

December 1, 2006

*339<sup>th</sup>*



# Fighter Group Association

Station F378 – Fowlmere, England

## NEWSLETTER

“The Lads from Fowlmere”



Volume 26, Issue 4

Editor: Stephen C. Ananian

## BLUE ANGELS SHOW THEIR STUFF!



Bandits? Heck no! Relax! That's not a flight of German ME-163s circling overhead with rocket engines trailing smoke. They are the Navy's Blue Angels in a "Fly-Over" for the military and the members of the 339<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group at Miramar, California.

Photo by - Bill Clark, Jr

## Miramar Gives the 339<sup>th</sup> a Royal Welcome!

By Steve Ananian, *pilot, 505<sup>th</sup> FS*

"That was the best Reunion by far!" Those were the words of our Commanding Officer as we parted to come home! Larry Powell our Reunion Coordinator, with the able assistance of Dorothy Clark and her family had done a great job. John Henry particularly thanked Joyce Eiswald who took over the arrangements and many of the meticulous details necessary to make such an event the success that it was.

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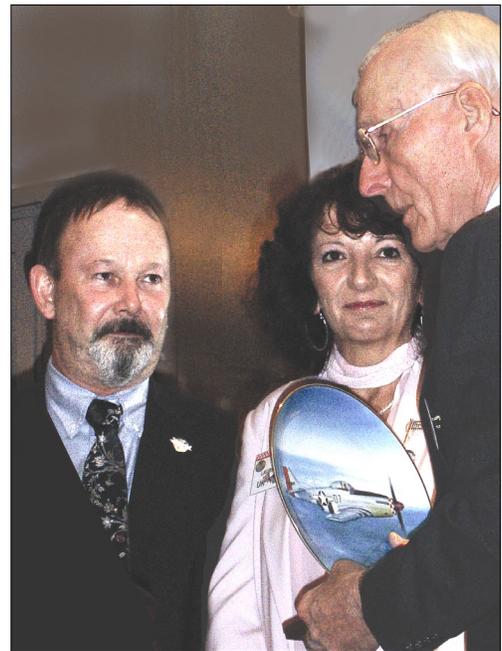
In spite of tight security and high cost of air travel, members turned out in numbers far better than expected! There were approximately 84 attendees - not bad compared to the 90 at our dinner in Tampa last year. Members are getting older and are not as spry as they used to be!

Once again, this year, we had "A First Time Attendee". Ronald Edker Miller, armorer, 505<sup>th</sup>, who came with his lovely wife Betty! Ronald writes regularly in our newsletter and is a veteran of the 339<sup>th</sup> nearly since its inception.

John and Laurina Harris, our always dependable members from the UK came as well! Returning once again were Susan Gibbs and Louise Higbee newly discovered nieces of 503<sup>rd</sup>'s Bob Ammon. Jerry Graham came with his family of twelve or thirteen (I lost count) and of course, Dorothy Clark was there with her family as well! Francis Gerard, could not come, he was scheduled for surgery, he sent his family who gave his regards to all, saying he would see us next year! It was nice to see Dorothy Grogan with her sister Gail from New England. Virginia Fitzgerald showed up with her two daughters Seri and Shaye. Hervey Stockman, 504<sup>th</sup> pilot, POW and designer of our memorial at Fowlmere, was there with his lovely wife Sally - I found out we had been neighbors in New Jersey! But I think Caroline Salsburry, daughter of deceased pilot Carroll Bennett, set some sort of record. She always brings her father's WW II officer's hat so he



Our "CO" John B. Henry, Jr. bids us all "Farewell!" -M. Tarling



Left - 505<sup>th</sup> armorer, Ron and wife Betty Miller, first time attendees and "Blue Sky Award" recipient. On the right our CO John Henry presents John and Laurina Harris with their Award!

