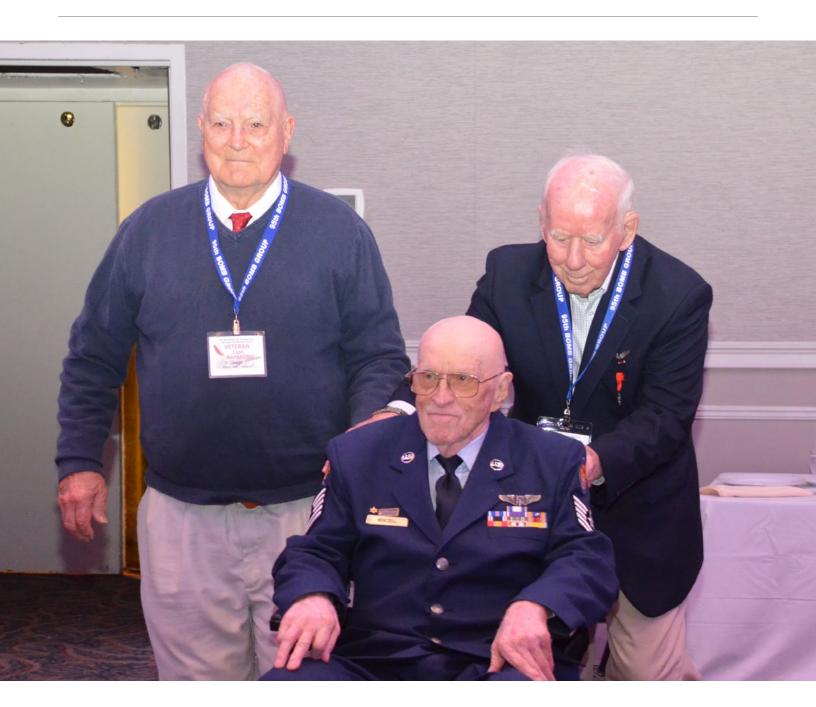


95th Bomb Group Newsletter

THE 95TH BOMB GROUP MEMORIALS FOUNDATION, INC. is a 501(c)3 organization whose purpose is to educate the public regarding the history of the 95th Bomb Group (H) and its role in the air campaign over central Europe during WWII.



◀ Cover Photo by Laney Baltazar Veterans attending the 2018 95th BG Reunion in Philadelphia, PA.

*A SPECIAL THANKS to Laney for volunteering her time and talents as our Reunion Photographer.



95[™] BOMB GROUP

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3	NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT
4	MEMBERSHIP & REUNIONS
6	2019 HORHAM REUNION TOUR FORM
7	2018 PHILADELPHIA REUNION RECAP
14	YOU TOO & SUBMISSION CALL
15	ARTICLES
15	Memories of Ernest Jack Bennett by Raymond Mallentjer
16	Last Flight of the Worrybird by William R. Livingstone
19	A Tucson Partner Passes by Margaret Blagg
19	SAVE THE DATE: Last Plane Down Ceremony by Meg Brackney
20	LEFT FORMATION
21	WE WILL REMEMBER THEM
22	PX

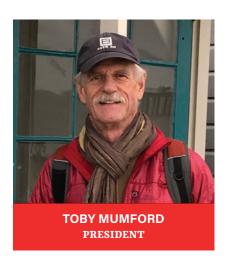


SQUADRON

SQUADRON

...I encourage each of you to share with your own children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews the history of the 95th Bomb Group, the Mission of the Memorials Foundation and the recollections shared with you by 95th veterans you've known.

Notes from the **President**



Philadelphia and the Liberty Bell rolled out the welcome mat for the 95th Reunion this year. What a great event and the activities were well received by all attendees.

We had a total of 91 attendees and were blessed to have five veterans with us. Jack Bertram, Ray Hobbs, Ken Hutcherson, Charlie Wentzell and Herb Wilkov honored us with their presence and their memories. I was particularly pleased to see a number of our younger generation members in attendance or as guests during the Reunion. These grandsons and granddaughters of the 95th airmen all had a good time and enjoyed the interaction with the veterans and other attendees. A BIG THANKS goes to Vanna Walker for once again orchestrating a wonderful Reunion.

Having a number of our younger generation members attending is essential to the continued vitality of the 95th BGMF. With this in mind, I encourage each of you to share with your own children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews the history of the 95th Bomb Group, the Mission of the Memorials Foundation and the recollections shared with you by 95th veterans you've known. Engaging your daughters and sons will hopefully translate into their direct involvement, now and in future years, with the 95th.

