

# **Ball of Fire** QUARTERLY *EXPRESS*



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

Vol. 27 No. 3

Fall 2019

## **Norfolk D-Day veteran to open new Normandy memorial within eyeshot of where he landed in June 1944**

PUBLISHED 07 June 2019 By Stacia Briggs and Photos by Denise Bradley Archant/Eastern Daily Press

From its lofty vantage point the new memorial gazes over peaceful beaches and calm seas that were transformed 75 years ago today into bloody battlefields.



D-Day veteran David Woodrow, proudly stands at Gold Beach 75 years after landing there.

The British Normandy Memorial will be officially inaugurated this morning at a ceremony attended by prime minister Theresa May and president Emmanuel Macron - and Norfolk D-Day veteran David Woodrow is playing a crucial role in proceedings, within eyeshot of where he landed in France 75 years ago to the day.

The ceremony will include the unveiling of the D-Day sculpture, of soldiers rushing from the sea on to the landing beaches, which was commissioned by The Normandy Memorial Trust and created by British sculptor David Williams-Ellis.

Mr. Woodrow, representing the Royal Airforce, will join a handful of veterans who will come forward to place flowers by the statue and raise a salute to the fallen.

Televised across the world, the morning ceremony will be the beginning of an ambitious project which will see a large, walled memorial built overlooking Gold Beach and the remains of the Mulberry Harbours at Arromanches.



The rehearsals get under way for the inauguration of the national British Normandy Memorial site at Ver Sur Mer under the wrapped and unseen D-Day sculpture, with Norwich D-Day veteran David Woodrow, saluting, representing the RAF.

Close to the town of Ver-sur-Mer, this area witnessed extensive action both on D-Day itself and in the subsequent days and weeks - it was here that CSM Stanley Hollis of the 6th Green Howards began the action for which he was awarded the only Victoria Cross on D-Day.

And it was here where Corporal Woodrow of the 652 Squadron AOP's war began, where a boy from Blofield became a man, wading through 4ft deep seawater, heavily laden, into a hell of fire and steel.

In time, the memorial will include rows of columns which display the 22,000 names of men and women who lost their lives in the Normandy Campaign.

Most names will be those of British soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen but the memorial will also commemorate those who fought under British command from Ireland, France, the Netherlands and Poland, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and America.

French civilian deaths will also be included at a separate memorial on the site.

"I was surprised when I was asked to take part in the ceremony but it's an honour to be asked," said Mr. Woodrow, who lives in Topcroft and who attended a rehearsal for the prestigious ceremony yesterday.

"For it to be so close to the beach where I landed in 1944 is so special."



D-Day veteran David Woodrow, proudly stands at Gold Beach 75 years after landing there, returning with his son, Stuart, and grandson, William.



General The Lord Richard Dannatt said the commanding site had been chosen by veterans themselves and that remembrance was vital.

"We hope this will be a place where people can learn about the sacrifice made in the Normandy Campaign," he said, "I believe this new national memorial will become the unifying commemorative focus of this extraordinary campaign."

Mr. Woodrow added: "If you ask any of us whether we think that we're heroes, we'll all say no. We were here because we needed to be here. We did what anyone would do to look after the people we love."



Normandy D-Day veteran, David Woodrow at Hill 112 for one of the 75th anniversary services, with his son, Stuart, and grandson, William.

**Editor Note:**

David Woodrow and his family have a special place in the hearts of the 93<sup>rd</sup> BG veterans and their families. Over the years, they have hosted many veterans and families on their return to the old Airfield. Congratulation on this honor and thank you for all you and your family does for the memory of the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group.

## Table of Contents

Norfolk D-Day veteran to open new Normandy memorial within eyeshot of where he landed in June 1944.....	1
President's Corner.....	6
Upcoming Reunion .....	6
Information on 2019 Reunion.....	7
Folded Wings.....	15
Greetings from the 93rd BG Historian (Request for information).....	18
Newsletter Editor.....	18
93rd BG Website.....	19
Hardwick Documentary.....	19
93rd BG Ball of Fire Quarterly Express Subscription Form.....	20

