Welcome Aboard! Our Foundation Formation flies from PAST to FUTURE.



REFLECTIONS of Horham, our England Airbase

Newsletter of the 95th Bomb Group Memorials Foundation - Free with Membership



Formation up and ready.

95th Bomb Group (H) Briefs

Memorials Foundation
"First B-17's over Berlin" 3/4/44



The "OFFICE" nose of B-17

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- Photo cover: Many thanks to our English friend Don Moyes for his beautiful image of St. Mary's Church reflected in the 95th BG Memorial in the village of Horham, England. The smaller photo was taken when the Memorial was dedicated in 1981.
- A very special thank you goes to Kate and John Kirkum for all they did to make our Horham reunion flow so smoothly. James had a stack of Thank You certificates that he handed out to many deserving people who help with the Red Feather Club. But I think we all know that his leadership is the driving force that brings dreams to life. Thank you, James, for all that you do. We have all been blessed by you and your team's service in honoring the 95th Bomb Group.
- October is Breast Cancer Awareness month, and PX chair Kathy Hammesfahr has ordered pink fleece jackets and hats with 95th logos a warm and winning combination.
- The mission of the 95th Bomb Group Memorials Foundation is to educate the public regarding the history of the 95th Bomb Group and its role in the air campaign over central Europe during World War II; to promote the study and recognition of the total involvement of the air crews and their related support units; and to provide and maintain appropriate recognition of all members of the 95th Bomb Group who gave up their lives in the successful effort to preserve freedom as their legacy to future generations.

THIS NEWSLETTER IS FREE with your **membership** to the 95th Bomb Group Memorials Foundation. Tell the next generation about the 95th with a legacy gift membership for only \$25. See page 17 for mailing information.

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NEWS and INFORMATION that CONNECT US. Summer 2011 -



95th Bomb Group (H)

Notes

Our Greatest Memorial is You!

"Last B-17 down in WWII" 5/7/45







Janie McKnight PRESIDENT 95th BG MF

president@95thBG.org

FROM THE 95th PRESIDENT -

This spring, 25 of us enjoyed another lovely week with our English friends in Horham, UK. Once again the red carpet was rolled out for us, and especially for our three veterans and two widows - Ray Waters, Ben Roujansky, Herb Wilkov, Jackie DeHart, and Ivy Olsen. On Friday night, before a delightful welcoming dinner in the Blue Lounge, a beautiful new memorial was unveiled in front of the Red Feather Club. Ben Roujansky offered an eloquent and emotional thank you on behalf of the veterans.

Before the dinner, the 3 veterans presented the Missing Man Flag, and laid it on the mantle of the Blue Lounge where it remained throughout our visit. The flag and its case were a gift from Bob and Betty Lou Capen, with the case being beautifully crafted by Bob. A special thank you to **Bob and Betty Lou** from the Foundation and the Heritage Association!

Last year we made the Red Feather Club our official museum in the UK - a much deserved designation. But what we saw this year knocked our socks off! The museum has been completely renovated, with wonderful updates and displays that beautifully tell the 95th story. Congratulations to James Mutton and his hard working team for making the Red Feather Club sparkle!

We spent Saturday morning at the 95th Hospital Museum, where Tony and Val Albrow have done an outstanding job with their restoration, With 1940's dancers on hand, we celebrated the opening of the Tea Room, which completes this 15 year renovation project. Jeep rides were also available to the cleared area around the 336th squadron, giving it a lovely park-like feeling amidst the old buildings. The 95th is fortunate to have people like Tony and Val who work so hard to recognize and honor the men of the 95th.

Sunday was the Grand Open Day, and grand it was! An estimated 2000 people made their way to Station 119 that day. To start the ceremony, the Diss Academy Air Cadets presented the colors to the

veterans. Unit History artist James Baldwin was introduced, and we presented James Mutton, on behalf of the Cozens family, the cover painting for Into the Wild Blue Yonder, and Beyond. Not to be outdone, the Heritage Association had one more surprise when the MP's took our 3 veterans by the arm and marched them to the **new MP Hut** they had built on the grounds. The final Grand Open Day exclamation point was a fly over of the old airfield runway by a WWII-era P-51 Mustang fighter.

Our Sunday would not have been complete without the moving Service of Thanksgiving at St. Mary's Church in Horham. RAF Lakenheath Wing Chaplain, USAF Lt Col Bruce A. Arnold addressed the gathering. The Service was followed by the placement of a wreath at the 95th Bomb Group Memorial opposite the church.

Thank you to everyone who made this such a delightful reunion. And a special thank you to our 95th veterans.

They went over to fight and win a war - and they did! But they also sowed the seeds of a deep and abiding friendship, and for that we will always be grateful.



Janie McKnight, President 95th Bomb Group Memorials Foundation



Janie at Kentwell Hall.

