

# Ball of Fire QUARTERLY EXPRESS



NEWSLETTER OF THE 93<sup>rd</sup> BOMB GROUP  
2nd Air Division, 8th Air Force, Hardwick, England  
[www.93bg.com](http://www.93bg.com) or [www.93rdbombardmentgroup.com](http://www.93rdbombardmentgroup.com)

Vol. 19 No. 3

Fall 2011

93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group (H) Association  
Tucson, AZ Reunion  
Oct. 20 – 24, 2011

**NOTICE: REGISTRATION DEADLINE EXTENDED TO SEPTEMBER 24!!!**



**"Flying High, Flying Low"**

**Make your final plans to attend the Annual Reunion in Tucson!**

**The registration deadline has been extended to September 24<sup>th</sup>.**

**Contact Joe and Phyllis Duran ASAP!!!  
See Final Schedule, Hotel Info, Registration Form, Refund Policy on pages 3-6.**

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# 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group Reunion Schedule

October 20 – 24, 2011

Radisson Suites Airport, Tucson, AZ

7051 S. Tucson Blvd.

Tucson, AZ 85756

Direct Phone: 520-225-0810

Fax: 520-225-0890

email: [christina.silva@radisson.com](mailto:christina.silva@radisson.com)

## Thursday, October 20

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Registration / Mtg. room setup
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Registration /Hospitality open – hotel lobby
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Reunion Committee & Officers - meeting in Theatre Royale
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Reception – hotel lobby
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Welcome Dinner hotel – Courtyard Royale
8:00 PM – 10:00 PM	Memorabilia room open – Fountain Royale

## Friday, October 21

6:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
8:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Registration open – hotel lobby
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Education session – Theatre Royale
11:30 AM – 12:30 AM	To Pima Air & Space museum for lunch
12:30 AM – 2:30 PM	Tour of PIMA Air & Space Museum
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM	Bus tour of AMARG, airplane “graveyard”
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	Return to Hotel
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Dinner & program at Davis-Monthan AF Base
9:00 PM– 11:00 PM	Memorabilia room open – Fountain Royale

## Saturday, October 22

6:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Business Meeting - Theatre Royale
11:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Old Tucson Studios <OR> Sonora Desert Museum
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Ploesti Summit – Terrace Royale
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Memorabilia room open
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Dinner at Pima B-24 (Dinner, program, dance to Big Band Express)
9:00 PM – 11:00 PM	Memorabilia room open – Fountain Royale

## Sunday, October 23

6:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
7:30 AM – 9:15 AM	“Old” St. Augustine Mariachi Mass
9:30 AM – 3:00 PM	Downtown “Old Town Artisan” shopping (Lunch on your own)
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Ploesti Summit – Terrace Royale
5:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Reception – hotel lobby
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Memorial Service – Courtyard Royale
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Closing Dinner hotel – Courtyard Royale
8:00 PM – 10:00 PM	Memorabilia room open – Fountain Royale

## Monday, October 24

6:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Complimentary Breakfast Buffet
	Depart

# 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group Reunion 2011

October 20 - 24

Tucson, AZ

**Step #1** - Make hotel reservations now, but not later than **September 24<sup>th</sup>** to obtain the group rate. For registration call: **1-800-333-3333 or 1-520-225-0810**

The hotel's address and phone number are:

Radisson Suites Hotel Tucson Airport  
7051-S. Tucson Blvd.  
Tucson, AZ 85756  
(520) 225-0810 direct

Please give the following group name/group code to the reservation agent when making reservation: **"93BOM"**. State and local taxes of 13.05% + \$1.00 fee are additional. Total cost including taxes is shown in the table below:

Room Style	Daily Rate	Tax (13.05%)	Per Day Total
Suite with 1 King Bed With Sleeper Sofa (up to 4 guests)	\$89	\$12.62	\$101.62
Suite with 2 Queen Beds (up to 4 guests)	\$89	\$12.62	\$101.62

Rates are available for 3 days prior and 3 days after the meeting dates beginning on October 17<sup>th</sup> and ending on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Room rates include:

Standard King or 2 Queen Bed suites  
Fully equipped with refrigerator, microwave and DirecTV.  
Complimentary wired or wireless high speed internet access  
Fully cooked to order breakfast every morning  
Evening Manager's Reception  
Fitness Center and gorgeous outdoor Pool  
Complimentary Shuttle to and from the Tucson Airport (only 200 yards away!)

