

---OFFICERS---

Gerald C. Michael, Pres & T.
5946 Linton Lane
Indianapolis, IN 46220

Dallas E. Falk, V. Pres.
1608 Pearce Road
Zebulon, NC 27597

Earl C. Ray, V. Pres.
P.O. Box 41746
Saint Petersburg, FL 33743

Darrell W. Landau, Historian
11524 Desmond St.
Garden Grove, CA 92641

Joe Napieralski, Membership
4558 Mocasa Ct
Bay City, MI 48706

Arthur N. Aronsen, Secretary
24 La Espiral
Orinda, CA 94563

Wayne A. Morrison, Sales
433 Stuart St.
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

-BOARD OF DIRECTORS-

Gerald C. Michael, Chairman

Van R. Parker, V Chairman
4766 Dovercourt Circle
Carmichael, CA 95608

Arthur N. Aronsen

Dallas E. Falk

Joseph Griesbach
1700 S. Peabody Street
Appleton, WI 49151

Harry A. Johnson
500 Bluestem Trail
Dakota Dunes, SD 57049

Darrell Landau

Wayne A. Morrison

Joseph Napieralski

John Ott
316 Barclay Court
Langhorne, PA 19047

John F. Pietz
10918 E. Singletree Trail
Dewey, AZ 86327

Brian D. Schneider
3943 Irvine Blvd. Apt 515
Irvine, CA 92602

Roy E. Tew
720 East 400 South
Orem, UT 84097

19TH NEWSLETTER

ON WINGS WE CONQUER



Contact: Phone: 317-253-9265; Email: g.michael@sbcglobal.net

APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2009 ISSUE # 35

2009 REUNION ISSUE

This newsletter issue will have all the information about the 19th Bombardment Association's 2009 Annual Reunion. **The reunion is to be held in the Dayton-Fairborn, OH area, and all details can be found on the last pages of this issue.** This reunion will be a special one for members and friends for a number of reasons:

- * Dedication of the 19th Bomb Group Memorial at the USAF Museum and Memorial Garden, Dayton, OH
-- Near final computer draft pictures of each side of the 19th Bomb Group Memorial, along with each of the respective bases, can be found on later pages of this issue --
- * Attendance is expected from a very special group - a number of 19th Bomb Group veterans from the early WWII B-17 era.
- * Election and installation of new Association Officers and Board of Directors.

The 19th Bombardment Association extends a special reunion invitation to all present, past and retired personnel who serve, or have served, with the 19th Bomb Wing, the 19th Air Refueling Group/Wing and the recently activated 19th Airlift Wing at Little Rock AFB, AR. Ranks of 19th Bomb Group veterans diminish rapidly. That the Colors of the 19th have been and are being carried on provides hope that its recognition and history will long be remembered. Installation of the next President and Vice President for the 19th Bombardment Association will occur at this reunion. Both are veterans of the 19th Bomb Wing serving respectively the years of 1957-60 and 1970-71.

ETERNAL FLIGHT

BURNS, THOMAS J. – Member Bob Turkisher called to report the death of a fellow crewman, Tom Burns, February 2009. Crew 10, 28th Squadron, 1945.

COOKSEY, DOLLY – Member Jack Cooksey notified the Association that his wife, Dolly had passed away.

D'AMORE, ADANTO S. – Sad news was received that Dr. D'Amore died April 28, 2009. 30th Squadron, POW, 1941-45.

TEPP, MURAY L. – Muray's son, Jay called to give us the unfortunate news that his father had died this past April. 93rd Squadron, 1943-45.

---CHANGES/ADDITIONS IN MEMBER INFORMATION---

Cooksey, Jack E. – 891 Deer Haven Circle, Palm Desert, CA 92211. pabruco@earthlink.net

NEW MEMBERS

GRIMM, BARRY K. – Spouse, Janice. 1201 Woodland Ave., Flatwoods, KY 41139. 19th Bomb Wing, 1959-62. Phone: (606) 471-0848. grimmsplace@roadrunner.com.