2011 Board of Directors for the 95th Bomb Group Memorials Foundation

Janie McKnight, President Russ Askey, Vice President Nancy Freemantle, Treasurer Rosemary Livesay, Secretary Rod Hupp, Research Margaret Blagg, Memorials/Repository Brad Petrella, Reunions Ben Roujansky, Irv Rothman, Bob Capen, Veteran Representatives Jim May, 390th BG Memorial Museum, Pima, AZ Bob Cozens, 95th BG President Emeritus James Mutton (Horham, UK), 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association



Our great Vets at Cambridge

95th Bomb Group (H)

Unit History

Memorials Foundation

"First B-17's over Berlin" 3/4/44

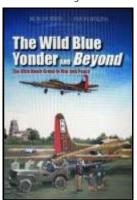


New Red Feather Plaque

95th BG UNIT HISTORY

The good news is the 95th Bomb Group Unit History is now in production! The bad news is that our publisher's production line has

been delayed and the book's release has been



pushed to Summer 2012. Potomac is very, very happy with the final product. We have cleared a number of very difficult hurdles, but I feel that each one has made this a better book. Each step has been carefully negotiated to get exactly what the 95th Bomb Group Memorials Foundation wants from the book, including the cover

art by James Baldwin and the line drawings by Paul Dillon. The book, which has 29 chapters, will run about 400 pages and will be a large-size paperback, though it is listed as cloth. The book has also been read in part by three leading aviation and military historians and a leading Bomb Group expert. All of them have given it their mark of approval. They are Col. Walter Boyne, former Director of the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum and a leading author; Barrett Tillman, acclaimed military author and the creator of the great Military Channel program "Dogfights"; Bert Kinzey, a leading historian in the field of aviation; and Mike Faley, the head of the 100th Bomb Group Foundation. It has been vetted at this time by Gale House (original cadre), Bob Capen (mid-war cadre), John Walter (late war) and Art Watson (ground). It has been vetted by Ian Hawkins, giving it that added instant credibility in the UK. It has been vetted by one of the pickiest developmental editors on the planet (merciless, but who

knew exactly what he was doing). And it will be promoted well by Potomac since Potomac is one of the biggest military publishers in the United States.

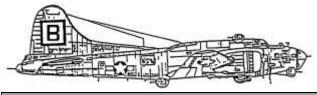
I feel that we have accomplished our mission. It has been a long and arduous one, but could anything less be fitting for a Group that flew dangerous missions over Europe from 1943 to 1945?

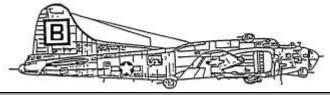
Thanks for believing in me and entrusting me with such a long and difficult project. I really believe we can say Mission Accomplished and not only that, but Mission Accomplished with Honor. Sincerely,

Rob Morris, author of Into the Wild Blue Yonder and Beyond



Artist James Baldwin with cover art for Into the Wild Blue Yonder and Beyond, the Unit History of the 95th Bomb Group. This painting now hangs in the Red Feather Club Museum in Horham England. This painting a gift of the Robert Cozens family.





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NEWS and INFORMATION that CONNECT US. Summer 2011



95th Bomb Group (H) Memorials Repository

Our Greatest Memorial is You!

"Last B-17 down in WWII" 5/7/45

We ask that you please review the condition of the Memorials of the 95th Bomb Group (H) as you travel to view them. If you have any concerns about the condition of a memorial, please report them to me, Margaret Blagg and we will work as quickly as possible to correct the problem.

You Are Our Eyes.

Thank you.

Honor Guarding



Margaret Blagg, Committee Chair Memorials/Repository, 95th BG MF mmblagg@gmail.com

MEMORIALS/REPOSITORY COMMITTEE

In 1997, veterans Maynard D. (Dick) Stewart and H. Griffin (Grif) Mumford wrote and designed an elegant book profiling the memorials that had been established to date by the 95th Bomb Group (H) Association. The



newly established 95th Bomb Group (H) Memorials Foundation published the book.

Many of you—perhaps most—have a copy.

Since 1997, the Foundation and other entities and individuals have established additional memorials honoring 95th Bomb Group personnel who lost their lives in the war. With stock of the original book running low, the Foundation Board has voted to re-publish the *Memorials* book, updated to include the new memorials.

The original six memorials are:

The Ring of Eight, St. Mary's Church, Horham, England

Memorial Room, 390th Memorial Museum, Tucson, Arizona

Outdoor Memorials (including David T. McKnight Bench), United States Air Force Museum, Dayton, Ohio

Memorial Display and Plaques, Mighty Eighth Heritage Museum,

Savannah, Georgia

Memorial Plaque, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia

Memorial Plaque, United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado **New memorials** to be included in the *revised* Memorials book are:

Red Feather Club Museum & Memorial, Horham 95th BG Hospital Museum, Denham Redlingfield Memorial, Redlingfield, England Memorial plaques at

the 390th Base Museum, Parham, England Memorial marker,

St. Didier-des-Bois, France ("Slightly Dangerous" craft) Memorial marker,

Church of Kain-la-Tombe, Tournai, Belgium We have been receiving copy and photographs of the new memorials. Before we finalize the project, we need your help. Please tell us right away if we are missing any memorials! We do not want to omit any 95th Bomb Group memorials! We rely on all our far-flung veterans, families, and friends to keep the 95th Family informed of new memorials.

Thank you!

Margaret



Above Photo: On the evening of Friday 13 May 2011, a trio of 95th veterans, unveiled a memorial to all those who served in the 95th Bomb Group at Horham. The veterans (L to R) Lt Herbert Wilkov a navigator and S/Sgt Benjamin Roujansky a radio operator, S/Sgt Ray B Waters a tail gunner, were joined by RAF Lakenheath Wing Chaplain Lt Col Bruce A Arnold and a F-15E Strike Eagle pilot, Lt Col Brent R Vosseller for the emotional dedication of the memorial, located in front of the flagpole at the Red Feather Club.