The location for the 2019 reunion received a great deal of attention. We wanted to balance a reasonably priced location with one that is central to the greatest number of our living veterans. We put the location options in front of our attendees and the final decision was to go to Savannah, GA, next year. We have not settled on a date but will keep in mind the hurricane season. We will be making an announcement on the time of year in the very near future so stay tuned.

The 95th BGMF NEEDS YOUR HELP!

We have determined that our website needs a refresher. It has been a number of years since we have updated the site and if we wish to attract younger viewers/users we need to make improvements. How can you help? Speak with your children or grandchildren to see if any have worked on website construction or updates and would like to donate their time to work with us on improving our site. This is not a long term commitment since once the site has been updated we will rely on our site manager to maintain what we create. If you have an questions, feel free to contact me at president@95thbg.org and I will further outline the scope of the

Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to seeing many of you and your children at our 2019 Savannah reunion, if not sooner.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

H. Griffin "Toby" Mumford

President president@95thbg.org

Phil Samponaro

Vice President history@95thbg.org

Becky Wright Grove

Secretary secretary @95thbg.org

Russ McKnight

Treasurer treasurer@95thbg.org

Jody M. Thompson

Board Member djthompson@wiktel.com

Beth O. Rosenzweig

Board Member, Reunion Committee Registrar parlormaid@me.com

Vanna Walker

Board Member, Reunion Chair reunions@95thbg.org

Linda Endris

Board Member, Member Liaison liendris@att.net

Louis R. "Dick" Westerburg

Board Member, Nominating Committee Chair lwester@entergy.com

Dan Dodds

Board Member, Legal Counsel dan@doddslaw.com

David Livesay

Board Member Budget & Finance Committee dlsys@aol.com

Allan S. Moller

Board Member, 390th MMF Rep asm110@earthlink.net

AD HOC COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Legacy: Rose Marie Livesay rmlimages@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Finance: Russ McKnight treasurer@95thbg.org

Membership: John Mollison membership@95thbg.org

Governance: Dick Westerburg lwester@entergy.com

Research: Rod Hupp research@95thbg.org

Reunions: Vanna Walker reunions@95thbg.org



NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Sara R.W. Olson editor@95thbg.org Granddaughter of Ray B. Waters Tail Gunner, 335th Squadron



ACCOMMODATION NOTES FROM BEVERLEY ABBOTT:

Our usual hotel, the Park Hotel in Diss, has a weekend function during our reunion verv limited and has room availability. We have negotiated a favorable rate at the Best Western Brome Grange Hotel, near Eye. This is a link to their website: https://tinyurl.com/y9n672ko To take advantage of the negotiated rate, contact the hotel directly using the following reference number

BG016557

You can email the hotel at info@bromegrangehotel.co.uk We have a block of 10 double rooms and five twin rooms available on a first come. first served basis. This hotel does book up very quickly so please book your room as soon as possible. There are courtyard rooms at ground level. These are basic and vou would need to walk outside to access the main hotel. We would suggest you upgrade to the superior rooms within the hotel building. These rooms have walk-in showers, and access can be via lift if required.

COURTYARD ROOMS:

• Single £60 • Double £65 (Bath/Over Shower)

SUPERIOR ROOMS:

• Single £70 • Double £75 (Walk-in Shower)



HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

2019 REUNION TOUR



A WARM WELCOME AWAITS!



April 25th-30th, 2019

THURSDAY, APRIL 25TH

- Pick Up from the Premier Inn, Bath Road, London (LHR)
- Visit the American Cemetery at Madingley

FRIDAY, APRIL 26TH

· Suffolk Day (For those staying at Brome Grange, we can supply train timetables and places to visit in the area along with taxi

company telephone numbers.)

SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH

- Local Jeep Run
- Social Evening at the Red Feather Club

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH

- Service at St. Mary's Church
- 95th BGHA Open Day
- Afternoon Tea

MONDAY, APRIL 29TH

- Coach Trip to Historic Norwich
- Farewell Evening at the Red Feather Club

TUESDAY, APRIL 30TH

• Departure Day

RSVP>>>

FEBRUARY 28TH, 2019

Beverley Abbott:

