

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 70

ISSUE NO. 1

SPRING 2014



388TH STRONG

HILL AFB

1943 - 2014

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<http://www.388bg.org> (Database)
<http://www.388thbg.org>

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From the President's Desk

Hello people of the 388th

Original members, members, associate members, children, grandchildren and great grand children; Over the years we have grown into a family that extends far beyond our original members. The original purpose of the association was for the people who worked and fought together in WWII to have an opportunity to visit and reminisce about their experiences. Over time we wanted to make sure that the sacrifices that were made were remembered long after they are gone.

We have called some of the original members and will keep on sharing with them as they fly away one by one. I was honored to talk with one of the ground crew who was proud to point out to me that many of the methods used by the Air Force today were pioneered in the 388th. Precision bombing combat missions, radar jamming (then with chaff now done electronically), and the ground work for standoff weapons and drones was pioneered by the Aphrodite missions. For those missions an old B-17 was stripped of weapons, filled with explosives, and taken off by a two man crew. Once aloft they put the plane on remote control and bailed out. The chase plane would fly the loaded B-17 by remote control into a hardened target like the U-boat pens. Talking with the original members can be very interesting and rewarding.

I would like for our interviews with the original members to be available at the museum by Hill Air Force base and at our reunions which is something we will have to work on for the future. Fun, interesting and educational reunions will continue to help us honor our original members and keep attracting new members. Frances and Paul Ammons have been hard at work on this year's reunion at Hill Air Force base.

I would expect that life will slow down at some point in time. However that hasn't happened yet. We look forward to seeing you all in August.

Rick Thompson



The Lighter Faster Side



Hill selected to receive first operational F-35A aircraft



The Air Force announced Hill Air Force Base, Utah, will be home to the service's first operational F-35A Lightning IIs. The first operational F-35As are scheduled to arrive at Hill in 2015. The base is projected to receive 72 F-35As, replacing the 48 F-16 Fighting Falcons currently assigned. The F-35A, manufactured by Lockheed Martin, is a fifth-generation fighter aircraft intended to be the Air Force's premier strike fighter aircraft through the first half of the 21st Century. The multirole fighter is expected to eventually replace the service's F-16 and A-10 fleets. (U.S. Air Force photo by Alex R. Lloyd)

***New Member name correction in Summer 2013 issue: Christopher TYLER, not Taylor**

NEW MEMBERS

560th Squadron

Clyde A. Heckler
son of Walter Heckler
Lila Rowling
daughter-in-law of William J. Rowling
William C. Rowling
son of William J. Rowling
Jean Ryerson
step-daughter of Tom McElherne
Gail Stonefield
daughter of William Rowling
Tom Stonefield
son-in-law of William Rowling

561st Squadron

Suzy Blasdel
daughter-in-law of Herb Blasdel
Ruth Dobson
wife of Ernest E. Dobson
John H. Ingram III
son of John H. Ingram Jr.
Thomas S. Ingram
son of John H. Ingram Jr.
Glen A. Jacobson
brother of Lawrence W. Jacobson
Lawrence M. Jacobson
nephew of Lawrence W. Jacobson
Gregory L. Mulvey
son of Clifford R. Mulvey, Jr.
Mike and Prescilla Peller
friends of Tom A. Dennis Sr.

562nd Squadron

William A. Fixel
grandson of Arthur R. Fixel
Margaret Kelleher
wife of Cornelius H. Kelleher

562nd/563rd Squadron

Joe Hild, Jr.
son of Joseph Hild

388th Fighter Wing

Colonel Scott Long



388th PX



HATS
\$15.00 each



POLO SHIRTS
\$25.00



**KOOZIE AND
LANYARD**
\$2.00 each



RHINESTONE PIN
\$12.50

Each of the above items is plus shipping costs.

All items above are available for order from Christy Wammack. I encourage all of you to send Christy an email (xxxxclw@yahoo.com) or call her (928-581-1010) and let her know what other items you would like to see in our PX or to place an order. Also many of you saw Col. Long's wife, Staci, with a 388th pin. It is now available as shown.



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.

Historian



The 388th Story

I was always fascinated by World War II but for the last ten years I have been engrossed with the 388th. Over time I have realized how tremendous the 388th story is and how important that it be retold for generations to come.