95th Bomb Group (H) Research page 1

Memorials Foundation

Rod at Pima Air Museum "First B-17's over Berlin" 3/4/44

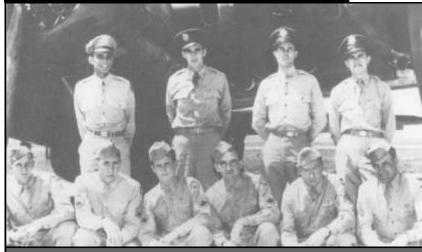


335 Squadron 1970's



Rod Hupp 95th BG MF Research

<u>rhupp@csc.com</u>.



Hensler (Arthur) Crew, Can you help us identify any of these men, this aircraft or photo location?

RESEARCH TEAM

The **Research Team** has new crew photos from the National Archives with the pilot's name and the names of their crew members.

However, we need help putting names to faces in

the crew photos. Let us know if you can assist us with this important research project.

The research team has volunteers who are trying to locate the veterans in these photos, but as you can imagine, it is a tedious task. In addition to the crew photos shown in this newsletter, here is the list of flight crews we are working to identify.

All of these photos are posted on our website, www.95thbg.org. If you can help identify any men in these photos, Please contact Rod Hupp. If needed, Rod can either e-mail you an enlarged photo with the list of crew members and their positions, or send you a copy through the US Post Office.



Thank you for any help you can offer us!

Rod Hupp

Baumgardner
(John) Crew
Know any of them?

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NEWS and INFORMATION that CONNECT US. Summer 2011



95th Bomb Group (H) Research page 2 Our Greatest Memorial is You!

"Last B-17 down in WWII" 5/7/45

Ken Wright's War Stories





Doxon (Myron) Crew, Can you identify any of these men, aircraft or location?

(GPR-51-4-95)(23-8-43) COMBAT

(Crews to be Identified referred to by Pilot's Name.)

> Cleburn H. Brown Thomas L. Barksdale Harry Bickard John P. Caspers Jonathan H. Bullard James E. Galbraith Ralph W. Ehert Edward D. Grant Jr Robert D. Fligor William B. Hiatt Barney Glovick Lawrence W. Jensen Joseph B. Holt Jr Bror C. Seaburg Wayne W. McIntyre John L. Sundberg Leslie B. Palmer Arthur L. Tessier



Pinas (Peter) Crew, Can you identify any of these men?

Summer 2011 -There's More Online www.95thBG.org Page 7



95th Bomb Group (H) Membership

Happy Linda & Charlotte

Memorials Foundation "First B-17's over Berlin" 3/4/44 Capen, Hinojos, Missing Man Flag



Linda "Charles" Endris 95thBG Membership LIAISON 225 Buffalo Drive, Indianapolis, Indiana 46217 ljendris@att.net

Membership Liaison I can't believe it has been almost a year since I started my e-mail birthday/ news update project. I have been overwhelmed by the response I have gotten from recipients of birthday, sympathy, and get well cards and e-mail wishes. I have had everything from simple "thank yous" to lovely letters and notes and have begun correspondence with several of the veterans and widows of veterans. I have also received handwritten stories, books, photographs and memoirs from several of the veterans and hope to bring them with me to the reunion in Seattle to share with you all.

A daughter of one of our veterans looks at the birthday list every month, buys birthday cards for her Dad and he sends a card to everyone on the list. She said it gives him a purpose – to acknowledge the birthdays of other veterans/ wives/widows, even if he doesn't know them. That is so special!

Those of you who have sent cards to the veterans and/or widows have no idea how appreciative they are of your thoughtfulness and concern. They are especially pleased that they hear from members of the 95th Bomb Group which is such an important part of their lives. Some of the comments are included in the TAPS section of this newsletter. Be sure to read them!!

I am sure my list is far from complete so if any of you would like to send the name of a veteran or widow of a veteran and their birthday, or if you are a veteran or widow, I would be glad to add your name to my list. I also send news updates regarding the veterans so if you have any news please contact me.

Thanks to all of you for your support of this project. It truly would not work without your participation.

Linda

Widows League My recent count shows that we have a total of 160 widows on our mailing list. We have just recently added a couple new ones. We are getting some response from a few letting us know how much they appreciate the mail we send them and to know that they are not forgotten. None of this would be possible without help from Gracie (still), Linda, and the members of my committee: Ann Cook; Peggy Rothman; Ben Roujansky; Beth Rosenzweig; and Meg Brackney. They each deserve a big "thank you" from all of us. I have also, hopefully, talked one of our ladies into the Horham reunion next year. More on that later.

Jackie

Note from Bob Capen Three Brits visited us June 5th through June 9th this summer. Alan Roper, his dad George and Roy Baker. They were visiting, attending some car shows in the area and looking for old car parts they could take or have shipped back home. It was wonderful to see them all again. These fellows and Bill Purchase restored many WWII vehicles and attend rallies and parades with these vehicles. When George Roper was in his early teen years he would visit the 95th air base in Horham frequently with eggs and strawberries. Jim Sheller, my pilot, would purchase some from him. It was wonderful to visit with them. We always look forward to return visits from them.

Bob Capen, 336th Squadron

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Arthur W. Schuessler Veleria L. Chambers William C. Minick John Waters Gregory R. Kerlec

Laura L. Byers

Erwin Van Eikenhorst (Euro)

Page 8 - We are Grateful for your Membership & Donations — Summer 2011

Summer 2011 — NEWS and INFORMATION that CONNECT US.

