



# FORTRESS FOR FREEDOM



## 388<sup>TH</sup> BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) ASSOCIATION

**8<sup>th</sup> Air Force, 3<sup>rd</sup> Air Division, 45<sup>th</sup> 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 68

ISSUE NO.4

WINTER 2012



NEWSPAPER & TELEVISION CREWS WERE ON HAND TO INTERVIEW OUR VETERANS AT WHAT THE MUSEUM CLAIMED "...IS THE LARGEST GROUP OF WWII VETERANS TO VISIT THE MUSEUM AT ONE TIME!!"

## THE 388th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION INC

### **PRESIDENT: BEN FORREST JR.**

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Links to 388 Bomb Group Association Inc

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

<http://www.388thbg.org>

The 388th Bomb Group Association, Inc. is a 501(c)(19) organization chartered in the State of Florida.

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## From the President's Desk

The labor of love keeping the 388<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group association intact and solvent while lobbying for continued membership support has been a time consuming effort for many dedicated individuals.

As Henry noted in the last newsletter, most of the volunteers have day jobs and have been serving admirably for several years. Long serving Secretary Linda Soo and Newsletter editors Tom Dennis Sr and Jr are looking for replacements. If you are interested in volunteering and serving the 388<sup>th</sup> cause, please contact Tom or Linda to get a clear view of the level of participation and satisfaction in doing so.

Tom Dennis Jr may be reached at [Treasurer@388thbg.org](mailto:Treasurer@388thbg.org) and Sr at [Newsletter@388thbg.org](mailto:Newsletter@388thbg.org).

Linda Soo may be reached at [Secretary@388thbg.org](mailto:Secretary@388thbg.org). Thank you in advance for considering participation in the preservation of heroic memories of our Fathers and loved ones.

Preparations are well underway for our reunion in Oklahoma City with long lead time planning going on for 2014 in Ogden/Hill AFB.

Now, dialing for dollars:

Naturally as we move on we are looking for Corporate sponsors, as in Anheuser Busch for beer and \$. Also, any of you donating, look to your employer for possible matching funds.....

Many of you are probably aware that our recently rededicated (see Fall Newsletter) memorial in the U.K. is nicely funded for 10yrs. To achieve a perpetual support fund we would need approximately 28K in a trust. Not a batch.. If some of you need to round out giving for the year, this would be an opportunity to start the process of creating a means permanent financial support.

Another opportunity to provide for historical preservation is the fine exhibit at Hill AFB. Donations provided will allow fruition of plans underway for enhancements to the exhibit at the museum of the current 388<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing.

Happy Holidays to all. Spend some time with our heroic Fathers and Grandfathers that are fortunate enough to be with us this Holiday season. Encourage them to make the journey to the 2013 reunion. Keep them and those that have passed in your prayers.

*Ben Forrest Jr.*

# The Lighter Side



Our crew usually went to London on our 2-day passes. On one such occasion we were sleeping in a hotel at Hyde Park, when we were awakened by a buzz bomb hitting another wing of the hotel.

I decided then that on our next leave I would go to Cambridge instead. When I got there I asked about any dance halls in the vicinity, and I was told that "Everybody dances at Dorothy's." I found the place which was up a long flight of stairs, and as I entered, I found the it was a packed house.

I asked a lovely young Brit to dance, and we started to do some swing twirls and spins in place. Then I heard a voice behind me saying, "Come along Yank, get in the flow." I had not noticed that all the Brits were dancing in a counter-clockwise direction. I danced there a few more times, but I never again stopped on a dance floor in Cambridge.



We wish to thank the author of the above Lighter Side and hope that more of you can submit an article about your experience in England with the 388th Bombardment Group (H)

"While visiting the Mighty 8<sup>th</sup> AF Museum during our recent reunion, I had the opportunity to meet Dr. Vivian Rogers-Price, Director of the Research Center. She convinced me that one of the best ways we can honor and remember our 388<sup>th</sup> BG "originals" is to donate as much original material to the Museum as we have. I have committed to giving my brother's original "overseas diary" and over 150 letters he wrote home and other documents. Also included will be the original telegram notifying us of his MIA status and then subsequent Dept. of War correspondence. Additionally, there will be letters among the crew's family members written while they wondered about the outcome of the crew.