The 388th story has so many elements that make it fascinating. Any WWII story is interesting just because of the world wide impact. The 388th story involves the courage and sacrifice of these young men, the constant 2 year struggle with fighters and weather and flak, the emerging aircraft and radio technologies, the setting in a war torn England, being shot down out of the sky and POW and escape elements.

Preserving this story involves collecting and organizing so many artifacts – the old photographs showing such young and handsome boys, the veterans' memoirs that relate incredible stories of terror and heroism, the dusty archive records overwhelming with the amount of mission activity, the videos and audio tapes that captivate.

The best component of the story cannot be preserved and is quickly slipping away from us and will be forever lost. I will always treasure being able to actually meet and spend time with the heroes. To hear their stories, to see them interact with each other, to see their eyes well up as they remember, to feel their pride in being part of such a noble cause.

Museums will have the photos and uniforms and planes and radios but the most awesome part of the story will be gone.

Dick Henggeler
Historian@388thbg.org





OKC 2013

DONATIONS

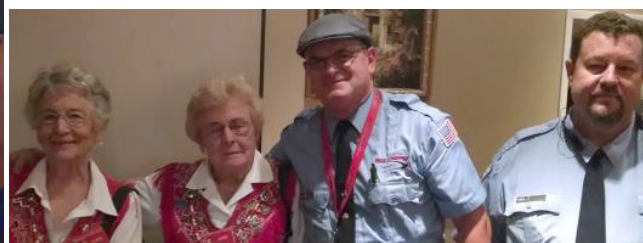
Paul and Frances Ammons
 Jeff Baldo,
 In memory of Tony Giangreco
 Dottie Blasdell
 Steve Butner
 Karen & Jim Buckland,
 In Memory of Donald and Ethel Wisser (par-
 ents)
 Joseph Coyner
 Henry & Betty Curvat
 Wayne Daniels
 Tom & Barbara Dennis
 Marin Ennis
 Ben Forrest Jr.
 Joseph Hild
 Kyung Jeong
 Al Lewis
 Col Scott & Staci Long
 Barbara & Joseph McAllister
 Charley Meyer
 Douglas Morrison
 Jim & Shirley Morrow
 Kelly Moore
 William Rowling
 John M Russell
 Bette & Richard Sessler,
 In Memory of C Ellison "Becky" Beck
 Maxine Smith
 Anthony and Donna Smith
 Linda Soo,
 In Memory of Bit Snead and George Sundblad
 George & Gail Staley
 Dave & Esta Stewart
 William Terry
 Jory Vanderburg
 Jack Vann
 Neil Walker
 Drew & Jammy Willingham