MILLER, DONALD D. – 6105 FM 3331 Canyon, TX 79015-6148. Traveled with the 19th's ground echelon from Angel Island to Australia in November/December 1941 (Troop transport, Republic). Email: dbldtymil@yahoo.com. 14th Squadron, 1940-43 (see personal history article, Miller's Diaries).

SAFRANSKI, FRANK S. – 1202 Loma Dr., Apt 57, Ojai, CA 93023-3886. Traveled with the 19th's ground echelon from Angel Island to Australia in November/December 1941 (Troop transport, Republic). 19th Bomb Group, 1942-43. Phone: (805) 646-7852

PEOPLE/INFORMATION SEARCH

The Association would like to hear from anyone who might have information about John Pickering. John Pickering, 19th Bomb Group, 93rd Squadron, 1942 has been a long time member whose last residence was 626 Trabue Avenue, Punta Gorda, FL 33950. Members living nearby have reported he has moved, however we have not received any forwarding address. Should anyone have information on John, please communicate such to any of the 19th Association's Board of Directors or Officers.

A request from Howard Mumm in the previous newsletter concerned his interest in getting more information about Dr./Lt. William Schick. 1st Lt. William R. Schick became a crewman of one of eight B-17s of the 38th Reconnaissance Squadron that departed Hamilton Field, CA for Hawaii on December 6, 1941 (B-17C/40-2074, Crew No. 3, Pilot Capt. Swenson). Lt. Schick

was a flight surgeon who had been assigned to the Squadron and crew shortly before its departure. They departed for Hawaii at 2115 hours arriving 14 hours later, about 0800 Hawaii Time, during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Their B-17, badly damaged and burning from Japanese Zero attacks, crashed landed at Hickam. The crew successfully got out but was strafed by Japanese planes as they tried to run to safety. As he tried to escape the fire, Lt. Schick was hit and mortally wounded by the enemy fire. He was declared dead later that day. In response to the information request, Col Earl T. Williams, USAF (Ret), has written the following:

“I read the article in the Jan, Feb, March issue of the 19th Bombardment Assn. Newsletter regarding 1st Lt. William Schick who was killed during the 7 Dec attack on Pearl Harbor. I was a member of the crew of the aircraft that Lt. Schick was aboard and was probably the last person he talked to other than the medics. I have written my Pearl Harbor story in which his last moments were covered. If Howard Mumm would send me his address I would be glad to send him a copy of my story. Col. Earl T. Williams, 1497 Bellefontaine Drive, Riverside, CA 92506, Phone: (951) 684-3582,”

[Crew # 3: Capt. Swenson, 1st Lt. William R. Schick, 2nd Lt. Ernest L. Reid, 2nd Lt. Homer R. Taylor, Avn Cdt G. C. Beale, M/Sgt. Leroy B. Pouncey, Sgt. Earl T. Williams, Cpl. Mac L. Lucas, Pvt. Bert Lee, Jr.]

MISCELLANEOUS



The picture at the bottom of the previous page appeared in one of our newsletters some time ago and is that of Colin Kelly's B-17 at Midway Island in September 1941. Kelly and crew were on their way to Clark Field, PI.

Bob Altman, radio operator and belly gunner, is pictured leaning on the prop with William Delehanty, left waist gunner, off to the far right. The picture is rare because the move of military forces at the time was very sensitive and photos banned. This photo, courtesy of Gene Eisenberg, was taken on the sly by a TWA individual, subsequently obtained by Bob and Gene and made available to our Association. Delehanty was killed by Japanese fighter fire as the plane and crew tried to get back to Clark Field on December 10, 1941. Bob and the other crewmen, except Kelly, were able to successfully bail out from their badly damaged B-17 over Clark on that fateful day. Bob, a long time member of the 19th Association, will hopefully be at the October reunion.