The Research Center in the Mighty 8<sup>th</sup> AF Museum is a great place to safely preserve these records and to share with future generations. Donations of information and materials will help contribute to the resources for future authors and historians to use and know what our heroes experienced. The material and information we donate will help assure that "The Greatest Generation" maintains its deserved place in history and that the role played by our 388<sup>th</sup> BG members will be preserved.

To the "original" members of the 388<sup>th</sup> BG, I ask that you share your experiences with us and the nation by donating your diaries and other written material. Your stories are very important to all of us and deserve to be passed on to future generations. You will have the reassurance that your history will be secure. For family and friends who furnish the precious pieces of history we will still have our copies and will know that the originals will carry on your legacy.

One final note. The Museum receives no federal or state funding, so any financial support by our Association members will help insure that the history of the 388<sup>th</sup> is preserved.

Neale Musolff, brother of T/Sgt. Ranold C. Musolff, 561<sup>st</sup> BSqd., KIA 16 August, 1944, Zeitz, Germany "

## Watching The DVD Is Just Like Being There.

Now **you** can experience the moving tribute paid to the fallen heroes of the 388th BG during the July 2012 rededication of our Memorial!

The entire ceremony is captured in this hour-long video, which includes the B-17 *Sally B* circling the old airfield, views of the 388th Collection at Hillside Farm, and the WWII military vehicle convoy that provided escort.

Orders are being taken until February 1, and the dvds will be mailed directly from England at the end of that month. There are two options for ordering ...

**By Check:** send a check for \$22 to made payable to Jan Pack (UK Liaison) at 510 W. Foothill Blvd., #B, Monrovia CA 91016.

**By PayPal:** contact Tony Goff (Memorial Trustees Chair) at [agoff@btinternet.com](mailto:agoff@btinternet.com) for details.

Questions? Feel free to email Jan Pack at [bg388@aol.com](mailto:bg388@aol.com).



## Special Orders

**By Dick Henggeler, Historian**



Some very valuable 388<sup>th</sup> history resides at Maxwell AFB in Montgomery, Alabama. The Air Force Historical Research Center holds the unit history files for the 388<sup>th</sup>. The history files basically contain the official documents generated each month. These include mission reports, special orders, daily bulletins, public relation pieces and monthly reports from many of the base operations. Just about every day a Special Order was issued. It consisted of one to two pages of a dozen or so items. Each item is a special order that specifies some action that is to be taken concerning one or more men.

The Special Orders have been of particular interest because they cite individuals and certain information about them - first and last name, rank, serial number, MOS, and unit. These orders provide many of the pieces of the big 388<sup>th</sup> puzzle.

The special orders describe a variety of mundane actions which include:

- Promotions or demotions
- Reassignment to other units
- Transfer into or out of the 388th
- Temporary duty
  - Training
  - Recreation pass to London
  - Rest and relaxation at a nearby 'resort'
  - Laundry run

Occasionally more interesting tidbits can be found such as the formation of a court martial board or accident investigation committee.

The special orders could be considered the non combat diary of the 388<sup>th</sup>. They tell a very dry history of daily life but occasionally they reveal an interesting secret.

## Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**Jennifer Wammack**

Reunion Organizer

Looking ahead its only 9 short months away and we'll once again be gathering in Oklahoma City for the 64th annual reunion. This year the reunion dates were pushed back to October 2nd through the 6th so a little bit of Fall should be in the air. There might even be some late color changes to enjoy. The downtown river walk is just one of many sites to enjoy along with all that OKC has to offer. And of course we will be talking more about activities and events in upcoming issues.

We all gather to pay tribute to our original members for the sacrifices they made during W.W. II. Oklahoma City seems like a fitting location to remember everyone who serves our country. Tinker AF Base is home to the AWACS program. Planes and personal from Tinker provide an invaluable service to our country. Providing Ariel Re-fueling support, Radar surveillance, and Communications daily to keep us all safe and free from the aggression of anyone who wishes to bring harm to our citizens are just a few of the jobs they do.

Like Pearl Harbor, OKC is permanently etched in our memories as the site of the tragic bombing on April 19, 1995. Men, women, and children lost their lives. This is a sad reminder of way we need to never miss an opportunity to say "Thank You" to any and all service men & women. The Memorial & museum are a emotional reminder of the reason we salute and admire all veterans.