**Step #2** - Tell us that you are coming to the reunion and how many will be in your group. Select a one of two possible Saturday activities. Simply mail, call or email Joe and Phyllis so we can estimate how many people will be attending. You can change your mind at any time before the formal registration concludes on **September 24<sup>th</sup>**.

Joe and Phyllis Duran  
309 E. Santa Paula St  
Santa Paula, CA 93060  
Phone: (805) 525-4681  
Email: [dogpatchraider@gmail.com](mailto:dogpatchraider@gmail.com)

**Step #3** - Make travel arrangements to arrive in time for registration at 2:00 - 5:00 PM on Thursday October 20<sup>th</sup>. Dinner reception at 6:00 PM. The hotel provides shuttle service to and from the airport and within a five mile radius of the hotel.

**Step #4** - Complete Registration Form and submit with your check not later than **September 24<sup>th</sup>**.  
Make check payable to **93<sup>rd</sup> Bombardment Group**.

**Step #5** - Mail completed form to:

Joe and Phyllis Duran  
309 E. Santa Paula St  
Santa Paula, CA 93060

**Step #6** - Plan to join us for a great time of "Flying High, Flying Low" in Tucson, AZ! Bring a friend or family too!!!

**NOTE: Your TOTAL reunion cost is lower than 2010! Even though registration is higher, negotiated room rates are much lower in 2011!**

# 2011 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group Reunion Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Someone not traveling with you) (Name) (Phone Number)

Additional Attendees Names:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please circle one choice for Saturday activity for each attendee:  
Old Tucson Studios tour **OR** Arizona Sonora Desert Museum

Once your registration is received, you will be contacted for meal choices.

## Calculate your registration fee:

The registration fee includes: Dinner for 4 evenings, 2 lunches, Museum Receptions, Museum Entry fees, Transportation, Memorabilia room, Day activities, Live entertainments, Key note speakers, Education session, Business meeting, snacks, Door prizes. The reservation fee does not include your hotel rooms.

Number in group: \_\_\_\_\_ times \$325 = \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete form and enclose check payable to the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group for the total amount.

**Tucson Reunion Fee Refund Policy: No refund will be made after Sep 24th.**  
(see REUNION FEE REFUND POLICY on the next page)

## REUNION FEE REFUND POLICY

Last minute cancellations can cause significant loss to the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group. This loss results because we must guarantee your attendance to the hotel relative to all meals and other related costs. When you don't show, we still get charged for meals and other charges related to those meals. We recognize that there will always be unforeseen events beyond your control, and we truly regret your personal inconvenience. However, your executive committee has decided that we must stay with our policy of "pay as you go" for reunion costs.

We have reviewed the choices: we can either add an extra amount to everyone's fees to cover last minute cancellations, or we can set a deadline date for cancellations after which the fees paid cannot be refunded. In order to keep our reunion fees as low as possible, your executive committee has chosen the deadline date choice. Therefore, a deadline date, based on hotel contract requirements for each reunion will be provided to you at the time you make your reservations, and included in our reunion announcements in the Ball of Fire.

## President's Corner

As Rayann will tell you, I am a voracious (I read a lot) reader. I'll admit to a bias to books with great WW II era themes. One of the best I've read in a long time is **Unbroken, A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption** by Laura Hillenbrand. **Unbroken** is a fascinating account of a B-24 bombardier, Louis Zamperini, who was assigned to Hawaii in the Pacific theater of war. Laura Hillenbrand's first book, **Seabiscuit, an American Legend**, is the best selling sports book of all time! She provides an exceptional account of the Zamperini's life story. Born in January 1917, he was



a wild young boy living in Torrance, CA who became an outstanding runner competing in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, Germany where he finished 8<sup>th</sup> in the 5000 meter race watched by Adolf Hitler. He joined the US Army Air Corps in September 1941 anticipating the beginning of the war by a few months. Deployed to Hawaii, he and his crew flew a B-24 named *Super Man*. This plane was severely damaged by Japanese Zeros and washed out. The crew inherited a worn out plane, *The Green Hornet*, which crashed on May 27, 1943. Three crew members, the pilot, tail gunner and bombardier survived the crash and made it to life rafts. After 47 days and 2,000 miles the raft with two of the three men still aboard was captured by Japanese patrols in the sight of land. Louis and the pilot were sent to a POW camp where they were held until the war's end. Louis Zamperini is a remarkable man with a remarkable story but no more remarkable than the thousands of other young men who served. I recommend **Unbroken** and **Seabiscuit** to all.

