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Charlotte, NC 28205
Forward & Address Correction

On a Mar 44 mission, three
369th a/c can be identified:
894-Z, 019-Q and 969-F



July 1996
Vol. 21, No. 3

306th Echoes

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DR THURMAN SHULLER
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8th Museum Opens Doors at Savannah

The new 8th Air Force Museum will do far more to put Savannah, Georgia, on the map than did those orders of 8 Jan 1942 which created the 8th.

Your editor was one of those who thought some years ago that the idea of an 8th Air Force Museum would never fly - and especially in Savannah.

But, OUR Museum is here! It has opened its doors, and within a few more months will be totally ready to receive visitors from all over the United States, and the far corners of the earth. The British have already come, and there will be many more to follow.

See pictures, pages 4 & 5

This \$12,000,000 venture got its first major boost from the Georgia chapter of the 8th AF Historical Society, and then the forward looking leaders of Savannah came into the act. Money came, broad community support, and a corner of the extensive international airport property was secured. This is fortuitously sited at the interchange of I-95 and Georgia Rt. 80, with Pooler, GA, as the nearby mailing address.

At 10 o'clock in the morning of 13 May, as a B-17 and a P-51 cruised overhead, the doors came open and several thousand veterans, wives and a variety of family members and friends crowded through the entrance. Once they expanded into the spacious area

(Turn to page 2)



In a riot of color, the facade of the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas, will welcome 306th veterans 28 Oct through 9 Nov 1996.

NEW DIRECTORY

Your 1996 Directory will be well into completion by 1 August. Check your address, wife's name, nine-digit Zip Code and telephone Area Code, and get changes to Russ Strong by that date, if possible.

When Moving Tell Echoes

We seem to be having more trouble keeping track of "you people on the move"!

Notices often come from you concerning new addresses, but a large number also come through the Postal Service. With valid information presented, we send a postcard informing you of the address change, and requesting your new telephone number, or asking for your spouse's first name or other data we are missing.

When we receive from the Postal Service your mail label with an accompanying notation "Return to Sender - Not Deliverable as Addressed - Unable to Forward" our first response is to call the telephone number, if we have one available. This sometimes gets you back on line without further ado.

But, when the operator informs us that the phone has been disconnected and there is no forwarding information, we are in a quandary. We are now publishing a list of the "Missing", hoping that an old buddy may know where you are.

If you have a stable home address, and seasonally live elsewhere, we know how to make another effort to get hold of you.

Or, give us the address of one of your children, and we will tag it on to our basic information and get you back on the mailing list quickly. Don't miss an issue of Echoes because you forgot to tell us about your move.

Don't let our mail address quandary include you!



Despite the glowering weather, spirits of 8th AF veterans at Savannah soared as they gathered for the 8th Air Museum dedication 13 May 96. Ideally located at an exit off I-95, it will undoubtedly be a future 306th reunion site.



Las Vegas Set To Welcome 306th Vets

While the attendance is bouncing along over the 150 mark, Co-chairman Ed Hennessy is quick to warn others planning on attending the 1996 306th reunion in Las Vegas, that the basic package charge of \$125 per person will jump by \$10 after 25 Aug.

The Riviera Hotel on the famed Las Vegas strip has much to offer, including great rooms, abundant eateries, a dynamic show (included in the basic package) and proximity to many other shows, shops, restaurants and activities that keep Las Vegas as one of the top reunion/vacation/entertainment spots in the U. S.

If you went to gunnery school in Las Vegas a few years back, this desert community was a pretty sleepy place, like many of the training fields in the Southwest. But growing now at a rate of 4,000 to 6,000 new people a month, Las Vegas grew by a million people in 30 years.

As you may have guessed, Hennessy and co-chair Barney Rawlings are very proud of their adopted home - Hennessy arrived after retirement in Chicago, but Rawlings came soon after the war and has been a fixture since then.

Sometimes at reunions people tell us they like the rates at restaurants other than the hostelry in which were are centered, but The Riviera has 15 restaurants within its confines ranging from fast food hamburger places to a 5-star eatery that will make your eyes bug out.

"Las Vegas is rapidly gaining leadership as a family oriented destination," says Hennessy, with theme parks and youth/family attractions everywhere. The Las Vegas school district is the 11th largest in the nation, with nearly 200 primary and secondary schools enrolling 160,000 pupils. UNLV of basketball fame, has an enrollment of over 20,000 and the local community college has nearly that many students.

The reunion committee has been in action for more than a year, getting every detail settled, their efforts being designed to provide you with pure joy through all your waking hours.

As the reunion begins to welcome people on Monday, the 28th, the evening entertainment will be to turn in your tickets for "Splash II", and see this stellar production.

Touring the Area

Tuesday's optional events include a Mount Charleston-Lee Canyon tour, and another six-hour excursion to a popular natural wonder, Red Rock Canyon. The evening dinner offering is to King Arthur's Tournament, where mounted knights joust during the meal time.

Wednesday's all day excursion takes travelers to the west rim of the Grand Canyon, a seldom seen sight for the "white man" because it has been closed

(Turn to page 2)

8th Museum (from page 1)

inside it no longer looked like such a great crowd.

YOUR museum is large, well organized, and when all of the displays, library and research materials, and other exhibits are in place it will be ready for you to come and visit. Arrive early, if possible, and plan to spend at least a day there (or as long as your wife will let you look at everything). Motels abound in the area to take care of overnight stays.

When my wife and I arrived we soon met Maj. Gen. James S. Cheney, our president and former Group navigator, and Brig. Gen. and Mrs. William S. Rader. He was variously 368th pilot, 367th CO and deputy Group CO.

Also there were Tom and Kitty Hulings, Harry Doles, Albert McMahan, Clayton Ridge, Dick and T O'Hara, Bob and Katherine Flood, and Russ and June Strong. We apologize for those we didn't see.

The library and research area is on the second floor, with a computer program that will eventually enable anyone to track 8th AF personnel from the 35 bomb groups, the fighter groups and all of the host of service organizations that enabled the 8th to fly. This alone is a massive effort that will bring people from far and near to do research on the 8th.