Begin planning, to come join us in Oklahoma City. We'll have fun!







AND EVERYTHING WAS SHIP-SHAPE!



LOTS OF FUN...



WOULD YOU BELIEVE AL LEWIS LEADING US IN "THE YMCA" !



.AND A LITTLE BUSINESS TOO!





**GOOD FOOD – GOOD COMPANY**





## A NIGHT TO REMEMBER



MAIL CALL



REMEMBERING THE WIVES







**2nd Lt. Alfred Soo**



**1st Lt. Charles Meyer**



**Sgt. George Staley**



**1st Lt. Allen Rosenman**



**Staff Sgt. David Stewart**



**Staff Sgt. Harry Sprague**



**Sgt. Alvin Lewis**



**Staff Sgt. Charles Woodford**



**2nd Lt. James Cotton**



**1st Lt. Bill F. Rohner**



**Sgt. Donald Scott, Jr.**



**1st Lt. James Zographos**





**Tech Sgt. John Anderson, Sr.**



**Lt. Col. Pat Ryan**



**1st Lt. Rolland Sears**



**Maj. Joseph C. Hild**



**1st Lt. Ralph Boyer**



**Tech Sgt. Seymore (Jack) Vann**



**1st Lt. Joseph Rosenbaum**



**1st Lt. Richard (Dick) Timberlake**



**Maj. Thomas A. Dennis, Sr.**



**Lt. Col. Norman Heywood**



**Tech Sgt. Richard Carter**



**Staff Sgt. Walter Harpold**





Staff Sgt. William Rowling



1st Lt. William Worthen



Tech Sgt. Joseph Hallam

## THE MEN OF THE 388<sup>TH</sup> AT THE MIGHTY EIGHTH MUSEUM



**Back Row:** Jack Vann, Bill Rowling, Joseph Hallam, Milton George Staley, Harry Sprague, Charlie Meyer, Al Soo, Walter Harpold, Al Lewis, Allen Roseman, Bill Rohner, David Stewart, Don Scott.

**Front Row:** Bill Worthen, Rolland Sears, Dick Carter, Dick Timberlake, Pat Ryan, Tom Dennis Sr, Norman Heywood, Joe Rosenbaum, Joe Hild, John Anderson, Jim Zographos, Jim Cotton, Charles Woodford, Ralph Boyer, Col. Long



**Minutes of the 388<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (H) Association  
63nd Meeting of the General Membership  
September 1, 2012 Savannah, GA**

The 63<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the 388<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group Association (81 members and several guests) was called to order at 10:10 a.m. The flag salute was led by President Henry Curvat and the invocation was given by Jim Cotton.

### Minutes

All attendees received a written copy of the 2011 minutes at the meeting. A motion to waive an oral reading was seconded and accepted by a majority vote.

### Treasurer's Report

The annual treasurer's report will be published in the Winter 2012 issue of the *Fortress of Freedom* newsletter.

### Board Business

Secretary Linda Soo shared that in the past year, the Association welcomed **2 members of the original 388<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group**: Harry Ball, 560<sup>th</sup> Sq., and Jim Ostler, 563<sup>rd</sup> Sq., as well as 25 new associate members. Of the 1150 members on the current Active List, about 520 are original 388<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group members. Please send updated address information so that membership and newsletter mailing lists are kept current. Correspondence with members by mail, e-mail, and telephone is welcome.

Newsletter Editors Tom Dennis Sr and Tom Dennis Jr (assisted by Barbara Dennis) ask members to continue sending personal stories and articles for publication in the newsletter. Members are encouraged to change to and receive the electronic version of the newsletter to help the Association save money by eliminating printing and postage costs.

Senior Director Greg Staples is the webmaster for the Association's "social" website, [www.388thbg.org](http://www.388thbg.org) – updating information about the organization and making it very user-friendly. The Challenge Coins introduced last year sold out and Greg is making a second order.

Director-at-Large Harry Sprague stated that he is pleased to see that the 388<sup>th</sup> BG Association continues to be an active organization (members include multiple generations) and "not dying out like so many others."

Corporate Agent Rickard Sundblad reported that all is well between the Association and the IRS, and accurate corporate records are filed.