50/50 Raffle & Book Sales \$600



TINKER AFB





TINKER CLUB



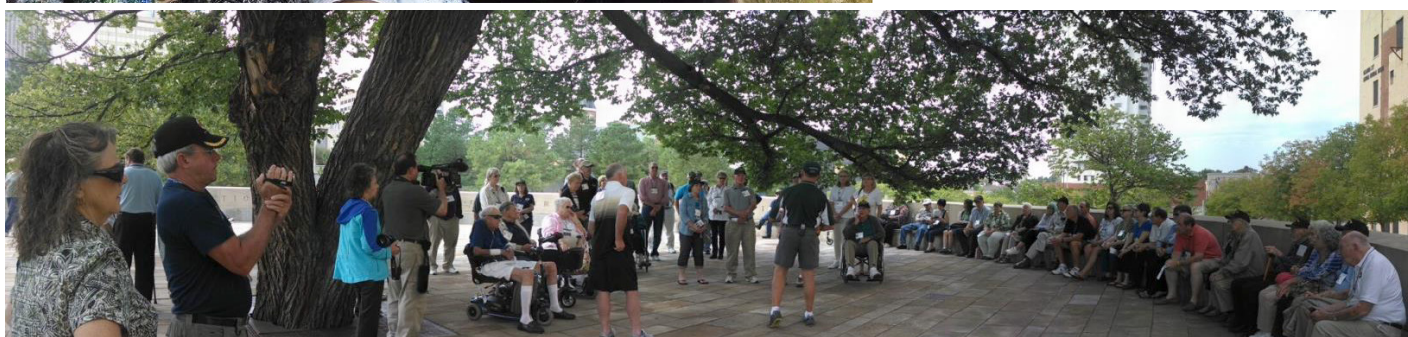


45th Infantry Division Museum

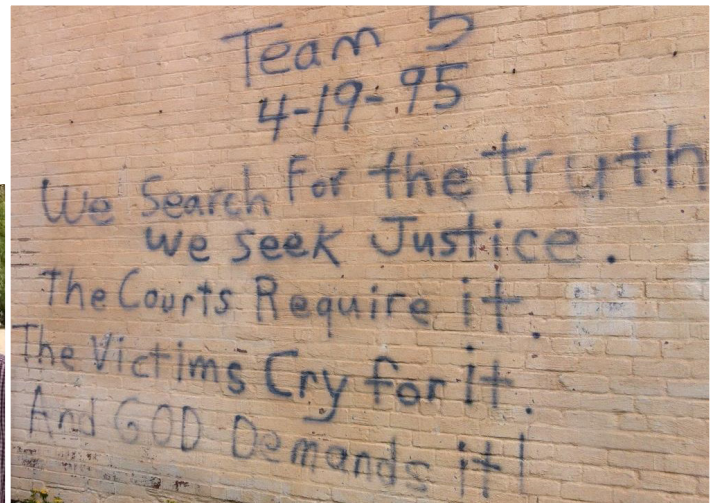




OKC Land Run



Oklahoma City National Memorial

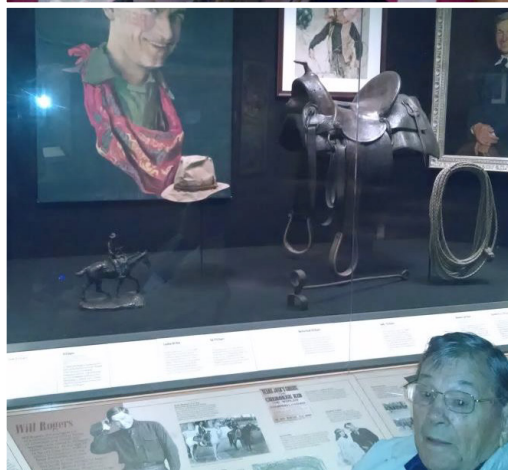


Dinning on Persimmon Hill





National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum



Annual Meeting



Hospitality Room



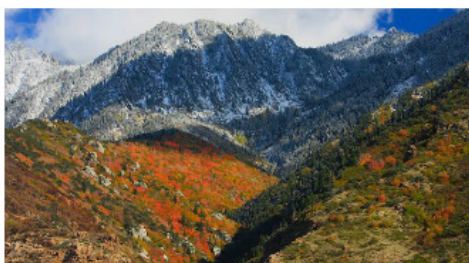


Banquet









Hotel information:

Hilton Garden Inn
 762 West Heritage Park Boulevard
 Layton, UT 84041
 Toll Free 877-782-9444
 Tel. 801-416-8899
 Fax 801-416-8877
www.layton.hgi.com

Rate for 388th BG Members: \$87 per night
 **Members must specify they are with the 388th BG Reunion to receive the conference rate.
 Phone the hotel and ask for the 388th BG Reunion rate. Valid 8/27 to 8/30 and three days before and after for those wanting an extended stay.

Deadline for reservations 8/12

Hotel is attached to the Davis Conference Center, where our meeting will take place.

Military Tour

Hill AFB/Lunch at Moondogs Café
 **Gov't Issued ID is required for attendance.
 Please provide the number for each attending member 18 or older.

Antelope Island Tour

Antelope Island / Great Salt Lake / Lunch at Mac-Cools Irish Pub

EXPRESS SHUTTLE

Please make reservations with Express Shuttle at least 24 hours in advance, Phone 1-800-397-0773. The one-way rate for the 388BG Reunion is \$29 for the first person and \$15 for each additional passenger up to six. Passengers must tell the reservationist they are with the 388 BG Reunion in order to receive this rate. They may also make reservations online @ www.ExpressShuttleUtah.com. (For online reservations, please note in the comments "388 BG Reunion" and our staff will discount your rate).

388th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

Registration Form

65th Annual Reunion

Layton, Utah

August 27 – August 30, 2014

CUT-OFF DATE FOR REGISTRATION IS AUGUST 1ST

To cancel contact: Paul and Frances Ammons (325) 201-0896, reunion@388thbg.org

Cancellations received after **August 1st** will forfeit all payments.

