

Ball of Fire QUARTERLY EXPRESS



NEWSLETTER OF THE 93rd BOMB GROUP
2nd Air Division, 8th Air Force, Hardwick, England
www.93bg.com

Vol. 28 No. 4

Winter 2020

ANNOUNCEMENT

**2021 Reunion
Salt Lake City, Utah
October 14 – 17, 2021**



Mark your calendar! We have renegotiated our contract with Hilton Garden Inn for 2021 with the same terms we had in 2020. Having missed our annual reunion for the first time since 2001, we are excited at the prospect of gathering again with old friends to remember the accomplishments of our 93rd veterans. Watch for more information in our next newsletter.

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VETERAN'S ADVISORY BOARD

GEORGE MCLEAN

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hope everyone is safe, practicing social distancing, wearing face coverings, and washing your hands frequently! This COVID-19 pandemic is crazy and seems to be surging here in Michigan! We also want to wish our veterans of the Greatest Generation and all men and women who have served our country a "Happy Veterans Day" and heart-felt "Thank you" for your service!

We had a fantastic annual 93rd BGA business meeting on October 17 via ZOOM! It was a great success thanks to the sub-committee who planned it! We also thank those that attended! You can see the resulting business meeting minutes posted later. We gained approval to update the By-Laws, approval to "kick off" a fundraising effort for the Hardwick Museum and the 93rd General Fund, awarded (3) Timberlake Award Winners, and approved the new Officers! You can see details further in the BOF.

This was an election year for our officers who serve for 2-year terms. We have several new volunteers and several have moved to new positions. You can see the full list in the annual meeting minutes as well. Congratulations to all the new Officers and Key Members, and I look forward to continuing to work with all of you!

As I reflect on this past year, we had many successes, despite the challenges of the pandemic:

1. Return To Hardwick – our film had a tremendous public "roll out" in mid-June with great support, exposure, and fantastic reviews! We all are proud of this fantastic documentary.
2. Reunion planning – although the pandemic postponed our reunion for a year, our plans, schedule, and events will carry into 2021, with a seamless transition. Thanks to John and the reunion committee!
3. Treasurer/Financial transition – we transitioned in mid-year to a new Treasurer - first appointed, then elected. We appreciate the work Wally did over the 6 years as a volunteer, and had a smooth transition to Kenna Payne!
4. Social Media - We continue to expand our presence on Facebook with new group members, answering family search questions, and connecting electronically in new ways, that helps continue the legacy of the veterans of the 93rd Bomb group! Thanks to everyone who helps with this effort!
5. 93JV, LLC – There was a tremendous amount of time, work and effort to create this business entity with the legal staff, to ensure our film was ready for the public release, as well as our rights were protected, and had minimal liability. Thanks again to everyone who helped with this!
6. 93rd Veterans – Finally and MOST IMPORTANTLY, we are very pleased and blessed to be working this past year with many of our original veterans. We all are grateful to them, and are proud to support them, and to carry on the 93rd BGA mission and the legacy of the 93rd Bomb Group! Be sure to check our websites, at www.93bg.com and www.hardwickfilm.com.

Have a great holiday season, stay safe, and we will "see you" at our 93rd BGA Reunion in Salt Lake City in October, 2021!

Jim Root, President, 93rd BGA

INTRODUCTION OF NEW OFFICERS

JIM BLUMENFELD - SECRETARY

Jim is the husband of Donna (Eck) Blumenfeld, daughter of Lt. Col. Raymond Eck. Jim and Donna have been members of the 93rd since 2013. Jim is recently retired from a career in the chemicals and plastics manufacturing industry, and wished to play a more active role in the 93rd in any capacity that was needed.

MARY YAMAMOTO - MEMBERSHIP

I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Mary Steichen Yamamoto. I am a retired pediatric occupational therapist. I live in Ann Arbor, Michigan with my husband David and am the mother of two children. My father 1st Lt. Paul R. Steichen was a navigator with the 409th Squadron and completed 35 missions at Hardwick between September 1944 and April 1945.

I am excited for this opportunity to be the membership chair for the 93rd Bomb Group Association. My father was a past president of the 93rd and was the founder of The Ball of Fire newsletter. My brother Paul Steichen, Jr. took the reins as president for several years when Fernley Smith and the others passed the leadership of the organization on to the 2nd (and now the 3rd!) generation. I know how important this bomb group was to my Dad, and how, above all, he wanted his fellow airmen who sacrificed their lives to be remembered and honored. Since my father is no longer with us, it is important to me to carry on his legacy of honoring the brave members of the 93rd bomb group and to keep telling their story.

Many thanks to Jean Koznarek, who so deftly and with her own personal touch carried out the role of membership chair for almost six years. Jean so kindly drove all the membership materials from Shaker Heights, Ohio to Ann Arbor, Michigan to pass on to me. It has been good to know she is only an email or call away to answer my many questions!

VE DAY +75 YEARS HARDWICK 2020

Hardwick, England May 28 to 31, 2021 Colin and I continue to closely monitor the Covid-19 virus and its impact on the Mini Reunion plans. As of now, international travel is still very restricted. If it is a go, it would be on Memorial Day weekend, May 28-31, 2021 weekend. Please direct any questions to me and tell me if you are interested so we can react as quickly as possible when the virus is under control. . My contact info is shown in the officer Directory.

Don Morrison



FOLDED WINGS

Sam Bargamian

BARGAMIAN, Sam, 87, beloved husband, father and grandfather, passed away February 20, 2010. Survived by daughter, Nancy and grandchildren, Kyra and Wyatt. A Celebration of Life Service was held Friday, April 23, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Phillips in the Hills Episcopal Church. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Optimist International, 4494 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108 in his name. Sam served in the Air Force as a First Lieutenant and was a decorated war Veteran of the 93rd Bombardment Group and the co-owner of the Chobanian Rug Company for over 40 years. He served his country, his community and his family. He will always be remembered for his great strength, sense of humor and honor, and humility. He is greatly loved and is dearly missed.

