



## 306<sup>th</sup> BG Museum

### Newsletter 10 - May 2021

Welcome all to the continuation of the 306<sup>th</sup> Museum Newsletter here at Thurleigh.

These past years have been difficult, with COVID affecting all our lives and how we interact with each other, this month sees a positive step towards those restrictions ending, and with the continuation of the Vaccinations being rolled out, we are aiming to fully open our doors on **\*Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2021**. We are however opening sooner than this by Appointment only via our Facebook page as from **\*Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021**, please be aware we are still undergoing various projects so you may be asked to help paint the walls.

(\*All opening times are subject to Government Guidelines)

One main addition to the Outside is a dedication to Ralph & Daphne Franklin co-founders of the 306<sup>th</sup> BG Museum. John who has done a wonderful job, which also includes a representation of the 306<sup>th</sup> Badge, has arranged the seat and garden area.



### Filming of Donald L. Miller's book "Masters of the Air"

It is good to see in the media that the filming has finally begun on the long awaited Apple TV Series, which started shooting in February, producers Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg have constructed a USAAF base in the British countryside to film the drama.



Taking to the skies: War and Peace star Callum Turner was transformed into a brave US army airman as he got to work filming the big-budget Steven Spielberg miniseries Masters Of The Air with co-star Barry Keoghan (right) in Berkshire.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-9524505/Callum-Turner-gets-character-film-Spielberg-miniseries-Masters-Air-Berkshire.html>

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## Arizona Todd Harris

I hope the filming of the Book also includes actions and heroics from the 306<sup>th</sup> BG. One instance that I always remember from the book is that of Arizona Todd Harris.



**B-17 41-24470 / Sons of Fury Crew**

Position	Rank	Name	Status	Note
P	1LT	Charles W. B. Cranmer	KIA	-
CP	2LT	Albert Brunsting	KIA	-
NAV	1LT	Paul E. Byer	KIA	-
BOMB	1LT	John G. Reed	KIA	-
ENG/TT	T/SGT	Arizona T. Harris	KIA	Posthumous DSC
RO	T/SGT	Kermit J. Constantine	KIA	-
BT	S/SGT	William Musick	KIA	-
WG	SGT	Robert Ransom	KIA	-
WG	---	Charles S. Wall, Jr.	KIA	-
TG	SGT	Edgar G. Whittaker	KIA	-



Army Distinguished Service Cross  
(Army, Army Air Corps)

Shot down on the 3rd January 1943 in a B-17F 'Sons of Fury' while serving as Engineer/Top Turret Gunner, the Aircraft ditched into the English Channel and then was strafed by German fighters. TSgt Harris remained in his turret, continuously firing at the German fighters as the aircraft sank beneath the waves. He was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his gallant actions.

## New books based on 306<sup>th</sup> BG



<b>WINCHELL, John H.</b>	<b>0-662014</b>
<b>Rpt. 23 Apr 43</b>	<b>367th (P)</b>
<b>MIA 15 May 43 Wilhelmshaven (w.Ritland)</b>	
<b>POW Rtd</b>	<b>p.116</b>
<b>S.O.#</b>	
<b>Col</b>	<b>1Lt</b>
<b>LiCol</b>	<b>ZX</b>
<b>Maj</b>	
<b>Capt</b>	
<b>2Lt</b>	

Nathan Holland has written two books based on his Great Uncle John H. "Jack" Winchell, a 367<sup>th</sup> pilot and POW.

We are in contact with Nathan Holland and hope in the future to organise an event at the museum.

The books are aimed at Young Adults, and they are a great read.

## 306th Bomb Group Historical Association

If you have not already, we ask if you would sign up to the membership on the <https://www.306bg.us/> this is free and allows the Veterans and families to share the wealth of knowledge that is available on the website and is a great stop for research.

So we wish you all the best and look forward to seeing you again.

Mark

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