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398th BOMB GROUP MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION • 8th AIR FORCE • 1st AIR DIVISION • NUTHAMPSTEAD, ENGLAND

VOL. 29 NO. 4

FLAK NEWS

OCTOBER 2014



Eleven of our veterans proudly lined up under a B-1 Bomber on display at Ellsworth Air Force Base.
Left to Right: Richard Fox, Ray Moore, Newt Moy, Russ Currier, Joe Mansell, Chuck Sasse, Lou Stoffer, Jim White, Joe Reveman, Ray Richman and Don Menard.

THE RAPID CITY REUNION WAS A HUGE HIT!

By Mellisa Ledlow

What a grand time everyone had at the Grand Gateway Hotel in Rapid City, SD for the 31st 398th Bomb Group Memorial Association's annual reunion. Some 71 years after the U.S. Army Air Corps deployed the 398th Bomb Group from the Rapid City Army Air Base to Station 131 at Nuthampstead, England, veterans were able to re-visit or for some, see for the first time, the air base and city where it all began back in 1943-44. This reunion had 95 attendees which included 14 veterans, as well as 8 widows, 28 second generation members and at least 9 third generation members. Spouses and Associates made up the rest of our crowd.

Story and photos continue on the next 5 pages!

The 398th BGMA's 31st Annual Reunion

Rapid City Reunion Continued...

By Mellisa Ledlow

Since the veterans were quite busy training back in 1943-44 they, and many of our reunion participants, got to visit the Mount Rushmore National Memorial for the very first time. The Wednesday evening visit at dusk was especially poignant as it included the lowering of the American flag and the night-time lighting ceremony of the four American presidents carved in the face of the granite mountain. The National Park Service Ranger program paid tribute to those men and reminded us of our patriotic heritage and the need to continue to honor and respect our country. The Park Ranger also recognized all current or former servicemen and had each one come to the Amphitheater stage and introduce themselves. The respectful crowd gave a standing ovation.

Thursday morning, Dawne Dougherty organized the first annual "Widows Breakfast." A group of seven 398th widows had the opportunity to visit and catch up and unanimously agreed to continue this new tradition at every reunion.

The General Membership business meeting was also held on Thursday. Revised By-Laws were approved by the majority in attendance (*view our updated By-Laws on www.398th.org*) and Board Member elections were held. The 398th membership elected the following officers: Marilyn Gibb-Rice, President; Connie Novek, Vice-President; Karen Neff, Secretary; Mellisa Ledlow, Treasurer; Sharon Krause, Contact Unit Officer. Board of Directors: Arnie Schneider, Joe Mansell, Keith Anderson and Ray Richman were unanimously reelected.

Appointed Committee Managers include: Geoff Rice, Photo Researcher; Carolyn Widmann, PX Manager; John Blackwell, Special Projects; Dawne Dougherty, Dues Manager; Ken Howard, Reunion Chair; Lee Bradley, Group Historian and Data Coordinator; Lee Bradley, Mellisa Ledlow and Ray Richman, Flak News Committee. The group is happy to welcome Connie Novek as a new member of the Board. Thank you for accepting the position of Vice-President, Connie!

The highlight of the business meeting was the announcement that the 398th Bomb Group has been granted 501(c)(3) status as a tax exempt public charity organization. The effective date for this classification is August 28, 2012 and allows donations made to the 398th to be tax exempt for donors. It was a long, arduous process working with the IRS to obtain this status and special thanks go to Marilyn Gibb-Rice, Keith Anderson and Lee Bradley.

A Welcome Banquet on Thursday evening was a warm gathering and allowed for old and new friends to meet. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lee Bradley and the Invocation by Mellisa Ledlow. Jim White and Lou Stoffer, the only two attendants from the same crew (the 600th SQ Grinter Crew) described a harrowing Christmas Eve 1944 crash on the runway at Nuthampstead. We're grateful they both survived to share their story.

...Continued next page



The widows attending the 31st Reunion of the 398th BGMA met on Thursday morning for the first annual "Widow's Breakfast".

This event was the brainchild of Dawne Dougherty who said "We so enjoyed the company that we agreed to do it again next year". Very nice Dawne!

The seven lovely ladies who attended the breakfast gathered for a photo-op at the Farewell Banquet. Helen Howard, a WWII veteran in her own right, wore her original Navy WAVE uniform. Connie Novek and Chrysta Moore dressed up in 1940's attire.