## DIRECTORY

### 2016 - 2018 OFFICERS

#### President – **JIM ROOT**

15359 Red Fox Walk, West Olive, MI 49460  
616-399-5990; [jamesdavidroot@aol.com](mailto:jamesdavidroot@aol.com)

#### Vice President (Reunion Coordinator) – **JOHN MARX**

109 Clearview St., Beaver Falls, PA 15010  
412-327-1909; [109clearview@gmail.com](mailto:109clearview@gmail.com)

#### Secretary - **PAM KAWASHIMA**

5698 Brookhurst Ct, San Jose, CA 95129  
408-253-6129 [pkawashima@outlook.com](mailto:pkawashima@outlook.com)

#### Treasurer – **WALLY BROWN**

717 Pinebrook Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23462  
757-376-9813; [weddingshooter@verizon.net](mailto:weddingshooter@verizon.net)

#### Membership – **JEAN KOZNAREK**

2644 W. Park Blvd., Shaker Heights, OH 44120  
216-702-8430; [jnkoz54@aol.com](mailto:jnkoz54@aol.com)  
[member93bg@aol.com](mailto:member93bg@aol.com)

#### Historian – **DON MORRISON**

1375 West Comet Rd, Clinton, OH 44216  
Cell 330-415-2222  
[doniac1967@sbcglobal.net](mailto:doniac1967@sbcglobal.net)

#### Ball of Fire, Editor – **DON MORRISON**

(See Historian)

#### Technology Manager – **MICHAEL SELLERS**

565 Carroll St. Apt #4, Brooklyn, NY 11215  
917-975-7162; [mtsellers@mac.com](mailto:mtsellers@mac.com)

### VETERAN'S ADVISORY BOARD

#### **GEORGE MCLEAN**

### Other Critical Roles

#### Assistant Treasurer - **NANCY GRIMES STRANGER**

783 N. Sedona Court, Grand Junction, CO 81506  
970-945-2883; [nancystranger@hotmail.com](mailto:nancystranger@hotmail.com)

#### PX Manager – **PETER ASCH**

979 South Ridge Ct., Traverse City, MI 49696  
231-933-8405 [pcasch@charter.net](mailto:pcasch@charter.net)

#### Ball of Fire "Mailman"- **GEORGE JUNG**

Distribution Support  
2420 Route 17 A, Goshen, NY 10924  
845-346-6551 [bofmailman@gmail.com](mailto:bofmailman@gmail.com)

#### Reunion Registration - **JOANNE SARGENT**

1458 Locust St., Denver, CO 80220  
720-408-9251; [joyridecp@msn.com](mailto:joyridecp@msn.com)

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We continue to work on details of this year's reunion in the Detroit area and it is shaping up to be another fabulous 93<sup>rd</sup> family gathering! One of the several highlights of our education sessions will be guest speaker, Bill Kubota, sharing information about our own 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group veteran "Most Honorable Son", Ben Kuroki. You don't want to miss it! See more info on how it is shaping up, later in the BOF, along with reunion and registration details!

Our documentary film, *"Return to Hardwick"*, continues to get accolades, awards, and wonderful reviews from our screenings! At the screening on June 16<sup>th</sup> at the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force, in Pooler, GA approximately 300 attendees viewed the film. In addition, our film narrator, Michael Cudlitz was able to attend and participated in a Q & A session with Michael Sellers, signed autographs, took selfie "pics", videos and spent quality time with everyone who attended. We thank him for his support and assistance to make this a truly world class film! We also thank the museum for hosting us. The crowd was extremely interested and were "wowed" by our film!

Thanks for everyone's work and support of the film! Be sure to check out the schedule for future screenings and the trailer, at [www.hardwickfilm.com](http://www.hardwickfilm.com).

The 93rd Bomb Group Association family is extremely saddened by the passing of both June Eck and Alberta DelGuidice. Both of their love, guidance, support and friendship to all of us will be dearly missed. It is a personal honor and pride to have known and worked with them over the years. It is comforting to know they are both reunited with Ray and Louie, 93rd Veterans of the greatest generation. Our entire membership offers our prayers, condolences and sympathy to the families, for their loss. Additional information can be found further in the BOF.

Just a little over 3 months, and we will see you in Detroit!

Jim Root  
President, 93<sup>rd</sup> BGA

## UPCOMING REUNION OPPORTUNITY

**Hardwick, England 2020 VE plus 75 years:** Colin and I are looking towards May 2020 for a reunion. I need to know if you are interested in going. It will be cancelled if we do not get enough commitment to attending the reunion. Please keep it in mind as you make your vacation plans. 2020 will be the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Victory in Europe. If you have any question, please contact Don Morrison. See contact info in the Officer Directory.

