



# 384th Bomb Group Newsletter

1306 Adams Way  
Beavercreek, OH 45434



May 2010

## BRANSON or BUSSST!

It's not too late to sign up for our next adventure to the exciting little town, Branson, but registration with the 50% deposit is due by 9 July and the balance is due by 9 August.



**Hilton Branson Convention Center  
9, 10, & 11 September 2010**

## A 384ther's SEMI-MENTAL JOURNEY

Where on earth did the last sixty-some years go?  
Since I rushed out of our Station 106 tent,  
Hell bent to listen to the briefing room show,  
No matter what agony it meant.

So, as I leaf through my 384th scrap book,  
Random memories come wandering back,  
I strain to remember where the photo was took,  
But I'm certain I'm on the right track.

The B-17, I'd recognize anywhere,  
The faces, I'm not quite so sure,  
Perhaps my bifocals cause me to err,  
These problems I'm learning to endure.

So please forgive me if I smile,  
With a blank look upon my face,  
To be with you again, I'd crawl a mile,  
Because happy memories are hard to replace

So, "what's his name," here's to a pint of good cheers,  
For there's one thing upon which we can all agree,  
You've Kept the Show on the Road all these years,  
And, old pal, that's good enough for me!

by **David C. Lustig, Jr**  
547th Squadron, Radio Operator Gunner  
January - October 1945



B-17 Liberty Belle, Colo Spgs May 2010

## OUR CADET, JONATHAN WIENINGER

Jean & Joe Carnes, Don & Irene Thompson, and Frank & Carol Alfter attended the functions at the Air Force Academy graduation this year. The winner of the Biology award, sponsored by the 384<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group, was Jonathan Wieninger, Jr., a native of Surprise, New York. He is prior enlisted, having served 2 years at Bolling AFB, DC as a member of the AF Honor Guard. Jonathan was also awarded "Best Prior Enlisted" by the Academy. In grad sequence he is the 8<sup>th</sup> cadet, with the highest GPA among Biology majors and 18<sup>th</sup> highest among the class of 2010. He has the highest PEA among Biology majors and the 29<sup>th</sup> highest among his graduating class of 1001 cadets. While at the Academy he was a member of the Wings of Blue (the parachute team) and was one of the skydivers at the parade on Tuesday. This remarkable young man is headed to Pilot training

at NAS Whiting, FL. You just know the Air Force is in good hands when you are standing among all those cadets.

While we were in Colorado Springs we saw a sign along the roadside for B-17 rides. On Sunday morning the Alfters and Thompsons went to investigate. We were able to get up close and personal with the Liberty Belle and watched her take off and land. It was then time to go to the airport and pick up Jean and Joe. Later that same afternoon we went back to see the Liberty Belle and Don, Joe and Frank were able to spend some time in the cock-



pit and get a refresher course on the control panel which has changed a little since Don and Joe were B-17 pilots. It was a magical moment for those guys and you never saw bigger grins on three faces!!!

*"Keep the Show on the Road...."*



## Message from Your President... Don Thompson

384th Members:

2010. Where has all that time gone? As a youth I had no thought of that many years ahead. I read an article about a soldier and his life and it reminded me of much compared to the 384th membership. He enlisted and when he got home he joined the Legion in his home town. He had never belonged to an organization before so he did not really know what to expect. It was a very giving organization. This was the spirit that he saw and felt. They gave of their time and talents as well as their money, of which they had not much to give at that time. When volunteers were needed for a fundraiser, many responded. One raised his left hand to volunteer because he had lost his right arm in combat, when he could have said, "Haven't I given enough?" He gave to his church, his community and his family. And when he died he had one more gift to give - the flag of the United States of America, which was given to his family. How precious that last gift was from their father! He had lived all his life with the thought, "Give until it feels good." These are not just words but rather a belief he had and I think it is also a belief that the 384th has always had so that we could KEEP THE SHOW ON THE ROAD.

September will soon be here. That means the 384th Reunion in Branson is getting close, so make your plans to be there. The program has all been arranged so send your registration in so you can enjoy the activities and the fellowship at this reunion. The information to do so has been sent out and updates are in this Newsletter, thanks to Carol.

See all of you in September in Branson.

Don



## Message from Your Treasurer... Carol Alfter

Note from the Treasurer: Hopefully, this will answer your questions about when dues are due. According to the Bylaws dues are DUE in January. Let's say you paid your dues in June of 2009, you were due to pay in January of 2010... not June 2010. So for those of you who paid later in the year for 2009 your dues for 2010 were due in January. We are sending this newsletter out to everyone who paid in 2009 to make sure everyone has one last reminder to pay up. If you are not current by the time the NEXT newsletter goes out this will be your last newsletter and you will not get another reminder. If you have any questions about whether you are current or not please give Carol a call at 1-937-306-2142. New e-mail: falfter@att.net

**CORRECTION:** I FAT FINGERED THE TELEPHONE NUMBER ON THE REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE HILTON. THE CORRECT TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 1-417-336-5400. YOU NEED TO MAKE THE RESERVATION FOR THE HILTON CONVENTION CENTER (they have 2 Hiltons very close together) AND ASK FOR THE 384<sup>TH</sup> BOMB GROUP RATE. PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR REGISTRATION FORM AND MONEY TO CAROL. WE ARE USING A REUNION PLANNER THIS YEAR. SEND TO **GATHERINGS PLUS** AS STATED ON THE REGISTRATION FORM. ALSO, SINCE WE ARE USING A PLANNER IT WILL BE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO ADD PEOPLE OR DECIDE TO GO TO THE OPTIONAL SHOWS AT THE LAST MINUTE SO PLAN ACCORDINGLY.