Hey you two, we love the hats!

Left to Right: Dawne Dougherty, Helen Howard, Rozanne Joseph, Teedy Blackwell, Jeanne Stange, Connie Novak and Chrysta Moore.

Rapid City Reunion

Continued from previous page

One of the highlights at the end of the banquet was a Q&A Session with the 398th veterans fielding questions from the audience. When the veterans in attendance were asked, "What is your best memory of the war?" The answers came quickly and without hesitation! They included, "finishing my 35th and last mission," "being liberated from POW camp," "it's an education you can't get anywhere else; you find life-long comrades and you develop life-long friends." Others spoke of their joy to get on ships heading back to the U.S., their gratitude to buddies, including the ground crews, who helped them get safely back from missions and a daily gratitude for life. The veterans spoke to a captive audience.

The Black Hills weather was fantastic the entire visit and Friday activities benefitted from the climate. The tour bus loaded up and had a lovely drive through Sturgis (home of the world's largest motorcycle rally) and Deadwood, SD. Deadwood was the home of some notorious Old West characters, including Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane.

Ellsworth AFB was the next stop and the USAF rolled out the red carpet for the 398th Bomb Group veterans and visitors. Ellsworth AFB is the home of the B-1 Bomber and two active-duty pilots gave a thorough and interesting history and description of this very important plane. The highlight, though, was an up close look at the B-1. Several resident airmen escorted the group to one of the planes parked on the tarmac and then graciously allowed those interested, to climb into the cockpit of the B-1 Bomber. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity and everyone in the group was thrilled and thankful. The airmen from Ellsworth enjoyed visiting with the veterans and hearing *their* stories. Each spoke of the heroic efforts of the veterans and gave them credit for setting the standard for their service.

Back at the hotel, the group hosted a casual cocktail hour and light dinner. It was a great time to visit and exchange stories.

Heading out on Saturday, the tour group visited Custer National Forest known for its beautiful Ponderosa pine trees. The bus driver then drove through the Wildlife Loop Tour in Custer State Park where the group was treated to views of free-roaming bison, prairie dogs and a few mule deer.

Crazy Horse Memorial was the next stop. This complex is comprised of the on-going granite mountain carving of Crazy Horse, a revered Lakota Indian leader and the Indian Museum of North America. The group was treated to a Native American dance demonstration, and viewed exclusive collections of artifacts.

The Farewell Banquet on Saturday night had a festive atmosphere. The "1940's" theme, in tribute to the 398th originating in Rapid City in 1944, was carried out by several of the attendees. Ladies donned hats, gloves, and 1940's outfits to pay tribute to the era. It was great fun to take a step back in time and truly added to the fun of the dance floor as the excellent 1940's band, 'New Horizons Music' had so many taking a spin.

The program for the evening included a touching tribute to Wally Blackwell, the Bomb Group's president from 1995 through 2008. Wally's son, John Blackwell, gave a poignant slide show of his dad's life—from childhood through his days as a husband, father, grandfather, and pilot in the 601st Squadron of the 398th Bomb Group.



Ken Howard, 398th BGMA Reunion Chairman, with his daughters Brandy and Beth at the Farewell Dinner. Along with his wife Trudy and two daughters, Ken did an incredible job ensuring that all who attended this year's reunion in Rapid City had a fantastic time. Thank you Ken, Trudy, Brandy and Beth! Ken, you looked great in your Fireman's dress uniform!

Wally influenced so many and his leadership at the helm of the 398th continues to motivate many to continue his efforts to honor and maintain the Bomb Group. Wally would have been so proud of John's tribute.

Many thanks were paid to those who helped make this reunion so great. The hotel staff and chef and banquet servers were top-notch. But the most thanks are saved for Ken Howard and his hard working family. Ken Howard and family did a great job planning this reunion and kept things running smoothly the entire time. Ken, his wife Trudy and daughters, Brandy and Beth, stepped up any time help was needed or a job had to be done.

And then the dancing began and a great time was had by all! Even those who didn't make it to the dance floor enjoyed tapping their toes and listening to the old hits by Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, the Andrews Sisters and others.

The group reluctantly said "good-bye" and "see you next year", and promises of attending next year's reunion in New Orleans were frequently heard. Check out future issues of the Flak News regarding the next 398th Reunion to be held August 12-15, 2015 in New Orleans, home of the National World War II Museum.