Many of you have come to know our outstanding cameraman/film producer and editor, Michael Sellers, grandson of John Sullivan, a former 328<sup>th</sup> bombardier/navigator. Michael won't be able to make the reunion this year due to a personal conflict. His wife, Susanne, who we first met at our 2007 Twin Cities reunion, is expecting their first child due a week or two after the reunion. We are excited to welcome a new 4<sup>th</sup> generation baby to our 93<sup>rd</sup> family. The pending birth won't keep the great grand parents, John & Bea, or the prospective grandparents, Jim and Peggy away from Tucson. I'm confident they will have a full report. We will miss Michael's comprehensive coverage of all reunion events.

Now, we turn our sights to our annual reunion scheduled for Oct 20 – 24 in Tucson, AZ. At this writing we have 60 people registered to attend. The registration deadline was extended to Sep 24<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in attending, please contact Phyllis Duran. Jim Root and Jim Guddal have done a great job getting our reunion organized. This issue has all of the reunion details. We anticipate a great time will be had by all!

## \*\*\* PLOESTI SUMMIT \*\*\*

The planning for the October 2011 Ploesti Mission Symposium is in full swing. The 93<sup>rd</sup> BG is looking forward to hosting the five bomb groups that flew that historic 8-1-1943 bombing mission to knock out "Hitler's Gold". They were the 44<sup>th</sup>, 93<sup>rd</sup>, 98<sup>th</sup>, 376<sup>th</sup> & 389<sup>th</sup>. The planners believed this strategic mission would shorten the war. Unfortunately, the mission did not succeed and the losses were great. Join veterans who survived this very dangerous assignment and hear their stories at the two day event beginning Saturday October 22 at the 93<sup>rd</sup>'s annual gathering being held in Tucson, AZ. Also on hand will be crash site artifacts such as a "gas load adjuster", a gyroscope and fuselage parts. Besides our speakers and veteran led Panel Discussions, on hand for your review will be pictures, films, and other mission information.

Please make your interest in attending known by contacting us through the 93<sup>rd</sup> Reunion Committee or contact:

Jim Guddal (763) 694-9058 [jguddal@yahoo.com](mailto:jguddal@yahoo.com)  
Joe Duran (805) 525-4681 [dogpatchraider@gmail.com](mailto:dogpatchraider@gmail.com)  
Blaine Duxbury (317) 697-0414 [bdux@aol.com](mailto:bdux@aol.com)

**93RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION**

A 501(c)(3) Non Profit Organization

**PLOESTI SUMMIT- OCTOBER 22<sup>ND</sup> & 23<sup>RD</sup> 2011 TUCSON, AZ**

August 2011

Dear Ploesti Mission Veteran and Families,

We cordially invite you to attend the "Ploesti Mission Summit" to be held in conjunction with the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group's Reunion. We are meeting in Tucson AZ from Thursday October 20 to Sunday October 23, 2011. The Reunion will be held at the Radisson Suites Airport close to the Pima County Air Museum and the Davis-Monthan Air Base and "boneyard".

All five of the bomb groups which flew the August 1, 1943 mission are invited to attend.

Saturday 10/22 10:30 to 11:30 AM A film on Ploesti, B-24 air worthiness and crew issues.

1-3 PM Dee Friesen, Lt Col USAF (Ret) will present the history of the mission followed by a panel discussion with veterans who were there.

Sunday 10/23 1-3 PM Presentation of the POW experience followed by a panel discussion by veterans who were at Timisul, Bucharest and the 1944 rescue.

You are welcome to participate with the 93<sup>rd</sup> in its entire reunion itinerary which will include meals and other activities. A registration form is enclosed. For more reunion info, go to the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group website at "93<sup>rd</sup>bg". **We have a lot of fun!**

If you do not want to participate in the 93<sup>rd</sup> Reunion activities, meals will be on your own and there will be a \$50 fee to cover registration costs. The hotel has restaurant facilities.

We would welcome you to be a panel discussion participant to share your experiences. Let us know if you are willing. If you have any memorabilia or pictures from the mission, your airplane and crew, please bring them along and we will find a way to display them.