ATTENDEE #1 FULL NAME: _____ **MEMBER:** LIFE / ASSOC. / NOT

Phone: (____) _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

YOUR B-17 CREW MEMBER NAME: _____ WHAT IS YOUR RELATION TO HIM: _____

**Gov't Issued ID No.: _____ This is required only for attendees that are participating in Friday's Military Tour.

ATTENDEE #2 FULL NAME: _____ **MEMBER:** LIFE / ASSOC. / NOT

YOUR B-17 CREW MEMBER NAME: _____ WHAT IS YOUR RELATION TO HIM: _____

**Gov't Issued ID No.: _____ This is required only for attendees that are participating in Friday's Military Tour.

ATTENDEE #3 FULL NAME: _____ **MEMBER:** LIFE / ASSOC. / NOT

YOUR B-17 CREW MEMBER NAME: _____ WHAT IS YOUR RELATION TO HIM: _____

**Gov't Issued ID No.: _____ This is required only for attendees that are participating in Friday's military tour.

ATTENDEE #4 FULL NAME: _____ **MEMBER:** LIFE / ASSOC. / NOT

YOUR B-17 CREW MEMBER NAME: _____ WHAT IS YOUR RELATION TO HIM: _____

Gov't Issued ID No.: _____ This is required only for attendees that are participating in Thursday's Military Tour.

If you would like to become a 388th BG member please fill out the Membership Application / Renewal on the back of the newsletter, and follow those instructions.

Registration Fee	Required for all attendees	\$45.00	X	_____	=	_____
	Includes Saturday AM Breakfast					

Military Tour

Thursday (28 August)	Hill AFB/Lunch at Moondogs Café	\$42.00	X	_____	=	_____
8:00am – 3:00pm	**Gov't Issued ID is required for attendance. Please provide the number for each attending member 18 or older.					

Antelope Island Tour

Friday (29 August)	Antelope Island / Great Salt Lake / Lunch at MacCools Irish Pub	\$42.00	X	_____	=	_____
8:00am – 2:00pm						

Saturday (30 August) 6:00pm – 10:00pm	Banquet at Davis Convention Center	Chicken Picatta	\$33.00	X	_____	=	_____
		Dutch Oven Pot Roast	\$33.00	X	_____	=	_____
		Farfalle Pasta Primavera (Vegetarian)	\$33.00	X	_____	=	_____

Memory Book	Enjoy reminiscing about	Book	\$16.00	X	_____	=	_____
	Utah!	CD	\$5.00	X	_____	=	_____

Donation = _____

Write check payable to 388th Bomb Group Association, Inc

Mail check **and** registration form to:

Frances Ammons, 1802 Pemelton Drive, Abilene, TX 79601

TOTAL = _____

Please fill out the questionnaire on the back of this form, and return it with the registration

388th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

Questionnaire for Future Reunions

Your opinions are important to the Association.

*It helps us plan the most **exciting** and **entertaining** annual reunions possible.*

Please help by answering the following questions.

What time frame would you like reunions to be planned? _____ Anytime Between August & October

_____ Early to Mid August

_____ Early to Mid September

_____ Early to Mid October

_____ Mid to Late August

_____ Mid to Late September

_____ Mid to Late October

_____ Near Labor Day Weekend

Do you have suggested locations for a reunion?

Central United States (2016): _____

Western United States (2017): _____

Eastern United States (2018): _____

Do you have suggestions or comments for future reunions? _____

Are you or a member of your family interested in helping with the 388th Bomb Group Association's reunions? Time, talent or treasure are all welcome and needed!

Name: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Please specify if necessary (i.e., a certain city, a certain year, a certain job, any contacts that may be helpful, etc...): _____

388th Bomb Group Association

Liaison Reports

Association U.K.

2012-2013 Activities of the 388th Memorial Trustees Committee

The 388th Memorial Trustees Committee is comprised of five members: Tony Goff (chair), Dave Sarson, Deborah Sarson, Percy Prentice and John Wallace. Dave Sarson is also curator of the 388th Collection at Hillside Farm, a two-building museum which houses artifacts and memorabilia of the bomb group.

The Committee's Mission Statement reads:

The purpose of the Trustees Committee is to protect the interests of the 388th BG Association with regard to the Memorial, ensure the site is maintained, that the Memorial has adequate insurance and that it is kept in good order.

In that respect the Committee will keep the Association informed of all matters which it considers might affect the Memorial, and will take instructions from the Association whenever so required.

Wherever possible, and at the request of the Association, the Committee will endeavor to represent the interests of the Association within the U.K. in any other matters in which it can help the Association achieve its objectives.

