

# 384th BOMB GROUP

## NEWSLETTER

1306 Adams Way  
Beavercreek, OH 45434



### Message from Your President-

**Peter Bielskis**, Folks, it's getting very close to time for our Tucson reunion and we wanted to get this last newsletter out before the reunion. Please use the enclosed registration form to make sure you don't miss a great get together, or miss out on seeing old friends again. You may also go to the 384th website at [384thbombgroup.com](http://384thbombgroup.com) for the form as well. Refer to

your last (June) newsletter for details. If you have difficulty with the hotel reservations, please call Rebecca at 520-323-5219, during normal duty hours.

The Dayton reunion last October was very nice, with just over 100 attending, including 17 veterans!! So, let's do it again and make Tucson another memorable one. Pima Air Museum promises to be a winner. We

will have lots to do and see, and spend some time with old friends. Hope to see all of you in good ol' Tucson... check your Health below!

Thanks, *Peter*.



### A Timely Bouquet - to the 384th Bomb Group - Jim Munday, 8th AF Museum, Savannah

As a tri-monthly volunteer at the 8th Air Force Museum, I can vouch for the full time attention the church and especially your "Window in the Chapel" is receiving. Not only does it evoke considerable pride from its viewers, but it is especially revered by its latent discovery by an occasionally surprised, but exceptionally proud itinerant 384th veteran.

To you and your volunteers who cultivated this project, I can personally speak for its daily warm reception by a deeply impressed audience from all walks of life. An impromptu salute to these daily visitations from we, the close observers, hopefully goes a long way in repaying your past and continued efforts towards this unique memorabilia.

### Tessmers and Memphis Belle - Dave Tessmer

Last October during our reunion in Dayton, I had the privilege of seeing Memphis Belle with my parents, Audrey and Warren. My dad was wounded on his 13th mission, and while recovering, his plane and companions were shot down and lost. If not for that hunk of shrapnel, I would not be here writing this. These men all flew what is, in my opinion, the most effective bomber ever: the B-17. There were 17 of these men of the Greatest Generation with us for a memorable visit in Dayton.



### It All Comes Together for Clifford Dartt

From aerial combat in 1943 to Belfonds, France today... Lt Clifford Dartt's B-17, *NYMOKYMI*, led by Lt Gordon Erickson, was shot down on 4 July 1943 over Belfonds, France. Soon afterwards, Clifford was taken prisoner and was a POW until the end of the war. Four from his crew, including Gordon, evaded capture and were back in the US well before war's end.

Through the 384th website and newsletters, Clifford's son-in-law, Mark Olson, made contact with Sally Sorel of Belfonds. Sally helped Mark with information about Clifford's time about his capture. Unfortunately today Clifford suffers from dementia, but Sally has been gracious in filling in the memory gaps. Clifford was delighted to meet Sally and Danny Sorel in July, and seemed truly appreciative of their work in preserving the history and memory of him and his crew following their crash on 4 July 1943. The Sorels are equally grateful to have found Clifford, who is such a notable figure in the history of Belfonds back in 1943.

Another bit of closure occurred on 31 July 2015, when Ray Lustig and Susan Taylor brought the 384th BG wing panel project to Clifford for his signature. Although suffering from Alzheimer's, he really tuned in to the occasion and appreciated the recognition.

Thanks to all who help keep alive the history and memory of our WW II heroes



### September

- Fill out a registration
- Drive or fly to Tucson
- Check into DoubleTree
- Meet folks in the Hospitality Rm
- Go on Pima Air Tour
- Meet more folks
- Enjoy Sabino Canyon
- Enjoy Banquet
- Say good-byes
- Fly or drive home

**HEALTH Is Our Most POWERFUL WEAPON**

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



**384<sup>TH</sup> BOMB GROUP, INC. REUNION**  
**OCTOBER 29 – NOVEMBER 1, 2015**  
**DOUBLETREE HOTEL TUCSON – REID PARK**  
**TUCSON, ARIZONA**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS****THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29**

2:00pm – 6:00pm

6:00pm – 7:30pm

Reunion Registration Open  
 Welcome Reception in Hospitality Room  
 Hospitality Room Open – *Hours to be posted during the reunion.*

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30**

11:30am – 3:30pm

Evening

PIMA AIR MUSEUM TOUR (description follows)  
 Dinner on Own  
 Hospitality Room Open – *Hours to be posted during the reunion.*

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31**

9:00am – 11:00am

11:00am – 3:00pm

6:30pm – 7:00pm

7:00pm – 11:00pm

Board Meeting  
 SABINO CANYON TOUR (description follows)  
 Cash Bar Reception  
 Banquet Dinner

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

Farewells and Departures

**This is the schedule as of March.....times may change as we get closer to the reunion dates.**

**TOUR DESCRIPTIONS****PIMA AIR MUSEUM TOUR – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30**

We will arrive and enjoy a group lunch before exploring the museum. View models, uniforms, insignia, WWII mock-up airmen's quarters, a B-29 "Superfortress," Douglas "Globemaster," F-84 "Shooting Star," F-100 "Super Sabre," SR-71, and a pristinely restored B-17. There are over 250 planes on display including JFK's Air Force One. Trace America's heritage of flight from a full-scale replica of the Wright brothers' plane to the X-15 rocket that first took men to the edge of space. Following the Museum visit, enjoy the aircraft static display before returning to the hotel.

11:30am board bus, 3:30pm back to hotel  
 Includes bus, guide, lunch, and admission.