- M. Tarling



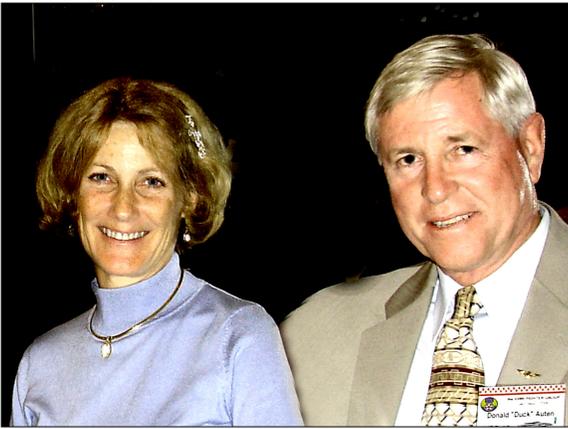
L-R L/Cpl Charles Baron, Cpl Michael McIntire, Sgt Preston Judd and L/Cpl Robert St. Jean of the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 11, Color Guard from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. - Bill Clark, Jr.

will be with us in spirit! This year, in addition to her dad's hat, Caroline had her daughter and granddaughter in attendance. That's 4 generations if you count the body and spirit!

The weather cleared up for the air show and Joyce had arranged transportation to our first-class seats out on the field enclosed by a tent. Everyone commented that it was the best air show ever! They paraded every bomber and fighter in the U.S. arsenal in front of us and had them do their "stuff"! Bombing, strafing, mid-air refueling, you name it and they did it! Choppers, Jets, "Hover-craft" and "Stealth" fighter 'n bombers galore - we saw it! After their performance, some of the young pilots came by to personally meet us combat veterans and thank our members for our part in WW II. What an experience!

The next morning we went on a four-hour guided tour of the city after which members socialized in the pool-side Hospitality Room or visited points of interest around San Diego. Sunday's banquet dinner had four members of the Marine Color Guard from Miramar in attendance who joined us in dining after their "Presentation of the Colors." Our guest speaker for the evening was Donald "Duck" Auten, Captain USNR retired. He told us about his book "Roger Ball!" the Odyssey of a Navy Fighter Pilot - John Monroe "Hawk" Smith and presented a short slide show. We thanked Captain Auten and made him

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Donald "Duck" Auten, author, and our guest speaker with wife Katie.

- M. Tarling

an honorary fighter pilot of the 339<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group and presented him with a Walnut Plaque. We then presented two plates donated by Jim Starnes, - our "Blue Skies Award." The recipients this year were Laurina and John Harris for their loyalty through the years and also to newsletter-writer, contributor Ronald Edker Miller.

William Clark, Jr. sang "the Ballad of the 339<sup>th</sup>" a song that he wrote, dedicated to our CO, John B. Henry, Jr. John Henry closed by saying that this was the best reunion ever and he Thanked Larry Powell and Thomas Sams for their hard work in making this reunion the success that it was. He

then reminded us that he was 90 years old and ailing with the illnesses that come with age and hoped he would be able to see us once again next year. He then bid us a fond farewell until next year!

We had the usual closing with the retirement of the colors by the Marine Color Guard - Carl and Ann Ashworth leading the members in the singing of God Bless America! 

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## Season's Greetings



Every year we receive many cards expressing the season's greetings. It would be an impossibility to try to respond in kind, but you are always in our hearts and thoughts, particularly those that are ailing.

On behalf of the Newsletter Staff, may I take this opportunity to wish all of you and your family's good health and joy during this holiday season and the coming year?

*Stephen L. Ananian*

# From the Desk of Jim Starnes

By James R. Starnes,  
505<sup>th</sup> Pilot, Staff Columnist



What a great reunion I missed in San Diego during October! That trip to Marine Corps Base Miramar was certainly the highlight. My crew chief Gabe Cutri sent me the large brochure covering the event. Gabe wrote that he liked the Harrier best.

Among the items sent to me was artist John Doughty's drawing of our third Mustang shown below. I have paintings of our other TAR HEEL aircraft but not this one. The first one, a B model, was retired as war weary. The second one was lost when Bert Stiles went down. The fourth one had a K-25 camera mounted behind the armor plate for bomb damage assessment.

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Computer drawing of Jim Starnes aircraft by John R. Doughty, Jr., Artist. He made this 13" x 19" drawing as a gift to the 339<sup>th</sup> FG. He will make an 8.5" x 11" drawing like this of your aircraft for \$20. Those interested may contact him at (858) 679-8516. or email [j.doughty@highironillustrations.com](mailto:j.doughty@highironillustrations.com) SCA, editor

The only other thing I would like to include is this photo of Armament Officer Sam Bennett and Flight Surgeon Fred Scroggin.. Before we left the states Sam and Engineering



505th Armament Officer 1/Lt. Sam Bennett and Capt Fred "Doc" Scroggin, 505th Flight Surgeon.