Insurance for both the Memorial and Collection is funded by the 388th Bomb Group Association.

In addition to its oversight responsibilities, the Committee, with advance notification either to Tony Goff or Dave Sarson, coordinates visits by former 388th Bomb Group members and their families to ensure a rounded and memorable experience. Along with visits to the Memorial

and Museum, guests are given tours of the airfield and local area to point out former 388th sites, and are treated to a stop at the Swan public house.

The Committee also represents the 388th Bomb Group at the Cambridge American Cemetery's annual Memorial Day Service.

For many years the Sally B, Britain's only operational B-17, has flown over the cemetery at the close of the Memorial Day services. This year, before returning to Duxford, where the plane is based, a special visit to Knettishall airfield was added to Sally B's flight plan. Accompanied by the Eagle Squadron – two Mustangs, a Thunderbolt, Spitfire and Hurricane – she buzzed the old airfield at 500 feet above ground.

Also in May, a 1940s dance at the Swan was the occasion for the unveiling of a new video monitor, donated by Trustee Tony Goff. The monitor, with a 19-inch-wide screen, continually loops more than 90 photos of life at Knettishall. Dave Sarson has installed an identical monitor at the Museum.

Visitors to Knettishall

Since last year's report to the Board, the Trustees hosted a number of 388th family members.

November:

John and Tom Ingram, sons of John H. Ingram, co-pilot in the 561st Squadron (Hines crew). Recalling their father's story of how he was once thrown out of the Swan for brawling, the brothers staged a mock-fight at the pub, to the delight of spectators.



388th Bomb Group Association

April:

Leon Fitzpatrick and his family. Leon's father Leonard Fitzpatrick was a bombardier in the 560th Squadron (Brotmarkle crew).

Mike Coyner. his father, Joe Coyner, was a pilot in the 562nd Squadron whose plane was shot down during the April 29, 1944 mission to Berlin. After their visit to the museum and memorial, the family continued to Belgium to see the spot where Lt. Coyner's plane crashed.

Lawrence and Amy Jacobson. Lawrence's uncle Lawrence Jacobson, a ball turret gunner in the 561st Squadron (crew) was killed in action in February 1944. Tony Goff met the Jacobsons by chance at Duxford, where he had taken the Coyners to see the Sally B.

May:

Marc Gauthier and family. Marc, an Army chaplain stationed in Germany, is the grandson of Jack Gauthier, a pilot in the 562nd Squadron.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Pack Singer
U.K. Liaison

Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum - restoration of the City of Savannah

The restoration of the B-17 City of Savannah is proceeding well. All turrets and other components needed for the final restoration are on hand at the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force in Pooler, Georgia. Final installation is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year and a dedication ceremony is tenta-

tively scheduled for January, 2015. I will monitor progress and should have a good report for our upcoming reunion in Utah.

I ran the 5K fundraiser race for the restoration of the City of Savannah at the Museum in November and wore my 388th Bomb Group T-shirt and hat to remind folks of our connection to the B-17 City of Savannah. I once again came in first in my age division and found out that I was the oldest runner in the race. The next oldest runner was five years younger than me.

Jim Morrow

Income/Expense Reunion 2013

1/1/2012 through 3/31/2014 (Cash Basis)

INCOME

Reunion Registration 2013	18,622.00
Bar Donations	712.00
TOTAL INCOME	18,622.00

EXPENSES

REUNION 2013

Bar	399.75
Events	
Events:Saturday Dinner	3,763.29
Events:Transportaion	8,732.00
TOTAL EVENTS	12,495.29
Hospitality Room	219.37
MemoryBooks	79.18
Misc	604.52
Refunds	1,126.00
Site Evaluation	536.00
Total other Expenses	2,565.07
TOTAL EXPENSES	15,060.36
OVERALL NET TOTAL	3,561.64



TAPS

JOHN H. ANDERSON

Dr. John Hilmer Anderson died November 21, 2013 in Kernersville, NC. The former Mexico, FL resident was 90.

A native of Kansas City, MO, Dr. Anderson received his B.A. at Kansas City Conservatory of Music. He was drafted into military service during his last term as a student and served as radio operator-gunner on the Robert Rowe crew in the 561st Sqd. On their 24th mission, August 6, 1944, the crew was shot down over Berlin.