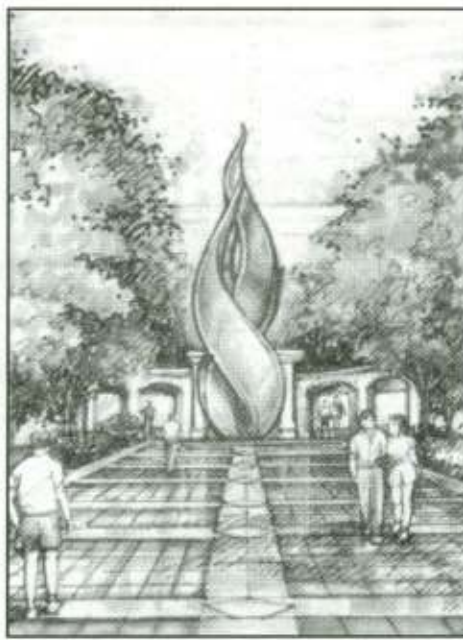
Lessons in History

There is a fabulous walk-through display that takes one in history from 1933 on through the war in film, strips of which appear on half a dozen TV monitors as you walk along reading plaques and looking at many still pictures. Dates and places are indicated for events, and significant quotations from world leaders are painted on the walls above. This alone can take an hour or more.

There is a briefing room inside a WWII control tower where viewers will sit in on a briefing, then moving on to another large room where by the miracles of today's computer wizardry you will fly the mission for which you have been briefed.

Those who were at the 8th Museum opening day will be in for a lot of surprises when they return for another look. There is an admission charge, but after you have taken the long walk through the Museum you will regard the fee as a pittance.

Obviously, this museum will get



Iowa's Flame

Only now, more than 50 years later, are memorials to WWII beginning to dot the landscape. The 'Freedom Flame' pictured above is a sketch of the State of Iowa venture in this regard. Our treasurer, Robert N. Houser, 368th, is the vice chairman for the statewide effort to raise the necessary funds. To be placed on the grounds of the State Capitol in Des Moines, one will reach the stainless steel sculpture through an educational 'Freedom Walk' featuring major events of WWII, from Pearl Harbor to V-J Day. The circular plaza floor will have a world map inlaid to emphasize the global nature of the war.

heavy play from students in schools for a hundred miles around Savannah. But it is the winter and spring tourist migrations that turn I-95 into one of the great speedways of the world that will bring hosts of visitors seven days a week. It is our bet that many people will see the museum on their way south in the Fall heading for Florida and will make a second stop headed back north in the Spring.

Lt. Gen. E. G. (Buck) Shuler (USAF ret) is president of the Museum organization, and he has done a fine job in bringing together the 8th enthusiasts, the city, money and a professional staff of first quality to put all of the many pieces together, and to get it ready to operate in a first class manner for years to come.

When the hat was passed years back to begin this venture, the 306th demurred, as did most of the 8th organizations. But at our annual meeting there is likely to be a proposal on the 306th agenda to do our share.

The 306th is already well represented in the plaque shown elsewhere, with books in the library, a great quantity of research materials contributed, Echoes on microfiche, personnel records on microfilm, and other background materials.

Now there is a need to help pay the remaining money needed on the basic building and collection, and to make sure that the 306th has a display that will equal its own brilliant WWII combat record.

Las Vegas (from page 1)

to the public, as an Indian reservation, for years. Another bus load will go to Hoover Dam and the Lake Mead area, to see the man-made sights, mostly created during our life times. Lunch w111 be served after a stern wheeler trip to the Goldstrike Inn.

The annual meeting of the 306th Association will begin Thursday morning at 9:30 in the Hotel, and those ladies who prefer shopping will already have left by bus for a morning at the Belz Factory Outlet World.

Festivities for the last evening of the reunion begin with cocktails at the "Top of the Riv" at 6, with the deluxe banquet to begin at 8:30. And this will be followed by the Big Band Dance Party afterward until 11:30.

One of the items in that basic reunion package will be souvenir photos taken during the banquet, with prints delivered to the tables before the evening is over.

Obituaries

Elvin W. Courtright, 423rd radio operator (William Morgan crew), died 25 Apr 96 in Johnson City, NY, following a heart attack. He flew his combat in late 44 and early 45. Courtright was retired from IBM, and leaves his wife, 2 c and three gc.

Alfred J. Fedorka, 369th engineer (Billy Casseday crew), died 17 Apr 96 in Perth Amboy, NJ. He joined the 306th 31 Oct 43 and completed his combat tour in Apr 44.

Robert A. Fowler, 369th gunner (Max Williams' crew), died 29 Feb 96 in Dumas, AR. He leaves his wife and 2c.

Frederick J. Fuller, 367th mechanic, died 21 Feb 96 in Factoryville, PA. He joined the 306th 3 Apr 42 and left in Sep 45. For years he was a sewing machine mechanic for major clothing manufacturers. He leaves 2c, 4gc and his former wife, Freda Fuller, a war bride.

Ferman Lavoy Henry, 369th fuel operator, died 20 Mar 96 in Glendale, AZ. He had been purchasing agent for the Maricopa, AZ, water district. He leaves his wife, Dorothy, 2d, 2s and 8gc.

William T. Johnson, 423rd radio operator (Raymond Check crew), died 19 Feb 96 in Pittsburgh, PA. He was the 70th EM to complete a combat tour, in Jul 43, and received one Purple Heart. He leaves his wife, June.

W. D. Jones, 368th pilot (Joseph Belser crew), died 8 May 96 in Houston, T*. He retired as owner of the Bill D. Jones Construction Co. in 1987, and had retired as a USAFR major in 1957. Jones was the 49th officer to complete a 25-mission tour, in Sep 43. He leaves his wife, Gene, and, two c.

Frederick L. McIntyre, 423rd copilot (Chester Sutton's crew), died 3 May 96 in Charleston, SC, after a long illness. He had retired in February as executive director of the Housing Authority of Marion, SC, where he lived. He was a graduate of the University of South Carolina, and leaves his wife, 2d, 2s and 6gc.

Dr. Robert B. Morrow, 368th radio operator, died 18 Mar 96 in Lincoln City, OR, while on vacation. He was a graduate of the Univ. of Oregon, and received his medical degree there in 1953. In 1986 he retired from medical practice in Newport, WA; one of his patients for 25 years was Eddie Perin, 369th prop specialist. Dr. Morrow completed 35 missions 25 Jul 44, and then was transferred to the 9th Air Support Control Squadron. He leaves his wife, Johanna, 1s, 2d and 2gc.