beverley1960@hotmail.co.uk **Linda Woodward:**

lindwoodward@hotmail.com



95th BG REUNION TOUR

Horham, England

April 25 – 30, 2019



G	uest 1 (Please Print)	Guest 2	(Please	Print)	
Name		Name			
Street Street					
City State, Zip		City State, Zip			
email		email			
Phone		Phone			
Relationship to 95th		Relationship to 95th			
Special needs (dietary/medical)		Special needs (dietary/medical)			
DATE	ACTIVITY		соѕт	GUEST 1	GUEST 2
Thursday, April 25	Coach from Premier Inn, Bath Road, London with stop at the American Cemetery at Madingley				
Friday, April 26	Suffolk Day		\$40		
Saturday, April 27	Local Jeep Run		\$30		
Saturday, April 27	Social Evening at Red Feather Club				
Sunday, April 28	Service at St. Mary's Church and 95th BGHA Open Day & afternoon tea				
Monday, April 29	Coach trip to Historic Norwich				
Monday, April 29	Farewell Evening at Red Feather Club				
Tuesday, April 30	Return from Horham to Heathrow				
Daily	coach for those staying at the Brome Grang	Grange (required) \$50			
TOTAL DUE PER GUEST \$330					
I have made ar	ACCOMMODATIONS: rangements to stay with UK friends	REGISTRAT	IONS D		EBRUARY
Name: Make a copy of this form a mail with your payment to the Brome Grange near Eye.					
I have made rea	servations at the Premier Inn throw for Wednesday, April 24.	F	Memor P.O. Bo	g, Asst. Tr ials Foun x 55032 VA 98155	
	throw for Tuesday, April 30.	00	Jaccio, V	1A 00 100	

2018 REUNION RECAP

THE EXTENDED FAMILY: RETURNEES, FIRST MEETINGS & NAMES WITH FACES

SUBMITTED BY GERALD W. GROVE

One of the many reasons we enjoy 95th BG Memorials Foundation reunions, in addition to seeing our precious veterans, is the opportunity to meet new members of our "extended family" and spend time visiting with friends and return attendees. This year at Valley Forge, PA, was no exception.

Midge and Todd Gunvalson and Julianne and Ron Jilinski, who we'd met along with Midge's and Julianne's brother William Middleton at the 2017 reunion in New Orleans, were a welcome sight this year. Midge's and Julianne's father, William J. Middleton, was a 95th BG, 336th BS co-pilot on the Wayne R. Olney crew. He flew combat missions from D-Day, June 6th, 1944 through September 29th, 1944, including a Russian Shuttle amongst his 31 missions.

Meeting Len and Barbara Eaton, as well as their grandson Jacob Geigle, was a special treat as I think this was their first 95th BG reunion. Len's uncle and namesake, Leonard W. Eaton, was a bombardier in the 412th BS. Sadly, Leonard Eaton and the entire John D. Moore crew were KIA on the December 11th, 1943 mission to Emden, Germany. From the group's mission report, at the enemy coast their B-17F (s/n 230182, nicknamed "Blondie II") "dropped out of the 95th BG formation and joined with the 390th BG." Their B-17 was "last seen at the Initial Point with the #3 engine burning vigorously", possibly lost to enemy fighters (Missing Air Crew Report #1562). It was their first mission as a complete crew. Len is interested in learning anything he can about his uncle's time with the 95th BG. I'm hopeful of getting Len's contact information in the future to share whatever might be found about this crew's service.



Fireside Chat



Jack Bertram, Ken Hutcherson, Sandy Wentzel, Ray Hobbs



Memorial Service Missing Man Tribute

Having the opportunity to meet Barbara and Greg Johnson, as well as sharing a Red Lobster dinner with them, was a delight. Greg's father, Randolph I. 'Randy' Johnson, was originally a 334th BS co-pilot with pilot John D. Neale from April 8th, 1944 through April 18th, 1944. He was then promoted to pilot and flew in combat from April 19th, 1944 through July 31st, 1944 including a Russian Shuttle during his 35 missions. Greg's name often pops up on the 95th BG Facebook page.

Martin 'Marty' Donnelly, who lives not far from the Philadelphia, PA, area, attended what I think was his first reunion as well. Marty's uncle, John 'Jack' Donnelly of the 336th BS, flew missions as both waist and tail gunner with the Orval D. Collings' crew. The Collings' crew also had the distinction of flying as one of the Pathfinder (PFF) radar crews during the late summer and fall of 1944. Jack's thirty (30) combat missions were flown from August 15th, 1944 through January 25th, 1945. Marty has a number of his uncle's photos and memorabilia from his service in the 95th BG.

Seeing Kay and Michael Wieser again, along with Gwen and Gary Walter, was a special highlight. Kay's uncle, Thomas J. Sevald, Jr., was a co-pilot in the 412th BS. Unfortunately, Tom was KIA by flak on the Merseburg, Germany mission of September 28th, 1944 with the John C. Walter crew on their first mission. Kay learned of her uncle's service when she read 95th BG veteran pilot John Walter's book, "My War". John C. Walter, Gary's father, was a dear veteran and friend to many of us. With

2018 ATTENDING VETERANS



Jack Bertram Pilot, 412th Squadron



Ray Hobbs Pilot, 334th Squadron



Albion "Ken" Hutcherson Radio Operator, 335th Squadron



Charles "Sandy" Wentzel Radio Operator, 336th Squadron

John's "leaving formation" at the end of 2016, we all certainly miss him but were delighted to see Gary & Gwen carry on his legacy.