A Message from the President

BY MARILYN GIBB-RICE

President, 398th Bomb Group Memorial Association

Rapid City and the surrounding area turned out to be a fantastic location for our 31st annual reunion. Smiles and compliments were abundant throughout the four day event. Many thanks to Ken Howard, his wife Trudy and daughters, Beth and Brandy for all of their hard work in organizing such a great reunion. Our veterans were part of a large group of approximately 80 other veterans to help fold the flag at the lighting ceremony at Mt Rushmore on Wednesday night. It was a very emotional evening making us very proud of our group.

During the business meeting on Thursday, it was announced that the IRS approved our 501(c)3 application as a non-profit educational association. Also, the updated By-Laws were approved by those in attendance. All board members remained in their positions except for the Vice President. This position was previously held by Lee Bradley, who is also our data coordinator, historian, on the Flak News Committee and the Web Team committee. Lee was finally convinced to give up at least one of her jobs and was thrilled when Connie Novek, widow of Elliott Novek 602nd SQ, agreed to take the position. We welcome Connie to the Board and we thank Lee for the time she has served as VP.

We had several members attend the reunion for their first time and we hope they will continue to join us in the future. One commented that he felt like we were family - and we are! Now with such a small group attending, it is so much easier to meet and speak with everyone in attendance. We look forward to our next reunion in New Orleans in August 2015.

14 VETERANS ATTENDED THIS YEAR'S REUNION:

Lew Burke	Co-Pilot	603 rd SQ
Russ Currier	Engineer	603 rd SQ
Richard Fox	Navigator	602 nd SQ
Don Ibeling	Radio Op	602 nd SQ
Joe Mansell	Engineer	602 nd SQ
Don Menard	Radio Op	603 rd SQ
Ray Moore	Tail Gunner	603 rd SQ
Newt Moy	Pilot	603 rd SQ
Fred Parker	Tail Gunner	600 th SQ
Joe Reveman	Radio Op	601 st SQ
Ray Richman	Exec. Officer	600 th SQ
Chuck Sasse	Engineer	602 nd SQ
Lou Stoffer	Engineer	600 th SQ
Jim White	Pilot	600 th SQ

IWM Duxford launched a new crowd-sourcing website for the American Air Museum on Oct. 1, 2014!

The full story will appear in the Jan. 2015 FLAK NEWS.

For immediate details check out their website at:

www.americanairmuseum.com



This is the memorial marker located on the south side of Highway 18 in Martin, SD, which honors the Kiernan Crew. Their B-17F crashed 1 mile south of this spot while night training on January 17, 1944. Marilyn Gibb-Rice, Geoff Rice and Lee Bradley placed flowers along with a laminated photo of the crew at the site on behalf of the 398th BGMA.

Remembering the Kiernan Crew

By Lee Bradley

It was a beautiful warm sunny day in Rapid City SD when Marilyn, Geoff and myself set out on a little road trip from the Grand Gateway Hotel to the Badlands. We had arrived the weekend before the reunion to enjoy a bit of sightseeing on our own. As we consulted our map, the little town of Martin caught my eye and it looked to be about an hour from the southern loop of the Badlands National Park. Martin is where the Kiernan crew crashed in January 1944 while on a training flight out of Rapid City Army Air Base, now known as Ellsworth Air Force Base. We knew there was a memorial marker next to the highway outside of Martin, and since we were so close, we decided to visit and pay our respects on behalf of the 398th BGMA.

Martin is a typical South Dakota small town. A few homes and buildings dot the roadway, there is a good sized water tower, several ranches, wheat farms, and fortunately for us - since we were on fumes when we arrived in town - three gas stations (gas stations were far and few between on the route we took!). Continuing our driving west on Highway 18, we found the marker just outside of town.

...Continued next page

Kiernan's Crew Continued...

We pulled over and walked across the highway to the marker. We left flowers and attached a laminated photo of the Kiernan crew with the words "In memory from the 398th BGMA" to the marker post. We knew there was another memorial marker where the Kiernan B-17 actually crashed a mile or so southwest of the roadside marker... but as we looked to the southwest all we saw was private farmland. We needed help.

We decided to go to the Martin County Clerk Office to see if they had old records or maps of the crash site. The Registrar was very helpful and also interested in our quest. She dug out a giant record book filled with documentation of all events that happened in Martin from the time the town was established. She turned to the year 1944 and on the page for January 17 was the heading "B-17 Crash". Following were eyewitness accounts of that night. What a find!

