeep of the 388th Bomb Group Electronic Kiosk at the Hill AFB Museum. Why Hill? The current 388th Fighter Wing resides there, and the FW owes its legacy to the 388th Bomb Group.
3. Our Annual Scholarship for a college student who writes the best essay about a 388th Bomb Group mission. This is really an amazing opportunity to collect first-hand stories of our original members, to engage our youth in learning about what I call the real superheroes of our world, and to obtain more data and history for our archives.
4. Annual Reunions that help reunite our original members and their families, as well as members who want to advance the legacy of the 388th. This is truly the highlight of each year and is a very special thing.
5. Newsletter expenses needed to produce and mail hard copies to original members and/or their spouses.

I believe each one of these areas is crucial, but we are currently lacking a solid fundraising campaign. While we are solid financially, I'd like to strengthen our long-term position. Therefore, I am excited to announce new ways that our Association can accept donations and make other transactions, including donations by credit card. We can currently process reunion fees, general donations, designated donations, membership fees, and mailing fees, and are currently working to integrate an online store with our Association's website to showcase our PX memorabilia. Because we are a 501(c)(19), all donations are tax deductible. This will make it easier for people to donate and make transactions, as well as make it



NEW MEMBERS

Casey E. Davilla grandson of
Bruno Henry De Sandre
562nd Squadron

DONATIONS

Marin Ennis
G. Randy Keller Jr.



Terry Woodford-Thomas
388th Bombardment Group Association
104 Arundel Place, St. Louis, MO 63105
Tel: 314-587-1436
tthomas@danforthcenter.org

We are now
accepting
credit card
payments!

People can pay reunion
fees, membership fees,
make charitable dona-
tions and much more.

A link to this
can be found on
www.388thbga.org
under the store section.
See you there!

COMING SOON!

Your 388th PX will be available online with many new items at www.388thbga.org



All merchandise INCLUDES postage!

we accept:



| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| "City of Savannah" | Polo Shirts |
| | \$31 |
| "B-17 Flying Fortress" | WWII Hats |
| | \$25 |
| 388th Rhinestone Pins | |
| | \$12.75 |
| B-17 Pins | |
| | \$12.75 |
| Koozies | |
| | \$3.75 |
| 388th Lanyards (not pictured) | |
| | \$2.75 |
| Bumper Stickers | |
| | \$1.75 |

COIN \$8.00 each
KEYCHAIN \$10.00 each
VELVET BOX \$4.00 each
Shipping \$3.00/up to 5 coins
\$8.00 for 6 coins or up to two gift boxes.



Make checks out to: 388th Bomb Group Assn

Mail to:

Greg Staples

4715 W. Larchwood Court, Spokane, WA 99208

All profits go to our Memorial in Knettishall.



easier to collect and keep accountability.

I am making it my personal mission to help preserve the legacy of our real heroes, and I am humbled by this opportunity and want to thank you for hearing me out. Please feel free to use these resources and spread the word. Everyone has people in their lives that want to give. It should be easy to share this legacy and let people in your lives and community in having a hand in maintaining these goals of keeping the memory and legacy of the 388th Bomb Group alive.

Thank you, and God Bless,

Staci Long

Treasurer, 388th Bomb Group Association

Research Help Needed

I am researching the 12 May 1944 mission against the oil industry in Germany, when the 388th went to Brux, in Czechoslovakia, which contributed to the Group's second DUC. I would like to learn about the experience of any 388th personnel who flew on or supported on the ground that particular mission, or from any family members who might have recollection of that Brux mission documented by their 388th family member. Anyone who would like to share about this mission can contact me by email: terrylin105@yahoo.com or phone (360) 608-4878

Sincerely,

Terry Popravak



WE NEED



YOUR HELP

Newsletter Delivery Procedures Effective Fall of 2016

- The Newsletter editor will e-mail the Newsletter to all members with an e-mail address.
- The Newsletter editor will send hard copies of the Newsletter free of charge to original members and their widows who desire a copy, unless they prefer e-mail copies.
- Outside of original members and their widows, the Newsletter editor will charge an appropriate fee to any member who wishes to have a hard copy mailed to them.