THANK YOU FOR TELLING US IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND BY CALLING US, SENDING AN E MAIL OR COMPLETING THE ENCLOSED REGISTRATION FORM.

***KEEP YOUR HISTORY ALIVE!!!***

Sincerely,

Jim Guddal, Summit Coordinator  
P O Box 47336  
Plymouth MN 55447

(866) 694-9058  
E-mail: [jguddal@yahoo.com](mailto:jguddal@yahoo.com)

Coordinators: Blaine Duxbury (317) 697-0414 [bdux@aol.com](mailto:bdux@aol.com)

Joe Duran (805) 207-5443 [dogpatchraider@gmail.com](mailto:dogpatchraider@gmail.com)

## PLOESTI SUMMIT REGISTRATION FORM

Hosted by the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bombardment Group Association at Tucson, Arizona

October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 at the Radisson Suites Airport.

(Call hotel directly by [9/24/2011](#) for 93<sup>rd</sup> BG rate –Telephone (520) 225-0810)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Bomb Group \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E mail \_\_\_\_\_

Pilot \_\_\_\_\_ Name on B-24 if any \_\_\_\_\_

POW \_\_\_\_\_ Prison Camp- Timisul, Bucharest, or other \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any memorabilia you would like to bring for display Yes No

Would you be willing to be part of a question and answer period after the presentation of the mission?  
Yes No

We are especially interested in what was going on in your airplane or what you could see of the other B-24s and crew around your plane during the mission. For the POW segment on Sunday, we are interested in the everyday life at the camp, funny stories and what happened when you were rescued. All bits of information are important.

**Please send this form and \$50 registration fee payable to the 93<sup>rd</sup> BG to:**

Jim Guddal - P O Box 47336 Plymouth, MN 55447 (763)-694-9058

Other contact persons: Blaine Duxbury (317) 697-0414 [bdux@aol.com](mailto:bdux@aol.com)

Joe Duran (805) 207-5443 [dogpatchraider@gmail.com](mailto:dogpatchraider@gmail.com)

**See you there to keep your history alive!**

**(See also the registration & event info for the 93<sup>rd</sup> Reunion)**



## Greetings from the 93<sup>rd</sup> BG Historian!

### Emergency Landing Photo Identity Solved

On April 7, 1945; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Guenther Christiansen of the 328<sup>th</sup> BS makes an emergency landing. The airplane (42-109989 Letter "J") was borrowed from the 330<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron. The damage consisted of the loss of approximately 6 feet of the left wing tip due to the intentional ramming called "Ramstaffel". The FW-190 was lost when the pilot bailed just before impact with the wing. Later in the fight, #3 engine died and was feathered. This was the Luftwaffe last ditch effort to control the skies over Europe. As seen in the photo the B-24 and the crew returned home to Hardwick safely. Proof of a skilled crew and the strength of a B-24! The aircraft (989J) was later repaired and flown back to the USA at the end of the war. I have been in touch with Mr. Roure and Mr. Balga. If you have any information on the other crew, please let me know as I would like to send them copies of the photo.



Ship #	(330th 989-J)	Time	<u>7:00</u>
1st Lt.	Guenther Christiansen		
2nd Lt.	Robert R. Randolph		
2nd Lt.	Climpson B. Clapp		
3/Sgt.	William D. Moulds		
3/Sgt.	Ferdinand G. Panik		
Sgt.	John F. Powell		
Cpl.	Joseph D. Roure		
Cpl.	Edward A. Balga		
Cpl.	Ray D. Durdella		

### Looking for any paperwork (Mission Documents, awards, transfers, travel order or Diaries)

If you have any paperwork, I would like to get a copy of it. I will reimburse for copy charges and postage. If there are items of a personal nature, they can be blackout. I am looking for the historical facts of the men, missions and aircraft (serial # & name/artwork)

### Looking for info on Jan 17, 1945 Mission

I am looking for any information about the mission to Harburg refinery (Germany) on January 17, 1945. Details from the briefing and/or the mission are greatly appreciated. I am especially looking for the route (IP to target) and any recollection of the loss of 42-51078.

### Looking for info Loss and search for Big Job July 1943

On July 9, 1943; B-24 D (serial # 42-40627) of the 330<sup>th</sup> BS was lost in the Sahara Desert. After an extensive search, some of the crew and the wreckage were located by Walt Stewart. I would like to learn as much as possible about the crew, mission, loss and subsequent search of this aircraft. No detail is too small!!!