Harold A. Burks

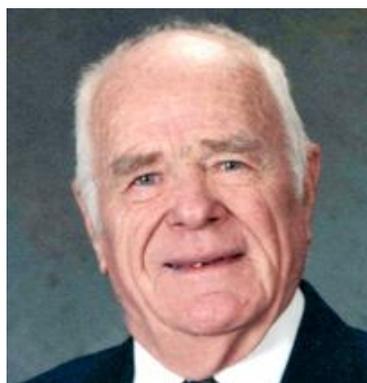
Harold A. Burks, 98, of Holmes Beach, died Oct. 26, 2020. He was born Aug. 22, 1922, in Louisville, Kentucky.

He was the last surviving member of his U.S. Air Force crew and was the radio operator on 36 combat missions in a B-24 aircraft over enemy-occupied territory of Germany in World War II.

He was awarded the 5th Oak Leaf Cluster (Silver) to the Air Medal.

His work in civilian life included head of personnel for several international oil companies, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Temple University Health Centers and the state of Pennsylvania.

After retirement, he taught CPR for the American Red Cross. His hobbies included reading spy novels, sailing, woodworking and short-wave radio.



Norman G. Gould

Age 97, of Hastings, formerly So. St. Paul passed away peacefully August 7, 2019. He was a WWII Veteran and a former Dakota County Deputy Sheriff. Norman was preceded in death by his sons, Curtis and Jeffrey; and grandchildren, Erin Jean Okeson, and Craig Norman Felton. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; daughters, Connie (Jerry) Felton, Cheryl (Terry) Hoines and Rhonda (Kevin) Okeson; 8 grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren; and one great great grandchild. Private Interment, Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Joe Hernandez

February 22, 1924 - August 26, 2020



A lifelong resident of San Antonio, Joe was the fifth of six children born to Enrique Hernandez Martinez and Carlota Hernandez Garza-Villarreal. He was preceded in death by his parents; his loving wife of 66 years, Aurora Z. Hernandez; son, George Hernandez and brothers Enrique, Rogelio, Rodolfo, Raul and Ruben Hernandez.

In addition to his family, he had a great love of music, reading and photography. The joke in the family was that everything was a "Kodak Moment" for Joe. He left thousands of photographs, slides and 8MM films as treasured memories.

As a young boy growing up on San Antonio's Westside, where he shined shoes and sold newspapers to help his family, he couldn't have imagined what life had in store for him.

His family ran a small restaurant on Buena Vista St. His dad was a butcher and his mother, a fabulous cook. He and his brothers helped out at the restaurant. Always a lover of music, it was there that he cultivated his appreciation for Jazz. With segregation at its highest, Jazz musicians in town for performances were not welcome in most restaurants so his family's restaurant in downtown San Antonio became a haven for them; and thus, his introduction to Jazz.

His mother's cooking and his father's knowledge of great cuts of meats led him to his appreciation of good food. Ribeye steaks, lamb chops, shrimp with pasta and garlic butter sauce, chiles rellenos, mole, cabrito and flautas were among his many favorites.

Dad was a proud World War II veteran. Family and friends enjoyed listening to his anecdotes about his experiences while serving our country in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He served with the 8th Air Force, 93rd Bomb Group as a Top Turret Gunner on B-24s. He participated in 35 bombing missions over Germany and during the Battle of the Bulge.

He would often recall some of his harrowing experiences including being met with a barrage of anti-aircraft fire as his plane and crew approached their target. He would explain how the flak exploding next to them would shake the plane and on three different occasions, the damage was so bad they had to make emergency landings. Yet, it was his own squadron that triggered his closest brush with death. While flying in tight formation, the B-24 was caught in the violent turbulence created by nearby aircraft, a condition called propeller wash. The whirlwind plunged the plane into a tailspin. The pilot gave the order to bail out but there was so much centrifugal force that the crew couldn't move. The craft dropped several thousand feet before the pilot was able to regain control. Eventually they landed safely.

On his 21st birthday he was shipped back to the states on the Queen Mary. He became an aerial gunnery instructor in Boise, Idaho until his honorable discharge in October 1945 with the rank of S/Sgt. For his service Joe was awarded the Air Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters, the European Theater of Operations Ribbon with three battle stars for the Northern France, Rhineland and Ardennes campaigns and the Good Conduct Medal.

It was back home after the war that he met and married the love of his life, Aurora Zapata, and reared five children. He worked at Kelly A.F.B. as an Aircraft Electrical Armament Foreman, Equipment Specialist, and Production Management Specialist during a career that spanned 30 years. His retirement years were spent being a "taxi service" to and imparting his wisdom and love of reading and learning to grandchildren. He and Aurora always enjoyed trips to Las Vegas, San Francisco and most importantly, visiting extended family and friends in Monterey, Mexico. He also became a fixture at Mi Tierra Café and Restaurant for his morning coffee,

afternoon merienda and Sunday morning breakfast with his wife enjoying the Marimba music in their Mural Room. More recently he enjoyed reading to and spoiling his great grandchildren.

In 2004 Joe participated and was featured in the U. S. Latinos and Latinas WWII Oral History Project at the University of Texas at Austin and in 2007 he was interviewed for a PBS documentary on the contributions of Latinos during WWII. In 2015, he travelled to the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C. with other local veterans on a trip sponsored by Honor Flight of San Antonio.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Honor Flight San Antonio de Valero, 14080 Nacogdoches Rd. PMB 340, San Antonio, Texas 78247 in his memory..