Newsletter Delivery Options?

- Email (**FREE**) _____ @ _____ .com
- Mail (original members and their widows, no cost)
- Mail (**non-original members, see chart below for cost**)

| Qty | Newsletter Issues to Receive by Mail per year | Cost | Paid |
|-----|--|---------|------|
| | Fall and Winter Newsletters | \$ 4.00 | \$ - |
| | Spring and Summer Newsletters | \$ 4.00 | \$ - |
| | Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer Newsletters (all) | \$ 8.00 | \$ - |

*****Make Checks payable to the 388th Bomb Group Association*****

Help us update your Membership Information:

Name: _____

Street: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Mail, Email or Fax Newsletter Delivery Preference to Cindy Hayes at:

Mail: 13558 Ronnie Way
Saratoga, CA 95070

Email: cindy@soundmgt.com
Fax: 408-741-5824

388TH 2016 REUNION



FRIDAY : Lunch on the River

OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN
August 3rd - 7th



EAA AIRVENTURE
MUSEUM



THURSDAY

Up to 10 Original Members
fly FREE

DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE!
Find out what it feels like to
actually fly in a B-17!

See the Newsletter for full details of
how you too might be able to take to
the air in a historic plane!



**The 388th Bomb Group Association
67th Annual Reunion Registration
Oshkosh, Wisconsin
August 3-7, 2016**

CUT-OFF DATE FOR REGISTRATION IS July, 15, 2016

To cancel and receive a full refund, contact Staci Long before the cut-off date of July 15.
TOURS SCHEDULED AFTER JULY 15 ARE SPACE AVAILABLE ONLY

Cancellations received after July 15, but before July 30, will forfeit tour payments and registration fee. No Refunds will be made for cancellations received after July 30.

Thursday, Aug. 4
9:00 am – 4:30 pm A guided tour of the EAA museum and grounds. After lunch (lunch is included) we will be visiting the B-17 hanger to see it take off and land.

Friday, Aug. 5
11:00 – 3:00 Buffet lunch aboard the Showboat II while cruising the scenic Fox River.

Saturday, Aug. 6
10:00 am – 12:00 pm Business Meeting
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm Social/Cocktail Hour
6:00 pm – 10:00 pm Dinner, Raffle, President's Address (cash bar open through dinner)

Reservation form for 388th Bomb Group Association Reunion, August 3 – 7, 2016

NAME _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

GUEST(S): Full names please _____

| REGISTRATION FEE REQUIRED FOR ALL ATTENDEES | \$45.00 X _____ = \$ _____ |
|--|----------------------------|
| Thursday Guided Tour of EAA Museum, Lunch and B-17 view | \$53.00 X _____ = \$ _____ |
| Friday Riverboat cruise and buffet luncheon | \$40.00 X _____ = \$ _____ |
| Saturday Banquet Roasted Chicken | \$35.00 X _____ = \$ _____ |
| Salmon | \$35.00 X _____ = \$ _____ |
| Chicken Strips (for kids 14 & under) | \$19.00 X _____ = \$ _____ |
| B-17 Raffle tickets for a ride in the Flying Fortress (See Next Page for Details) | \$20.00 X _____ = \$ _____ |
| MEMORY BOOK | \$12.00 X _____ = \$ _____ |
| DONATION (optional) | \$ _____ |
| TOTAL (Make Ck Payable to 388th bomb Group Assoc. Inc. or Call Staci long to use your Credit Card) | \$ _____ |

Write check payable to 388th Bomb Group Assn. Mail check and registration form to:
Staci Long, 1120 Squaw Valley, Rockwall, TX 75087
(Phone 786-525-7188, Email stacirae@mac.com)

DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE!

Find out what it feels like to Actually fly in a B-17!



The 388th Bomb Group Assoc. is Honored to offer Original Veterans and their Spouse or Widow a FREE ride in the Flying Fortress, Aluminum Overcast!