William H. Olson, 423rd gunner (Warren Hiney crew), died 24 May 96 in

Rawlings Gets Truman Award

G. Barney Rawling, co-chairman of the Las Vegas reunion, has been awarded the Harry S. Truman Silver Veterans Medal.

The award was made during the 24th commemorative luncheon of the Harry S. Truman Good Neighbor Award Foundation luncheon in Kansas City, MO 8 May 1996.

The citation reads "The Harry S. Truman silver Veterans Medal presented to Col. G. Barney Rawlings (USAF ret.) whose gallantry and devotion to duty as a B-17 Flying Fortress pilot helped our country achieve victory in Europe in WW II." This occurred during the 24th annual awarding of the medal and was the first time it was awarded to a non-Missourian.

After USAF retirement, Rawlings was called into service by the Governor of Nevada as commanding general, Nevada National Guard Reserve, and he retired from that as a major general in 1988.

MEMORIALS

B. W. Casseday in memory of Albert Fedorka, 369th.

William A. Landrum in memory of Ben Peters, 367th.

Mrs. John P. Ross in memory of her husband, BW.

Persons wishing to make memorial gifts to the Association in memory of veterans or other family members may make their gifts to the Treasurer of the Association. All gifts will be acknowledged in 306th Echoes. Money will be disbursed from this fund at the direction of the Board of Directors.

Additions to Roster

Jack R. Martin, 423, 4514 SE Center St, Portland, OR 97206

306th Family

Mrs Peter Kakoliris, 369W, 6617 Forest Ridge RJ, Birmingham, AL 35226

Sioux City, IA. He joined the Group 27 Dec 44 and departed 19 May 45 with about 20 missions flown. He leaves his wife, Marjorie.

Jesse L. Patten, 367th pilot in 1945, died 11 Apr 84, according to VA records.

Byron W. Pirtle, 368th operations clerk, died 4 Apr 1983.

Donald C. Thulin, an original member of the 369th, died 17 Dec. 96 in Tacoma, WA. He left the 306th 22 Jan 43, when he was attached to 92BG and ICBW.

306th Publications

Published materials now available from the Group will help you follow the 306th through the combat period, 1942-45:

Combat Diaries of the 306th Squadrons

Day-by-day diaries kept by intelligence officers, of the Squadrons' combat activities. More than 150 pages; also including plane and personnel rosters. Plastic bound.

306th Echoes, on microfiche

Now available from 1976-1994, with a 41-page index covering those years. Can be viewed at any library.

Men of the 306th, on microfilm

A role of 16mm film duplicates the 306th card file of nearly 9,000 men, including data extracted from various 306th records; and personal data on some of the men. 1995 edition.

Mission Reports

Copies of official reports on each mission you flew, including intelligence summaries, track charts, formations and crew interrogation reports. Data for some missions may be missing from the files. Three missions for \$5.

ORDER FORM

367th Combat Diary	\$17.00
368th Combat Diary	\$17.00
369th Combat Diary	\$17.00
423rd Combat Diary	\$17.00
306th ECHOES, Microfiche: 1975-1994	\$15.00
1992-1994	\$ 5.00
Men of The 306th	\$20.00

Make check payable to 306th Bomb Group Association (prices quoted include postage and packaging charge)

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Send to: Secretary, 306th BGA, 5323 Cheval Pl., Charlotte, NC 28205



The 306th Bombardment Group Historical Association: M/Gen. James S. Cheney, president; Robert W. Seelos, vice-president; Russell A. Strong, secretary; Robert N. Houser, treasurer. Directors: Joseph R. Hathaway, John K. Hickey, Wallace Peckham and Donald N. Snook; C. Dale Briscoe, past president; Edward J. Hennessy, 1996 reunion chairman. Ralph Franklin, Keysoe, Bedfordshire, England, is our British representative. (Mill Hill, Keysoe, Beds MK44 2HP, England. Telephone from US: 011-44-1234-708715, in England 1234-708715.

306th Echoes is published four times annually: January, April, July and October, and is mailed free of charge to all known addresses of 306th personnel, 1942-45. Contributions in support of this effort may be remitted to the treasurer.

SECRETARY/EDITOR:

Handles all changes of address, editorial comments and records:
Russell A. Strong, 5323 Cheval Pl., Charlotte, NC 28205. Phone 704/568-3803.

TREASURER:

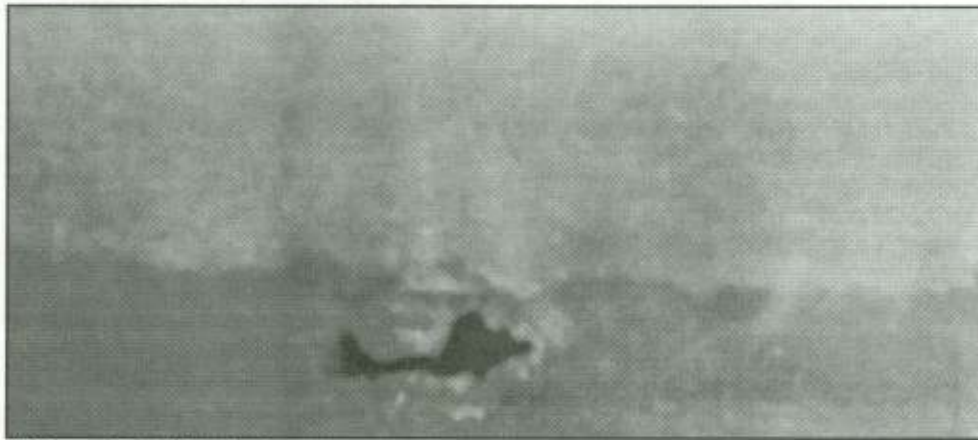
Send contributions to:
Robert N. Houser, P.O. Box 13362, Des Moines, IA 50310, 515/279-4498.

The 306th Bomb Group Historical Association is a Federally tax-exempt organization and as a veteran's group is classified as 501(c)(19).

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Troup's plane prepares for landing at RAF Ford,



#588 reacts to fighter's close passage.



Plume of smoke rising from Troup's crashed plane

RAF Spitfire 'Downs' 306th A/C Trying for Emergency Landing

Neither official records, nor anyone who might have come forth in the years intervening has ever had an explanation as to why Nelson Troup's plane crashed on his return to England after aborting the formation about an hour before bomb drop at Metz, France, 23 May 44.