While she made copies of the pages for us, the sheriff walked in and he also became interested in what we were doing. He told us, "My dad lived next to the farm where that B-17 went down and he used to tell me about that night all the time... in fact I still have a few parts of the plane that he found in the field".

We asked him if he could direct us to the site and the other marker. He said he knew exactly where it was and told us to drive a mile south of where we were, then cut to the right on a dirt track and "go a bit" and we would find it. Well, we tried that... almost sank the rental car in a bog (to the amusement of several cows), walked half a mile along a fence line, and were attacked by giant green grasshoppers. Since it was late afternoon and we still had the rest of the Badlands to drive through before dark, we decided to give up on finding that second marker, but we were close... real close!! Well, we gave it the ol' college try and someday, we will try again down a different dirt track... there had to be at least 4 more of them!!

Following is one of the eyewitness accounts we found in the Martin record book:

B-17 CRASH

Submitted by Ralph Anderson

World War II brought sorrow and anxiety to many, but this came into sharp focus when a B-17 crashed on our farm southwest of Martin January 17, 1944.

It was a mild, moonlit night, when we heard a plane go over, and then another, with landing lights on. We had associated the lights with a car, and got up to look out, when we discovered a line of fire a half mile east of the house.

The hayland northeast of our house had been designated by the air force as an emergency landing field, but they evidently overshot the grassland landing just within a field.

They cleared the fence, and it was believed that they would have made a successful landing, but there was a brisk breeze, which evidently caught the plane causing it to nose into the ground.

I was the first person to reach the scene and got close enough to reach the one body thrown clear, when machine gun ammunition began to explode and I had to move back.

There were only seven men in the plane, as one of the crew was left behind. By this time the plane was burning rapidly. The Martin Fire Department had arrived and proceeded to extinguish the fire. Parts of the plane were scattered over several acres, but only one body was thrown clear.

Before the bodies of the men were removed from the plane the next morning, a local minister gave a short memorial service for the dead. An ambulance from the Air Base at Rapid City was brought here and I helped place the remains of the bodies in the receptacles provided.



KIERNAN'S CREW
398th BG, 603rd SQ
Photo Taken Late 1943

Standing L - R:

S/Sgt Elvin R. Pritchard
T/Sgt Seibert, George E.
S/Sgt Edward J. Mizerski
T/Sgt (first name??), Love
S/Sgt Casimer P. Klawinski
S/Sgt Johnson, Charles F.

Kneeling L - R:

LT R.W. Kaufman, Co-Pilot
2LT James P. Kiernan, Pilot
1LT Earl C. James, Bombardier
2LT Vonnerlin Wernecke, Navigator

Note: Kiernan, James, Pritchard, Mizerski and Klawinski, shown in this photo, were killed when their B-17F serial# 42-30576 crashed in Martin, SD while on a night time training mission on January 17, 1944. Also killed in the crash but not pictured here were: Franzone and Paget.

RAPID CITY REUNION MEMORIES

Photos of the reunion shown on this page and throughout this issue were contributed by Mellisa Ledlow, Dawne Dougherty, Marilyn Gibb-Rice, Geoff Rice & Lee Anne Bradley



Below: At Mount Rushmore; Lou Stoffer, Jim White, Ray Richman and Joe Reveman. Seated in back; Wilma Richman, Mike and Victoria Macyda.



Far Left: At Mount Rushmore; Maria Hunter and Sally Mackie. Center: Our veterans participating in the Flag Lowering Ceremony at Mount Rushmore.



Right: At Mount Rushmore; Newt Moy, Rozanne Joseph, Linda Davis and Diane Moy. Seated in back: Dawne Dougherty



Left: At the Farewell Dinner; Helen Howard and Mike Ryan dancing up a storm!

Below: Veteran Question and Answer Time; Left to Right: Jim White, Ray Richman, Ray Moore, Don Menard and Lew Burke. Seated in back; Marilyn Gibb-Rice, panel moderator.

Below: At the Farewell Dinner; Chrysta Moore, Celia Murray and Alexis Murray.



Above: In the Memory Room; Victoria and Mike Macyda.



See our "Reunions & Tours" page at www.398th.org for additional photos!

EVERYONE LOVES A PARADE!