Any Original Member, Spouse, or Widow interested in taking one of the Historic Flights must fill out the Registration form along with their Reunion Registration.. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY

For All other Members & Guests:

Cost will be \$20 to purchase a Raffle Ticket which enters you in the Drawing for a Ride.

The Actual ride Ticket cost is \$450 per person due only if your name is drawn Wednesday evening in the Hospitality Room.

Any members interested in taking this once in a Lifetime ride in the B-17 must purchase their Raffle ticket no later than July 27, 2016 so we can coordinate with EAA how many flights will be needed to give everyone that wishes a ride in the in the B-17.

Simply add the \$20 Raffle Purchase when filling out your Reunion Registration Form

**ONE FREE RIDE WILL BE RAFFLED OFF TO A LUCKY PARTICIPANT IN THIS YEARS REUNION AND CELEBRATION HONORING ALL THE ORIGINAL MEMBERS OF THE 388TH BG.
(You must be present at the reunion to win)**

The raffle will be held Wednesday evening in the Hospitality Room. The lucky WINNER will have a chance to fly with the Original Members just as they did in W.W. II

**The 388th Bomb Group Association
67th Annual Reunion Registration
Oshkosh, WI August 3-7, 2016**



B-17 FLIGHT REGISTRATION

DUE: JULY 27th

Fax or Email to Cindy Hayes ... 408 741 5824 or cindy@soundmgt.com

Please complete the following steps below if you are interested in having the opportunity to fly in the B-17 at our upcoming Oshkosh reunion.

STEP 1

If you are an original member, please enter your name here:

If not, continue to STEP 2.

STEP 2

If you are the spouse of an original member, please enter your name here:

If not, continue to STEP 3.

STEP 3

If seats remain after STEP 1 & STEP 2, we will raffle at least one seat. Raffle tickets will be \$20 per ticket and available to purchase during our reunion registration.

STEP 4

If seats remain after STEP 1, STEP 2 & STEP 3, we will hold a lottery / hat drawing to fill the remaining seats. The fee for these seats is \$450 per seat. The winner(s) will be announced Wednesday evening in the hospitality room and payment will be collected at that time. If you would like to enter the lottery / hat drawing, please enter your name(s) here:



388th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION 67th Annual Reunion

August 3 – 7, 2016

Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel & Convention Center
1 N. Main Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901
1-920-230-1900

HOTEL INFORMATION

The Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel & Convention Center on Main Street overlooks the Fox River and is located downtown Oshkosh. There is a boardwalk along the Fox River along with outside dining at the hotel. Just across the street is the Convention Center which is connected to the hotel by way of a skywalk over Main Street. Next to the Convention Center is the Leach Amphitheater which hosts a variety of entertainment on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

The 388th Bomb Group Assn. rate is \$104.99 + 15% occupancy & sales tax + \$3.00 per night municipal services fee. Each room will receive a ten dollar (\$10.00) voucher (based upon occupancy of the room, 1 person = 1 voucher, 2 people = two vouchers) which can be used in the hotel's restaurant for breakfast each day of our reunion. Call 1-920-230-1900 or 1-855-230-1900 for reservations. Be sure to ask for the 388th Bomb Group Reunion rate. This special rate is available for 3 days before and 3 days after the reunion, if rooms are available.

Reservations must be accompanied by a first night deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card.

Cut-off date for reservations is July 15, 2016. Reservations requested after this date will be accepted based upon availability.

Parking is available at the hotel's parking garage which is attached to the hotel and is provided free of charge. Access from the 2nd floor of the parking ramp into the hotel consists of 5 or 6 steps to be climbed. Therefore, it is important to first unload & check into the hotel at the 1st floor lobby area before parking your car.

Thursday, August 4th will be spent at the EAA museum and grounds. Our day will start with a short introductory film about the EAA and then we will have a guided tour of the museum which houses an assortment of aircrafts. After we enjoy our luncheon at the museum we will be transported to the hanger where the B-17 nicknamed the Aluminum Overcast is housed. Everyone will be able to watch as this B-17 takes off and lands. Some of you may even be aboard!