Takeoff that morning had been at 0541, and the planes were well along on their route when Ken Yass, 423rd pilot flying off Troup's left wing in the low squadron, observed two large pieces fall off the #2 engine, and then without dropping his wheels, Troup pulled out of formation at 21,000 feet in a slow left turn at 0820.

Escort picked up the aircraft and brought it across the Channel to RAF Friston, where an approach was begun and aborted. Then Troup was taken to RAF Ford, located in Sussex near Arundel Castle, where he began a normal approach on three engines.

And this is where the story was picked up 50 years later by George Greenough, then an RCAF aircraft mechanic, and now a resident of Kentville, Nova Scotia. On 23 May 44 Greenough was at his station working on his aircraft when the attention of most of the base personnel was attracted by the approach of a B-17. As this was a fighter field, four-engined craft were unusual visitors.

Greenough had brought with him to England a pre-war folding Kodak camera using 127 film—and that's another story. He began taking pictures with his small camera, and captured several of Troup's plane on approach.

What really happened was that a Spitfire from Ford came streaking into the pattern and made an emergency landing, literally flying under the left wing

of Troup's plane to get down to the runway. (It was found later that the Spit had blown three connecting rods and needed the runway badly.)

Evidently Troup or some of his crew caught sight of the Spitfire, decided to abort the landing and go around, but they were too low and too slow, and the plane crashed killing five of the crew and critically injuring four men.

Thus, the mystery of why Troup tried to go around may have been solved.

When Greenough sensed he was going to be sent to England he scurried around to buy a camera, and immediately faced the problem of obtaining film. Finally he went around in his home town to photographers, etc., and ended up buying rolls of outdated film of any size. He then cut it down to 127 width in a darkroom and carried it with him to England in a tight coffee can.

The pictures above, and the observations were provided to the editor by Greenough. In one of the photographic prints one can perhaps pick out a blob that may have been the Spitfire itself, but in the pictures we show above that is lost in the preparation for and printing.

Other Data

The plane involved was the 423rd's 42-97588 D, which had arrived with the 306th 12 Mar 44.

Members of the crew killed in the crash: Lts. Nelson W. Troup, Sanford E. White, co-pilot, and Robert W. Hanson, bombardier; S/Sgt. Joe Fajardo, engineer, and Sgt. Alton G. Speakman, tail gunner. Critically injured were 2nd Lt. Alan E. Telifer, navigator; S/Sgt. Lawrence H. Arnold, radio; Sgt. Sherman W. Herritt, ball turret, and T/Sgt. Joseph Kerr, waist gunner. None of the survivors have ever been located by the Association.

Updates For Your 306th Directory

Ballish, Frank E 367 101 Fury St Connellsville, PA 15425	Kelling, Henry 368 Rt 2, Box 32 Georgetown, Tx 78626	Shelton, Marshall L 369 315 NW 10th St Battle Ground, WA 98604
Bischof, Joseph 368 4310 Regency Ridge Ct Cincinnati, OR 45248	Levis, Frank 367 1939 Gainsborough Dr Atlanta, GA 30341	James B. Walden 369 504 N Little Victoria Rd Woodstock, GA 30189
Evans, William F 369 9931 Lurline Ave. #116 Chatsworth, CA 91311	McDonnell, Thomas P Jr 368 25 Massachusetts Blvd Floral Park, NY 11001	Wech, Malcolm H 423 Rt 2, Box 4-14 Mehoopany, PA 18269
Flanagan, William W 369 10071 E Powder Horn Pl Tucson, AZ 85749	Miller, Sidney S 367 20 W 3rd Av, #202 San Mateo, CA 94402	306th Family Allan, Mrs William 368W 2628 Lakewest Dr Chico, CA 95928
Gallagher, John W 423 501-A Pawnee Ln Stratford, CT 06497	Morabith, Paul A 369 10814 Meadow Trl Strongsville, OH 44136	Heon, Mrs Donat A 367W 5 Shangri La Ln Middletown, RI 02842
Gregg, Wesley J 367 320 Brage Rd, Trlr 9 Columbia Falls, MT 59912	Morrow, Norman 367 400 18th St, Apt J2 Vero Beach, FL 32960	Kuhl, Mrs Vernon A 367W 12575 Pleasant Ave. #235 Burnsville, MN 55337
Hamilton, Orman L 423 290 Upper North Fork Rd Sylva, NC 28779	Ormond, Waverly C 368 2941 Hillcrest Dr Sarasota, FL 34234	Naumann, Mrs Alvin E 368W 14745 Babcock Rd. #609 San Antonio, TX 78249
Harrington, Claude N 369 1702 Pebblestone Ct Missouri City, TX 77459	Paulsen, Paul F 368 5114 Walnut Pointe Ln Carmichael, CA 95608	Olsen, Mrs Trygve C 369W 6706 Waldorf Ct New Port Richey, FL 34655
Johnson, William F 367 86 Purple Martin Dr Murrels Inlet, SC 29576	Pomykal, Woodrow A 369 300 Enterper Av, #309 League City, TX 77573	Winship, William M Jr 3685 PO Box 68 Rushville, IN 46173
Kahl, Russel G 423 210 Ausborn Ln Aberdeen, MS 39730	Quigley, John F 367 11265 E Mississippi Ave. #135 Aurora, CO 80012	

Deletes

Joseph S. Belker 369 901 Diamond Dr. Quincy, IL 62301	Arthur J. Greene 368 215 57th Ave E Duluth, MN 55804	Robert F. Morris GP 116 W 75th St New York, NY 10023
Howard L. Bowker 423 1705 Jay St Denver CO 80214	Joel E. Estes 367 1354 Womack Ave East Point, GA 30344	William J. Davis Jr 368 5388 W Flying Circle St Tucson, AZ 85713
Ralph F. Clark 423 1784 Parrot Dr San Mateo, CA 94402	Frances E Lockwood 368 171 Brookside Rd. Needham, MA 02192	

The above men have been deleted from our mailing list because of returned mail, and could not be traced by other means. If you can give us assistance, please do so and contact the secretary.