## **Detroit Metro Area Reunion 2019**

The Detroit Metro Airport Sheraton, Bomber Restaurant, The Yankee Air Museum, Eastern Michigan University and The Henry Ford Museum are all primed and ready to host the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group's 2019 reunion. The home of Henry Ford's Willow Run factory, Ypsilanti witnessed the assembly of 6,972 B-24s by the end of war. Some of those planes were assigned to the 93<sup>rd</sup>. The use of women on the production line here and elsewhere created the legacy of the "Rosie the Riveters".

We have partnered with Eastern Michigan University's History and Philosophy Department to present our documentary, "Return to Hardwick", at the Strong Hall Auditorium. Open to the public, our group will enjoy viewing the final product of four year's diligence and hard work. The 93<sup>rd</sup> has supported the Yankee Air Museum's effort to preserve a portion of the Willow Run plant as a memorial to the B-24 and the men and women who built them.

The deadline for hotel reservations and registration is September 5th. After that date, the hotel will release any remaining rooms. Your reunion team must make advance payment for meals, transportation, and entertainment. Early registration payment is very helpful to facilitate the final arrangements. **Last day to register – September 5<sup>th</sup>.**

### **93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group Association 2019 Reunion Thursday, Oct 10 – Monday, Oct 14, 2019**

**Step #1** - Make hotel reservations now, but not later than **September 5<sup>th</sup>**, to obtain the group rate.

*Hotel: Sheraton Detroit Metro Airport  
8000 Merriman Road  
Romulus, MI 48174*

*Reservations: 1-866-961-3982*

*Our Sales Coordinator: Ashley Cyrus, at 734-713-0552 or email:  
Ashley.cyrus@sheratondtw.com*

To secure the group rate, tell the reservationist you are with the **93rd Bomb Group**.

**Room Rate:** \$104.00 plus tax of 14% per night (\$118.56 inclusive). (Rate good from Monday 10/7 – Wednesday 10/16)

***Includes:***

Complimentary 24-hour airport shuttle  
Complimentary self-parking  
Complimentary internet access  
Complimentary breakfast for 2 guests per room  
(Additional guest breakfasts are \$10 per day)  
24-hour Fitness Center  
Indoor Pool  
Cultivate Restaurant & Connections Lounge

***Complimentary Airport Shuttle:*** If you are arriving by air, the 24-hour airport/hotel shuttle picks up at one of two stops at the Ground Transportation Center. Follow the signs to the covered waiting area. Call the hotel at 734-729-2600 to let them know you are waiting for the shuttle. The shuttle arrives every 20 minutes. For departure, the shuttle leaves the hotel for the airport every 15 minutes from 4:15 am to 8:00 am and every 20 minutes for the remainder of the day.

**Step #2** - Complete a registration form, **for each attendee**, and submit the form(s) with your check not later than September 9<sup>th</sup>. Make your check payable to **93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group**.

**Step #3** - Make travel arrangements to arrive in time for registration between 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM on Thursday, October 10th. Our welcome dinner starts at 5:30 PM with a reception followed by dinner at 6 PM.

**Step #4** - **Mail forms (one for each attendee) and your check to:**

JoAnne Sargent  
1458 Locust St.  
Denver, CO 80220-2833  
303 915-7546  
joyridecp@msn.com



## **REUNION FEE REFUND POLICY**

*Last minute cancellations can cause significant loss to the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group Association. 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.*

**Reunion Fee Refund Policy: No refund will be made after September 5th.**

### **Register for "Return to Hardwick" Documentary Screening**

Registration for the screening of "Return to Hardwick" at Eastern Michigan University, 3 pm, October 11, 2019. If you are not registering to attend the reunion but plan to attend the documentary, please register at [www.hardwickfilm.com](http://www.hardwickfilm.com). Scroll down to find the screening location on the homepage and click "Please Register Here". This helps us plan for the number of attendees and to know details of the people attending. Reunion attendees do not need to register.