Joe is survived by daughters, Christine Hernandez and Eleanor H. Ramirez; sons Marshall Hernandez (Elizabeth Martinez) and Dan Hernandez (Eloy Ortiz); grandsons Eloy J. Ramirez (Amber) and Daniel R. Ramirez (Kelly Lopez), Dominic L. Hernandez and Jonathan M. Hernandez; granddaughters Alyson M. Hernandez, Valerie J. Gutierrez and Clarisa Sanchez (Alfred, III); great-granddaughters Samantha S. and Payton P. Ramirez, Isla J. Gutierrez and Arianna G. Hernandez; great-grandsons Alfred (IV), Vincent and Marcial Sanchez; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

William Warren Lee

W. Warren Lee, 95, passed away on April 17, 2020.

He was born on August 31, 1924 in Bronxville, NY. He served in WWII from March 1943 to October 1945 as a Staff Sergeant. Trained as a nose gunner, he flew 25 missions on a B-24 Liberator. He was in the 93rd Bombardment Group in the 2nd Air Division based in Hardwick, England.

He attended Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA, one semester before the war. He returned 3 years later to complete a Masters Degree in Political Science and Economics. He was a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity and Phi Beta Kappa. Lambert Pharmaceuticals, PepsiCo, Welch Foods, and Hunt Wesson. He began his own CPA Practice in CA, and continued in it until he retired in 1994.

Since high school he has played trombone with various bands. He was a 14 year member of the Tampa Bay Community Band. His favorite sport was golf.

He is survived by his wife, Jean, and their four children; Kathy Rivers (Lee) Virginia Beach, VA, Richard Lee (Michelle) Olive Branch, MS, Barbara Daerr (Nick) Tampa, FL, and Douglas Lee, Fullerton, CA, nine grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and his brother, Paul Lee (Brenda) of Trinity, FL. He was a member of St. James UMC of Tampa.



Kristen S. Lent (widow and veteran)

Kris Lent, 99, passed away peacefully in hospice at Paoli Hospital on October 24, 2020.



Brunhilde Kristin Swan was born January 16, 1921 in Sioux City, Iowa, to Wilbur F. Swan and Enid B. Sutton. Kris graduated from the Andrews School in Ohio and attended University of Iowa before completing Pilot Training and being accepted into the Women's Air Force Service Pilot (WASP) program. She completed WASP Special Training in August of 1944 and Advanced Instrument Training in November. The WASP program was abruptly terminated and Kris received an honorable discharge from the US Air Force in December of 1944. In March 2010, surviving Women Air Force Service Pilots were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for their service in World War II.

Kris was the beloved wife of Robert L Lent for 60 years and mother to four children, Mary Barton, David Lent, Lisa Erlbaum, and Jon Lent. Most of her married life was spent in Dobbs Ferry, NY, where Kris was an active member of the First Reformed Church in Hastings-on-Hudson. Kris and Bob relocated to Paoli, PA in 1999 to be closer to three of their

children. Kris was a devoted grandmother to nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. After Bob passed away in August 2005, Kris renewed her friendship with one of Bob's crew members and married William (Bill) Gros in 2006. Bill was the radio operator and Bob the bombardier in the Eager Beaver of the 93rd Bombardment Group, which flew 29 missions in Europe and North Africa. Kris had a strong religious life and attended Trinity Church in Berwyn, Pa. She will be remembered for her devotion to God and her warm and loving nature. Donations in her memory may be made to Trinity Church or to Doctors Without Borders.

Kathleen Ann Cooke Morrison

Kathleen Ann Cooke Morrison passed peacefully after a brief illness on Saturday, August 15, 2020. She was born in Waynesburg, PA on March 3, 1945 to the late George Francis and Elizabeth Jean (Clelland) Cooke. Kathy graduated from Valley High School in Lucasville, OH in 1964 and then married her one true love, "her whole world", Melvin D. Morrison (Butch) on May 29, 1965 in Akron, Ohio. She taught Sunday school at Trinity Chapel and was a leader with Butch for the youth group at Manchester UMC. Kathy and Butch raised their boys in a house on Manchester Road that they fully remodeled.

After being a stay-at-home mom with her boys, she worked part time at Nolley Elementary School as a yard lady and volunteered as a teacher's aid. The volunteer teacher's aid position evolved into many different roles over the years such as full-time teachers aid, Title 1 reading, and the "Computer Lady." She worked at Nolley for 35 years, 1978 to 2013.



Kathy enjoyed camping, traveling, going for rides with Butch in their Corvette, spending time at the family cabin, putting on tap shoes and dancing in the basement with her granddaughters, and any time spent with family. She loved all things Disney and Mickey Mouse. She will be remembered for her ultimate love for her family and her macaroni salad. She was preceded in death by her husband, Melvin (Butch) Morrison (2007). Survived by: Sons; Donald and Lori of Clinton and Brian and Laurie

of Akron. Grandchildren: Donald (Lacie), Megan Baglia (Stephen), Tiffany Forsythe (Kyle), Nicole and Timothy. Great Grandchild: Piper Ann.