### Looking for any original 93<sup>rd</sup> BG Squadron patches 328, 329, 330 and 409 BS

If anyone has a spare or knows the where about of any 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb squadron patches, please let me know as I would like to buy them for my collection.

### Looking for info/photos of Nose Art

I am looking for any information, photos or recollection of the following aircraft names. Lucille, Ole Mort, Miss America, Nancy Lee, Flying Cock II, Big Noise II, Jitters from Bitters, Barfly, False Alarm, El Toro, Hells Angels, Sterile Errol, Return Engagement, Gone Forever, Home Run, Jo Jo's Special Delivery II and Bad Penny. If you have any nose art or aircraft photos from the 93<sup>rd</sup> BG, I would like to talk with you. Please contact me at the address below.

Cheers,

Don Morrison (don.morrison@beis.com)  
93<sup>rd</sup> BG Association Historian  
1375 West Comet Rd, Clinton, OH 44216  
Cell (330) 819-6409 Home (330) 882-2536

## Folded Wings

### **Martin, Roy Grady, November 19, 2010**

Roy Martin was ordered to active duty on July 15, 1941 and assigned to Goodfellow Field in San Angelo, Texas. He entered pilot training thereafter and was assigned to B-24 combat crew training. After completion he was assigned to Lincoln, Nebraska for overseas training. The aircraft that his crew was to fly to England soon arrived. However instead of B-24s a logistical error provided B-17s. The crews checked out in B-17s and then ferried them to England via Newfoundland. His crew was shipped to Hardwick airdrome for assignment to the 328th Bomb Squadron, 93rd Bomb Group, Second Air Division, Eighth Air Force. From July 2, 1943 to May 19, 1944 he completed 26 missions included the famous low level raid on the oil refineries of Ploesti of August 1, 1943. He flew the "Bomerang" which was the first B-24 to reach 50 missions in the war. On his last mission on May 19, 1944 he was decorated for assuming the command of the entire formation of B-24 bombers and made the formation maneuver three times over a cloudy target before dropping their bombs with devastating results on a German military target in Brunswick. By order of Lt. General Doolittle, Roy was awarded the Silver Star. He was promoted to Group Operations officer and Base Executive Officer and at the age of 24 was made a Lt. Col.

### **Sedlack, James, July 16, 2011**

James Sedlack was a member of the 389th as a Radio Operator on the B-24 "Liberator". He flew four missions and was shot down twice. On August 1, 1943 his squadron was included for the Ploesti Raid to bomb the Romanian oil fields. There were terrible casualties and after his plane went down in Romania, he became a prisoner of war there for thirteen months. While a prisoner of war in Romania, Mr. Sedlack organized and directed a musical group entertaining other POW's. Once liberated, he was awarded a Purple Heart and the Distinguished Flying Cross among other awards. In his later years, he was an active member of the veterans of the 8th Air Force. His swing band, the Nostalgics performed for several of the reunions.

### **Taylor, Charles, October 2010**

Note from daughter, Bernadine N Mikkelson that her father Charles Taylor of Lewistown MT died in October 2010 at age 90. He flew as a waist gunner with Carlos Vasquez crew on Maulin Mallard. 37 missions over Europe.

## 93rd Website & Documentary Projects

### **93rd Website Update**

At the time of writing this article, 29,245 people have visited the 93rd BG website since it's redesign in November 2009. A visitor recently was logged all the way from Bucharest, Romania. Please look on the website for all Tucson Reunion 2011 info. Just click the REUNIONS tab on the left side of the 93rd BG homepage. Also just added is information on the Ploesti Summit 2011. A flashing bar on the homepage will send you to info on the summit and provide instructions to register.

### **New Film to be released!!**

Our 93rd family raised \$15,000 dollars to create and install a stained glass in the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum Chapel. This film documents the 93rd during its Savannah 2010 / "One More Mission" reunion and the memorial service dedicating the stained glass. The film is entitled "*The Memorial Project - 93rd Bombardment Group, Savannah, GA 2010*". DVDs of this film will be available for purchase in the Hospitality Room at the Tucson 2011 reunion, October 20th-24th.