The gentleman in the center of the above picture is 19th Association member, Edgar D. Whitcomb (19th BG, 38th & Hdq Squadrons, 1940-42). This photo of Ed and friends was taken at his hideaway in southern Indiana near the Ohio River. Ed's 19th service essentially came to an end at the fall of Corregidor in early May of 1941 when captured by the Japanese. "Escape From Corregidor", a book authored by Whitcomb, tells of his capture and how he and a marine were able to slip away swimming the 10 miles back to South Luzon, Bataan, and of his eluding the Japanese by various means throughout the war. A life of many achievements includes that of serving four years as Governor of Indiana from 1969-73. Ed is one of the B-17 veterans we hope to see and visit with at our October reunion.

Shortly after the Association had received a detailed written account of Frank S. Safranski's 19th Bomb Group experiences (see article in Newsletter # 34), Donald D. Miller sent copies of a diary he had written giving a day-by-day record of his time with 19th. Both of these men were aboard the Army troop transport, 'Republic' that departed Angel Island/San Francisco November 21, 1941, ultimately arriving near Brisbane, Australia. The journey had taken them via a brief stop in Hawaii, November 28, departing Hawaii just a week before the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Both of these personal histories have an important place in the 19th Bomb Group archives.

Miller has sent his complete diary in both hard copy and on 3 CDs. Diary/CD #1 – November 12, 1941 thru November 11, 1942 – covers the time of his service with the 19th Bomb Group. Diaries #2 & #3 (December 14, 1942 thru August 27, 1944) records his experiences for the remainder of his WWII Pacific service. Don enlisted in the Air Force on January 9, 1940 at Fort Francis E. Warren in Cheyenne, Wyoming. He was sent directly to Hamilton Field, CA, given one month of basic training and was assigned to a support squadron for the 19th Bomb Group. The first diary entry begins on November 12, 1941 as his group prepared to leave for Clark Field, PI. on November 21. On their 9th day out from leaving the States and just one week after leaving Hawaii, they got the news of Pearl Harbor being attacked and that the US was now at war with Japan.

On December 22, 1941, their 24th day at sea ended as they docked on the east coast of Australia near Brisbane. Don writes in the diary, "By golly, we can breathe easy tonight. No more running around in the ocean dodging every suspicious cloud."



19TH BOMB GROUP
14TH SQUADRON LOGO

The 19th Bombardment Association has not had a good picture/photo of the 19th's 14th Squadron Logo. This became a particular problem when a 14th Logo was required for the 19th BG Memorial. With what we had, the transfer process to the Memorial yielded very poor results and deemed unacceptable. In the search for a better photo, Bill Bartsch referred us to the Wikipedia site on the Internet. Included in a section dedicated to information about the 14th Squadron, an excellent color logo picture was found (at left unfortunately in black and white). This site was unknown to us, and thanks goes to Bill Bartsch's reference.



"In Alis Vincimus" - "On Wings We Conquer"



19th Bombardment Wing

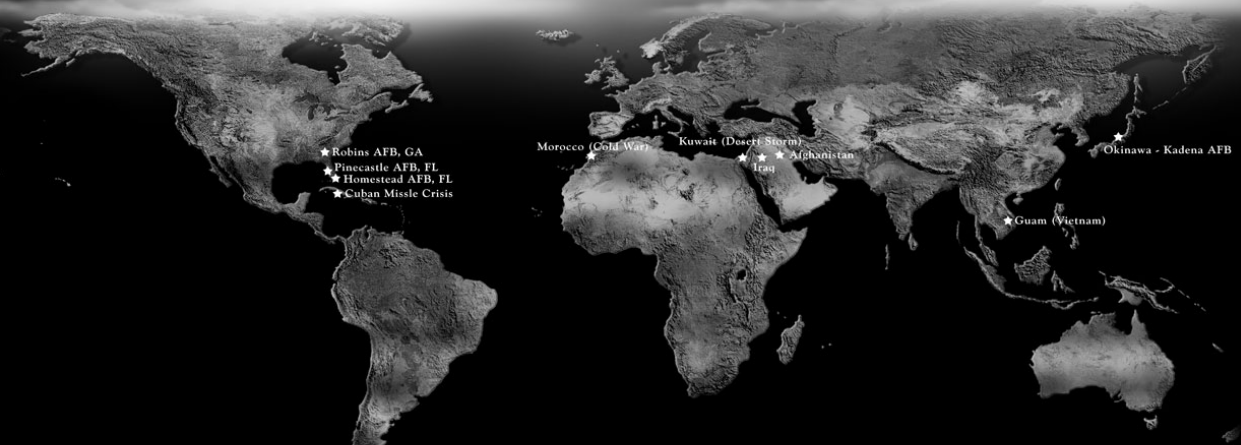


19th Air Refueling Wing

1953 - 2008

19th Bomb Group

"The Lineage"