A July 4th to Remember For Paul Roderick and Family

By Sharon Krause



Paul Roderick, 602nd SQ Pilot, waves to the cheering crowd from the back seat of his 'tricked out' Jeep at the Plymouth, MN Independence Day Parade. His Grandson Tim Krause, also an Air Force Veteran, smiles from the front.

Plymouth always has a "great" Independence Day parade. While I watched the parade last year, the WWII Veterans were coming down the street and people all along the way immediately stood up and cheered for them. That's when I thought how wonderful it would be for my Dad to be in the parade. So earlier this year I called the man in charge and told him about my Dad, Paul Roderick. He was so impressed that he had been a B-17 pilot, and wanted him to be a part of the tradition.

I told my Dad and he was excited, he'd never been a part of a parade. I also asked the organizer, Joe, if my husband Pete, who is a Vietnam War veteran, and our oldest son Tim, who is a 10 year Air Force veteran, could also ride in the Jeep. The answer was "absolutely!!"

The hardest part of all of this was getting the roof, and doors off of the Jeep. Luckily Pete started the job the night before and with Tim's help they got the Jeep ready. The parade organizers had made a sign for both sides of the Jeep that read: **"Paul Roderick... WWII Veteran... United States Army Air Corp... B-17 Pilot ... 8th Air Force / 398th Bomb Group"**

As the Jeep came down the road, people started standing. The parade route is about a mile long and people were on both sides of Main St., three and four deep. They all stood and some shouted; "Thank you Paul", "Good job Paul", "Way to Go Paul". Some walked up to the Jeep to shake his hand. It was AWESOME!! I cried!!! And Joe walked alongside the Jeeps shouting to the crowds "This is Paul Roderick, B-17 Pilot, 32 Missions, shot down on D-Day". Tim said that he and his grandfather were emotional about the whole thing.

And here's the kicker. One man, Mike Macyda, walked up to the Jeep and told my Dad that *his* Dad, Frank Macyda, had been belly gunner in the 398th, 601st SQ! That took them all by surprise. What are the odds on that??

It was a fabulous day for all 3 of my heroes!!!!



Three Proud Veterans! Tim Krause, Paul Roderick and Pete Krause

In the never ending pursuit of crew identification we present...

DO YOU KNOW THESE MEN?



Latson's Crew 603rd SQ

Photo date Early 1944
Rapid City, SD

Back Row (L-R): **Front Row (L-R):**

Unknown man A Unknown man 1
Unknown man B Unknown man 2
Sgt. Vredenburg ? Unknown man 3
Unknown man D Unknown man 4
Unknown man E
Unknown man F



Names in 603rd SQ Book April '44:

1st Lt. H.H. Latson Pilot
2nd Lt. R.E. Ullom, Co-Pilot
2nd Lt. J.E. Aceto, Navigator
2nd Lt. E.L. Penick, Bombardier
Sgt. D.A. Vredenburg, Engineer
Sgt. C.J. Fuemmeler, Radio Op
Sgt. J.E. Bouke, Asst. Engineer
Sgt. D.M. Lindy, Gunner
Sgt. D.C. Martorello, Gunner
Sgt. J.W. Harbit, Gunner

Rusk's Crew 602nd SQ

Photo date October 26, 1944
Nuthampstead, England

Back Row (L-R): **Front Row (L-R):**

Unknown man A Unknown man 1
Unknown man B Unknown man 2
1st Lt. J.F. Stevens Unknown man 3
Unknown man D Unknown man 4
Unknown man 5



The Rusk Crew (Most of the Time):

1st Lt. V.H. Rusk, Pilot
1st Lt. W. Creech, Co-Pilot
1st Lt. J.F. Stevens, Navigator
S/Sgt. R.W. Baxter, Toggler
T/Sgt. J.J. Kishka, Engineer
S/Sgt. J.R. Gaiser, Radio Op
S/Sgt. J.M. Totter, Waist Gunner
S/Sgt. E.N. Buck, Ball Turret
S/Sgt. J.M. Evers, Tail Gunner



CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE MEN?

If so, please contact **Geoff Rice** ASAP!
E-Mail: crewpictures@398th.org

NUTHAMPSTEAD AIRFIELD MUSEUM

News from the Trustees

'Building 2' Progress Update

Finally after months of rain and cold in "Mudhampstead" the skies cleared and work picked up in earnest at the museum site. Volunteers worked hard every weekend over the summer months and Building 2, which is twice the size of Building 1, is well on the way to completion.