### **"Thoughts for the Future" film still available**

This film reminds you of the contribution the 8th Air Force and it's bomb groups courageously gave towards the war effort and how so many years later, groups like the 93rd are still meeting and remembering. DVDs are \$10 and Blu-ray discs are \$13 - included as a bonus is the film *Liberators Over Europe*. This film is a complete summary of the 8th Air Force operation in Europe and contains footage of many bomb groups in the East Anglia area during the war. It even shows Maj. Gen. William E. Kepner personally donating the initial check to the Lord Mayor of Norwich for the construction of the 2nd Air Division Memorial Wing. This is a very clean transfer from an original print at the National Archives.

Also please visit the website [www.thoughtsforthefuture.com](http://www.thoughtsforthefuture.com) for more information. You may also download an order form from the 93rd BG website homepage, visit the Thoughts for the Future website or look for an order form in this newsletter.

If enough copies are sold of the film - a donation will go back to the 93rd BG association.

Thank You,

**Michael Sellers, Webmaster**

[www.93bg.com](http://www.93bg.com)

[www.thoughtsforthefuture.com](http://www.thoughtsforthefuture.com)

## Thoughts for the Future

*This film was shown at the 2010 reunion during the Stained Glass Dedication Dinner.*

Directed and Edited by Michael Sellers

*During World War II, allied forces from airbases in England strategically bombed Germany to weaken its grip on Europe. As in the Pacific, the European theatre of war was costly and deadly. The United States military assigned most of the heavy bombing in Europe to the 8th Air Force. Bombing of German targets eventually allowed Allied troops on the ground to break through German defenses to help win the war. Many members of bomb groups still meet today at reunions set up across the country some 65+ years later. This film follows one such group, the 93rd Bomb Group.*

*A donation will be made to the 93rd Bomb Group if overall demand is large enough.*

Thoughts for the Future  
a film by Michael Sellers

Shown at the dedication dinner!

**ORDER FORM**

NAME

EMAIL

STREET ADDRESS

PHONE

CITY

STATE

ZIP

Please send this order form with check or money order to:

Michael Sellers  
565 Carroll St.  
Apt. #4  
Brooklyn, NY 11215

In the white boxes fill in quantity for desired format

DVD (\$10 each)

Blu-RayHD (\$13 each)

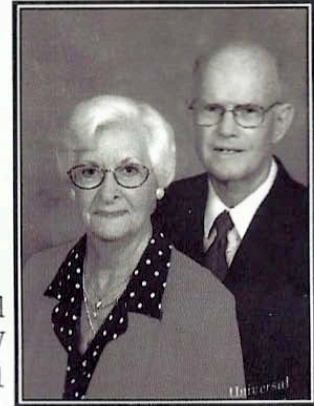
## Membership Corner

### Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stahl!

# *Couple to Celebrate 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*



Mr. & Mrs. Stahl  
THEN  
June 29, 1946



Mr. & Mrs. Stahl  
NOW  
2011

Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. and Dorothy L. (Sigler) Stahl will celebrate their 65th Wedding Anniversary on June 29, 2011. Bob worked for the Ohio Power Company for 20 years after serving in two wars in the United States Air Force. During his tenure at the Power Company he went to night school for several years to get an Education Degree. He then taught school for 25 years. He then joined the Red Cross and worked Bloodmobiles, Disaster, and over 18 years as a volunteer at the Van Wert County Hospital. Dottie retired from the Central Mutual Insurance Company after 25 years and then became active in the American Red Cross. She became the Hospital Red Cross Volunteer Coordinator for over 20 additional years. She just recently retired from this position. Nothing special is planned at this time.

### **Lucky Ears: The True Story of Ben Kuroki, World War II Hero**

#### **ATTENTION!!**

A limited number of "Lucky Ears," the Junior Biography book of Ben Kuroki, will be available for purchase \$10.00 each) at the PX of the forthcoming 93rd Reunion in Tucson. AZ .

The books are 1st edition and autographed by both Jean Lukesh, the author, and Ben Kuroki. The arrangement was made possible by Joe Duran.

Ben is donating the books and all proceeds will go to the 93rd's Association. Kuroki said "This is a gesture of gratitude for my favorite bomb group that made my story possible and authentic."

On May 23, 2011, the Independent Publisher Book Awards held an awards gala in New York and "Lucky Ear's" author Jean Lukesh received the "IPPY" Bronze Medal for Multicultural Non-Fiction Juvenile-Teen Young Adult category. There were more than 3,000 entries, 69 categories, from U.S., Canada, 7 European countries, New Zealand and Australia.