95th Bomb Group (H) Around and About News of the 95th

Our Greatest Memorial is You!

We've made some good progress enhancing our Internet presence over the last several months.

Our **Twitter feed** continues to a gain followers of the (now almost) daily mission updates. Even 95th History Buffs are learning new things from the updates, which include copies of actual mission files. Did you know the 95th once bombed a naval convoy at sea?



"We flew over 20,000 people over the years and I never saw even one that was not delighted with their trip. We had a good time, did a lot of good in raising awareness of what our vets did for us, so I have no regrets with that chapter of my life."

Don Brooks, The Liberty Belle Foundation



The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation helps widows of all Air Force Retirees, both officers and enlisted, through financial grants of assistance. These widows spend much of their lives coping with the difficulties of military life, and supporting their spouses through years of active duty. We are not interested in why they need help, only that they need it. We provide assistance for as long as it is required. We have several widows who have been receiving monthly checks for over six years. We also help Air Force widows with a specific need they may be facing, in a single disbursement. We do not offer loans. All funds disbursed are considered grants. For more information, contact the **LeMay Foundation** at 17050 Arnold Drive, Riverside, CA 92518 or call 1-800-554-5510. Inquiries may also be made to info@lemayfoundation.com.

June 13 was a sad day in that we lost a very special flying B-17. Fortunately, no one was seriously injured when the 390th BG's commemorative "Liberty Belle" had to make an emergency landing in a field near Chicago because of an inboard fire in the left wing.

The Liberty Belle Foundation had restored the plane and flew it around the country for all to enjoy. Perhaps its most exciting venture was in 2008 when she flew to England, complete with a fly over Horham airfield to pay her respects to the 95th BG. Thank you to all those who brought this airplane back to life. The "Liberty Belle" stood as a testament to the brave men of the 390th Bomb Group, and the 13th Combat Wing, and all who served in the Mighty 8th Air Force.



Thanks in large part to the incredible work done by our **Research Team** and **Archive Volunteers**, online database search capability has been added to our website, 95thbg.org. You can now search through among other things, over 10,000 individual flight crew records. Give it a try!



95th Bomb Group (H) UK Reunion Photos page 1

Memorials Foundation "First B-17's over Berlin" 3/4/44



A Fine RFC Dinner



Brad Petrella Reunions, 95th BG MF reunions@95thbg.org



Herb Wilkov, Ben Roujansky, Ray Waters



American visitors at the opening ceremony.



95th BG Vet. Ben Roujanski and Lt Col Brent Vosseller



Dinner at Red Feather Club



Christine - RFC



Brad & Sister Nancy at their Dad's historic Brad's Bar in the Red Feather Club



Violet & Grace at RFC Dinner



Diss Air Cadets present the colours.



Janie McKnight, President of the 95th Bomb Group Memorials Foundation, addresses the assembly.

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Summer 2011 — NEWS and INFORMATION that CONNECT US.



95th Bomb Group (H) UK Reunion Photos page 2

Our Greatest Memorial is You! "Last B-17 down in WWII" 5/7/45



336th Squadron Area

Hospital Museum Dancing

UK Reunion - Hospital Museum

On Saturday, May 14th, the **95th Bomb Group Hospital Museum** welcomed 25
American visitors for the museum's **15th anniversary** celebration. The group included three 95th BG veterans who were stationed in Horham during World War II. The following is an excerpt from the local newspaper that covered the event:

"Renovated by owners **Tony and Val Albrow** at their own expense and through donations, the museum marked the occasion with the opening of its **tea room and gift shop**. The couple have now opened up almost all rooms in the hospital building. Some have been restored to their original state while others have exhibits and displays to view.

Mrs. Albrow said: "The tea room is the last room in the hospital to be renovated, except for the main ward which is currently used by Tony as a workshop. It would cost several thousand pounds to put that room back to how it used to be when it housed 22 beds."

She said there was always plenty of work to do in the museum and volunteers were always welcome.

The celebrations at the weekend included a 1940's tea dance and rides in a jeep to other parts of the site, including buildings where the 336th squadron lived and slept.

The museum also held an open day on Sunday. It will **open on the last Sunday of every month** until October, with teas and homemade cakes available in the new tea room."

Courtesy Diss Express www.dissexpress.co.uk



http://95thbghospitalmuseum.co.uk









95th Bomb Group (H) US Reunion

Memorials Foundation "First B-17's over Berlin" 3/4/44



Seattle Hotel Pool

2011 Seattle Reunion

An Invitation & Highlights

95th Bomb Group Annual Reunion - Seattle, WA • October 12–16, 2011

An Invitation

Are you planning to attend the 95th Bomb Group 2011 Annual Reunion? The Space Needle, Mt. Rainier, and a lodge-style hotel provide an inviting atmosphere and setting for those attending. Seattle's beautiful vistas, taking tours, meeting with old friends, dancing, Fireside Chatting, cruising Puget Sound, and frequenting the PX, and the Red Feather Club promise to make this reunion memorable. Join us.

Lodging

Home base is the **Seattle Airport Marriott Hotel** at 3201 South 176th Street, Seattle, WA 98188.

The rate is \$126/night + tax and includes: airport shuttle pick-up and drop-off service, high-speed Internet access, and discounted parking rates for drivers.

Airport Arrivals

The Bluebills–Boeing's retiree group–will greet us at the airport and provide direction to baggage claim and the hotel shuttle. Watch for The Bluebills just outside of TSA Security. They will be holding the 95th Red Feather Emblem.