Inez May Strombom (widow)

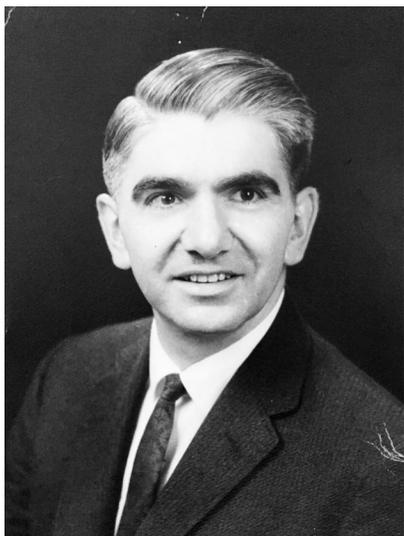
BORN December 15, 1925

DIED September 2, 2019

LOCATION Wausau, Wisconsin

Inez was born on December 15, 1925 and passed away on Monday, September 2, 2019. Inez skipped second grade and graduated in 1942 with a class of 20 students from Clinton High School when she was 16 years old. Online condolences may be expressed at www.heindlfuneralhome.com Memorial contributions may be made to either the Ogema Baptist Church, The Ogema Public Library, or the 8th Air Force Museum in Savannah, Georgia.

B. Joseph Troisi



Benjamin Joseph Troisi, "B. Joseph," passed away at age 96 on March 30, 2020, at Haven Care Hospice in Edison, N.J., from complications of pneumonia.

Mr. Troisi was born in Williamsport, to Domenic and Bernardine (nee Beiter) Troisi, where he grew up at 420 Vernon Avenue in a house his father custom designed. As the second son of Domenic, the owner of Troisi, Finer Things for Men, B. Joseph created several award-winning window displays and redesigns for the store, formerly located at Fourth and Court Streets.

B. Joseph enjoyed baseball and boxing and achieved the honor of becoming an Eagle Scout. At 17, he served in the Army Air Force during World War II, eventually being promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant before the war ended. He served as a waist gunner on a B-24 bomber named Duration Baby! where he completed 32 missions over Europe, plus an uncounted decoy mission along the coast of Denmark on D-Day. After the war ended, B. Joseph attended Lycoming College, Syracuse University and Pratt Institute, where he earned degrees in art and technical design. B. Joseph had a lengthy career as a store planner, working for Macy's and JC Penney department stores in New York City. He was an active member of the Knights of Columbus at St. Matthias in Somerset, N.J., and the Institute of Store Planners in New York City.

B. Joseph was an astute chess player and loved playing crossword puzzles. As an accomplished fine artist, he exhibited his portraits and still-lives in various art shows throughout Middlesex County, N.J. He was also an enthusiastic horticulturist, winning several first place ribbons year-after-year for his beefsteak tomatoes and peace roses at the Middlesex County Fair in East Brunswick, N.J.

As a civic-minded, generous and kind man, B. Joseph served as the president of the PTA at St. Anne's Parish School in Ossining, N.Y., and volunteered for several community and charitable organizations throughout his life. He was a proud son, a mentor and role model to his many brothers and sisters, a loving husband and father. He will be greatly missed by all whose lives he touched.

B. Joseph is predeceased by his wife of 55 years, Patricia (nee Fleming) Troisi; his siblings, Robert and Paul Troisi; sisters, Anne Marie McClain, Bernadine Hamm and Marguerite Carapellucci.

He is survived by his son, Gerard Troisi, of Plainfield, N.J.; and daughter, Jeanine Troisi of New York City; as well as siblings, John Troisi, of Williamsport, Jim Troisi, of Seneca Falls, N.Y., Helen Arney, of Peoria, Ill., and Mary Troisi, of Williamsport.

Donations to the Knights of Columbus at St. Matthias Church in Somerset, N.J., are welcome in his memory.

They will be missed!

GREETINGS FROM THE 93RD BG HISTORIAN!

On August 15th, 2020; my mother Kathy Morrison passed away. Over the last 16 years, she attended several reunions and enjoyed them greatly. As we deal with the loss and selling her home, my time to work on projects has been limited. Please understand, I will be back full strength shortly. As always if you have a question just ask, and I will help anyway possible.

Search for 93rd BG items

I am looking for any photos, diaries, records or other items from the time at Hardwick. If you know of any items, please let me know as I would like to get copies to further my research into the 93rd BG. Please do not assume that I already have it. Every time I see a collection, I find something new!

FREE Memorabilia cataloging and Research

I am willing to scan any documents, records and photos of a 93rd BG veteran and return ALL of the original items (unharmd) along with CDs of all scans/jpeg images, along with any additional information I can add regarding names, plane serial #, artwork and places. There is NO charge for this service! I can also make extra CD copies for family members. I have done this for several veterans over the years. My contact info is shown in the Officer Directory.

If you have any questions regarding the 93rd BG, please contact me with an email/letter/call with your question or topic for a mini research project. I will do my best to research an answer and publish it in the newsletter.

Cheers, Don Morrison

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW BOF EDITOR

After serving as secretary on the board, I volunteered to be the new BOF editor and Don Morrison can focus on being an even better Historian (is that possible?). Thank you, Don for your six years of hard work as editor and passing the baton to me. I have large shoes to fill. I look forward to serving on this special board and especially in keeping the legacy of our vets alive. I like to think that my dad, 1st LT Forrest Lam, lead navigator, 30 combat missions, would be happy and proud to see me supporting this effort. It's really an honor to be part of it.

While I do my best, I welcome input and ideas for any improvements in the BOF or ideas for new articles (400-500 words). Like Don would say, "It's YOUR newsletter". Do you want to share your vets life with the group? (I personally love hearing those stories.) Did you read a good book and want to share a review? How about a WWII movie, old or new? Or visit an air museum (new to you) you want to share with us? I welcome it. My contact info is in the Officer Directory.