'It's just fantastic'

Mighty 8th museum opens today for vets



WHAT: Mighty 8th Air Force Heritage Museum.
WHERE: Bourne Avenue, in Pooler.
OPENS: 9 a.m. today for 8th Air Force veterans; 10 a.m. Tuesday for general public. The museum will be normally open seven days a week, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
SIZE: 90,000-square-foot building costing \$12 million
WHAT'S INSIDE: Artifacts and memorabilia from World War II and other areas of 8th Air Force; a library, computers, gift shop, food area and mock models of fighter lanes.
COST: Admission to the Mighty 8th Air Force Heritage Museum is by membership or by purchasing tickets - \$7.50 for adults and \$5.50 for children older than 6.



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By Marcus Holland
Savannah News-Press

A Medal of Honor winner, the pilots of the Enola Gay and Memphis Belle and an aerial ace are just a few of the World War II veterans scheduled to attend today's sneak preview of the Mighty 8th Air Force Heritage Museum in Pooler.

The 8th was a fighting force born in Savannah in January 1942 that went on to help bring Nazi Germany to its knees.

Museum officials expect more than 3,000 8th Air Force veterans and family members at the ceremony, said Wayne Corbett, a spokesman for the \$12 million, 90,000-square-foot-museum that officially opens to the public on Tuesday.

People from at least 38 states and three foreign countries have accepted invitations to attend the opening, Corbett said.

People will walk in today and Tuesday and "water their eyes," Corbett said. "They have been waiting so long... since the war. For 50 years, discussions have been going on, but nothing was done. Then along came Gen. (Buck) Shuler and Gen. (Lew) Lyle. They just wouldn't let it die."

Shuler and Lyle, a B-17 bomber pilot, were the driving force behind what 8th veterans will see - a museum that will be second to none, Corbett said.

"It's been a long time coming," Shuler said. "The dream goes back many years. I joined the effort four years ago last month."

It's been "Special for me to have stewardship of making it happen. It's been challenging, exciting and at times frustrating," Shuler said. "I'm extremely proud for the World War II veterans."

The museum is the greatest thing that's happened to the 8th since World War II, said Francis "Gabby" Gabreski, who flew a P-47 in the war. "It's going to preserve history with real treasures from individuals who made history. It will be a reflection of all the people who served in the 8th over Europe and the people who have served since World War II."

The 8th contributed more than any other unit to the World War II effort, Gabreski said.

"Look at the losses... 26,000 airmen killed, 5,000 bombers lost. I don't know of any organization that has suffered such losses," he said.

To B-17 pilot Billy Lawley of Montgomery, Ala., the museum is a dream come true.

"When the idea came up to build the museum here, I thought 'God, we can't do this.' But it was done and I've supported it to the best of my ability," said Lawley, who won the Medal of Honor for a Feb. 20, 1944, mission to Leipzig, Germany. "It means a great deal to me. I'm excited... real excited. But, in retrospect, I find it hard to believe it has been done."

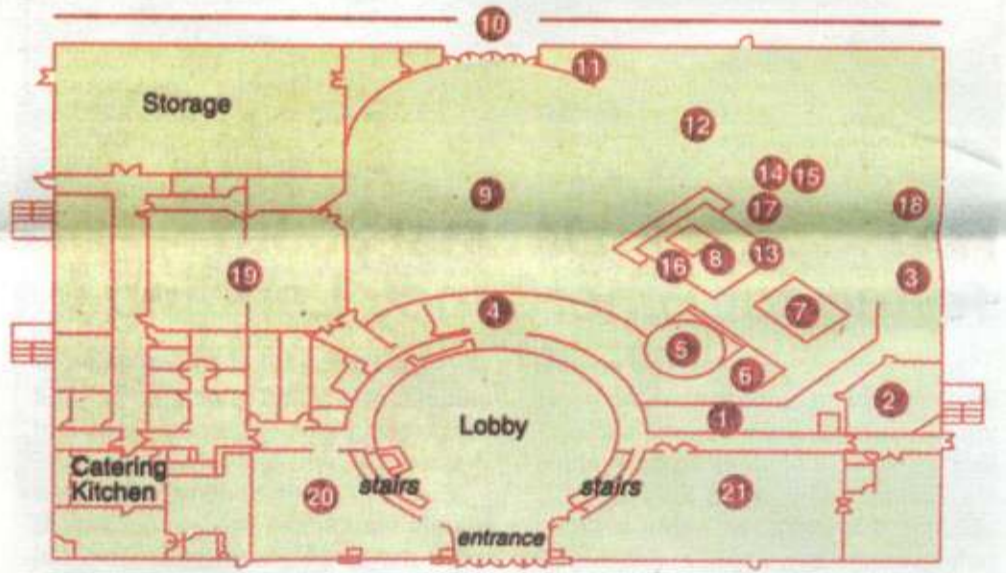
The facility will serve as more than a museum, said Bob Morgan, a Memphis Belle pilot. The Belle was the first 8th Air Force bomber to successfully complete a designated 25 missions and returned to tour the United States.

The Mighty Eighth Museum

The Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum is scheduled to open Monday to veterans and their families. Tuesday, the museum will be open to the general public. The opening is expected to draw thousands of people.



SECOND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR

Legend

- 1. Hall of heroes
- 2. Freedom Theatre, seats 125
- 3. Post War era
- 4. Prelude to war
- 5. England goes it alone
- 6. The darkest hours
- 7. Quonset hut
- 8. WWII control tower
- 9. Main combat exhibit
- 10. Memorial Gardens
- 11. Escape and evasion
- 12. Unit displays
- 13. POW display
- 14. End of war display
- 15. The aftermath—Costs of the air war
- 16. Walk-through cemetery
- 17. VE-VJ
- 18. Strategic Air Command
- 19. Art Gallery / Banquet room
- 20. Restaurant
- 21. Gift shop
- 22. Administration space
- 23. Conference room
- 24. Mini-Rotunda
- 25. Library

Savannah News-Press

"(The museum) is a closing of the war for the 8th veterans... (and) a remembering of the war," Morgan said. "We need to remember it."

The country needs something like this, Morgan said.

"Something to remind the young people what went on in World War II and what the 8th did," he said.

"It's not being taught in the schools. They can learn what it was all about in that place. It's just fantastic."

After completing his tour in Europe, Morgan went on to lead the first B-29 raid on Tokyo on Nov. 27, 1944.

The museum, although not completely finished, will have many points of interest ready for viewing, Corbett said.