After the cement foundation was poured and the green light was given by the building inspectors, the next step could begin. Framing began to go up in July and August and in September that stage of the construction was completed. Next up, the walls and roof... hopefully before the winter months settle in!



May 2014 – A Gang of Volunteers!

Photo above: Eleven volunteers, including three from the US Air Force at RAF Mildenhall, offered their skills at the construction site.

Standing L to R: Harvey Ditchman, S/Sgt. Ryne Reinhard USAF, T/Sgt. Mario Richardson USAF, S/Sgt. Andrew Mohr USAF, Ray Jude, Marilyn Gibb-Rice, Geoff Rice, Andrew Ginsbrooke, Christine Barry, Steve Clark.

Kneeling: Ian James

The twelfth volunteer, Ben Turner, took this photo.



July thru September 2014 Building 2 is Taking Shape!

Photo above: The framing begins and walls are going up. If you look closely you can see the completed Building 1 through the framing at the far end.

Photo to the Left: September comes and the framing for the roof is in place.

Construction on the Nuthampstead Airfield Museum site is making steady progress. If the weather cooperates, it is hoped that Building 2 will be completed by next summer and then work can begin on the Memorial Garden which will be located in back of Building 2. The museum will truly become a 'must see' destination for years to come.



The 398th Officers



RAPID CITY SNOWFALL;

Boy did we luck out with our visit to Rapid City. Just reading the Rapid City Times newspaper today, Rapid City got over an inch of snow Thursday, Sept. 11th. This is the earliest snow they have had since 1888 or 120 years ago. South Dakota was not even a state then!!! Mount Rushmore, Custer City and Keystone, places where us tourists visited during our stay, got up to 8 inches of snow!!!

Cheerio for now.

Ralph Ambrose
Burke, VA

NEW ORLEANS

In 2015!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The 32nd Annual Reunion for the 398th BGMA will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, **August 12 -16, 2015**

2014 DUES REMINDER!

If you have **NOT** paid your dues, this may be your last issue of the FLAK NEWS! Don't let that happen!! In order to continue to receive this publication all dues payments must be current. Dues for EVERY member are to be paid **JANUARY 1st of each year.**

If you have not paid your 2014 dues please do so ASAP. Make your check payable to the "398th BGMA" and mail to our Dues Manager, Dawne Dougherty. Her contact information is directly to the right.

Don't miss out on the FLAK NEWS

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES!!

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Happiness is a warm puppy... especially for our boys at Station 131. Many of the men kept pets like these two pups on base. It is believed that the name of the little black Scottie was "Satan". Photo from Lt. Ed Jordan's collection, taken summer of 1944.

BRIEF - things

Our 31st Annual Reunion in Rapid City, SD was a great success and we are now looking forward to the 32nd Annual Reunion in New Orleans, Louisiana in 2015. Our Reunion Chair Ken Howard has already begun plans for another fantastic 398th BGMA gathering... Jim White, 600th SQ wrote to us saying that he "had the best time ever at Rapid City". Thanks Jim, and we look forward to seeing you again in New Orleans. Get those dancing shoes ready! Speaking of dancing, Helen Howard looked absolutely incredible in her WWII uniform as she 'cut a rug' with Mike Ryan at the Farewell Dinner. And then of course there was Lew Burke singing Hank Williams' "Your Cheatin' Heart" in the hotel Karaoke lounge one evening. Hey Lew, you were pretty good, at least we didn't hear any dogs howling or cats yowling! It was Mike Macyda's, first time attending one of our reunions and he and his wife Victoria had a ball. His dad was Frank Macyda, 601st BT Gunner. Another pleased first-timer was Clayton Pennylegion, his dad was Edward D. Pennylegion, Group Sgt Major, HQ.

A Sampling of our PX Merchandise

The PX has a new exciting item just in time for holiday shopping. The B-17 scale model below is super easy to assemble and looks great!



Left:

**** NEW ****

Scale Model of
B-17G
"Aluminum
Overcast"
with the
398th BG Colors

\$17.00

Right:

Squadron Caps

600th, 601st,
602nd & 603rd.

Choose your
Favorite!