Meeting Steve Hutcherson was a treat as he brought along his 95th BG veteran and father, Albion 'Ken' Hutcherson! Kenneth was a 335th BS radio operator whose usually assigned crew was that of pilot Vergene W. Ford. Kenneth flew 26 combat missions from November 5th, 1943 through April 27th, 1944. Those missions included some of the difficult fall 1943 and early winter 1944 combat sorties, as Allied long range escort fighters were not yet available in large quantities. Kenneth participated



Herb Wilkov Navigator, 336th Squadron

in 3 of the 5 "Big Week" missions on February 20th, 24th, and 25th of 1944; "Big Week" missions were credited with nearly breaking the back of the Luftwaffe as German aircraft losses were very high for that period.



Nadean Thornhill and her daughter, Sandy Alvarez



Bunny Dillon and Paul Dillon



Ann Cook and JoAnn Hinoios



Ninett Clegg and Marcia Moyer



Fireside Chat



JoAnn Hinojos and Laney Baltazar



Jack Bertram and Dick Westerburg



Evelyn Shuman and Charles "Sandy" Wentzel



Dottie and Kyle Mattina



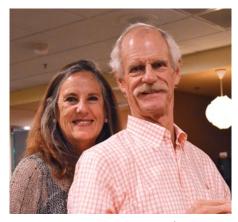
Barb Eaton and Martin "Marty" Donnelly



Len Eaton and his grandson Jacob Geigle



Nina Rothman and Frank Rubin



Susan and Toby Mumford



Margaret Blagg



Ernie and Grace Hammesfahr



Linda and Neil Tillman



Daniel Clegg



John and Cheryl Mollison, Luc Zaman and Marleen Piot



Herb Wilkov



Gerald and Becky Grove



Linda and Carl Endris



Jeffrey Boecker and Russ McKnight



Michelle Slade and her granddaughter



Patrice & Duane Basham



Group at Valley Forge Trip



Sue Roujansky, Nancy McKnight Smith & Sarah McKnight



Janie and Grace McKnight



JoAnn Hinojos, Nadine Moeller, Jody Thompson, Kayo Aslagson, Deb Roberts, Ann Cook & Sandy Scott





You Too

From Our Members & Facebook Friends

RESEARCH TEAM REQUEST

We are in search of volunteers that would be willing to look into getting legible hard copies of microfilm from Maxwell AFB near Montgomery, AL. These records have the potential to offer incredible detail about activities related to station personnel, promotions, various assignments to combat flights, training, awards, rest home assignments, etc.

If interested, contact:
Rod Hupp:
rodhupp52@verizon.net
Gerald Grove:
groveg@cox.net

Do You Have...

- PICTURES & STORIES
- WARTIME LETTERS
- NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS
- UNSOLVED MYSTERIES
- PROJECTS OF REMEMBRANCE

SUBMIT THEM TO THE NEWSLETTER!

Contributing a submission is a great way to memorialize your loved one and create lasting connections with the 95th Bomb Group community. We will happily assist with editing stories, scanning pictures or documents, etc.

Submission deadlines are as follows:

SPRING: **FEBRUARY 1**ST
SUMMER: **MAY 1**ST

FALL/WINTER: OCTOBER 15TH

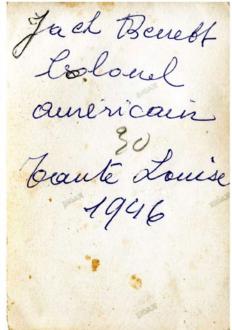
Sara R. W. Olson, Newsletter Editor editor@95thbg.org, 612-387-2123

Flight Records for Ernest Jack Bennett ▶

DATE	MISSION	TARGET	PILOT	NAME	POSITION	ОИТСОМЕ
11 Dec 1943	59	Emden, Germany	M.W. Mangis	Ernest J. Bennett	Navigator	-
13 Dec 1943	60	Kiel (Hamburg), Germany	M.W. Mangis	Ernest J. Bennett	Navigator	-
16 Dec 1943	61	Bremen, Germany	M.W. Mangis	Ernest J. Bennett	Navigator	-
22 Dec 1943	63	Munster, Germany	M.W. Mangis	Ernest J. Bennett	Navigator	POW



▲ Louise Huyge & Jack Bennett (FRONT)



▲ Louise Huyge & Jack Bennett (BACK)



▲ Jack Bennett & Francois Franckx

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Memories of Ernest Jack Bennett

During the second World War my family was helping American and English pilots and crew members to get back to England. Among them was a man named Ernest Jack Bennett. They were betrayed and sent to concentration camps. Bennett was also captured.