*Please make sure after you click the registration link that click "Register" in the green box on the new page that comes up. You must continue to fill out your information and click checkout.*

## **REGISTRATION FORM**

One per guest

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

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

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

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

**When do you plan to arrive/depart?** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Arrival Time/Date) (Departure Time/Date)

**Age** (if a child) \_\_\_\_\_ - Contact JoAnne Sargent for Fee

### **Relationship to the 93<sup>rd</sup>:**

Veteran's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Duty Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron/Section: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Information: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Meal choices: Circle one entrée per meal (Food descriptions follow):**

(If special need is circled, please identify the special dietary need)

#### **Thursday Dinner:**

1. Chicken Breast
2. Pork Loin
3. Pasta Primavera - Vegetarian
4. Special need \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Saturday Lunch:**

1. Turkey Wrap
2. Ham and Swiss Wrap
3. Grilled Vegetable Wrap - Vegetarian
4. Special Need \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Saturday Memorial Dinner:**

1. Salmon Wellington
2. 12 oz Strip Steak
3. Roasted Portabella Mushroom - Vegetarian
4. Special Need \_\_\_\_\_

**Calculate your registration fee:**

The registration fee includes: Dinner for 4 evenings, 1 lunch, memorabilia room, Color Guard dinners, transportation, education sessions, business meeting, Yankee Air Museum entry.

**The reservation fee does not include your hotel rooms or optional trips**

Basic registration fee: \$310 multiply by number of registrations \_\_\_\_\_

**Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please complete form and enclose check payable to the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group for the total amount. A single check for multiple guests is encouraged.**

---

Optional: Registration for B-25 Mitchell Ride - \$400 (Payment not required until final number of participants are known.)

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

## North American B-25 Mitchell



B-25 "Yankee Warrior" - Flyable

The B-25 Mitchell is an American twin-engine, medium bomber manufactured by North American Aviation. The plane was named in honor of Major General William "Billy" Mitchell, a pioneer of U.S. military aviation. Used by many Allied air forces, the B-25 served in every theater of World War II and after the war ended many remained in service, operating across four decades. Produced in numerous variants, nearly 10,000 Mitchells rolled from NAA factories. These included a few limited models, such as the United States Marine Corps' PBJ-1 patrol bomber and the United States Army Air Forces' F-10 reconnaissance aircraft and AT-24 trainers.

The B-25 pictured above is available for flights lasting 25 minutes from departure to landing at a cost of \$400 per person. A discount is offered if the maximum number of seven passengers is achieved.

## **Food Descriptions**

### **Thursday Plated Dinner:**

#### **Entrée Selections:**

1. Sautéed Chicken Breast with Florentine Sauce  
Julienne Vegetables  
Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes
2. Herbed Pork Loin with Chef's Sauce  
Julienne Vegetables  
Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes
3. Pasta Primavera  
Penne Pasta with Smokey Tomato Sauce  
Julienne Vegetables

House Salad with 2 choices of Dressing  
Freshly Baked Dinner Rolls and Butter  
Assorted Gourmet Cupcakes

Starbucks Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee, Tazo Hot Tea & Iced Tea

### **Friday Buffet Dinner: Motown BBQ**

Country style Red Skin Potato Salad  
Sweet and Tangy Coleslaw  
Picnic style sliced Watermelon Wedges  
Citrus Barbecue Chicken Breast  
Cajun Roasted Pork Loin with Sweet Corn Relish  
Cornmeal Dusted Catfish with Spicy Tartar  
Creamy macaroni and cheese  
Freshly Baked Sister Rolls and Butter  
Key Lime Pie

Starbucks Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee, Tazo Hot Tea & Iced Tea

### **Saturday Lunch: Wrap N Run**

1. Turkey Wrap
2. Black Forest Ham and Swiss Wrap
3. Grilled vegetable Wrap

German style Potato Salad  
Assorted Chips, Pretzels and Cookies

Starbucks Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee, Tazo Hot Tea & Iced Tea

## **Saturday Plated Dinner:**

### **Entrée Selections:**

1. Salmon Wellington Salmon stuffed with spinach and sundried tomato wrapped in Puff Pastry with Florentine Sauce  
Market Fresh Vegetables  
Roasted Red Skin Potatoes
2. 12 oz Strip Steak with Demi Glaze Sauce  
Market Fresh Vegetables  
Roasted Red Skin Potatoes
3. Roasted Portabella Mushroom Napoleon  
Roasted Red Peppers, Asparagus, Caramelized Onions, Squash, Garlic Roasted Tomatoes with Balsamic Glaze

House Salad with 2 choices of Dressing

Freshly Baked Dinner Rolls and Butter

New York Style Cheesecake

Starbucks Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee, Tazo Hot Tea & Iced Tea