Highlights

October 13–Future of Flight Museum & Boeing's 777 & 787 manufacturing

October 14–KIA, MIA, POW & Evadee Memorials Breakfast

October 14–Boeing's Museum of Flight Tour hosted by The Bluebills.

Visit the Red Barn Plant–where Boeing was founded [special surprises]

October 14—Dinner Dance with a DJ-hosted 40's Big Band Swing Music

October 15—Cruise & Native American Folkloric Performance & Salmon Roast

Registration & Hotel Booking Deadline: September 9, 2011

- Registration

 Checks payable to 95th BG Memorials Foundation
- 2. Mail Your Registration to-

95th BGMF, c/o Nancy Freemantle, Treasurer, PO Box 6154, Eureka, CA 95502-6154

3. Hotel Reservations–Phone Seattle Airport (Sea-Tac) Marriott at

1-206-241-2000

or Book Online via our special website link at http://www.95thbg.org

Travel Arrangements-On your own .

95th BG Registration Cancellation Policy

Registration is fully refundable for all medical and \odot family emergencies up to one-week prior. You are responsible to cancel all hotel & flight arrangements.

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Summer 2011 — NEWS and INFORMATION that CONNECT US.



95th Bomb Group (H) Seattle Boeing

Our Greatest Memorial is You!

"Last B-17 down in WWII" 5/7/45



DC- Air & Space Museum

Rosie the Riveter was made famous in THIS BUILDING. Now it is to be demolished and the land returned into a green park. At Boeing's Plant 2 was born the first B-17 and grew to crank out 12 B-17's a day during the height of World War II. The entire structure was hidden under chicken wire dressed with fake houses and roads. Brilliantly camouflaged to look like a residential neighborhood. (see pix). Located by Seattle's "Museum of Flight," Plant 2 last housed B-17 restoration, until it fell this Fall... A famous space that also birthed the: B-29, the B-52, and the 737. Most of the 95th Bomb Group's B-17's came from here too. Plant 2 left it's mark.





www.95thBG.org

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There's More Online

Summer 2011



95th Bomb Group (H) 13th Combat Wing News

Memorials Foundation
"First B-17's over Berlin" 3/4/44



95th + 100th + 390th = 13th CW



Jim May, President 390th Memorial Museum Foundation 6000 E. Valencia Rd, Tucson, AZ 85756 www.390th.org

390TH MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Greetings to all of our friends in the 95th Bomb Group Memorials Foundation, from the 390th Memorial Museum Foundation. We have been hard at work making much needed repairs and improvements to the museum: new overhead lights, furniture in our Research and Audio Visual Departments, plumbing repairs, improvements to the air handlers and duct work, and many more.

We have also been working on a Master Plan for some much needed improvements to the building. The plan adds new exhibits, including a 3-D depiction of the 8th AAF Defensive Box Formation, a full scale cut-away of a B-17, and a 'Life on the Base' theme that will incorporate a partial façade of a WWII Control Tower. And of course, your **95th Bomb Group Memorial** will always have its place of honor in the museum.

As you might imagine, all of this takes a lot of money. Fortunately, we have received a significant annual grant from the **Dorothy D. and Joseph A. Moller Foundation**. **Col Moller**, the driving force behind creating the 390th Memorial Museum, was the 390th BG Commander from September 1944 through May 1945.

To comply with IRS mandates regarding minimum ratios between private and public funding, we need to immediately increase the amount of money we receive from the public. If we fail, we risk falling short of the IRS mandated ratios, losing our Public Foundation standing as well as the funding from the Moller Grant.

I am turning to our friends in the 95th to ask for help. At the risk of using a tired cliché, we ask you to consider a donation to the 390th Memorial Museum. Any amount will help.

No donation is too small.

Please direct your contributions for the general support of the museum to our Tucson address. (box on left)

Thank you very much,

Jim.

390th BG Memorial Museum is Amazing



Grace & Kathy Hammesfahr *outside* 390th Museum which is inside Pima Air and Space Museum in Tucson, Arizona US



Another Magic Moment in this Amazing Museum. The late Adam Hinojos poses with his family.

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NEWS and INFORMATION that CONNECT US. Summer 2011



95th Bomb Group (H) 13th Combat Wing News

Our Greatest Memorial is You! "Last B-17 down in WWII" 5/7/45



Look, up in the sky...



Michael P. Faley -**Board of Directors** 100th Bomb Group and Eighth Air Force Historical Society www.100thbg.com www.8thafhs.org

100TH BOMB GROUP

In 1999, a group of 5 of us traveled to England to see the Ghosts of the 8th Air Force. They were nestled in little towns like Bury St Edmunds, Framlingham, Eye, Parham, Thorpe Abbotts and Horham. Sequestered in these tiny hamlets are the remnants of the once mighty airfields of the 8th Air Force where every morning from 1942 -1945 the ground shook to life with the sounds of B-17 and B-24's straining to gain enough speed to take off. If you look closely, you can see the occasional Quonset hut or cement hardstand just off the road.

Mostly, you will find memories of a bygone era and the "Keepers of the Fields of Little America" to help tell those stories. Dedicated beyond your wildest imagination, many of these Keepers were just young lads or lasses during the war, or born way afterwards.

This past April, I had the good fortune of being in Europe and whenever possible I plan one day to go up to East Anglia to visit "The Keepers".