Your faithful editor,
Pam Kawashima

93RD PX

The 93rd BGA PX will be going under a complete renovation over the next several months. A committee is being formed to review and improve the PX process, product offering, budgeting, and ease of use. A limited amount of product, including Ted's Travelling Circus books will be available during this time. We appreciate your cooperation during this time frame.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Grace and peace be with you all. Fall is upon us and Winter is not far behind. This is the traditional time where many gather as families to celebrate Thanksgiving. Even now, in this strange time that we are experiencing, it is still proper to stop to give "thanks". Whether in person, or virtually via Zoom or other means, I hope that you have the opportunity to celebrate this season with family. I would like to offer these words of comfort and promise found in Colossians 3, "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful."

As always, I will continue to pray for our group, but if there are special needs that you would like to share, either with me or with our group as a whole, I hope that you will contact me. You can reach me either through my group email, bofmailman@gmail.com, or my personal email, gjung@hvc.rr.com. Stay healthy and be safe.

Blessings to you all,

George Jung, Chaplain

93RD FILM PROJECT

93rd Bomb Group website update

The 93rd Bomb Group Association has started to formally promote a few fundraisers in the coming months. The association would like to make the fundraisers visible on the 93rd Bomb Group website. Please look for a new "Donate" button on the homepage. By clicking the donate button it will take you to information about the fundraisers and how to donate. Also please remember that you can also renew your membership through the "Membership" section of the website. You can start a new membership or re-new a "one" year membership for \$25.00. For \$45.00 dollars you can lock in a two year membership.

Return To Hardwick documentary update

It's been 5 months since the 93rd Bomb Group documentary *Return To Hardwick* was released digitally in the United States and Canada. The film is also now available on Amazon Prime. If you have an Amazon Prime subscription you can watch *Return to Hardwick* at no extra cost. The link to the film on Amazon Prime is <https://www.amazon.com/Return-Hardwick-Michael-Cudlitz/dp/B088SXDBWF>

Just recently the film has also become available on Hoopla. Please read some details on the Hoopla service:



Hoopla is a groundbreaking digital media service offered by your local public library that allows you to borrow movies, music, audiobooks, ebooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on your computer, tablet, or phone – and even your TV! With no waiting, titles can be streamed immediately, or downloaded to phones or tablets for offline enjoyment later. We have hundreds of thousands of titles to choose from, with more being added daily. hoopla is like having your public library at your fingertips. Anytime. Anywhere.

You will need to go to <https://www.hoopladigital.com/> and check to see if the service is available in your area.

And finally, the 93rd Bomb Group Association and Frankenbite Productions has signed a foreign distribution deal with our distributor Gravitas Ventures. Currently the contract covers the United Kingdom however, other territories could be included at later dates. We are still formalizing details with Gravitas on a release date so more updates coming soon!

Thank You!

Michael Sellers
93rd BG Technology Manager
Director/Producer "Return To Hardwick"

MEMBERSHIP

Membership renewals were mailed in October to those of you whose membership expired at the end of 2020. Thank you to all of you who have renewed via the US postal service or Paypal. Thank you also to those who let me know about changes with our veterans or included documents, pictures, or information about your family member's service. I will send out a reminder at the end of the year to those of you who have not yet renewed.

The 93rd Bomb Group Association is pleased to welcome these 26 new members in 2020:

- Daniel Asch, brother of Col. Alfred Asch
- Kathleen Asch, sister-in-law of Col. Alfred Asch
- Cathie Ballard, daughter of T/Sgt. William Gros
- Phil Barlow, son of Richard John Baginski
- John Boma, nephew of 1st Lt. Paul Steichen
- Sarah Brown, great niece of 1st Lt. William M. Brown
- Austin Caldwell, son of 1st Lt. Brent B Caldwell
- Lt. Col. Anthony Christino III, great nephew of T/Sgt. Frank L. Zadra
- Marc Feigenblatt, son-in-law of Julius Glantzman
- Amanda Helberg, granddaughter of Capt. Lew Brown, Jr.
- Newell Howard, a Vietnam Veteran who after viewing "Return to Hardwick" joined to support our mission
- Dawn Jehorek, granddaughter of 2nd Lt. Fernley Smith
- Ann Koznarek, granddaughter of S/Sgt. Henry Nykamp
- Laura Koznarek, granddaughter of S/Sgt Henry Nykamp
- Will Koznarek, grandson of S/Sgt. Henry Nykamp
- Julia McGinty, daughter of 1st Lt. Paul Steichen
- Rick Monje, son of N.M. "Chico" Monje, a B17 and Glider Pilot registered in Silver Wings Museum
- Geoffrey Nese, grandson of 1st Lt. Robert Dale Frost
- Geralyn Plakmeyer, niece of 2nd Lt. Robert Timmer
- Robert Porter, nephew of 1st Lt. Robert Marx
- Katha Root, daughter of Major Kenneth W. Root, Jr.
- Carole Shanley, daughter of Daniel John Smyth
- John M. Smith, son of 1st Lt. John Wylie Scott
- Eric Sperley, stepson of Robert F. Dixon
- Kimberly Vacca, granddaughter of S/Sgt. Henry Nykamp
- Tiffany Wright, granddaughter of Daniel John Smyth

Mary Yamamoto
Membership Chair

93RD BGA FUNDRAISING PROJECT

By the time you read this article, you should have received a letter from the officers about a fundraising appeal for three distinct needs. The letter was mailed in mid-November to all members.

We are raising monies for

(a) needed major repairs to the four Quonset huts at the Hardwick Museum, which house the documents and memorabilia of the Museum (this project was approved by the membership at the Annual Business Meeting on October 17),

(b) future projects at the Museum (repairs, programs, etc.), and

(c) improving the Association's financial status and for future projects of the Association, including our own programs and projects of other groups.

As of the date of the letter, we had received a match pledge for the contributions for the roof project from Candace Bernard and Robert Glickman, in memory of Ms. Bernard's father, Leon E. Bernard. Additionally, we had already received over \$8,000 in lead pledges and payments for these three needs, and hope that we will have received many more contributions through now.