## **Sunday Buffet Dinner: Farm Table**

Chef's soup of the day

Local Greens to include: Romaine lettuce, Iceberg lettuce, and Field greens

Vine Ripened Tomatoes

Crunchy Croutons

Shredded Carrots

Sliced Cucumbers

Julienne Red Peppers

Garbanzo Beans

Chopped Hard Cooked Egg

Cut Avocado

Creamy Blue Cheese, Buttermilk Ranch, Raspberry Vinaigrette, Vinegar and Oil

Salmon or Chargrilled Chicken Breast

Freshly Baked Sister Rolls and Butter

Assorted Cookies

Starbucks Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee, Tazo Hot Tea & Iced Tea



# 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group 2019 Reunion

## Schedule of Events (Draft)

### Day 1 – Thursday – October 10

10 AM – 5:00 PM	Registration / Memorabilia Room Setup – Everyone is welcome!
2:00 – 3:30 PM	Officers' Meeting
5:30 – 6:00 PM	Reception
6:00 – 8:00 PM	Welcome Dinner - Attendee Introductions
8:00 – 10:00 PM	Memorabilia Room Open

### Day 2 – Friday – October 11

6:30 – 9:00 AM	Breakfast
9:00 – 10:30 AM	Educational Session #1 – Bill Kubota & “Most Honorable Son”
10:45 – 11:15 AM	Transportation to Ypsilanti
11:15 AM – 12:45 PM	Group 1 – Bomber Restaurant (Lunch – on your own), Group 2 – Yankee Air Museum
12:45 – 1:00 PM	Group 1 travels to the museum; Group 2 travels to the restaurant
1:00 – 2:30 PM	Group 1 – Yankee Air Museum, Group 2 – Bomber Restaurant (Lunch – on your own)
2:30 – 2:45 PM	Both groups travel to Eastern Michigan University (EMU)
3:00 – 5:00 PM	EMU, Strong Hall Auditorium – “Return to Hardwick” Screening & Q&A
5:30 – 6:00 PM	Return to Hotel
6:00 – 7:30 PM	Dinner
7:30 – 9:00 PM	Presentations – Dee Friesen, Moderator
8:00 – 10:00 PM	Memorabilia Room Open

### Day 3 – Saturday – October 12

6:30 – 9:00 AM	Breakfast
9:30 – 11:30 AM	Business Meeting
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Buffet Lunch
1:30 – 2:30 PM	Veterans' Q&A
2:45 – 4:30 PM	Educational Session #2 – Don Morrison & “The 93 <sup>rd</sup> during Operation Overlord”
5:15 – 5:30 PM	Group Photo
5:30 – 6:00 PM	Reception
6:00 – 8:00 PM	Memorial Dinner
8:00 – 10:00 PM	Memorabilia Room Open

### Day 4 – Sunday – October 13

6:30 – 9:00 AM	Breakfast
9:00 – 10:00 AM	Religious Service (non-denominational)
10:30 – 11:00 AM	Travel to The Henry Ford Museum
11:00 – 4:30 PM	Tour Museum (Lunch – On your own)
4:30 – 5:00 PM	Return to Hotel
6:00 – 8:00 PM	Dinner
8:00 PM - Closing	Memorabilia Room Pack-up – Everyone is welcome!

### Day 5 – Monday – October 14

6:30 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast
-----------------	-----------

## FOLDED WINGS



**Edward A. Balga** passed away on Monday, February 4th, 2019 at the age of 92. Edward Graduated from Mont Pleasant High School in 1946 and Albany Business College in 1948. He entered the Army Air Corp on April 4, 1944. He proudly served in WWII as an Aerial Gunner on a B24 Bomber with the 93rd Bomb Group. He flew his first mission over Madenburg, Germany on March 3rd, 1945, his 19th Birthday. His military career contained 15 successful missions before he was honorably discharged on March 30th, 1946. Edward worked for 27 years at Regional Banana Corp. before moving onto General Electric and finally retired from Fruehauf Trucking. He was a faithful Parishioner of St. Joseph's



Church in Schenectady, Elks Member Chapter 2197 and a staunch member of the Schenectady Democratic Committee. Edward loved bowling, politics, taking long drives with this family and going to Florida. He loved his family very much and will be missed. He was predeceased by his mother, Rose Hladik; father, Edward T Balga; sister, Rosemary Balga and brother, David P. Balga. He is survived by his wife of 73 years, Alfreda Balga (nee Dwojakowski); daughters, Phyllis A. Benson (Robert), Christine R. Wolf and son, Edward A. Balga (Linda). He leaves behind 10 grandchildren, 18 great - grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren and numerous cherished nieces and nephews. Funeral arrangements were private and he was buried at the Saratoga National Cemetery.