While at Stalag Luft IV Gross Tychow, Pomerania (now Poland), Dr. Anderson taught music, singing, and theory, and was even able to obtain a few instruments to use. Beginning February 6, 1945, the camp's POWs were forced to march some 500 miles through blizzard conditions to Stalag XI-B Fallingbomel, Germany. They were liberated by the British Army on April 16.

After the war, Dr. Anderson became an assistant band director at the University of Georgia, and continued his education. He obtained his M.A. at the University of Michigan and later his Ph.D. in Music Theory at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. After heading the Fine Arts Department at Bethel College (later Bethel University) in McKenzie, TN, he then became chairman of the Fine Arts Department at Columbus College (later Columbus State University) in Columbus, GA.

After his retirement in 1982, Dr. and Mrs. Anderson moved to Mexico, FL, where they lived for 26 years before moving to Kernersville to be closer to their family.

Dr. Anderson is survived by Hazel, his wife of 64 years; daughter Lezah; sons Arney, John, Peter, Phillip, and Paul; 16 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren. Graveside services with full military honors were held at the National Veterans Cemetery in Salisbury, NC.



Anderson

MANUEL A. HEAD

Manuel Anthony Head passed away February 14 at the Veterans Hospital Hospice in Palo Alto, CA. He was 91.

Born New Orleans, Mr. Head worked as a painter and office assistant before enlisting in the Army Air Corps in 1941. Initially trained as a radio operator, he transferred to the Corps' flight program and became a pilot. Assigned to the 562nd Sqd., he flew 39 missions, eventually as squadron lead pilot, between March 1944 and February 1945. Awards included the DFC and Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters.

After graduating from Tulane University with a degree in Electrical Engineering in 1949, Mr. Head joined the General Electric Company and worked on diesel and nuclear submarines, and nuclear power plants in Schenectady, NY. He was also a consulting engineer for Westinghouse Electric Company during the design and construction of the Nautilus and the Seawolf nuclear powered submarines. During this time he also flew military aircraft for the Air National Guard, training in C-47 transport and P-51 fighter airplanes, and was promoted to captain in the Air Force Reserves.

Mr. Head was transferred to San Jose, CA in 1957, where he helped complete the construction of GE's Vallecitos Nuclear Power Station. In 1959, he promoted to the technical lead engineer position in charge of the Nuclear Engineering Control and System Analysis for GE's Atomic Power Equipment Department Engineering Section. Additional assignments took him and his family to numerous locations including Zurich, Palo Alto and Tokyo. He retired from GE in 1989 after 41 years.

A memorial service and jazz funeral, with full military honors, was held at Oak Hill Cemetery in San Jose, CA. Survivors include daughter Carol Ann; sons Stephen, David, Michael and Andrew; and eight grandchildren. Mr. Head was predeceased by his Ann, his wife of 57 years, in 2008.



Head

TAPS



PAUL P. KAUFMAN

Paul Philip Kaufman passed away September 18, 2013 in Parkland, FL at age 90.

Mr. Kaufman was a bombardier with the Lester Frawley crew in the 560th Sqd. This crew was shot down over Merseburg on September 28, 1944, while on their sixth mission.

Following the war he was an executive at the textile firm M. Lowenstein & Sons in New York City.

Predeceased by his wife, Marguery in 2011, Mr. Kaufman is survived by son Andrew, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

DELMAR E. LINDNER

Delmar Earl Lindner, age 90, passed away February 16, 2013 at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, OH.

A 562nd Sqd. navigator, he flew with the Oscar Haines and Bigelow Crocker crews between August 1944 and April 1945.

Retired from the U.S. Postal Service, Mr. Lindner was a member of the Advent Lutheran Church in Columbus, where he sang in the choir.

Survivors include Martha, his wife of 61 years; daughter Janice; sons Steven and Philip; and nine grandchildren. Interment was held at Green Lawn Cemetery in Columbus.



Lindner

ALBERT LIPPMAN

Albert Lippman passed away October 18, 2013. He was 90 years old.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, Mr. Lippman enlisted in the Army Air Corps in December 1942 and flew as radio operator-gunner in the 561st Sqd. with the Percy K. Mead crew. He was badly wounded



Lippman

by enemy aircraft fire during the crew's fourth mission (Berlin, March 6, 1944) and, upon recovery, was reassigned as radio mechanic. He received the Purple Heart.

Following the war Mr. Lippman became a typographer and proofreader for a New York firm. Retiring from that position after 35 years, he then took a position as a store keeper in a large Long Island hospital. He retired for good in 1986.