Historian Dick Henggeler encourages members to view the 388<sup>th</sup> BG data-rich website, [www.388bg.org](http://www.388bg.org). He continues to add information and photographs. Dick attended the rededication ceremony of the Memorial in England and shared some of the highlights. He gave high praise to Chairman Tony Goff and the Memorial Committee for their fine planning.

Parliamentarian Kelly Moore sent her regrets for not being able to attend the meeting and sent a big "HELLO!" to everyone.

First Vice President Ben Forrest Jr also sent regrets for being unable to attend. He is happy to accept the office of Association President for 2013.

Second Vice President Rick Thompson enthusiastically suggests that members take advantage of the Association's two websites to research information and to keep up-to-date on activities and on Reunion plans.

### Reports from Liaisons

Jim Morrow, liaison for the "**City of Savannah**" **B-17** restoration at the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum, worked with Museum President and CEO Henry Skipper to plan our memorable visit. At least two more years are needed for the **B-17's** restoration to be completed and Jim will continue to follow its progress.

Jan Pack-Singer, liaison to the **388<sup>th</sup> Memorial Trustees** in England, was unable to attend but did send a detailed report (see Fall 2012 newsletter issue) about the 2011-12 activities of the Memorial Trustees Committee.

Wayne Daniels, liaison to the **388<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Tactical Fighter Wing, and Fighter Bomber Wing**, was missed at this year's meeting. Wayne also wrote his report (Fall 2012 issue).

### PX Update

Christy Wammack is our new PX Coordinator. She reported the addition of a new vendor whose focus is on USA-made items. Some items have been introduced and well-received already.

### Old Business

Member Esta Stewart stated that "credit be given to those responsible for a beautiful memorial and its recent additions." (Our thanks to Tony Goff, Dick Henggeler, and Jan Pack Singer, and a big thank you to Percy Prentice for its upkeep.)

### New Business (discussed and voted upon by members)

The IRS tax reporting responsibilities will be assumed by the Treasurer.

The six Board positions with "indefinite" terms of office will have a "definite" term of 1 year; re-elections possible.

A donation of \$5000 be given to the "City of Savannah" restoration project.

A donation of \$5000 be given to improve the 388<sup>th</sup> display at Hill Aerospace Museum.

Honorary 388<sup>th</sup> BG memberships be given to Hill Air Force Base Wing Commanders.

### New Officers, 2012-13

The responsibilities of the three incoming Board positions were read before nominations were opened. Written votes were counted and these positions were filled:

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Rick Thompson

(Rotates to President and then to Senior Director

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Steve Butner

Director at Large: Harry Sprague

### Reunions 2013 and 2014

Our smashing reunion in Pooler and Savannah, GA was co-chaired by President Curvat and Reunion Planner Jennifer Wammack. Oklahoma City, OK is the site for the 2013 reunion, October 2 – 6.

Hill Air Force Base in Utah will again host our reunion in 2014.

Business was concluded and the motion to adjourn was seconded and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40am by President Curvat.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda D. Soo, Secretary

**388th Bomb Group Association Inc****Income and Expense**

FY Ending 6-30-12

**INCOME****Donations**

General Fund	5,780.00
Dues	310.00
<b>TOTAL General Fund</b>	<b>6,090.00</b>
Memorial Fund	6,811.00
PUS	2,730.00
<b>TOTAL Donations</b>	<b>15,631.00</b>

Interest Inc	52.42
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**PX**

Challenge Coin	2,743.84
Misc Other	-
<b>TOTAL PX</b>	<b>2,743.84</b>

Reunion Registration 2011	14,659.00
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Reunion Registration 2012	6,756.00
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<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>39,842.26</b>
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**EXPENSES****Memorial**

Foundation Loan	4,536.00
Insurance & Maintenance	1,308.00
<b>TOTAL Memorial</b>	<b>5,844.00</b>

**Newsletter**

Printing	3,120.00
Postage	2,168.56
<b>TOTAL Newsletter</b>	<b>5,288.56</b>

Reunion 2011	11,676.22
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Reunion 2012	7,329.98
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PX	2,931.49
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**Other Exp**

Bank Charges	45.78
Banners	377.82
Shipping	112.11
Supplies	100.31
Website	60.00
Corporate	61.25
Gift	900.00
Postage	64.99