Friday, August 5th we will be enjoying a buffet luncheon aboard the Showboat II while cruising along the scenic Fox River. This evening you will have time to enjoy the various activities that Oshkosh has to offer, such as the river walk, amphitheater, and downtown shops/eateries.

Saturday, August 6th everyone is invited to attend the annual business meeting. The afternoon is free to explore the Oshkosh area before returning to the hotel for the evening banquet.



388th Throw Back

Published Spring 2009 Newsletter



Knettishall Tales

By James Zographos

A Tricky Maneuver by the Luftwaffe

On the way back to our air base after one of our missions, we were pretty close to the English Channel. Once reached we were quite safe from enemy retaliation and we could relax a bit.

At one time I looked to 3 o'clock level (at our altitude) when I noticed a B-17 flying in the same direction (west) as ours. Upon more observation I surmised that this airplane was separated from its group and flying close to us to reach the English Channel and safety. I reported my observation to the pilot and crew.

Just about this time our group encountered anti-aircraft fire too close for comfort. The group started evasive action and suffered no casualties. This burst of anti-aircraft fire was quite rare and I was very surprised that it came from this location on the coast.

Not forgetting the lone B-17 that was observed, I looked at its location. All of a sudden it made a 180-degree u-turn and headed east, back to Germany. I then realized what the situation was and knew what the strategy of the lone B-17 was. It was a captured plane that probably had made a forced landing in enemy territory at one time. The Germans checked it out to be able to fly it again.

This lone B-17 with a German crew was able to report our speed and altitude among other information to be used by the other crews on the anti-aircraft battery. This information was then entered into the settings of their guns and therefore would be very accurate.

Fortunately the burst was very short and we escaped unscathed.

Another lesson learned!

TAPS



Jack Dean Edwards

Jack D. Edwards of Sammamish, Washington passed away on November 27, 2015 at age 95.

Navigator on the Glen

Barnes and Julian Heimendinger crews in the 563rd Sqd., he flew 26 missions between April 29 and September 28, 1944. Shortly after bombs away on the September 28 mission to Mersburg, Mr. Edward's aircraft no. 43-38404 was struck by another B-17, killing seven members on board, including Lt. Heimendinger and the command pilot, Charles Maring. Mr. Edwards parachuted successfully into Mersburg as bombs were still falling on the target. He was captured after two days on the run, and spent the remainder of the war as a POW. His account of the events was featured in The 388th Anthology, Vol. II.



Awards included the Purple Heart, Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, five Battle Stars and the POW Medal. He was also a member of the Caterpillar Club, having parachuting from a

B-17 over a bombing target.

After 35 years with the Boeing Company, Mr. Edwards retired in 1986 as director of materiel on the SST and 757 programs, after which he and his wife Nina traveled extensively. In 1993, they began spending their winters in Yuma, AZ.

Mr. Edwards was a member of the First United Methodist Church for 47 years.

Survivors include daughter Kimberly Nichols, sons Craig and Kip Edwards, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Mr. Edwards was predeceased by his Nina, his wife 71 years, in 2012.

Services with military honors were held December 15 at Tahoma National Cemetery, Kent, WA.



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FLOWER MOUND, TX 75027

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388TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Date _____ Name _____

Wife/Husband _____ Phone _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email Address _____

Squadron _____ Position _____ Aircraft Name _____

Pilot _____ No. Missions _____ POW (Date) _____ STALAG LUFT _____

Annual Dues (\$10.00) Lifetime Membership (\$50.00) Donation

Associate Annual Dues (\$10.00) Associate Lifetime Membership (\$50.00)

How would you like to receive Newsletter: Mail Email

If paying for an Associate Membership:

Name of relation who is/was in the 388th _____

Relationship to you _____ (check box if you have prior military service.)

Please fill in known information above, Squadron through POW information, for relative.

Mail to: Carol Anne Linzee Chan, Secretary, 388th Bomb Group Assn., Inc.
1266 Dawnridge Drive, El Cajon, CA 92021 Email: secretary@388thbg.org or Cadrastal@gmail.com