Home for me in England is Thorpe Abbotts, home of the Bloody Hundredth, but my extended family, I am proud to say, includes my good friends James Mutton and Frank Sherman at Station 119, the Red Feather Club and home of the 95th Bomb Group (H) Museum.

What you need to know is that James and Frank and the other volunteers are working towards having a first class museum in your honor. They are "Keepers" of the 95th Bomb Group story, and need your support.

This does not mean just money, but memorabilia too. This is "Your" museum - a tribute to the legacy of your father, husband, grandfather, uncle, great grandfather, neighbor, friend.

The Red Feather Club museum is a class act, as are all "The Keepers" who take care of these old airfields.

Just know, your history is safe in England as long as we nurture our respective museums and support the synergy of all the airfields/museums that are home to the history of The Mighty Eighth.

Square B, you have a great reunion up in Seattle.

Mike

Keepers of the 95th

Ray Howlett - James Mutton - Glen Miller

There's More Online www.95thBG.org Summer 2011 — Page 15



95th Bomb Group (H) Horham

Memorials Foundation "First B-17's over Berlin" 3/4/44



Philip & James Mutton



James Mutton Chairman, 95th BG Heritage Association jamesmutton@suffolkonline.net.

95TH BG HERITAGE ASSOCIATION NEWS

Red Feather Club hosts writing workshop

On March 31st, the 95th BG Heritage Association hosted the start of a writing competition, involving pupils from Wilby, Laxfield and Stradbroke. Nine pupils took a "writing master class" given by bestselling author Robert Radcliffe, who wrote Under An **English Heaven**. The students took inspiration from the atmosphere of the WW2 buildings to create a story about the war. On May 19th when they returned to the Red Feather Club, two locals who remember the 95th BG's arrival in the village - Bryan Chapman and Alan Johnson - told them stories of life in the village and on the base, when they were young boys. Scott Bradley, dressed in an MP's uniform, took the children on a visit to the newly-erected Guard Room, where they were shown the prison cell used to detain personnel who misbehaved. Amongst the guests attending the competition was Grace Hammesfahr (nee McKnight), who told the children about her brother Col Dave McKnight and his service at Horham during the war.

Red Feather Club Visitors

On April 18th, American visitor Alan Kordzidoski and Sophie Green of the 390th BG at Framlingham were welcomed to the Red Feather Club by Ray Howlett. Alan was tracing the history of his grandfather, M/Sgt Frank V. Kordzikowski Sr., a 95th veteran in the 412th Squadron. Frank came to England in April 1943 and flew as engineer/top turret gunner on "Southern Belle". When the 95th BG moved to Horham, Frank stayed with the 390th BG.

On April 27th James Mutton welcomed Michael Faley, who was accompanied by Carol Batley of the 100th Bomb Group Museum at Thorpe Abbots. Mike is the historian of the 100th Bomb Group in America and edits the 13th Combat Wing Newsletter.

Cheryl Leaser, granddaughter of 1st Lt Earl R. Leaser, and her friend Heidi were welcomed to the Red Feather Club by Alan Johnson in early May.



US visitors RFC Memorial

Cheryl and Heidi were on a tour to trace Cheryl's grandfather's time with the 95th BG. Earl R. Leaser, pilot with the 412th Bomb Squadron, flew fourteen missions starting in March 1944.

On April 29th 1944, whilst piloting "I'll Be Around" on a mission to Berlin, the aircraft suffered flak damage to No2 engine over Drummer Lake (Germany) and limped back over Holland. At this point 1st Lt Leaser decided they would not make it back across the North Sea and ditched nine miles west of Haamstede. The crew took to the dinghies and drifted ashore near the Dutch coastal town of Wemeldinge.

The following day they became POWs. Cheryl and Heidi planned to visit Haamstede, the last known land point before "I'II Be Around" ditched. They were also going to the area where 1st Lt Leaser was interned until his liberation in April 1945.

During the Grand Open Day reunion, Frederick K. "Bud" Slavin visited the Red Feather Club in memory of his father Lt Frederick K. Maerz Jr of the 336th BS, who was wounded in action on June 19th 1944 whilst on a tactical mission over France in aircraft 42-106993. Lt F.K. Maerz served as a navigator with pilot R.F. Harvey's crew.

Monday May 23rd saw the visit of **Joe Shea**, a veteran of the 357th Fighter Group. Joe was over from the USA for a reunion at Leiston, where he flew P51 Mustang "My Bonnie". Many thanks to Andy Garner who escorted Joe on this part of his trip. On May 30th Colin Stearn represented the 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association at the annual Memorial Ceremony held at Madingley Cemetery. Colin also organised the provision of the wreath and the 95th BGHA wishes to express thanks to him.

James

NEWS and INFORMATION that CONNECT US. Summer 2011



95th Bomb Group (H) Treasurer's Page

Our Greatest Memorial is You! "Last B-17 down in WWII" 5/7/45



Ivy & Nancy at the RFC



Nancy Freemantle TREASURER 95th BG MF

PO Box 6154, Eureka, CA 95502-6154 bnfreem@olfreegenes.com

By now you all should have received your membership statement and reunion information in the mail. Our memberships are what keep us flying - thank you for your continued support! If for some reason you haven't received the mailing, please let me know and I will get one to you.

Thanks to all who have already sent in the blue dues cards. We ask that you return the card, even if you are a life member, with any changes of address noted on the back. We will soon be updating our Blue Book Roster, and want our records to be as accurate as possible.