Several bomb unit displays are completed, along with the Prelude to War, the Freedom Theater, the combat gallery and the mission experience theater. The original Memphis

Belle documentary made by William Wyler will be shown in the Freedom Theater.

The museum contains a lot of "don't miss" displays, Corbett said.

One display is a P-51 fighter plane in hot pursuit of a German Messerschmitt Me 109. The plastic mock ups hang from the ceiling in the combat gallery.

The mission experience theater should be another popular site. About 30 people at a time are briefed inside a quonset hut on a World War II mission, then are taken to the theater "to fly" a mission.

With a movie screen directly in front and one on each side of them, the visitors will be able to "fly" a mission. World War II film is used to illustrate the targets and give visitors the feeling of actual air-to-air combat.

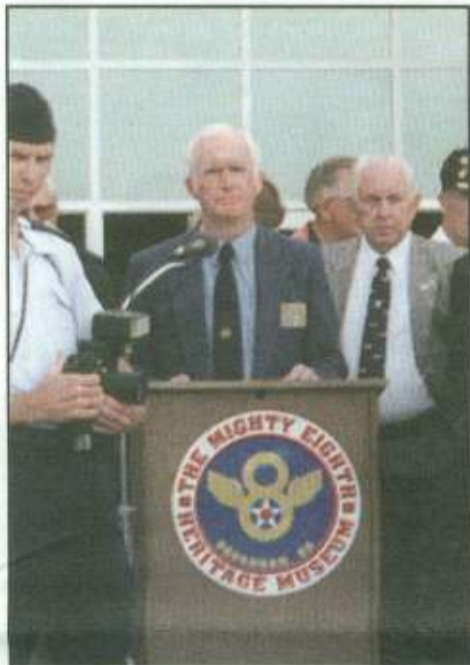
The 306th at the Savannah Museum Opening



Eternal foes, as P-51 chases ME-109 across the Museum 'sky'.



M/Gen. James S. Cheney, 306th president, observes the crowd in spacious Museum rotunda.



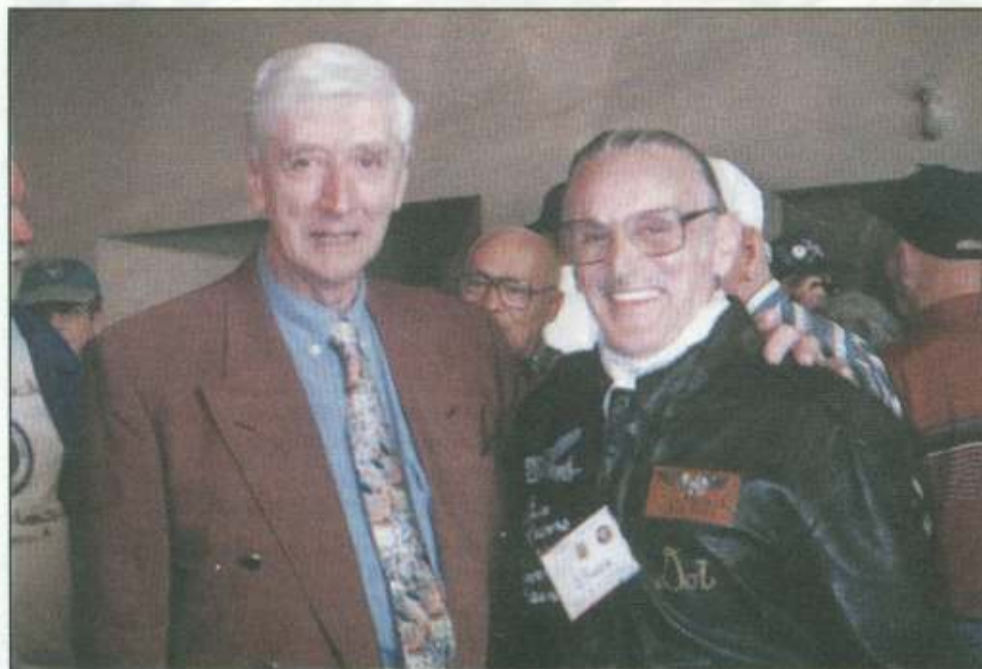
L/Gen. E. G. (Buck) Shuler presided at opening ceremonies in front of the Museum entrance.



Gunners will find this waist arrangement at least warmer, if not roomier in the mockup to be found at the Museum.



Clayton Ridge, 423rd, active in the Georgia effort.



British author and 8th AF Expert Roger Freeman, poses with longtime friend, Saul Kupferman, 423rd; president, Georgia chapter, 8AFHS.



The Control Tower, which is in the Museum, houses a part of the mission briefing and mission experience.



Kitty and Tom Hulings, 368th, chat with June Strong 367th.



Dick and T. O'Hara, 367th, also Georgians.



Bob and Katharine Flood, 369th



Color guard prepares for opening of Museum.

- Savannah museum photos by Tom Hulings, 368, Russell Strong, 367, and F. P. Taylor.



Front: Thomas Dunford wg, Paul Bailey P, Leroy Hollenberg eng. Back: George Hargis tg, Rudolph Babel CP, unknown.



Carroll Biggs 369th enlisted crew. Lee Prugh, George Economos, Matthew Moore, Gerald Swift, Walter Garr and Luther Victory.



369th. Front: Charles Slepicka wg, Robert Weir bt, Gerald Weber tg, Charles Kruger eng and George Carey ro. Back: A. John Bowley P, Isidore Zukowski CP, Charles Pettit N and Ernest Lambert B



367th. Front: Richard Breed P, Irving Smith CP, Ervin Clark B and Fred Anderson N Back: Gordon Lothian eng, Robert Grahler ro, Robert Ussel wg, James Tynan bt, Joseph Gromyko wg and Charles Paine tg.



367th. Front: Wesley Brinkley P, Thomas Bridgeman CP, Allan Ballard N, Donald Dickson B. Back: Ralph Landherr eng, George Murat wg, John Miller ro, Frank Cargill, Stanley Rust and Floyd Younger.



367th. Front: Robert Cardon P, Robert Reid CP, William Kaufman N. Back: John Dolinich eng, Edward S. Fox ro, John V. Eden wg, Julius Coleman bt, Walter Porozinski wg and Harry Miller tg.