After the war, Bennett returned to say hello and to be sure that Frans Franckx and his wife, Louise Huyge, had returned from these camps. In the appendix you can find a picture of Bennett with Louise Huyge. (see above)

On your website of the 95th BG, I could find loads of information

about all the flights the Princess Pat (42-37766) made before they were considered lost.

It is sad to read that four members of the M.W. Mangis Crew died in the crash. Richard Dabney and Ernest Jack Bennett were later captured in Mechelen.

You may always use the story and the pictures I have sent you, including this one with Jack Bennett and Francois Franckx, the son of Frans and Louise.

The Germans took the parents and left Francois with his grandparents. Frans and Louise disappeared in "Nacht und Nebel." That means nobody knew where they were or if they were still alive for more than a year.

After the war, Louise received the Medal of Freedom from the USA for her contribution with the resistance.

Ernest Jack Bennett was navigator with the 95th BG and was reported missing on December 23rd, 1943 after a mission to Munster.

Thank you,

Raymond Mallentjer



Dear Ms. Olson,

The point of my email is to tell you, if you don't already know, T/Sgt Anthony Capone, radioman on the Old Worrybird, (pilot Willis Pozolo) died back on August 15th, 2018. He lived in Hampton Bays, Long Island, NY. Tony and I became good "e-pals" about five years ago when we discovered each other through another member of the Old Worrybird, Vincent Lauracella. I was the fillin bombardier on that ill-fated November 2nd, 1944, mission to Merseburg. Old Worrybird was the only 95th BG plane lost that day. The crew was on their 12th mission. Except for the tail gunner, Martin, who died over the target, the rest of the crew bailed out and spent six months as POW in various POW camps in Germany. I'm attaching my bailout story for your consideration for publication in the Newsletter.

Sincerely,

Bill Livingstone Bombardier, 334th Squadron

OLE WORRYBIRD (42-102678)

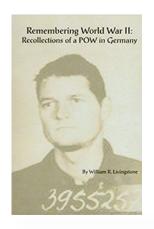
■ © Nathan Howland /Howdi Colour Recovery, Colourisation & Image Repair

LAST FLIGHT OF THE WORRYBIRD

BY WILLIAM R. LIVINGSTONE

At two o'clock that sunny afternoon of November 2nd, 1944, our "big-ass bird", as we lovingly called the World War II Boeing B-17 bomber, The Worrybird, limped along on only two of its four engines, barely holding 2,500 feet of altitude. An hour earlier, our tail gunner died from antiaircraft fire over the target, the Leuna oil refinery at Merseburg, Germany. Half an hour earlier, our radioman bailed out believing we were on our way down. With two engines knocked out by flak over the target, and without radio or use of gun turrets, we now struggled back toward England. Because of the danger of flying so low over the enemy lines in Holland and Belgium, our pilot, Willis Pozolo, decided to land at a small airstrip he spotted. With the electrical system shorted out, the engineer tried to crank the landing gear down manually while we circled the little airfield. But one landing gear jammed and the engineer told me later he, "Sweated blood trying to turn that damned crank."

As a substitute bombardier and nose gunner (commonly called the toggelier) with the Worrybird's regular crew, this was my very first combat mission the rest of the crew was on their 17th mission. But now my job was to drop the highly secret Norden bombsight out of the forward escape hatch because we weren't supposed to land in enemy territory with it intact. About the size of a casaba melon, I still remember the weight of the 30 pound bombsight cradled under my arm. I crawled to the escape hatch, turned the hatch handle, pushed the door open against the slip stream, dropped the bombsight



"What a night- the most miserable night of my life. I was so cold I thought I'd get pneumonia. The table was just big enough for two of us to lie on. The seven of us took turns on the table through the night because it was warmer and dryer than the floor. On November 2nd, 1944. the 95th Bomb Group sent 38 B-17s to Merseburg. Although five were damaged, ours, the "Worrybird" was the only one not to return to base that day. The Worrybird crashed near Gottingen, Germany, only about 100 miles West of our target Merseburg."

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED
IN PURCHASING A
COPY OF BILL'S BOOK,
REMEMBERING WORLD
WAR II: RECOLLECTIONS
OF A POW IN GERMANY,
CONTACT HIM DIRECTLY AT
WLIVINGSTONE@COX.NET

through the opening, and watched it fall toward the earth where it would be destroyed upon impact. It became smaller and smaller as it fell until finally I could see it no longer.