Dr. Lukesh and her husband, Ron, a professional illustrator, are currently working on an adult version biography book of Kuroki. Lukesh confirms the adult version will be different and hard-hitting, which she felt young readers may not have comprehended.

Note from Phyllis Duran:

This book is so well written my 3rd grade grandson Chris read it in 2 days. He couldn't put it down and found it fascinating. When he'd finished he had lot lots of questions for his Grandpa and I. Not only about our dear friend Ben Kuroki but about what role the 93rd Bomb Group had during WWII. Some great life lessons in this book.

My Daughter Hope, purchased two, one for the class room she works in the other for her school's Library in Ventura,

California. I plan on doing the same, one for the area elementary school and one for our Public Library in Santa Paula. They would also make wonderful gift for your grand-kids. Christmas is just right around the corner.

Please remember those books purchased after the Reunion will be subject to a shipping and handling fee of \$3.50.

## Membership Report

We continue to receive inquiries about membership and connections to our veterans, even those who have taken that final flight. It is very exciting to receive new "gift" membership for family members from existing members. Every so often, one of our members also buys a membership for a vet who may be down a little. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!  
**What a really great membership we have in the 93<sup>rd</sup>!**

Going forward, we will offer "gift" memberships for veteran's children, grand or great-grand children, nieces and nephews for just \$20 for the initial year. Memberships purchased beginning 10/1/2011 will be a 2012 membership. If you send me the membership application by the end of October, we will include the final 2011 **Ball Of Fire** newsletter. SIGN UP YOUR FAMILY OR A FRIEND. KEEP YOUR LEGACY ALIVE ABOUT THE SACRIFICES MADE FOR THIS GREAT COUNTRY SO WE DO NOT FORGET.

## New Members Roll Call

We welcome the following new members into the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group Association Family!!!

<u>Member (Vets are in Bold &amp; **)</u>	<u>Connection to 93<sup>rd</sup> BG</u>
R. Jon West	Uncle Capt Robert Shannon on "Hot Stuff", 25 missions, KIA when B-24 hit mountain in Iceland carrying Gen. Frank Andrews.
<b>Channing "Bud" Winnett**</b> and Charla Winnett	S/sgt 330 <sup>th</sup> BS of 93 <sup>rd</sup> Bomb Wing 1951-54 at Castle AFB, Eng. Mech., Flew with Col. English
Dee Friesen, Lt. Col. USAF retired	A former F-4 Phantom pilot

If you have joined the 93<sup>rd</sup> in the past 4 months and your name is not listed above, let Jim Guddal know at [jguddal@yahoo.com](mailto:jguddal@yahoo.com) or send me a note at P O Box 47336 Plymouth, MN 55447.

## Letters to the Editor

Date: Sat, 6 Aug 2011 17:19:59 -0500  
Subject: 93 BG Request  
From: tanya.lippincott@gmail.com  
To: joyridecp@msn.com

Good Afternoon,  
I am looking for information on my Great Uncle CWO

Steve Stanowich who was a commander in 1946. I also found the related government links so I will additionally try those links as well.

Thank-you for your assistance!  
Tanya Lippincott

From: emlofgren@comcast.net  
Subject: Capt. Maurice Lofgren  
Date: Thu, 11 Aug 2011 10:23:35 -0700  
To: joyridecp@msn.com

My uncle, Capt. Maurice Lofgren, was assigned to the 330th squadron. I am looking for a plane crew photo, 1942-1943. Thanks for your response. Eric Lofgren emlofgren@comcast.net

From: jillj@arvig.net  
To: joyridecp@msn.com  
Subject: 93 BG  
Date: Thu, 11 Aug 2011 14:59:24 -0500  
Hello,

I am looking for information on SSGT. Arthur M. Holden (Holen), from Louisburg, Minnesota, who served with the 93<sup>rd</sup> BG and was KIA 8-1-43. I would like to know where he was killed and any other information about his unit. Thank you. Sincerely, Jill Johnson, Park Rapids, Minnesota

## POST EXCHANGE (PX)

The PX is looking into stocking squadron patches. Let me know if this is an item you would like to buy. Caps and Sun Catchers continue to sell. Don't forget, we have a jigsaw puzzle of Ploesti Mission B-24 Ball of Fire III, white and blue visors and a few coffee mugs. **Once the mugs are gone, we will not restock them.** See the color illustrations and Order Instructions at the end of this BOF.