<b>TOTAL Other Expenses</b>	<b>1,722.26</b>
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<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>34,792.51</b>
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<b>NET REVENUE</b>	<b>5,049.75</b>
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**2012 Savannah Reunion****INCOME**

Reunion Registration 2012	31,267.00
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<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>31,267.00</b>
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**EXPENSES****Reunion 2012****Events**

Dinner	4,581.50
Museum & Lunch	2,367.50
Riverboat	8,991.00
Transportation	6,860.00

<b>TOTAL Reunion 2012:Events</b>	<b>22,800.00</b>
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<b>Hospitality Room</b>	<b>168.03</b>
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<b>Bar</b>	<b>294.05</b>
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<b>Hotel</b>	<b>98.68</b>
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<b>Misc</b>	<b>1,731.63</b>
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<b>Refund</b>	<b>600.00</b>
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<b>Site Evaluation</b>	<b>536.00</b>
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<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>26,228.39</b>
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<b>NET REVENUE</b>	<b>5,038.61</b>
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**388th Bomb Group Bank Accounts**

388th Checking	\$22,071.00
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388th Savings	\$25,022.90
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<b>TOTAL Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$47,093.90</b>
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# 388<sup>th</sup> PX

Hats \$15 plus shipping  
Shirts \$25 plus shipping



Koozies & Lanyards \$2.00  
Plus small shipping



All Items above are available for order from Christy Wammack. I encourage all of you to send Christy an e-mail (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 388<sup>th</sup> pin on. We are looking into possibly having it available for our ladies at approximately \$30.00.

**Coin** \$8.00ea.      **Keychain** \$10.00ea.      **Velvet box** \$4.00ea.

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 Ct.**  
                 **Spokane, Wa. 99208**

**All profits go to Project Ultimate Sacrifice addition to our Memorial in Knettishall**



Dick Henggeler has a fantastic statue called "**The Waist Gunners**", that he would like to donate to the Association. It is valued at over \$500.00. He would do it under the condition that a drawing be held through the newsletter – at \$10 per donation, to raise money for the Memorial Fund. Send check payable to 388<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group to Tom Dennis Treasurer.(info Page 2). For each \$10 donation your name would be placed in the box and a name drawn at the next Reunion in Oklahoma City. (Winner need not be present)



**Here is a link describing the statue:**

[http://www.militarysculpture.co.uk/The\\_Waistgunners.htm](http://www.militarysculpture.co.uk/The_Waistgunners.htm)

# Taps



## LAWRENCE ANDRYSKO

Lawrence Andrysko, 91, passed away in May in Fairlawn, OH. Engineer/top turret gunner on Daniel Orlitzki crew in the 562nd Sqd., he flew eight missions in March 1945.

## VIRGIL F. FICARRA

Dr. Virgil F. Ficarra of Glen Cove, NY passed away April 16 at age 88. Having dropped out of MIT to join the Army Air Corps, he was a pilot in the 560th Sqd., flying seven missions between mid-April and late May 1945. Three of those missions were with Operation Chowhound, and two were POW repatriation flights.

Following the war he returned to MIT, graduating with a degree in aeronautical engineering. He then entered Harvard Medical School, completing his medical training at New York Bellevue and Kings County Hospitals. He settled in Glen Cove where he practiced surgery at Glen Cove Hospital for over 45 years.

Dr. Ficarra is survived by his wife Anne, daughters Susan and Roseanne Ficarra and Diane Lama; sons Joseph and Robert; and five grandchildren.



Ficarra

## WILLIAM E. GARIS, SR.

William Eugene Garis, Sr. of Emlenton, PA, died November 13, 2009. He was 86. He flew as a waist gunner on Elwood Nelson's 563rd Sqd. crew, primarily in *Classy Chassy*, and documented his experiences in the publication *Twenty-Six Missions over Nazi Europe*.

With his wife, Mildred, Mr. Garis owned and operated the Turnip Hole General Store for 24 years. He was also a rural mail carrier for the Emlenton Post Office, retiring in 1978. He was a 53-year member of Canby Masonic Lodge 520.

Mr. Garis is survived by daughter Yvonne Murray, son William Jr.; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by Mildred, his wife of 59 years; and son Dennis. Interment with military honors was held at St. Petersburg Cemetery.