423rd. Front: Daniel Carey P, John Frazer CP, Raymond Feilbach N and Michael Borysoff B. Back: Warren Caldwell eng, Elza McQuithy wg, James Parks ro, Charles Hamby bt, Herman Gramelspacher wg and Irving Mills tg.



Often called one of the best WWII USAAF Unit Histories — Its about your Group!

Order Form

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Please send me _____ copy(ies) at \$35 per copy plus \$3.00 for postage and handling. My check is for \$ _____.

Make checks payable to Russell A. Strong. Date ____ / ____ / ____

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP _____

Send to Russell A. Strong, 5323 Cheval Place, Charlotte, NC 28205



423rd. Front: Ralph Dryden tg, Arthur McGwire ro, Richard Fawcett togg, Cliff Diffendaffer bt. Back: Joseph Clark P, Arthur Hatton eng, Albert Figone wg, William Carnicom CP and Vernon Larson N.



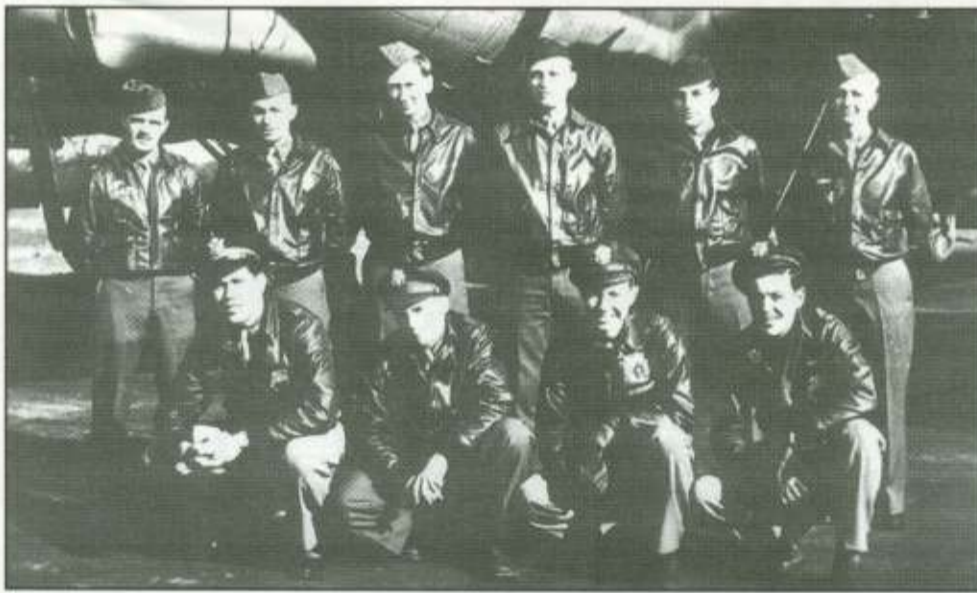
423rd. Front: Marvin Freeman P, Curtis Barber CP, Charles Stansbery N and Frances Smith B. Back: Merlin Summers eng, James Hughes wg, Kenneth Levens ro, John Holmes bt, Donald Wilson wg and Robert Appell tg.



368th. Front: Charles A. Crooks P, John Mockus CP, Louis Thompson N and Bernard Wilson B. Back: Burton Frazier eng, Albert Seaberg ro, Lloyd Cain wg, Joseph Mandula bt, Richard Miller tg, and John Bradley wg.



423rd. Front: Alfred Sepe eng, Casimer Odrowaz wg, Lloyd Reno bt, Joseph Bonem tg and Gordon Insley ro. Back: Michael Lundberg B, Howard Roth CP, Wendell Larson N and Charles Gibson P.



368th. Front: Robert Carsten B, William Cullen N, William Mitchell CP and John Curtis P. Back: Dan Cookman tg, George Kerley wg, George Wortham bt, Joseph Triganni wg, Donald Lane ro and Francis O'Brien eng.



369th. Front: Paul Loubet bt, Frederick Massey eng, Harold Maron wg, Bill Oliver wg, Jerome Evenson ro and Charles Fatigati tg. Back: Curtis Dunlap B, Gustave Holmstrom P, Francis Ferguson CP and Philip Anderson N.

There may be no dues, BUT

It does take money to keep the 306th Association flying. Those who are able are asked to make an annual contribution to keep everything running smoothly. No one is dropped from the mailing list for non-payment! Your gift is tax deductible.

Please accept my gift to the 306th BG Association: \$ _____

NAME _____

STREET AND NO. _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____ 306TH UNIT _____

Send to: Robert N. Houser, Treasurer
306th Bomb Group Association
P.O. Box 13362
Des Moines, IA 50310

DATE _____



369th. Front: Lester Kurk tg, unknown, John Reagan wg and Alfred Weiland bt. Back: Donald Rich eng, Albert Nagy B, Willard Lockyear CP, Immanuel Klette P, unknown, and Bernard Swift ro.



Raper Quoted On Famous Raid

In Martin Middlebrook's book, *The Schweinfurt-Regensburg Mission*, flown 17 April 1943, Maj. Bill Raper, leading the 306th contingent, is quoted as having said:

"I think you will find in our American history that the minions always liked to think that our commanders were prepared to lead us into action. Most of our generals were smart enough to know that you don't fight wars with older people and they had enough sense to leave the combat part to the younger people who had

the recent experience. The fact that an aircraft captain, possibly in the low group back in the formation, knew that the general was up there in front had a good effect. The 'old man' was in the same boat as the rest of us. Most of them had never met the general but they knew he was up there somewhere".

Col. Robert Gross, C.O. of the Wing, was leading the 8th that date, and flying in another plane behind him was B/ Gen Robert H. Williams, C.O. of the First Bombardment Wing.

306th Heirloom Montage

This is a dramatic presentation of the 306th contribution to Allied victory in Europe in WWII. The shiny, black frame is 25 1/2 inches square. The 5 inch patches are mounted on a black mat, and the historical summary at the bottom is reproduced in silver foil that is recessed in the black mat. It is ready hang and the three-dimensional Effect is startling.

Although not included in this rendition a 3 x 5 inch silver plaque in the upper center will be personalized for each individual ordering.

Early mail orders by reunion attendees will be prepared and ready for pickup at the reunion. The cost is \$110 for carry out, and \$125, including packaging and shipping.