★ Robins AFB, GA
★ Pinecastle AFB, FL
★ Homestead AFB, FL
★ Cuban Missile Crisis

Morocco (Cold War) Kuwait (Desert Storm) ★ Afghanistan
★ Iraq

★ Okinawa - Kadena AFB
★ Guam (Vietnam)

Bomb Wing/SAC Squadrons: 28th, 93rd, 525th, 526th, 659th
ARG/W Squadrons: 7th, 19th, 99th, 100th, 303rd, 384th, 407th, 712th, 912th



The Black Knights

"Checkmate to Aggression"



2009 19TH BOMBARDMENT REUNION RESERVATIONS - HOTEL

**Holiday Inn Dayton/Fairborn I-675, 2800 Presidential Drive, Fairborn, OH 45324.
Phone: 1- 937-426-7800 - Fax: 1-937-426-1284**

Attendees should identify themselves and request the group rate for the 19th Bombardment Association. **Room Rate with *Breakfast - \$99.00** [Standard Double, King Leisure, King Sofa (1 king bed and 1 sofa bed), Roll Away (\$10.00/night)]. (above rate subject to 12.5% state & local taxes)

*Group rates include a full deluxe menu breakfast buffet from award winning McKenna's Grille.

The above rates apply three days pre and/or three days post reunion dates with advanced reservation notice, subject to availability.

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 12:01 AM ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2009.

All reservations requested after this date will be based on availability.

Higher rates may apply later and room type will not be guaranteed.

Hotel Features, Services, Area

Health and Fitness Center - Same Day Laundry and Dry Cleaning - Indoor Pool
Business Services – Copying, Email & Internet, Wireless Data Connection, PC & Printer,
Unstaffed Business Center

McKenna's Restaurant & Bar - In-Room Dining Available

Restaurants Close By – Texas Roadhouse, The Cheesecake Factory, Brio, Red Lobster, T.G.I. Friday's, Chili's & McCormick and Schmick's.

Air Port Arrivals & Departures – Transportation options available from the James M. Cox Dayton International Airport to the Holiday Inn, Dayton/Fairborn, I-675:

Taxi Services – Airport Taxi	937-222-4011	Car Rentals – Enterprise	937-879-0023
Burgundy Taxi Service	877-656-2580	Alamo	1-800-327-9633
Harvest Taxi Service	837-879-0059		
Xenia-Beaver Creek Cab Co.	937-372-1441		

* First Student Co. Phone: 937-279-0497; Cell Phone: 937-620-8660; Fax: 937-279-0929
Email: annie.orr@firstgroup.com.

* First Student Co. (main contact, Annie Orr) will be providing the bus service shuttling us back and forth on Thursday the 22nd, and Friday the 23rd, between the Holiday Inn and AF Museum. They have agreed to try and accommodate all in coming arrivals with transportation from the airport to the Hotel. Contact First Student/Annie at the above numbers and/or email address with your time of arrival for possible shuttle service to the Hotel. Arrangements can be made at this time for the return trip back to the airport at the conclusion of the reunion.