\$20.00



Above: 50 Caliber Bullet Pen \$40.00

Right:

Challenge Coin

(front & back
pictured)

\$21.00



398th Bomb Group PX

ORDER FORM

(The Second Generation)

QTY	CLOTHING	ITEM	UNIT COST	TOTAL
All shirts select size:				
		<u> </u> S <u> </u> M <u> </u> L <u> </u> XL <u> </u> XXL		
<u> </u>	T-Shirt, black, "398th BG Flying Fortress"		\$15.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	T-Shirt, navy, with B-17 front view		\$15.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	T-Shirt, grey, "30 th Reunion" –lists all reunion sites on back		\$25.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	T-Shirt, white, with Triangle W on front, Clearing & Colder on back		\$15.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	T-Shirt, white, with Group logo on front, Squadron logo on back		\$25.00	<u> </u>
	select: <u> </u> 600 <u> </u> 601 <u> </u> 602 <u> </u> 603			
<u> </u>	Men's Denim Shirt, long sleeve, 398th logo		\$25.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	Men's Golf Shirt, blue, embroidered Triangle W		\$25.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	Men's Pullover French Terry Sweatshirt – air force blue, embroidered Triangle W		\$40.00	<u> </u>
SQUADRON CAPS				
<u> </u>	Select: <u> </u> 600 <u> </u> 601 <u> </u> 602 <u> </u> 603		\$20.00	<u> </u>
LAPEL PINS				
<u> </u>	Squadron pin		\$7.00	<u> </u>
	select: <u> </u> 600 <u> </u> 601 <u> </u> 602 <u> </u> 603			
<u> </u>	Group pin Hell From Heaven		\$7.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	Group pin blue with B-17		\$7.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	8th Air Force pin		\$7.00	<u> </u>
PATCHES				
<u> </u>	Squadron Patch 3"		\$7.00	<u> </u>
	select: <u> </u> 600 <u> </u> 601 <u> </u> 602 <u> </u> 603			
<u> </u>	B-17 Jacket Patch, 4"x3"		\$7.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	8th Air Force Patch, 3"		\$7.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	Group Patch Hell From Heaven, 2½"x3"		\$7.00	<u> </u>
BOOKS, CDs & DVDs Media (includes postage)				
<u> </u>	<i>Fortresses Over Nuthampstead</i> (Bishop)		\$30.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<i>398th History</i> (1946, photo copy)		\$20.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<i>Remembrances</i> (Ostrom, 1989, photo copy)		\$30.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<i>Mission Memories</i> (Ibeling)		\$8.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<i>The Last Mission</i> (Mazur) – audio CD's		\$30.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<i>Return to Station 131- Memorial Dedication June 2000 - DVD</i>		\$20.00	<u> </u>
PHOTOGRAPHS & PRINTS				
<u> </u>	<i>Clearing & Colder</i> , 14"x19"		\$30.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<i>Clearing & Colder</i> , 14"x17", on canvas		\$50.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<i>Anstey Stained Glass Window</i> booklet, 11"x17"		\$10.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<i>Sunset at Nuthampstead</i> , 8"x10"		\$7.00	<u> </u>
MISCELLANEOUS				
<u> </u>	Bumper Sticker (red, white & black)		\$4.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	50 Caliber Bullet Pen (Group Logo)		\$40.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	B17 Scale Model (12.5 in x 9 in)		\$17.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	Blue Ballpoint Pen (398th imprint)		\$7.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	Challenge Coin (B-17)		\$21.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	Coaster (<i>Clearing & Colder</i> imprint)		\$6.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	Earrings – clip (Group Logo)		\$11.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	Earrings – pierced (Group Logo)		\$11.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	Notecards – B-17 Flying Fortress (set of 10)		\$11.00	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	FLAK NEWS Flash Drive Aug '86 to July '12		\$40.00	<u> </u>

Cost of All Items ordered \$ _____

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398th BOMB GROUP FLAK NEWS

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USA



“Pilot to Co-Pilot... wait, what?”

Who’s that in the B-1 Bomber Co-Pilot seat you ask? Well it’s none other than Teedy Blackwell, widow of our 398th BGMA past President Wally Blackwell. One of our Rapid City Reunion tours was to Ellsworth Air Force Base where our group had a chance to clamber up the steep ladder stairway into the fuselage of a B-1 Bomber static display. Just about everyone took the challenge to climb the stairs and made it into the cockpit for a photo. Little Teedy couldn’t wait to have her pic snapped in the B-1 and zoomed up those stairs like she was 20 again! She may be small but she’s fast!

Photo by Teedy’s son, John Blackwell.