You can find the full details in your copy of the mailed letter.

It's not too late to make a contribution!

Contributions can be made by check or online. Checks should be made payable to the 93rd Bombardment Group Association and sent to the Treasurer, Mrs. Kenna Payne, 4261 Saratoga Road, Richmond, VA 23235, along with an indication of the designation(s) you wish to make. Online contributions can be made via the DONATE HERE button on the website's home page (93bg.com) and following the additional instructions found there. You might wish to make your contribution in memory or honor of a veteran – please provide those instructions with your payment.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of making a contribution to any or all of these needs. And thank you for your membership in and support of the 93rd Bombardment Group Association.

Kenna Payne

Fundraising Committee, and 93rd Officers

93RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Below please find the Board meeting minutes from the Oct. 17, 2020 meeting held on the internet with the Zoom meeting tool.



93RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION™

93bg.com

October 17, 2020

2020 Business Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome – The secretary welcomed 27 attendees and reviewed process steps for using ZOOM online meeting.
2. Call to Order - Jim Root, President gave a brief welcome and introduction, thanking all for attending, and thanking the ZOOM sub-committee for the excellent work to plan, organize and execute the annual membership meeting! The meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM on Saturday, October 17, 2020.
3. George Jung, Chaplain, gave an invocation.
4. Pam Kawashima, Secretary, asked for and reported there were no corrections or objections to the 2019 93rd BGA Meeting Minutes. The minutes were approved.
5. The 2020 meeting agenda was reviewed with no additions.
6. The following reports were given by the Officers:
 - Communications Jim Root
 - Monthly Officer meetings, contact with the Heritage League, Quarterly Ball of Fire newsletter, and social media used throughout the year. Good exposure with release and distribution of Return to Hardwick.
 - Membership, “Folded Wings” Jean Koznarek
 - 250 Total members – Veterans = 24 (16 in contact), Non-Veterans = 226, UK Friends = 8; New members for 2020 = 24
 - Folded Wings (from many sources, and not just in 2020, but reported in 2020): Edward T. Charles, Jr., Eugene M. Heller, Joseph Hernandez, Walter Hughes, and Olive Belter (spouse).
 - 93JV, LLC Jean Koznarek
 - Beginning assets of \$10, 125, less expenses of \$8,360, leaves a current asset balance as of 9/30/20 of \$1,765
 - Treasurer Kenna Payne
 - 9-month, 2020 revenues of \$5,218, less expenses of \$21,325, leaves a net decline for the period of \$16,107.
 - Current total assets as of 9/30/20 are: checking account balance of \$8,675, PayPal Account balance of \$492, PX Inventory of \$1,038 and Investment in 93JV, LLC of \$7,800 for a total of \$18,005.

Ball of Fire Editor

Don Morrison/George Jung

Sent the newsletter to all members of the 93rd BG Association:
115 Printed & 164 Email = 279 total (271 USA, 8 UK/EU)

Historian

Don Morrison

Respond to member questions, research 93rd BG, monitor social media, support the film.

93rd BGA Website

Michael Sellers

Planning a redesign in 2021, new PX section coming, PayPal issues need to be resolved.

7. The following Current Business items were continued from last year's meeting:

Return to Hardwick

Michael Sellers

- Finished 2019/2020 film festival & museum screening circuit
- Secured national distribution deal - May 2020
- Official Video on Demand (VOD) release to major streaming platforms - June 2020
- Secured UK distribution deal - September 2020
- Released on Amazon Prime (subscription) - September 2020
- New budget proposal to support marketing efforts
- Proposal for sub-committee to manage screening requests

2020 Salt Lake City Reunion Update

John Marx, VP

- Reviewed the locations of the previous 20 years.
- Reviewed the 4 trips to Hardwick and 1 to Iceland
- Had to postpone the 2020 trip to Salt Lake City and the 2020 trip to Hardwick due to the pandemic

2021 Salt Lake City, UT reunion Update

John Marx, VP

- Hotel contract secured for 2021 in Salt Lake City
- Potential events and education sessions remain as planned for 2020.
- It was also noted that the Hardwick reunion planned for 2020 is tentatively rescheduled for Memorial Day May, 2021.

2022 Reunion location selected Boston

John Marx, VP

- Boston selected by the attendees of the Detroit reunion in 2019.
- Planning will begin in Winter 2021

Future Projects

Jim Root

(4) potential projects discussed as follows:

1. Enhanced memorial at National Air Force Museum – Dayton, OH
2. Hardwick Museum – donation for Quonset huts roof re-paint/seal
3. Digitizing and cataloguing 93rd Bomb Group original morning briefings
4. Annual 93rd BGA fundraising for general fund

All project evaluations and Officer discussions continue.

Plan to present recommendations at 2021 reunion.

- A question was brought up on the Hardwick Museum roof re-paint/seal project: Is this a high priority?
- Both Don and Colin gave details on the condition of the museum roof, and its on-going maintenance. They also have a quoted estimate on the work to use a different rubberized material to seal and coat the roof.
- A motion was made by Candy Bernard to authorize the 93rd BGA to fund and support the Hardwick roof project, and begin a fundraising effort necessary for the funding. It was seconded by Michael Sellers.
- A unanimous consent vote failed due to (1) objection. The question of not enough detailed information on the project, and competing with the other projects listed.
- A vote by the membership resulted in 26 in favor, and 1 against. The motion passed.

- A comment after the vote recommended that we also consider a future effort to create a fund for supporting future Hardwick maintenance and programs.
- The fundraising effort will be combined with the other fundraising activities for 2020 & 2021.