19TH BOMB GROUP 2009 REUNION INFORMATION

Schedule of Activities

- October 20
Tuesday
- 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM – Arrival Day - Registration in Hospitality Room.
- 7:00PM – Association Board of Directors Meeting.
- October 21
Wednesday
- Open day - 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM - Hotel Welcome Reception.
- October 22
Thursday
- 9:00 AM – Buses from hotel to the AF Museum.
- 10:00 AM – Dedication of the 19th Bomb Group Memorial at the Museum’s Memorial Garden.
- 11:00AM – 2:30 PM – Lunch on our own at the Museum & Self touring of the Museum and Memorial Garden.
- 3:00 PM – Buses back to hotel.
- 3:45 PM – Membership Meeting .
- October 23
Friday
- 8:00 AM – Buses from hotel to AF Museum.
- 9:00AM – 10:00 AM – First 50 people will depart by Bus #1 for the Restoration Area (B-17D “Swoose” & others). Second group of 50 go to the Presidential Hanger by Bus #2.
- 10:15 – 11:15 – Groups will exchange: Bus #2 to Restoration Area; Bus #1 to Presidential Hanger. Tours will end at 11:15 AM.
- 11:30 Noon – Buses back to hotel.
- 5:30 PM – Buses to Museum for Reception and Banquet.
- 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM – Reception in the Museum’s Modern Flight Gallery. Attendees able to go have close look (usual protective railings removed) of B-17 aircraft – Air Power Gallery.
- 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Dinner in Modern Flight Gallery.
- 8:00 PM – 8:20 PM – Air Force Band of Flight – Glenn Miller
- 8:20 PM – 8:50 PM – Association Update (report, announcements (2010 reunion site), news, introductions). Program (yet to be determined).
- 8:50 PM – 10:00 PM – Self Touring.
- 10:00 PM – Buses back to hotel.
- October 24
Saturday - Departure

Additional Comments On Reunion Activities

Registration: Hospitality Room at the Hotel from 3 PM to 5 PM on Tuesday, the 20th. Late registrations or questions can be made at any time by contacting either Jerry or Pat Michael.

Wednesday, the 22nd : An on-your-own day until 4:00 PM. A complimentary Hotel Welcome Reception will be in the Hospitality Room from 4 PM to 5:30 PM. This will include Assorted Cheese & Fresh Fruit Display, Fresh Vegetable Display with dip, coffee and punch.

Thursday morning, the 23rd: Memorial Dedication Day. Buses will start loading at the Hotel at 8:30 AM and will depart at 9:00 AM for the Air Force Memorial Garden and for the 19th Bomb Group Memorial dedication. The dedication ceremony is scheduled to begin at 10:00 AM and last about one hour.

11:00 AM to 2:30 PM – Self touring the Garden, Museum and lunch on our own at the Museum cafeteria if desired.

3:00 PM – Buses back to the Hotel

3:45 PM – Membership Meeting

Friday Morning, the 24th: Tours of the Museum's Restoration Area and Presidential Hanger.

8:00 AM - Buses depart the Hotel taking 100 reunion attendees to the restoration and Presidential hanger areas. [Members can express their interest in taking these tours, however seniority will be used to determine the limit of 199 should the requests exceed that number].

9:00 AM, Museum buses will divide the attendees and tour each of the facilities as described above in the Schedule of Activities listing. (Restoration area has the B-17D "Swoose")

11:15 AM – Tours end.

11:30 AM – Buses return to the Hotel.

5:30 PM – Buses to Museum for Reception and Banquet.

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM – Reception and Banquet will be located in the large open area of the Modern Flight Gallery. Pay As You Go Bar. During Reception time attendees will be given the opportunity to go have a close-up view of the Museum's B-17. The barriers normally used to keep visitors from approaching the aircraft close up will be removed.

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Banquet dinner. Dinner will be catered by the Wright-Patterson Officers Club. —Hords at 6:00 PM (Assortment of cheese/crackers/grapes/strawberries)

Plated Entrée....Duet Plated Meal (Mixed Greens Salad, Roasted Tenderloin of Beef-Almond Crusted Chicken Breast, Roasted Redskin Potatoes, Hard & Soft Rolls, Dessert, Coffee, Tea and Ice Water).

8:00 PM – 8:20 PM – W-P Air Force Band of Flight will entertain with patriotic and Glenn Miller favorites.

8:20 PM – 8:50 PM – Association report; Introductions; Speaker (?); Program(?)

8:50 PM – 10:00 PM – Self-Touring of Museum.

10:00 PM – Buses back to the Hotel.