Published in The Daily Gazette on Feb. 11, 2019



**Winfield Timothy Curtis "Windy"** was born in Sacramento on May 21, 1921 and passed away in Sacramento on June 6, 2019, at the age of 98, after a brief illness. A life-long resident of East Sacramento, he is descended from early New England settlers and is a 10th generation American, 4th generation Californian and 3rd generation Sacramentan. He joins his beloved wife of 58 years, Evelyn (d. 2010) and daughter Susan (d. 1961). He is survived by children Elyce, Bill, Michael, Sally (Guillaume) and Antoinette Diane; grandchildren Susan, Traegen (Rita),



Reilly, Zoé and Elliot; great grandchildren Astrid, Kira, Riley and Ruby; his sister Lenora, nieces Mary and Julie and nephews Dave and Randy. A member of the Greatest Generation, he enlisted and became a 2nd Lt. in the Army Air Corp, 8th Air Force, 93rd Squadron, flying B-24 Liberators during World War II. In the European theatre, he successfully completed 35 bombing missions and was honorably discharged in July 1945. Winfield worked for Western Electric for 42 years until his retirement in 1983. An avid pilot, he continued flying private planes as a member of the AOPA until the age of 86. He took up gliding and was a member of the Valley Soaring Association celebrating his 90th birthday with a glider flight. Following retirement, he enjoyed travelling with his wife to places such as Europe, Mexico, the continental US and Hawaii (where he and Evelyn took a memorable glider flight over Oahu). Windy remained active in groups such as the Sons in Retirement (SIRS), WECO, Gray Eagles, and United States Bowling Congress all up until his 98th birthday. Windy was active from beginning to end. From a young age he was very disciplined and hard working. He also truly enjoyed life and was blessed to be able to over many long years. With an engaging personality, he was known for his quick wit and intelligence and was respected and entertained by nearly all he encountered.

Published in The Sacramento Bee on June 11, 2019

***Maj.(ret.) Bert Francis Alexander*** June 23, 1918 - May 16, 2005

Longtime Mokelumne Hill resident Bert Francis Alexander died Monday at a San Andreas hospital. He was 86. He was born in Checotah, OK, and grew up in Oklahoma and Texas. He joined the U.S. Army in 1940 and served in the U.S. Army Air Corps and the U.S. Air Force until his retirement in 1960 as a major. He was a retired U.S. Air Force pilot. After retirement, he moved his family to Fair Oaks where he went to work for the County of Sacramento until his second retirement in 1979. After retiring, he moved to Mokelumne Hill in 1982.

He was a member of the F&AM Amador Lodge No. 65 in Jackson, the Scottish Rite, the Golden Star Chapter No. 66 Order of the Eastern Star, and Jackson United Methodist Church. He also was a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association and 2nd Air Division Association, 8th Air Force. Mr. Alexander is survived by his wife, Shirley Alexander of Mokelumne Hill; a daughter, Helen Alexander-Woods of Stockton; a son, Raymond Alexander of Kelseyville, Lake County; two grandchildren; and a great-grandson.



***June Lois Hurko Evans Eck***, 90, of Williamsport, died July 28, 2019 at UPMC Williamsport Regional Medical Center. She was born June 18, 1929, in Millersburg, a daughter of the late Stephen and Josephine (Tobias) Hurko.

June grew up in Millersburg and graduated from Millersburg High School. She retired from Lycoming College where she was secretary in the Education and Nursing Departments, and also had worked for the Tax Office of Loyalsock Area School District. She was a member of First United Methodist Church and volunteered at James V. Brown Library, First United Methodist Church, and various committees at the Independent Living Apartments, Williamsport Home. She loved her family and spending time with them, her church, traveling, reading, watching golf, and enjoying special moments with her many good friends.

In addition to her parents, preceding her in death was her first husband, Raymond B. Evans, Jr. (m. January 1, 1950 – November 19, 1987) and second husband, Raymond O. Eck (m. March 1, 2008 – January 24, 2018).