Garis

## JOHN J. KOTLARZ

John J. Kotlarz, 97, of Syracuse, NY, passed away March 2. A 561st Sqd. bombardier, he flew 35 missions between April 1944 and March 1945, primarily with the David Thayer crew.

Mr. Kotlarz founded and was president of Crestline Distributors of East Syracuse.

He is survived by Marie, his wife of



Kotlarz

62 years; daughter Denise Gravius, and three grandchildren. Burial with military honors was held at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Geddes, NY.

## THEODORE E. LAMBERT, SR.

Theodore "Ted" Edward Lambert, Sr., 91, passed away in Morrisville, VT on October 5. He flew 31 missions as a 560th Sqd. engineer/top turret gunner, primarily on the Paul Kelly crew in *Millie K*. Awards included the DFC and Air Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters.

Mr. Lambert moved to Morrisville in 1957 to take a position as manager of the B.F. Goodrich store. With his wife he went on to establish a number of successful businesses in Morrisville beginning with Lambert Tire Company. Their business ventures included real estate, liquid petroleum gas, furniture, antiques and collectibles, leasing, and handicapped equipment. He also worked as a broker for various realtors over the years. In 1974, he was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, and while learning to live with his physical disability, developed home health equipment for people facing physical challenges. He held patents for handicapped-accessible equipment he designed.

Mr. Lambert was a 3rd degree knight in Knights of Columbus, Fr. Boivin Council; a lifetime member of the VFW and Past President of the Morrisville Rotary Club.

He is survived by daughters Joy Jensvold and Deborah Lambert; sons Ted Jr., Stephen, and Patrick; 13 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren. His wife Rose predeceased him in 2001; they had been married 57 years. Interment with military honors was held in Pleasant View Cemetery.

## FRANKLIN D. LITTLE

Franklin Dorsey Little, age 90, passed away in his home in Lyman, Wyoming on December 23, 2010. A pilot in the 563rd Sqd., he flew 17 missions between February and May 1945. He later served as a dental officer at Mather Air Force Base in Sacramento, CA before entering private practice. He also practiced in Mesa, AZ, and after obtaining a general contractors' license, built and sold homes.

Professional affiliations included the American Dental Association, Arizona State Dental Association, and Central Arizona Dental Society, where he served as chairman of the public information committee. He was also a member of the Lions Club and National Rifle Association, and served on the High Council of the Church of the Latter Day Saints.

Dr. Little is survived by his wife Billie Jean; daughters Janet Seamons, Julie Taggart, Cynthia Peterson, Sherri Lyman and Lori Jones; sons John, Timothy, and Ronald; 46 grandchildren, and 60 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Lillian; and by his daughter Charolette Ann. Interment was held at the Lyman Cemetery.



Little



# Taps, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

## LLOYD J. LONG

Lloyd J. Long, one of the original founders of the 388th Bomb Group Association, passed away on August 3. The longtime Tonawanda, NY resident was 91. He was First Sergeant of the 562nd Sqd.

A graduate of Arkansas State College, Mr. Long was elected mayor of Tonawanda in 1957, and served four terms. He founded Robinson & Long, Inc., paving company, in 1959, and led the company until his retirement in 1992. He also operated a curbing company and volunteered his time repairing existing roads and helping with design and construction of city streets. In 1965, he was elected to the New York State Assembly, serving for five years.

A charter member of the Moose, his many affiliations included Post 264 American Legion, Masonic Lodge 247, and the Rotary Club. He was also a charter member and past president of the Erie County Traffic Board, served on the Salvation Army Board since 1966, and was involved with the SPCA.

Mr. Long is survived by Janet, his wife of 69 years; and daughters Victoria Ann Keidel and Deborah Louise Jaeger. Burial was held at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Tonawanda.



Long

## ROBERT MANOWITZ

Robert Manowitz, 92, died October 14 in Westbury, NY. While at Knettishall he served in the 434th Detachment, working in the Officers Mess. Mr. Manowitz is survived by Judith, his wife of 65 years; daughter Gayle, son Edward, and two grandchildren.