I closed the hatch door and started to crawl back toward the front of the plane when, at the top of his voice, I heard the navigator shout over the roar of the engines, "Bill." I glance up and he pointed back over my shoulder. I turned my head and saw our copilot, Bart MacNeill, who had just come down from the cockpit above. He crouched in front of the escape hatch door I'd just closed. With a look of intense concentration in his eyes, he reached for and pulled the red escape hatch jettison handle. This pulled the hinge pins and the door flew off, and he rolled head first out into thin air.

When I looked back at the navigator, who was in

a position to see what was happening outside, he shouted, "Go Bill, go," and signaled me to follow the copilot on out. With no idea why the co-pilot bailed out, but without thinking about it or even having time to be scared, I crawled back to the open hatch, crouched in front of it, and I too rolled out into thin air. Then, as I fell, I realized what had happened. With the whistling rush of wind in my ears, I fell head first. I saw my feet and our B-17 beyond them, perhaps less than 100 yards away. It nosed down at about a 45 degree angle, its right wing trailing flames that stretched back as far as the tail assembly. Beyond the plane I saw the belly of a Luftwaffe Focke-Wulf 190 fighter, obviously pulling up from

what must have been at least a second attack on The Worrybird. And I saw the rest of the crew that had successfully completed seventeen combat missions over Germany, drop out of their beloved "big-ass bird" like peas out of a pod.

Well clear of the plane, I grabbed the rip cord, gave it a hard yank, and it trailed out above me while I continued to fall head first. Then it quickly blossomed open with a loud pop and whipped me around with violent jerk. Suddenly everything went quiet while I drifted silently toward earth. I still recall how fresh the air smelled after the hours of the odor of hydraulic fluid in the confined nose section of The Worrybird.



OLE WORRYBIRD (42-102678)

A © Nathan Howland /Howdi Colour Recovery, Colourisation & Image Repair

My eyes riveted in an almost morbid fascination on that magnificent hulk of machinery called the "Flying Fortress," while it angled ever steeper toward the earth, its left wing lower than the right. Within 30 seconds from the time I bailed out it slammed into a hedge row about a quarter-mile away, exploded in a great ball of flame, and was instantly enveloped in a huge cloud of black smoke. My God, I thought, what a humiliating end to such a proud aircraft.

In little more than two minutes from the time I bailed out, I hit the ground hard with my feet, my butt, and then my head. I rolled over, got to my knees, collapsed the chute, stood up, and got out of the harness. I looked around and saw the crew strung out in the middle of a large plowed field, only about 50 yards apart. Then I heard my down-wind crew mate shout that the man beyond him, had broken his leg. I passed the word along and jogged over to him. It was our co-pilot with a grimace of pain on his face. Soon the remaining seven of us gathered around him.

While we tried to figure out what to do with the copilot, a grizzly little old farmer ran up to us and starting shouting at us in either German or Dutch. We couldn't understand what he said, but we understood his frantic gestures to get the hell out of there. He



BACK ROW: Raymond Hill (Top Turret Gunner), William D. Caldwell (Bombardier), Willis J. Pozolo (Pilot), Barton MacNeill (Co-Pilot), Reinhart Zirbel (Navigator) FRONT ROW: Vincent R. Lauricella (Ball Turret Gunner), James E. Martin (Tail Gunner), Virgil B. Bauman (Asst. Radio Operator), Anthony Capone (Radio Operator), Leo K. Moser (Waist Gunner). Photo Supplied by Anthony Capone to the 95th BG Memorials Foundation

didn't want us caught on his farm where he might be suspected of aiding the enemy.

But we didn't know where we were—Germany, Belgium, or Holland, so I walked up to the little farmer guy and held up my hands until he stopped jabbering. Then I pointed in a northerly direction and said, "England." Then I point toward the west and said, "France." Then I pointed straight down at the ground and asked, "What is this?" He didn't understand those last three words, but he certainly understood what I wanted to know, because he turned his shriveled face up to me and answered, "GEER-mony!" That was his way of saying "Deutschland" in English.

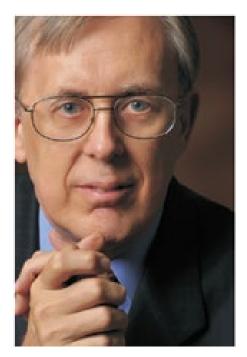
About then, someone said, "That's it. We've had it." I looked up and saw a cloud of dust rising from behind a small camouflage painted panel truck, headed in our direction, right across the plowed field.

The little truck bounced to a stop twenty feet from us and, I swear, at least a dozen German Wehrmacht soldiers spilled out the back door. They aimed their rifles at us and shouted, "Heben, heben!" Clearly, they wanted us to raise our hands. This we did, in complete surrender.