**SABINO CANYON TOUR – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31**

Enjoy lunch at Sweet Tomatoes, which features an Italian Buffet. After lunch, we will head to the beautiful Sabino Canyon, a natural desert oasis located in Tucson's Coronado National Forest and is home to spectacular desert landscapes and abundant wildlife. Upon arrival at Sabino Canyon, enjoy a tram ride through the foothills of the Santa Catalina Mountains to see the beautiful sights up close before heading back to the hotel.

11:00am board bus, 3:00pm back to hotel  
 Includes bus, escort, buffet lunch, and tram ride.

*Please plan to be at the bus boarding area (in front of the hotel) at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.  
 Driver and Staff gratuities are not included in the tour prices.*

*"Like" Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/ArmedForcesReunions](http://www.facebook.com/ArmedForcesReunions)*

**CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.**

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$10 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non-refundable AFR registration fee. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays.** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.

**DOUBLETREE BY HILTON TUCSON - REID PARK - TUCSON, ARIZONA**

520-881-4200 or 1-800-445-8667

445 S. Alvernon Way, Tucson, AZ 85711-4198

**Reservation Information:** Call the number above and reference the 384th Bomb Group Reunion, or visit [www.afr-reg.com/384BG2015](http://www.afr-reg.com/384BG2015) and click on hotel reservation link at top of the page to make reservations and get the group rate. **Rate:** \$95 + tax; rate includes the hot All American Breakfast buffet. Cut off Date is 28 Sep 2015. **Cancellation Policy:** All reservations have a 48 hour cancellation policy, or attendee will be charged one night's room rate plus tax. Hotel has free shuttle bus to and from airport.

### 384<sup>TH</sup> BOMB GROUP REUNION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

June 2015

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at [www.afr-reg.com/384BG2015](http://www.afr-reg.com/384BG2015) (3% will be added to total). All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before September 28, 2015. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

**Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.**  
**322 Madison Mews**  
**Norfolk, VA 23510**  
**ATTN: 384<sup>TH</sup> BOMB GROUP**

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Check # _____	Date Received _____
Inputted _____	Nametag Completed _____

**CUT-OFF DATE IS 9/28/15**

**REGISTRATION PACKAGE**

Includes Thursday evening Welcome Reception, Friday's Pima Air Museum Tour, Saturday's Sabino Canyon Tour, and banquet dinner on Saturday (please select entrée below). *Daily Breakfast Buffet included in room rate.*

**BANQUET**

SATURDAY: BANQUET (Please select your entrée – price included in registration package.)

Chicken Marsala

Beef Tips in Red Wine Sauce

Price Per	# of People	Total
\$190		\$
		\$
Total Amount Payable to <b>Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.</b>		\$

**PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WANT YOUR NAMETAG TO READ**

FIRST \_\_\_\_\_ LAST \_\_\_\_\_

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

SPOUSE NAME (IF ATTENDING) \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PH. NUMBER (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

*(Sleeping room requirements must be conveyed by attendee directly with hotel)*

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).  YES  NO

EMERGENCY CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ PH. NUMBER (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU STAYING AT THE HOTEL? YES  NO  ARE YOU FLYING?  DRIVING?  RV?

For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined at the bottom of the reunion program: **CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00am-4:00pm EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays).** Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion.

REGISTER ONLINE AT [www.afr-reg.com/384BG2015](http://www.afr-reg.com/384BG2015)

## Taps as of Sept 2015

Robert Grocki	The Villages, FL
Joseph Needle	Lake Worth, FL
Francis Nelson	Charlottesville, VA
Dorothy Wade	Malta, NY
Daniel Walton	Locust Grove, VA

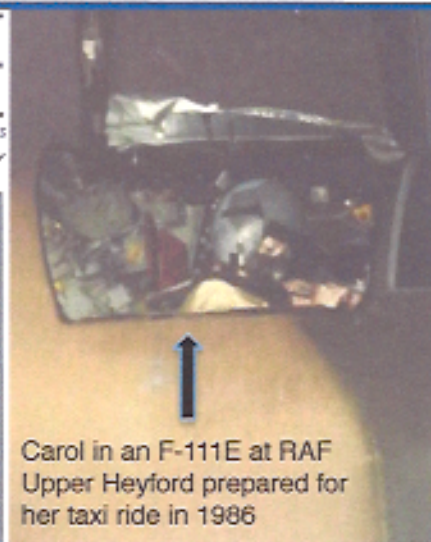


# AIR FORCE

OFFICIAL SERVICE JOURNAL OF THE U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES



MAY 1943



↑  
Carol in an F-111E at RAF Upper Heyford prepared for her taxi ride in 1986

← Looks like Gregory Peck, but it's not... Just an Air Force Magazine cover from May 1943

544 Bomb Squadron  
(S)(1)



545 Bomb Squadron  
(J)(2)



546 Bomb Squadron  
(K)(3)



547 Bomb Squadron  
(L)(4)



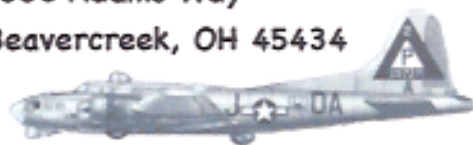
**Carol's Corner** - PLEASE send in your registration form NOW!. Remember, you need to send them to the reunion planner, Armed Forces Reunions, NOT to me. With that in mind, please be aware that they need to have the forms and payment in full by the deadline...not after. Since we are using a reunion planner this year I will not be able to help with any registration issues *KTSOTR-Carol*

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)