## HAROLD L. MILLER

Harold Lloyd Miller of Houston, TX passed away October 15 at age 87. He was navigator on John Quinn's crew in the 563rd Sqd., flying 36 missions between December 1944 and March 1945 in the aircraft *Jamaica Ginger*.

After returning from military service, Mr. Miller earned a degree in electrical engineering from Kansas State University. He accepted a position with National Geophysical in Dallas, TX, and relocated his family to Houston in 1968 when that company became part of Teledyne Exploration. After retirement, he volunteered his services by repairing toys for special needs children.

Mr. Miller is survived by Sue Evelyn, his wife of 60 years; daughter Jimmie Sue; sons David and Don; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Interment was held at Houston National Cemetery.

## GEORGE PILGRIM

George I. Pilgrim passed away in Tyler, TX on September 13. The former 388th BG Association President was 88. He served in the 563rd Sqd. as an engine mechanic.

Mr. Pilgrim met his wife Helen while on leave in Scotland, and they were married in Texas after the war. After working for Humble Oil Co., he joined the Cotton Belt

Railroad, first as a brakeman, and then as a conductor – a position he held until retirement in 1986. He was a Past Worshipful Master of the Masonic Lodge in Gilmer, TX.

Survivors include daughters Jacqueline Goates and Hazel Moore; son George; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by Helen, his wife of 64 years. Graveside services with an Air Force Honor Guard were held at Cathedral in the Pines, Tyler, TX.



Pilgrim

## JAMES R. WATSON

James Roddy Watson, 88 passed away October 14, 2011 in North Chicago, IL. Engineer/top turret gunner on Charles Edward's 563rd Sqd. crew, he was on his second mission when his plane, *Belle of the Brawl*, was shot down over Czechoslovakia on August 24, 1944. He remained a prisoner of war until May 1945.

Following the war, Mr. Watson received his ministerial license after graduating from Central Bible College in Springfield, MO in 1948. Rev. Watson went on to be a missionary to the American Indians in Wisconsin and then served in various capacities throughout his lifetime with the Assemblies of God Church. He also worked for a time with Dan Hayes Boiler Repair and received a degree as an engineer, working at the Board of Education in Chicago. He spent his retirement years visiting 11 nursing homes, ministering to the elderly, with his wife Sarah.

The Rev. Watson is survived by four daughters, one son 12 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife of 59 years, Sarah. Interment was at Arlington Cemetery in Elmhurst, IL.



Watson

## DONALD W. WISSER

Donald "Donnie" Wesley Wisser passed away October 17, 2011 at his home in Lenhartsville, PA. He was 90.

Mr. Wisser was radio operator/mechanic and ball turret gunner of the *Miss Mac* with the Tom Dennis crew in the 561st Sqd., flying 34 missions between August 1943 and March 1944. Awards included the DFC, the Air Medal with Three Oak Clusters, and the EAME Ribbon.

Until his retirement in 1991, Mr. Wisser worked as a delivery man and service manager at Suburban Propane Gas Company. Mr. Wisser was a life-long member of Frieden's Church, and was a former member and treasurer of the Lenhartsville Borough Council.

Mr. Wisser is survived by Ethel, his wife of 52 years; daughter Karen Buckland; and son Mark. He was laid to rest with full military honors at Friedens's Church cemetery in his hometown of Lenhartsville.



Wisser

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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) \_\_\_\_\_ LIFE MEMBERSHIP (\$50.00) \_\_\_\_\_ DONATION \_\_\_\_\_  
ASSOCIATE ANNUAL DUES (\$10.00) \_\_\_\_\_ ASSOCIATE LIFE MEMBERSHIP (\$50.00) \_\_\_\_\_

Please make Checks payable to: 388<sup>th</sup> BG Assn.

**IF APPLYING FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP:**

NAME OF RELATION WHO IS/WAS IN THE 388TH \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIONSHIP TO YOU \_\_\_\_\_ 

(Please fill in known information above, SQUADRON through POW information, for relative.) ☒ box if You have Prior Military Service

MAIL TO: LINDA SOO, SECRETARY 388TH BOMB GROUP ASSN. INC 3013 MOUNT BAKER CIRCLE OAK HARBOR, WA 98277

EMAIL: [secretary@388thbg.org](mailto:secretary@388thbg.org) or [Linda388@fiddlybits.com](mailto:Linda388@fiddlybits.com)