Mr. Lippman is survived by Mary, his wife of 66 years; daughter Elaine; two granddaughters and six great-grandchildren

LAUREN D. PORTER

Lauren D. Porter passed away January 21 in Canby, OR at age 92. A command pilot in the 562nd Sqd., he flew 39 missions between July and October 1944, primarily in aircraft Skipper 'an' the Kids.

Born and raised in Canby, Mr. Porter moved to Portland and then to Seattle, WA, where he worked at Boeing Aircraft assembling B-17s. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1942.

Following the war Mr. Porter reenlisted in the Air Force; during his 21 years of service he was stationed at various bases in Oregon, Florida, California, Washington, Japan and Texas. He later worked in auto and real estate sales. For several years he and his wife Phyllis were snowbirds – wintering in Hemet, CA and Yuma, AZ, before making Hope Village in Canby their permanent home.

Mr. Porter is Survived by daughter Virginia, sons Gale, Kenneth and James, nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by Phyllis, his wife of 62 years, in 2005.



Porter

WILLIAM L. REINACHER

William L. Reinacher passed away April 30, 2013 in Howell, MI at age 90.



TAPS



Tailgunner on the Jack Quinn crew in the 563rd Sqd., he flew 36 missions between December 1944 and March 1945 in the aircraft Jamaica Ginger.

Mr. Reinacher is survived by sons Keith, Mark and Scott, and seven grandchildren. He was predeceased by Mary Katherine, his wife of 64 years, in 2012.

BITTNER F. SNEAD

Bittner Franklin Snead passed away at his home in Federal Way, WA on November 1, 2013, three weeks before his 93rd birthday.

An only child, Mr. Snead was born and raised in Freedom, PA, where at age 11 he was invited to play saxophone in the high school band and at age 13 he was working at the local drugstore. At Allegheny College in Meadville, PA, he studied pharmacology while working as a pharmacy assistant and playing in a professional band. He left school in 1942 to enlist in the Army Air Corps.



Snead

Assigned as a navigator to the 560th Sqd., Mr. Snead flew his first mission on November 26, 1943 – his 23rd birthday. Shortly after bombs away, the crew's pilot suffered a nervous breakdown, pulled the B-17 out of formation and began what Mr. Snead would later call "the scenic tour" – a zig-zagging flight across Germany. After managing to subdue the pilot, Mr. Snead was able to figure out the plane's location and give coordinates to the co-pilot, Clarence Malmberg, who brought the crew safely back to Knettishall.

Upon completion of his 25 missions, Mr. Snead returned to the U.S., where he continued to serve as a navigation instructor until war's end. In 1947 he and his first wife moved to Cleveland, OH, where he had accepted a position as sales representative for McKesson and Robbins Pharmaceutical Co. Four years later he transferred to McKesson's Seattle office and settled his

family in Bellevue, WA. Divorced and remarried, he moved to Federal Way during the 1960s.

Single once more, he met Marvinna Crawford, who would become his third wife, in 1986. In 1987, he retired from McKesson after 40 years.

The Sneads organized their first 388th BG Assn. reunion (Seattle) in 1999, and followed it with seven equally successful events. With Marvinna's assistance, he also served as both secretary and treasurer for many years.

In all, the couple attended 23 388th BG Assn. reunions, including the 2013 event in Oklahoma City, a few weeks before his death.

Mr. Snead was laid to rest with full military honors at Tahoma National Cemetery. He is survived by his wife Marvinna, daughters Betsy, Bonnie, Bev, Alyssa, Rachell and Denise, sons Aaron and Don, 12 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

JAMES L. THOMAS

James L. "Shorty" Thomas, 97, passed away at his home in San Marcos, CA on November 14, 2013. A 562nd Sqd. bombardier, he flew two tours of duties, first with the Bruce Muirhead crew and later with the Charles Harker crew. In all, Mr. Thomas flew 59 missions between May 1944 and March 1945.



Thomas

Before joining the 388th BG, Mr. Thomas played in a dance band throughout the eastern Idaho valley and later founded a drum and bugle corps in Bozeman, MT. At war's end he returned to Idaho Falls, ID and sold radio advertising. Later, he joined Westinghouse Electric as a health physicist, training Navy personnel on nuclear submarines.

Mr. Thomas is survived by Jimmie, his wife of 28 years; sons Terrell and Steve, one grandchild and one great-grandchild. A memorial service will be planned for this coming summer in Idaho.



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