Seemingly out of nowhere, a dozen and a half civilians ran toward us to gawk at the "Yanki Terrafliegers" (Yankee terror flyers). But these people were more curious than hostile. As country folk, they lived far removed from the terrible destruction of war in the cities and were more curious than angry.

Finally, the soldiers put the co-pilot in the truck, instructed the rest of us to gather up our parachutes, and marched us down a country road. I remember the worst part of that march was constantly trying to keep my silk parachute and its shrouds from slipping out of my arms and trailing on the road where I'd trip on them. After about three miles we came to a little Wehrmacht garrison near Gottingen, Germany where we officially started our six-month tour as prisoners of war.

That night, miserably billeted in a cold damp stable, we talked about our fate and the last flight of The Worrybird.



A TUCSON PARTNER PASSES

BY MARGARET BLAGG

Our recently revamped Tucson Room could Memorial not have been realized without Vasconi, principal Gene Communication Arts Multimedia, Inc., who passed awav unexpectedly in July. From the beginning, we knew we wanted to have a media-rich room and we knew exactly whom to call-the man who had turned our early oral histories into the Tucson oral history kiosk in 1998.

As a partner in the re-design of the room, Gene had many suggestions that he ultimately realized for us: the slide-show monitors, the vintage film clips, the scrolling casualty lists, and more. His crowning achievement is the touch-screen Personnel Roster that brings up photographs and data about a 95th veteran upon querying. Gene worked with just a few of us to design and install media programs for the Tucson Memorial Room, but he was on hand for the grand opening of the room in 2016, enthusiastically meeting veterans and their families and helping them use the Personnel Roster program.

An avid musician, Gene began studying at the Cleveland Institute of Music before transferring to the Dana School of Music in Youngstown, OH, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Music. During his three years in the military, he served in the U.S. Army Band. Upon returning to civilian life, Gene earned his Master's Degree in Radio and Communications Television State University. from Kent Following stints in the broadcast and environmental consulting industries, he launched his own company, Communication Arts Multimedia, Inc. to specialize in interactive multimedia programs museums. creative His expertise can be seen in museums throughout the U.S.

For twenty years, Gene was a partner and solid supporter of the 95th Bomb Group Memorials Foundation. He revered the veterans and dedicated his work to them. Eugene Ralph Vasconi leaves behind his wife and life partner Pamela Horton, as well as a host of friends in the Memorials Foundation.



MAY 7, 2019 THE LAST PLANE DOWN CEREMONY

Join us as we memorialize the crew of the last plane lost to enemy fire in the European Theater during WWII. We will meet at 0945 at the 95th BG Memorial in the Memorial Garden at the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Dayton, Ohio. The ceremony will be hosted by Meg & Kevin Brackney. Phone: 937-532-3972





IN RECOGNITION AND HONOR OF ALL THE 95TH BOMB GROUP VETERANS WHOSE STORIES WE HAVE NEVER HEARD

VETERAN	SQUADRON	POSITION	PASSED
Francis P. Dietz	412 th	Bombardier	14 Jul 2011
Lorenzo P. LaBrosse	335 th	Ball Turret	16 Oct 2017
Gordon N. Wickstrom	412 th	Tail Gunner	31 May 2018
James F. Dement	334 th	Mickey Operator	9 Jul 2018
Anthony D. Capone	334 th	Radio Operator	15 Aug 2018
Richard E. Manley	412 th	Navigator	12 Sep 2018
Paul E. Perceful	336 th	Co-Pilot	7 Dec 2018



Military Funeral Honors express our nation's gratitude to the veterans who gave so much to defend our freedom. To make arrangements for Military Funeral Honors, call your nearest Air Force Base and ask to be connected to their Honor Guard. More information can be found at:

HTTPS://WWW.CEM.VA.GOV

We Will Remember Them

Since our last newsletter, the Foundation has received the following donations "In Honor Of" living veterans, and "In Loving Memory" of those who have Left Formation. To make a donation, contact Russ McKnight at 717-887-4075 or email treasurer@95thbg.com.