Send check and delivery instructions to Ed Hennessy, Co-Chairman
306th Bomb Group Reunion
2013 Plaza del Padre
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Make checks payable to 306th Bomb Group Reunion

- I want one. Check enclosed - \$125
- I want one for pick-up in Las Vegas

Here is my check for \$110 I'll pay at the Las Vegas Reunion PX

I want of this Montage. (Please pay in advance for multiple orders to be shipped or held for pickup at the Reunion) Check enclosed for \$

Name: _____
Address: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Riviera Hotel and Casino

306 B.G. Reunion Reservations, 2901 Las Vegas Blvd. So., Las Vegas, NV 89109

Please reserve _____ room(s) for _____ persons.

NOTE: Reunion starts Oct. 28, and ends Nov. 1, 1995. You may arrive Sun., Oct. 27, if you prefer, and then pick up your 306 credentials at 10:00 am, Monday.

Arrival Date ____/____/____ at approx. _____ am/pm Departing Date ____/____/____

PRINT PLEASE

Name(s) _____

Your Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel () _____

Please Reserve: _____ Single - 1 Bed _____ Double - 2 Beds - Singles or Doubles \$58 plus \$4.64 tax per night
_____ Triple - 2 Beds, 3 Persons - Triples \$78 plus \$6.24 tax per night
_____ Quad - 2 Beds, 4 Persons - Quads \$98 plus \$7.84 tax per night
Note: Quads might prefer 2 doubles, adjoining (4 Beds, 2 Baths)

Enclose check or money order for first night or entire stay, or use major credit card to guarantee room charges.

VISA _____ MC _____ AMEX _____

_____ Exp. Date ____/____

Signature _____

(If you cancel within 72 hours of arrival you will be charged for the first night.)

Paraplegic - need handicap room if possible Difficulty walking - room close to functions if possible

Note: 306th room block cut-off date is Sept 28th. After that rooms will be confirmed on a space available basis only.

Las Vegas!!!

306th Reunion Reservations, October 28 to November 1, 1996

Complete this form and mail with check payable to:

306th Bomb Group Reunion, 2617 Mason Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89102

Reservations: If made after August 25th, add \$10 per person • Cancellations: Full refund if made before August 25th, \$10 fee per person if made after August 25th • Options: Must be booked at time of reservation.

BASIC REUNION PACKAGE - ALL REGISTRANTS: Includes registration fee, baggage tips to bellmen in and out of hotel, musical revue "SPLASH II" at the Riviera, cocktail party at the "Top of the Riv", banquet dinner with wine served, souvenir photo taken at banquet table and delivered there. Big Band dancing and entertainment, surprise gifts in registration kits, Hospitality Area open Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, engraved plastic name badges, tickets for all events and more.

BASIC REUNION PACKAGE @ \$125.00 EA. = \$135 after Aug. 25

REUNION PROGRAM

Sunday Arrivals: The hotel will confirm your room for arrival Sunday, Oct. 27th, if you prefer. The 306th desk will be open at 10:00 am, Monday morning.

Monday, October 28th

Check in day. Some hotel rooms may not be ready before 4:00 pm. 306th credentials and hospitality areas open 10:00 am - 6 pm. with cash bar 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. "Splash II" (A) musical revue at Versailles Theatre in Riviera. Everyone be there at 6:45 pm. for seating.

Tuesday, October 29

Hospitality Area open 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Bar 3:00 - 6:00 pm. Banquet table reservations in Hospitality Area open 3:00 - 6:00 pm. (Present 8 tickets for a full table reservation.)

Option B: Mount Charleston-Lee Canyon Tour; 9:30 am - 3:30 pm
Wonderful mountain scenery with lunch at the lodge.
Via Grayline from Riviera. @ \$33.00 - \$ _____

Option C: Red Rock Canyon; 9:30 am - 3:30 pm.
Las Vegas Valley's popular natural wonder.
Buffet lunch included at L'Bombardier.
Via Grayline from Riviera. @ \$26.40 - \$ _____

Option D: "King Arthur's Tournament"; 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm.
Dinner show at the Excalibur, mounted knights jousting.
Via Grayline from Riviera. @ \$45.25 - \$ _____

Wednesday, October 30

Hospitality Area open 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Bar 3:00 - 6:00 pm. Banquet table reservations in Hospitality Area open 3:00 - 6:00 pm. (Present 8 tickets for a full table reservation.)

Option E: Grand Canyon West Rim Tour; 8:00 am. - 5:00 pm.
Just three hours by bus to the Hualapai reservation overlooking spectacular west rim. Cross Hoover Dam with Lake Mead views each way. About three hours at canyon with BBQ Lunch included at Rim lookout. Suggest comfortable shoes, hats and jacket. Moderate walking. A new approach to the canyon.
Via Grayline from Riviera. If less than 35 booked Price is \$99. @ \$89.00 \$ _____

Option F: Hoover Dam - Lake Mead Cruise; 7:45 am. - 3:30 pm.
Includes new visitor center at dam, 90-minute cruise on air conditioned (con't above)

Stern-Wheeler including buffet lunch at nearby Goldstrike Inn.
Via Grayline from Riviera. Free evening in Las Vegas. @ \$36.60 - \$ _____

Thursday, October 31

Hospitality Area Closed Today.
306th Annual Meeting, Riviera Convention Center - 9:30 am.
Option G: Ladies shopping. Motorcoach, 9:00 am. Noon
Belz Factory Outlet World - A mall covered and air-conditioned. 70 stores with discounts from 20% - 70%. Wonderful variety of accessories, books, audio, video, shoes, housewares, jewelry, clothing, adults and kids, sportswear and equipment, toys, gifts, etc., etc., etc., etc.
Via Grayline from Riviera. @ \$6.50 - \$ _____

Cocktail party at "Top of Riv" - 6:00 - 7:00 pm Included for all registrants
Deluxe Banquet Dinner including wine, 7:30 pm Included for all registrants
Big Band Dance Party, 8:30 pm - 11:30 pm Included for all registrants
Souvenir Photos at Banquet - Delivered There Included for all registrants

Friday, November 1

It's over! Orlando Next Year. Hotel Checkout by 11:00 am, please.

Enclose Check for Grand Total \$ _____

Name _____

Spouse / Guest Names _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Your Telephone () _____ - _____ Your 306 Squadron / Unit _____

Arrival Date ____ / ____ / ____ Las Vegas at Approx ____ / ____ / ____