8. The following (4) New Business items were discussed:

1. 93rd BGA By-laws Proposal

John Marx

By-Laws changes are reviewed by By-Laws Committee.

By-Laws Committee: John Marx, Jean Koznarek, Jim Root

There are (4) updates to By-Laws proposed, as follows:

1. Add Article IV, Section j: Chaplain Officer position
2. Add Article IV, Section k: 93JV, LLC. Manager Officer position
3. Modify Article VI, section i: reduce financial audit requirement to 2 years
4. Add Article XIII: Creation and description of 93JV, LLC. Entity

Refer to the By-Laws posted on www.93bg.com, with proposed changes highlighted in red text.

The By-Laws Committee made a motion to adopt the proposed By-Laws changes as presented.

No 2nd was needed. After no discussion, the By-Law changes were passed by unanimous consent.

2. 93rd BGA Officer Elections

Nick Timmer

For the 2 -years of 2020 – 2022 Officer Nominations:

Nominations are reviewed by the Nominating Committee.

Nominating Committee: Nick Timmer, Becky Burch, George McLean

	Current	<u>2020 – 2022</u>
a. President	Jim Root	Jim Root
b. Vice President	John Marx	John Marx
c. Secretary	Pam Kawashima	*Jim Blumenfeld*
d. Treasurer	Wally Brown	*Kenna Payne*
e. Assistant Treasurer	Nancy Stranger	Nancy Stranger
f. Membership Chair	Jean Koznarek	*Mary Yamamoto*
g. Ball of Fire Editor	Don Morrison	*Pam Kawashima*
h. Historian	Don Morrison	Don Morrison
i. Technology Manager	Michael Sellers	Michael Sellers
j. Chaplain	New 2020	*George Jung*
k. 93JV, LLC. Manager	New 2020	*Jean Koznarek*

Note: *Red highlights are new for 2020 – 2022*

The Nominating Committee made a motion to adopt the proposed Officers as presented for 2020 – 2022. The Officer nominations were passed by unanimous consent. Congratulations and thank you to the new Officers!

Other “Key Member” positions:

<u>Veteran Board:</u>	Current	<u>2020 - 2022</u>
Veteran Board #1	George McLean	George McLean
Veteran Board #2	Bill Brown	Bill Brown
Veteran Board #3	Wayne Baker	Wayne Baker
<u>Other Key Members:</u>		
PX Manager	Pete Asch	Jean Koznarek
Assistant BOF Editor	George Jung	George Jung
Reunion Registration	JoAnne Sargent	JoAnne Sargent

3. Fundraising – General Fund

Kenna Payne

A Fundraising proposal was reviewed from the Fundraising committee, as follows:

Timing: “Kick-off” for November and December 2020

How: Via a separate mailing/communication

Why: To support the continued financial viability of the Association.

To build monies without any restrictions for use in support of other projects and the 93rd BGA general operations.

What: Since we didn’t have a reunion this year, and we didn’t have the expense of reunion registration fees, hotel costs, airfare, or anything they might have spent if they had attended a reunion.

Would you consider donating to the 93rd BGA a portion of the budget you would have spent on the physical reunion?

In addition, based on the passed motion to raise funds in support of the Hardwick Museum roof, the fundraising committee will combine the effort.

THANK YOU to EVERYONE for your support!!

4. Other/Misc.

Jim Root

The potential to have a “mid-year” type of event, possibly on ZOOM again, was discussed. Having Veteran stories, of live video of the Hardwick Museum, were ideas discussed.

9. Timberlake Award

Jim Root

This award is the highest recognition for someone who currently goes “above and beyond” volunteering in support of the 93rd Bomb Group Associations purpose to “**carry on the traditions and memories of the 93rd Bomb Group.**”

- Established in 2015
- Named for General Ted Timberlake, Commanding Officer
- Beautifully engraved trophy/award including a B-24 etching
- Former Veteran advisor Fernley Smith “it is very valuable to recognize someone who is currently volunteering to continue the legacy of the 93rd Bomb Group”
- There have been 14 award winners to date.

Previous recipients:

2015 – Omaha – Scott Stewart, Jim Lux

2016 – San Antonio – Joe/Phyllis Duran, Jim Guddal, Bill/JoAnne Sargent

2017 – New Orleans - Michael Sellers, Don Morrison, Colin Mann

2018 – Washington, DC – Michael Cudlitz, Nick Timmer, Nancy Stranger

2019 – Detroit - Jean Koznarek

2020 – (3) award winners this year are:

David Cuppage!

For his outstanding support on the 93rd BGA legal matters for *Return to Hardwick*.

He provided excellent support and guidance on the rights & clearances, distribution contract, creating the 93JV, LLC. entity, and ensuring our rights are protected, in a very complex film industry!

He was also extremely responsive and attentive to our questions and needs in a timely fashion, and always willing to help in any way, to support the 93rd BGA!

Thank you, David!!

David Woodrow

For his outstanding support on the 93rd BGA throughout many, many years!

As the owner and steward of the property where the Hardwick Aerodrome 104 and modern-day museum is located, he has always been magnificent in helping continue the legacy of the 93rd Bomb Group, and our greatest generation veterans!

As a veteran himself, he knows the true sacrifices so many have made to ensure freedom around the world.

Thank you, David!!

Paul Thrower

For his outstanding support and work to maintain the 93rd Bomb Group museum located at Hardwick.

Paul has always been a tremendous curator, to ensure the museum is world class in the exhibits, and telling the story of the 93rd Bomb Group during the war.

He helps to continue the legacy of the 93rd Bomb Group, and our greatest generation veterans! His work is truly outstanding, passion-driven, and enjoyed by all!

Thank you, Paul!!