Many of you have donated to the Foundation in memory of those who have left the formation or to honor living veterans. Your donations are much appreciated and support our efforts to continue telling the stories of the Greatest Generation's sacrifice and courage during World War II.

Grace wore many hats while on the Foundation Board, acting not only as treasurer, but in charge of memberships as well. Since her retirement, we have been trying to put together a crew to fill her many shoes. Linda Endris and I are working together to make this as seamless as possible - please bear with us during this transition period!

My father (Ray Olsen) was proud of the years he spent serving our country with the 95th Bomb Group. It is in his honor that I dedicate my time serving as Treasurer of the Foundation. I love the time I've been able to spend with the Veterans of the 95th at reunions and I hope to meet many more of you in Seattle!

Nancy

Memorial Contributions In Loving Memory of:

Frank **Baca** William "Ed" Charles S/Sgt. E.F. Darter Mrs. Ronald **Grove** Philip J. Kanarkowski James W. Kiser Edwin **LeCorchick** Frank Mago Robert Paul McMurtry Martin Joe Mitchell Edward **Morrison** Donald T. Paulson Joseph Roderick Conrad Roellchen Ellis Scripture Marion R. Turner, Jr J.D. Waddell, Jr

Joe W. Blagg Leland F. Cowan Burt Evans Adam **Hinojos** Harold **Lippert** Dave McKnight Raymond M. Olsen Donald R. Petroske-Roberts Fred Rodgers Frank Ruh Charles Smiley Carl Voss

Contributions In Honor of:

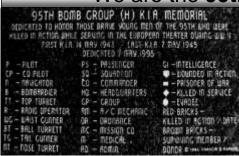
Charles Gallagher Frank P. Hawk

Nancy and Ivy (her Mum) return to UK.





A Very Secure Treasurer



Memorial Bricks Legend

95th Bomb Group (H) **Last Plane** Down

Memorials Foundation

"First B-17's over Berlin" 3/4/44 Last Plane Down Honors all





Megan & Kevin Brackney Dayton Memorial, 95th BG meggyjb@aol.com

LAST PLANE DOWN

This years Last Plane Down reunion was a little different than in past years, but still just as touching

On Friday May 6th, everyone gathered for dinner in the banquet room at the hotel in Dayton. Kevin and Meg prepared the meal - ham, turkey and all the trimmings, with fruit cobbler for dessert served with ice cream from a local dairy.

After dinner the group gathered in the lounge for a fireside chat. Stories and pictures were shared, and memories made.

Saturday May 7th brought a beautiful morning as we gathered at the 95th BG memorial at the United States Air Force Museum in Dayton. The Honor Guard from Wright Patterson Air Force Base posted colors.

Kevin Brackney served as the MC, reminding all in attendance that we gather each year to remember the last 95th crew lost during the war. The crew was on a Manna Chowhound Mission over Utrecht, Holland when they were shot down. Nina **Rothman** presented a moving memorial ceremony. which closed with Taps being played by veteran Robert Hightshoe on the bugle.

Following the ceremony Meg announced the names that have been engraved on bricks this past year. She also explained that arrangements have been made to add a brick for Lt. Henry Quirk who was recently found to be KIA instead of MIA. Repairs will be made to the memorial as soon as the weather cooperates.

Four of our 95th vets - Robert Hightshoe, Charles Rigs, Irv Rothman and John Walter their friends and family members were in attendance for this years' events.

Megan and Kevin Brackney

Last Plane Down Ceremony 95th BG Memorial at National USAF Museum, Dayton, Ohio US



Kevin Brackney with Robert Highshoe (bugler) John Walter, Charles Rigs & Irv Rothman.





Summer 2011 **NEWS and INFORMATION that CONNECT US.**





Our Greatest Memorial is You!

"Last B-17 down in WWII" 5/7/45 who love the vastness of the sky. Here's a toast to the host of those



Summer 2011 — There's More Online www.95thBG.org

We are the 95th Bomb Group Memorials Foundation 95th Bomb Group (H) 95TH BOMB GROUP (H) **PX Store Memorials Foundation** FLY with the 95th NOW! "First B-17's over Berlin" 3/4/44 SHOP ONLINE too.



MEMBERSHIP makes a great GIFT!

The 95th BG MEMORIALS FOUNDATION membership makes a great gift too. Send name, addy, etc. with \$25 to 95thBG Treasurer or signup online. New Members get a good welcome kit.









PX Order Form

THIS FORM IS ALSO ON OUR WEBSITE

Order Date:	Ship To Address (if other than listed on the left)
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
City:	City:
State/Zip:	State/Zip:
Country:	Country:
Phone:	Phone:
E-mail:	E-mail:

Category	Item	Туре	Sizes	Price
Patches	Back - 8th AF		L	\$7.50
	Hat - 8th AF		S	\$5.00
	95th Shoulder			\$4.00
	95th Crest- Justice Victory			\$4.00
	Squadron 334, 335, 412			\$4.00
Note cards	Color - B-17			\$10.00
Notepads	5-pack			\$13.00
Books	B-17s Over Berlin			\$17.00
	Memorials of the 95th			\$15.00
	Fateful Flight			\$14.00
	We're Poor Little Lambs			\$10.00
Prints	Berlin Bessie			\$6.00
CD-Rom	Oral Histories of the 95th BG			\$25.00
Stickers	95th Crest - Justice Victory			3/\$1.00
	Bumper			\$1.50
Lapel Pin	Crest			\$10.00
Tie Tack/Pin	B-17			\$7.50
Hat	Tan (Call for other colors)			\$16.00
	Military Style: Ivory, Black			\$20.00
Clothing				
Hoodie Sweatshirt - Jacket	Green, call for colors	Men's	S,M,L,XL,2XL	\$45.00
Summer Jacket	Lt Blue or Olive Green	Men's	S,M,L,XL,2XL	\$55.00
Sweatshirt	Crest	Men's	S,M,L,XL,2XL	\$20.00
	B17	Men's	S,M,L,XL,2XL	\$20.00
Polar Fleece	Call for colors	Men's	S,M,L,XL,2XL	\$45.00
B-17 Polo w/pocket	Black, Burgundy, Grey	Men's	S,M,L,XL,2XL	\$40.00
Polar Fleece	Pink, Brown, Lt Green, call for colors	Ladies'	S,M,L,XL,2XL	\$45.00
Summer Jacket	Lt Blue or Olive Green	Ladies'	S,M,L,XL,2XL	\$55.00
Hoodie Sweatshirt - Jacket	Mango, call for other colors	Ladies'	S,M,L,XL,2XL	\$45.00
B-17 Polo	SpGreen, Aq/Blue, Mango, Royal Blue	Ladies'	S,M,L,XL,2XL	\$38.00
Please contact Kathy directly	for updated info on Larger Sizes, current Colo	ors. new Style	s. Suggestions, et	C.

Contact Kathy for info: 732.501.7017.	Subtotal	
Plus Shipping: Up to \$10.00 = \$2.50 ; \$10.00 to \$25.00 = \$4.00 : Over \$25.00 = \$8.00	Shipping	
Make Checks Payable To: 95th BG Memorials Foundation	Total	



PX Store Kathy Hammesfahr:

Email: khammes25@aol.com Ph: 732.501.7017

Mailing Address: PX Store Kathy Hammesfahr, 118 Taft Dr. Brick, NJ 08724



95th Bomb Group (H)

Taps

Memorials Foundation "First B-17's over Berlin" 3/4/44



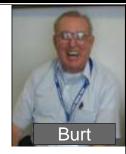
"Bye Pals..."





Linda Endris Leaving Formation Updates liendris@att.net.

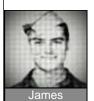
Burt Evans Joe and Kirsten Evans write: "I am writing to let you and the 95th know that Burt passed away on March 23. He thoroughly enjoyed the time he spent with the 95th BG Association, particularly at the reunions. We want to thank you all for keeping his and all



the other veterans' memories alive for us and our family, and for the kindness everyone showed him there."

Vergene Ford Ken Hutchersen writes: "I received an e-mail Col. Vergene Ford's daughter. He passed away early this morning.. He was the pilot of "DIANA" in the 335th Squadron. I was radio operator on Ford's crew. Col Ford's daughter, Diana McDanel was born when we arrived in England and our plane was named after her."

James J. Hagerty Kelly Marion writes:



"My Uncle Jimmy died two weeks ago. His memorial will be in Buffalo on Memorial day. My family has asked for any Information on Jimmy that I might have. At one time I had files of "stuff". That file is presently

misplaced and I fear never to be found."

Frank L. Mago, Jr. Lyn Lozinsky, the daughter of

Frank Mago writes: "I wanted to let you know my Dad, Frank Mago, passed away Wed. March 30th. He'd only been ill for about a month. He was peaceful at the end. He was 91, so I think he had a great run at life. He was very proud (& me too) of his service & his buddies from the war."



Edward Morrison Beth Emerson, Ed Morrison's daughter writes: "Ed Morrison passed away peacefully May 6, 2011. The family appreciates your efforts to get the news of his illness out to others so quickly. All the

cards and special notes such as your own were of great comfort to him. Mom is coping as well as one can after 64 years of marriage. Condolences from Dad's group have been of comfort to her. They have always been



close throughout the years and are truly treasured friends. Thank you once again."

Lew Scott Deceased 3/24/2011. He enjoyed many 95th reunions. Here he is with his family, Laurie, David, Maggie, at Savannah in 2007. Lou will be missed.





Alex Von Stade Edith Von Stade writes: "I'm receiving lots of cards & e-mails from the members.

Everyone is so thoughtful and I am grateful to each and everyone of them and our Daughter and Son sends theirs also.

They were so much help to me with everything. Thank you so very much from our family"



LEAVING FORMATION



Deceased reported since last newsletter.				
Barnes, John R.	06/02/2011			
Crittenden, F. Alex	11/29/2009			
Cupp, Robert J.	05/03/2011			
Devaney, Richard	05/01/2011			
Evans, Burt	03/23/2011			
Ford, Vergene	06/13/2011			
Hagerty, James L.	03/29/2011			
Lattis, Albert F.	12/25/2010			
Lundahl, Lee D.	05/01/1990			
Mago, Frank L. Jr.	03/30/2011			
Morrison, Edward F.P.	05/06/2011			
Murphy, James V.	04/24/2011			
Novak, John J.	06/22/2011			
Ruh, Francis A.	12/07/2010			
Scott, Lewis M.	03/24/2011			
Von Stade, Alex	04/30/2011			



'... we honor ALL, when we honor the MISSING MAN Flag"

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95th Bomb Group Memorials Foundation

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