Submitted by Jim Guddal, PX Mgr [jguddal@yahoo.com](mailto:jguddal@yahoo.com)



## Your Post Exchange (PX)

	<u>Qty 1</u>	<u>Qty 2</u>
<b>CAPS &amp; VISORS</b>		
<b>1)</b> Navy Blue w embroidered B-24, 93 <sup>rd</sup> BG & Ted's Travelling Circus on adjustable strap	\$24	\$45
<b>2)</b> Stone white & Khaki with "Ball of Fire III" B-24 plus 93 <sup>rd</sup> BG & Ted's Travelling Circus on strap	\$19	\$35
<b>3)</b> Visors w embroidered 93 <sup>rd</sup> BG and three battle stars – choose white or navy blue	\$16	28
<b>COFFEE MUGS</b>		
<b>4)</b> Ceramic Coffee mugs with 93 <sup>rd</sup> blue shield	\$15	\$28
<b>PUZZLES</b>		
<b>5)</b> Jigsaw puzzles w colorful "Ball of Fire III" B-24 on mission over Ploesti oil field. Comes w stand. (These are customized exclusively for the 93 <sup>rd</sup> )	\$24	\$45
<b>SUNCATCHER</b>		
<b>6)</b> 93 <sup>rd</sup> BG Memorial stain glass window Suncatcher Replica – w suction cup	\$14	\$27

### BOOKS

<b>Ted's Travelling Circus</b> by Cal Stewart **	\$69.95	\$134.95
<b>Ploesti</b> by Cal Stewart and James Dugan (See 93 <sup>rd</sup> Web site & Amazon)		
<b>Above the Clouds</b> by Wayne Baker	\$25.95	\$47.95
<b>Lucky Ears</b> The True Story of <b>BEN KUROKI</b> (\$9.99 available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble) (see article in Membership Corner)		

\*\* Member Price

**All product prices include handling and shipping charges.**

Pay by check or money order with Coupon below to the 93<sup>rd</sup> BG. Pay by Paypal on 93BG website by using the Donation Tab in the Membership Section. Then mail or fax the Coupon to PX Mgr Jim Guddal to complete the order. Thank you!

<u>Item purchased</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>Price each</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>\$ Total</u>
1. _____					
2. _____					
3. _____					
4. _____					

Grand Total \_\_\_\_\_

Mail orders to: Jim Guddal, 93<sup>rd</sup> BG PX, P O Box 47336 Plymouth MN 55447  
Or, Fax your order to: 763.694.9065

# 93<sup>rd</sup> BG BALL OF FIRE QUARTERLY EXPRESS SUBSCRIPTION FORM

**PLEASE NOTE – STARTING WITH 2010, MEMBERSHIP & NEWSLETTER WILL BE CHANGING TO A CALENDAR YEAR BASIS - FROM JANUARY TO DECEMBER**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Year 2011**

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Connection to the 93<sup>rd</sup> BG:

Name of 93<sup>rd</sup> veteran \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Squadron (circle: 328 329 330 409) Time period in Service: From \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_  
To \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_

Airplane Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Pilot(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Thanks!

(Use back side for more info)

Membership Dues & newsletter (\$25) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Catch up 2010 Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The 93<sup>rd</sup> is a 501(c)(3)  
Organization.

Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* Check One: \_\_\_ Please MAIL newsletter \_\_\_ Please E-MAIL newsletter \*\*\*

Make check or money order payable to: 93<sup>rd</sup> BOMB GROUP (You may also pay by  
PayPal thru the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group website)

Mail to: Jim Guddal  
93<sup>rd</sup> BG  
P.O. Box 47336  
Plymouth, MN 55447

KEEP OUR HISTORY ALIVE! Consider a  
*membership for a friend or family member.*  
(Make a copy of this form for additional  
memberships. Thank you!)

**The PX:** We have in stock, coffee mugs, tan & blue caps with B-24  
image, BOF III B-24 puzzles, Sun catcher replicas of memorial window. Go  
to the PX page in the BOF for ordering info or contact Jim Guddal Tel:763-  
694-9058 E-mail: [jguddal@yahoo.com](mailto:jguddal@yahoo.com)