Reunion Fees [Transportation, Banquet, Other] Per Person: \$110.00

Reunion Fees should be remitted to: Jerry Michael
5946 Linton Lane
Indianapolis, IN 46220-5357
317-253-9265
g.michael@sbcglobal.net.



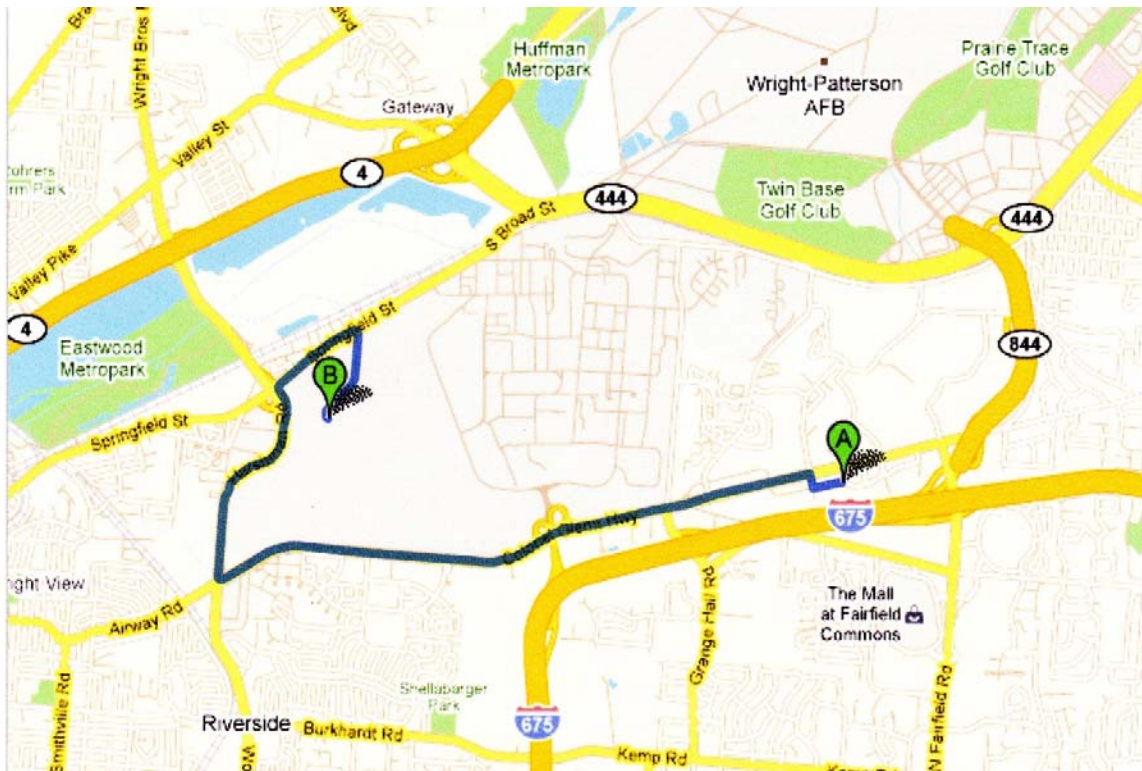
Map of Dayton/Fairborn Area -Dayton International Airport - Wright-Patterson AFB & Museum
Holiday Inn, Dayton/Fairborn I-675

Driving:

Hotel is approximately 20 miles from the Airport. Travel out of the Airport, East/Left on I-70, South/Right to I-675. Right off I-675 at Exit 18 to 2800 Presidential Drive and Hotel. ** Take note that the Holiday Inn is located in an area just off Presidential Drive.

FINAL

“We are a nation that has a government – not the other way around. And this makes us special among the nations of the earth. Our government has no power except that granted to it by the people. It is time to check and reverse the growth of government, which shows signs of having grown beyond the consent of the governed.” -- Ronald Reagan --



19th Bombardment Association Reunion – Local Area Map

- A - Holiday Inn Dayton/Fairborn I-675, 2800 Presidential Drive, Fairborn, OH
- B - Wright-Patterson USAF Museum and Memorial Garden, Dayton, OH