IN HONOR OF

Jack Bertram
Jack Bertram Crew
Harry Hull
Courtney Mattina
Joe Mattina Jr.
Kevin Mattina

IN LOVING MEMORY

95th Veterans **Albert Bradley** Ted & Jackie DeHart Charles E. Gallagher Adam & Annie Hinojos **Harold Lippert** Joe Mattina David T. McKnight W.O. Noble Oliver N. Robichaud Gary Rothman Irv Rothman Roger Warren Sr. Charles Wentzel Harmon Westerburg Joe Westerburg Lou Westerburg Lt. Frank Derenberg



Keeping the Legacy Alive

REMEMBER A VETERAN EVERY DAY

SEND BIRTHDAY AND VETERANS DAY CARDS

DONATE 95TH BG BOOKS TO YOUR LIBRARY









GIVE A GIFT MEMBERSHIP (SEE BACK PAGE)

SHARE OR DONATE PHOTOS & MEMORABILIA

INCLUDE THE FOUNDATION IN YOUR ESTATE PLAN

SELECT 95TH BOMB GROUP ON AMAZONSMILE



















ENAMEL PINS:





STICKERS: _



STATIONERY:





16





HATS:



APPAREL:



PX Order Form

Mail your check and order form to:
ANN COOK, PX CHAIR
4839 E. ALLEN ROAD
WEBBERVILLE, MI 48892-9783

Name:			
Address:			
City / State	/ Zip:		
Phone: ()	Email:	

* SPECIAL ORDER (7-10 business days)
** Clothing stock is limited. Please check
with Ann Cook for sizes and availability.

Call 989-239-3627 or email px@95thbg.org

# Product Description	Cost Quantity	Subtotal
Embroidered Patches (Circle your choice): 334 th 335 th 336 th 412 th 8 th Air Force - Horham Red Feather Cres	\$5	
7 First B-17's Over Berlin Patch (Small Rectangle)	\$6	
Enamel Pins (Circle your choice): Red Feather Crest Original Red Feather Shield Red Feather	\$10	
11 B-17 Pin	\$5	
Red Feather Crest Window Cling	\$5	
"We Flew For You" Bumper Sticker	\$3	
95 th Bomb Group (H) Notepads (package of 5)	\$10	
"You Can Make It, Friend" Notecards (5 notecards with envelopes)	\$8	
95 th Bomb Group, Station 119 Horham Pen	\$2	
7 Red Feather Crest Coffee Mug	\$10	
8- Low Profile Canvas Hat (Circle preferred color by the selected style): Square B: OLIVE or KHAKI B-17: BLACK or KHAKI	\$20	
95 th Crest T-Shirt - Navy (Circle your choice): Women's Sizes: Small Medium Large X-Large to XX-Large Men's Sizes: Small Medium Large X-Large to XX-Large	\$20	
Square B & B-17 T-Shirt - Gray (Unisex Sizing - Circle your choice): Youth Large Small Medium Large X-Large XX-Large	\$15	
95th Crest Polo Shirt (Circle your choices): **Women's Sizes: Small Medium Large X-Large to XX-Large Colors Available: Navy Bright Pink Yellow Blue Lavender Men's Sizes: Small Medium Large X-Large to XX-Large Colors Available: Gray Navy	\$35	
B-17 Polo Shirt (Circle your choices): Men's Sizes: Small Medium Large X-Large to XX-Large Colors Available: Gray Navy	\$35	
Square B & B-17 Hooded Sweatshirt - Gray (Men's Sizing - Circle your choice): Small Medium Large X-Large XX-Large	\$35	
Square B & B-17 Crew Neck Sweatshirt - Gray (Men's Sizing - Circle your choice): Small Medium Large X-Large XX-Large	\$25	
*95 th Crest Hooded Fleece Jacket - Black (Circle your choice): Small Medium Large X-Large XX-Large	\$40	
*Red Feather Shield Polar Fleece Jacket - Black (Men's Sizing - Circle your choice): Small Medium Large X-Large XX-Large	\$65	
*Square B Nylon Shell/Polar Fleece Jacket - Navy (Men's Sizing - Circle your choice): Small Medium Large	\$65	
	HIPPING AND HANDLING:	\$5.
ake checks payable to: 95 TH BG MEMORIALS FOUNDATION	TOTAL DUE:	



95TH BOMB GROUP MEMORIALS FOUNDATION, INC.

c/o 390th Memorial Museum 6000 East Valencia Road Tucson, AZ 85756-9403 USA

Give the Gift of the 95th Legacy

Mail your check and order form to: JOHN MOLLISON, 95[™] BG MEMBERSHIPS 996 PELHAM DRIVE, KESWICK, VA 22947

Make checks payable to: 95TH BG MEMORIALS FOUNDATION

GIFT MEMBERSHIP ORDER FORM

This is a Gift Fro	m:			
Recipient's Name	e:			
Street Address:				
City:		State:	Zip Code:	
Email:		Phone:		
*FREE Elect	ronic Newsletter with Members	ship		
FEES:	☐ Individual - \$35	☐ Household - \$55	☐ Printed newsletter - \$10	

MEMBERSHIPS KEEP US FLYING...
Thank You for Helping to Keep the Legacy Alive!