### A Flying Student's Diary:

#### Week 1

Monday: Rain

Tuesday: Rain

Wednesday: No rain; no visibility either

Thursday: Take instructor to lunch. Discover I don't have enough to take instructor to lunch.

Friday: Fly!! Do first stall and second stall during same maneuver. Cover instructor with lunch (up-chucked!)

Contact Charles Truitt for more at [cross88@aol.com](mailto:cross88@aol.com)

**THANK YOU KEVIN FLECKNER AND MATT SMITH!!** The 384<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group wishes to send a special THANK YOU to Kevin Fleckner. Kevin has stepped up and is maintaining the 384<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Memorial in Grafton Underwood. He has graciously volunteered his time to keep the monument clean and tidy and is keeping the grass cut. With Quentin no longer with us, we are very thankful for those who have taken over to fill a very large void. Matt Smith has been instrumental in going through Quentin's vast 384<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group archives. Some of the archives will be kept in Grafton to display at village functions and some will be sent back to the states to the Bomb Group. Thank you Kevin and Matt for KEEPING THE SHOW ON THE ROAD!



**VISITORS TO THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY:** One of our own NexGeners, Lauren Marcott, daughter of James McClanahan wishes to offer assistance to any 384th Bomb Group members who may want to visit the National Cemetery at Arlington, Virginia. Per her note, "We live just ten minutes from the Cemetery and if we can do anything for anyone coming here—a place to stay, transportation, etc, please let us know. Laura and Edward can be reached at 703-248-8371, or [edandl@mac.com](mailto:edandl@mac.com).

# 2010 REUNION, 384<sup>TH</sup> BOMB GROUP, BRANSON, MO.

SEPTEMBER 9, 10, AND 11, 2010

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ GUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL GUEST'S NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL NEEDS: \_\_\_\_\_

IS THIS YOUR FIRST 384<sup>TH</sup> BOMB GROUP FUNCTION? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_\_\_

REUNION ACTIVITY PACKAGE IS \$220.00 PER PERSON PAYABLE IN ADVANCE TO GATHERINGS PLUS

NUMBER OF PERSONS ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$220.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES: Prices based on a minimum of 15 people attending.

Friday, area tour & museum: # attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$33.00pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Friday, SIX Real Brother Show: # attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$35.00pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday, 12 Irish Tenors Show: # attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$39.00pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

REMIT TO: GATHERINGS PLUS, PO Box 1023, Branson West, MO 65737. Telephone 417-338-4048

The reunion activity package includes welcome packet with name badge, 1<sup>st</sup> day snacks, welcome reception, Andy Williams Show, Dixie Stampede Dinner & Show and the banquet at the hotel on Saturday night. All taxes, gratuities, (except driver & guide) and transportation is included in the above pricing.

Make hotel reservations at the Hilton Branson Convention Center, telephone number 417-336-5400. Room rate for a single occupancy room is \$109.00. The double occupancy room rate is \$119.00 and both include the breakfast buffet. Rooms are 1 king or 2 queen size beds. Mention you are with the 384<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group to get the group rate. Reservations must be made by August 6, 2010, in order to get the group rate. Reservations requested after that date will be accepted based on availability. To confirm your room the hotel will require a deposit for the first night, refundable up to 48 hours before arrival. Checks and major credit cards are acceptable to establish prepayment. All credit cards used to make a reservation will be charged for the first night the date the reservations is made.

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## Wallace Storey Inducted into South Carolina Warbirds



In November of last year LtCol (Ret) Wallace Storey was honored by the South Carolina Warbirds Association as the Warbird of the Year, joining such famed fliers as Paul Tibbets, Francis Gabreski, and Adm Tom Moorer. In addition, they presented LtCol Storey with a large picture of his B-17 on the 30 Nov 1944 mission to Zeitz, which will hang in the Spartanburg Airport with a companion painting of a P-51. There will also be a description of the two planes placed between them. LtCol Storey was further shocked when the Association unveiled and presented him with a 3 1/2 x 5 foot painting of him in front of a B-17 he once flew.

We are indeed proud to have a fellow 384th member recognized in such a grand way!

384th BOMB GROUP, INC.  
EIGHTH AIR FORCE  
1306 Adams Way  
Beavercreek, OH 45434



*"Keep the Show on the Road...."*

We're on the Web at: [www.384thbombgroup.com](http://www.384thbombgroup.com)

## TAPS as of May 2010

DAVIS, JAMES B.	Indianapolis, IN
HANRAHAN, JOHN	Rochester, MI
HEALD, JOHN	Sarasota, FL
SAYERS, FRANK A.	Salford, PA
SUDDAY, WARREN	
WILLIAMS, PHILIP Y.	Sedalia, CO