Surviving is her son, Raymond “Chuck” (Susan) Evans III; a daughter, Deborah (John) Grove; grandchildren, Eric (Amanda) Evans and Carolyn (Tim) Workinger; great-grandchildren, Briella and Coen Evans, and Ava Workinger; step daughters, Raylene (Rick) Hennip, Donna (Jim) Blumenfeld, Barbara (David) Tosi, Myra (Chip) Holloway; step grandchildren, Brian Hennip, Sandra Hennip, Denise (Nick) Kostiv, Craig Blumenfeld, David (Johana) Blumenfeld, and Mark (Kristin) Holloway; and a step great-grandchild, Madeline.

A funeral service was held Friday, Aug. 2, at First United Methodist Church, 2 Ross St., Williamsport, with Rev. Richard D. Waters officiating. Burial followed in Montoursville Cemetery

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the church.





**Alberta G. Alward DelGuidice**, 91, of North Haven, passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 4, 2019 at the Connecticut Hospice, Branford. She was the beloved wife of the late Louis E. DelGuidice. Alberta was born in Hartford on November 25, 1927 and was the daughter of the late Harry and Isabelle Hotchkiss Alward. She had worked for Sentry Insurance in that time she was viewed by her employer, associates and customers as being consistently “flawless” and having a can-do attitude. After her retirement she worked part time for the West Haven Community House as an accounts payable and receivable officer. She was a life member of 93rd Bomb Group, Air Force Escape and Evadee Society and the 8th

Air Force Historical Society. She was a devoted member of St. John’s Episcopal Church for over 45 years. Alberta was a good friend to many, especially her family of the 93rd. She enjoyed traveling, whether it be on the East Coast or across the pond to England. Alberta also enjoyed reading, knitting, baking cakes, gardening and growing her beautiful African Violets up to the age of 89. She loved going to and watching on TV the Woman UCONN Huskies, she enjoyed them so much she wouldn’t answer the phone when they were playing! Stepmother of Sandra Comstock, Linda (Lenny) Wishart, Louie (the late Karen) DelGuidice, Vincent (the late Kimberly) DelGuidice, Doreen DelGuidice, Karen (the late David) Modine. She is also survived by her son-in-law Richard (the late Debra) Dady; 13 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. The family would like to give a special thank you to Sophia and Bernedette, her round-the-clock caregivers whom she loved dearly and the Home Instead Senior Care of Guilford.

Family and friends were invited to St. John’s Episcopal Church, 3 Trumbull Place, North Haven for a funeral service on Thursday morning at 10:00 and were also invited to attend the committal service immediately following in Beaverdale Memorial Park. There were no visiting hours. Should friends desire, memorial contributions may be made to Boy’s Town, Father Flanagan’s Boy’s Home, 234 Monsky Drive, Boy’s Town, NE 68010 or the 93rd Bomb Group Association, Treasurer: Wally Brown, 717 Pine Brook Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23462.



Louie and Alberta on a trip to Norwich, England

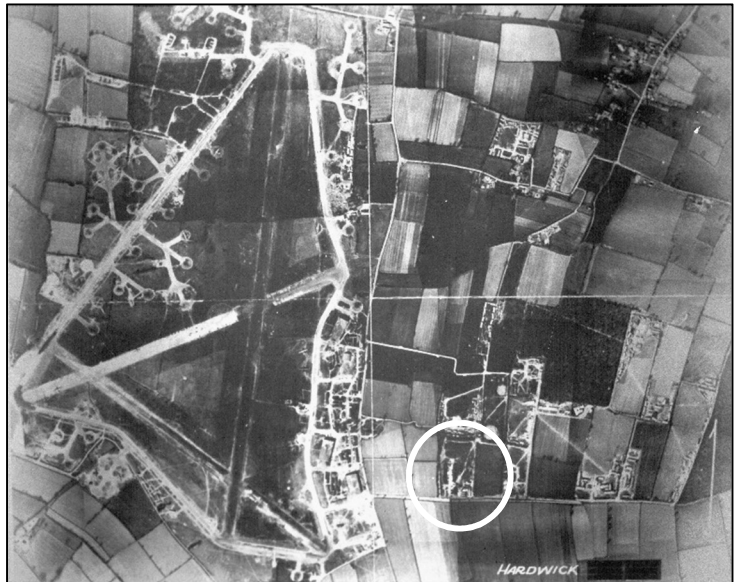
## They will be missed!



## GREETINGS FROM THE 93<sup>RD</sup> BG HISTORIAN!

### Motorpool

We often think about the airfield as a place frozen in time, yet during the war it was alive with thousands of soldiers, planes and vehicles moving about. The motorpool provided the vehicles such as the jeeps, cars, trucks to move people, fuel, bombs and equipment around the base. I have summarized the mileage and fuel consumption data for the summer of 1944. As you can see, it was very busy place. In September, almost 1 million gallons of fuel was used for vehicles and aircraft! The Motorpool is shown in the white circle to the left.