Congratulation to all (3) winners, and a huge Thank You for your dedication, support and help with the 93rd BGA!!

10. Veteran Board message

George McLean/Wayne Baker/Bill Brown

Although no Veterans could attend, they all appreciate our hard work to make this great organization continue to thrive!

11. Adjournment

Jim Root

A motion was made to adjourn, was seconded and adjourned at 3:30 PM.



93RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION™

93bg.com

October 17, 2020

David Cuppage
20241 Bradgate Lane
Strongsville, OH 44149

Dear David,

As the President of the 93rd Bombardment Group Association, I am excited and pleased to award you with the 93rd Bomb Group Association **2020 Timberlake Award!** This is considered to be the “highest” honor awarded by the 93rd BGA, and is a tribute and recognition to you, for your commitment and dedicated service! It is named in honor of the Commanding Officer of the 93rd Bomb Group during World War II, General Edward J. “Ted” Timberlake.

On behalf of our Veterans, Members, and Friends, we would like to recognize your outstanding work, support and guidance on the rights & clearances, distribution contract, creating the 93JV, LLC. entity, and ensuring our rights are protected, in a very complex film industry!

You have also been extremely responsive and attentive to our questions and needs in a timely fashion, and are always willing to help in any way, to support the 93rd BGA!

Thank you for your loyalty, dedication and contributions of honoring the service and sacrifice of our veterans of the 93rd Bomb Group! Congratulations!

Regards,

Jim Root
President
93rd Bomb Group Association
15359 Red Fox Walk
West Olive, Mi 49460
616-399-5990 (h)
616-218-0787 (m)



328th



329th



330th



409th



93RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION™

93bg.com

October 17, 2020

David Woodrow
Airfield Farm, Topcroft
Bungay, UK NR35 2BA

Dear David,

As the President of the 93rd Bombardment Group Association, I am excited and pleased to award you with the 93rd Bomb Group Association **2020 Timberlake Award!** This is considered to be the “highest” honor awarded by the 93rd BGA, and is a tribute and recognition to you, for your commitment and dedicated service! It is named in honor of the Commanding Officer of the 93rd Bomb Group during World War II, General Edward J. “Ted” Timberlake.

On behalf of our Veterans, Members, and Friends, we would like to recognize your outstanding support and guidance as the owner and steward of the property and farm where the Hardwick Aerodrome 104 and modern-day museum are located! You have always been magnificent in helping continue the legacy of the 93rd Bomb Group, and our greatest generation veterans! As a veteran yourself, you know the true sacrifices so many have made to ensure freedom around the world.

You have also been extremely responsive and attentive to our questions and needs in a timely fashion, and are always willing to help in any way, to support the 93rd BGA! We are truly proud and blessed to know you and your family!

Thank you for your loyalty, dedication and contributions of honoring the service and sacrifice of our veterans of the 93rd Bomb Group! Congratulations!

Regards,
Jim Root
President, 93rd Bomb Group Association
15359 Red Fox Walk
West Olive, Mi 49460
616-399-5990 (h), 616-218-0787 (m)



328th



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93RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION™

93bg.com

October 17, 2020

Paul Thrower
12 St. Davids Close
Long Stratton
Norwich, UK NR12 2PP

Dear Paul,

As the President of the 93rd Bombardment Group Association, I am excited and pleased to award you with the 93rd Bomb Group Association **2020 Timberlake Award!** This is considered to be the “highest” honor awarded by the 93rd BGA, and is a tribute and recognition to you, for your commitment and dedicated service! It is named in honor of the Commanding Officer of the 93rd Bomb Group during World War II, General Edward J. “Ted” Timberlake.

On behalf of our Veterans, Members, and Friends, we would like to recognize your outstanding work, support and guidance to maintain the 93rd Bomb Group museum located at Hardwick!

You have always been a tremendous curator, to ensure the museum is world class in the exhibits, and telling the story of the 93rd Bomb Group during the war. You have also been extremely responsive and attentive to our questions, research, and help with artifacts and exhibits at the museum. You are always willing to help in any way, to support the 93rd BGA! Your work is truly outstanding, passion-driven, and enjoyable by all!

Thank you for your loyalty, dedication and contributions of honoring the service and sacrifice of our veterans of the 93rd Bomb Group! Congratulations!

Regards,

Jim Root
President
93rd Bomb Group Association
15359 Red Fox Walk
West Olive, Mi 49460
616-399-5990 (h)
616-218-0787 (m)





93BG.COM

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2020

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Cell Number _____

Email Address _____

93rd BG Connection: (please circle appropriate) **Vet is/was-self, father, uncle, grandpa or I am a Historian/friend.**

Name of 93rd veteran _____ Rank _____

Squadron _____ Time period in Service: _____ 19 _____ to _____ 19 _____

Airplane Name(s) _____ Pilot(s) _____

Crew Chief(s) _____ Comments (list crew if known) _____

(use back side for more info)

Annual Membership	\$25 \$ _____	
2 year discount rate (2021 & 2022)	\$45 \$ _____	
Tax deductible Donation	\$ _____	(The 93 rd is a 501(c)(3) Organization)
TOTAL	\$ _____	

____ Please MAIL newsletter ____ Please E-MAIL newsletter
Please note, membership is on a calendar year.

Make checks payable to: 93rd BOMB GROUP
(We encourage you to pay by PayPal through the 93rd Bomb Group website, 93bg.com)

Mail to: Mary Yamamoto, 93rd Bomb Group Ass'n.
1538 Waltham Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Copy this form for family and friends to become members. Thank you!

____ Yes! I would like to volunteer to help the 93rd BGA and my skill is:

KEEP OUR HISTORY ALIVE!