	Jul-44	Aug-44	Sep-44
Miles Driven	129,129	128,735	135,364
Fuel (Gallons)	21,669	22,754	21,840
Fuel (Gallons/Day)	699	734	728
Miles/Gallon	6.0	5.7	6.2
Aircraft Fuel (Gallons)			944,000

### Message from the Editor

I am always looking for any articles about any event that involved the 93<sup>rd</sup> BG. These can be short stories written by the veteran or family. If it is interesting to you most likely it will be interesting to all of us too! This is YOUR Ball of Fire Newsletter. Please send any article submittals or Letters to the editor to my attention for inclusion in future Newsletters.

If you have any questions regarding the 93<sup>rd</sup> BG, please contact me 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.

### GRANDDAUGHTER

On July 13, 2019, my son, Donnie, and daughter-in-law, Lacie, welcomed their first child, Piper Ann Morrison. I am now a proud first-time grandpa!!

*Cheers,  
Don Morrison*





## 93RD WEBSITE & FILM PROJECT

### 93rd Bomb Group Website Update

Please check out the website this month for updates on our 2019 reunion near Detroit, Michigan. It will be the most up-to-date information to prepare you for your trip.

Also, please notice on the homepage that the Featured Film has been updated with the *Return To Hardwick* trailer. Right now we have over 3,000 views since it was released on YouTube in May 2019. We'd love to get even more views so please click the Featured Film link on the homepage and start watching! Lots of views means lots of interest. Also if we reach 4,000 views, YouTube allows users to advertise even more by adding links at the end of the video. This could allow us to have another outlet to share links on upcoming screenings or where to donate for the film - so click away!

Go to [www.93bg.com](http://www.93bg.com) for the 93rd's website.

### Return to Hardwick Feature Documentary Update

A lot is going on with the film this summer. I encourage you to sign up for email updates at [www.hardwickfilm.com](http://www.hardwickfilm.com). When you arrive at the website a registration window will popup automatically. Don't click it off!! I know it's so easy today to click off pesky advertisements but this one is one advert that you want. Type in your email and hit "OK" - you will then be registered to receive monthly updates about the film straight to your website.

As I speak right now I'm in Minneapolis/ St. Paul getting ready for our screening at the Commemorative Air Force Minnesota Wing. The museum here has been awesome in helping organize the event. So far I have visited Norwich, England, Savannah, GA & Punta Gorda, FL for screenings of *Return To Hardwick*. I've enjoyed every screening and look forward to even more in the months ahead.

Another way to get weekly updates with the film is by going to the Facebook Page. For example if you were checking this week on Facebook you would have discovered that none other than documentary filmmaker Ken Burns tweeted about our film (see image of his tweet attached to this article). It seems the interview I did with Argunners Magazine got his attention and he wanted to let his followers know about our project. Cool! You can't get better recognition than from a master filmmaker like Ken Burns. We should all be proud we have taken the film this far. If you are not checking updates on the Facebook Page please go to [www.93bg.com](http://www.93bg.com) and see the link to the Argunners Magazine interview in the "News" section on the homepage.

Michael Sellers  
Producer/Director  
Return to Hardwick  
Technology Manager  
93rd Bomb Group  
[www.hardwickfilm.com](http://www.hardwickfilm.com)





## 93<sup>rd</sup> BGA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Year 2019**

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

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

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

Name of 93<sup>rd</sup> 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 (2019 & 2020) \$45 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tax deductible Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (The 93<sup>rd</sup> is a 501(c)(3) Organization)

**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Please MAIL newsletter \_\_\_\_ Please E-MAIL newsletter

**\_\_\_\_ Yes! I would like to volunteer to help the 93<sup>rd</sup> BGA and my skill is:**

**Make checks payable to: 93<sup>rd</sup> BOMB GROUP**

(You may also pay by PayPal through the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group website, 93bg.com)

Mail to: Jean Koznarek  
93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group Ass'n.  
2644 West Park Blvd.  
Shaker Hts., OH 44120

**KEEP OUR HISTORY ALIVE!**

Consider a membership for a friend or family member.  
(Make a copy of this form for additional memberships. **Thank You!**)

*Please note, membership is on a calendar year.*