Officer Pat Bova bought a bottle of "Seagram's 7 Crown". It was to be given to the first ace in the squadron. The first ace was Chris Hanseman, one of four known American teenage aces, - but he was killed in action before his ace status was confirmed. On 4<sup>th</sup> of August 1944 Don Larson and I became the next aces; Don was killed in action on that 4 Aug mission, so I ended up getting that bottle of "Seagram's 7 Crown". I still have that unopened bottle in my den. It was autographed by the other pilots, but those signatures have vanished from the

label. - - - Anyway, I am indebted to Sam and Pat for the very foresighted gift.



## Donations

We thank the following members for their generous donations:-

\$100 Charles Steffen, \$25 Carol Cohen, \$20 Phillip Ewing, \$100 Clarence Ferrell, \$30 Richard Lewey, \$20 Connie LeBlanc, \$25 Dorothy Grogan, \$30 Edith Brown, \$25 Elmer Haidle, \$20 Robert Trinqué, \$75 Robert Kuhlman, \$30 Rachel Grandy, \$100 James R. Davidson, \$30 Anders Billing, \$50 William Perry, \$20 Judy Sirrochman, \$30 Robert E. O'Brien, \$60 John P. Wilson, \$40 George Joe, \$ 25 Henry Pence, \$200 Bill MacClarence, \$110 David Williams, \$40 James Hanson, \$100 Robert Kuhlman, \$25 Robert Strachan, \$100 Chet Malarz, \$20 Richard C. Malarz, \$25 Jeff Costello-McFeat, \$35 David Mackenzie.

Also \$191.57 by 503<sup>rd</sup> FS, \$64.93 by 504<sup>th</sup> FS – surplus from the Unit Dinners



## 339<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group Lapel Pins

This polished silver four-colored Cloisonné lapel pin is a thing of beauty! Only  $\frac{7}{8}$ " in diameter it looks like a piece of fine jewelry. Great "stocking-stuffer" for Christmas!

The price is \$10 each plus \$2 shipping per order. Profits go to the 339<sup>th</sup> FGA. Just drop me a line with a check to the return address on this newsletter and indicate the number of pins you wish sent.



Actual size!

# VETERAN'S DAY 2006!

By  
S. Ananian, *editor*



151st Signal Battalion South Carolina National Guard prepares to fire the rifle salute on Veteran's Day!

Once again the Sevier Middle School in Greenville, South Carolina honored me with an invitation to participate in its annual Veteran's Day program. I had the pleasure of talking with the students about the war, the cost of Freedom and answering their questions.

About 10AM the students attended an outdoor assembly with parents, Veterans and the local military participating. The program opened with the Sevier Middle School Band playing, followed by the sixth grade students raising a huge 30x50 foot flag. (The flag is loaned every year by Dick Brooks Honda in Greenville and costs \$10,000.)

Prayers were said and the usual moment of silence was observed, followed by three volleys of rifle fire in salute to those departed Veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice. Closing with the playing of "Amazing Grace" on the bagpipes and finally two buglers played taps to complete the moving ceremony.

The walls of a hallway at Sevier are lined with names of family members and former students that are presently in service. They call it "The Wall of Honor!"

This year marked the tenth anniversary of the origin of this Veterans Day program as practiced by the students and faculty of the Sevier Middle School. The program is the "Brain Child" of teacher Mrs. Bobbi Anderson and the result of her leadership, guidance, hard work and untiring efforts through the years!

They have not forgotten our Veterans at Sevier!



Mrs. Bobbi Anderson stands in front of the "Wall of Honor"





## "Boomerang Flies Again!"



6N-W - BOOMERANG, Our Treasurer, Dick Tieme's "Bird"  
"A Boomerang always comes back!" And it did!

### "The Tale of Two Airplanes" By Emma Thieme

July 24, 2006 Sheboygan, WI - This is the story about Dick's P-51 that "flies" in our backyard.

In 2003 our youngest son asked me to send him a picture of a P-51 so he could have a miniature airplane built for Dick. - - A surprise Father's Day gift! I sent him the picture of Michael George's P-51 that 339<sup>th</sup> members so enjoyed watching as it flew for them at our reunion in St Louis. A model came in time for Father's Day. The best place to display that neat, new P-51 with a 26" wingspan was the top of the 20 foot pole that held an octagon-shaped, 24-apartment bird house that Dick had built earlier. Down came the bird house and up went the P-51 in its place.

We thought it really would look better if both the P-51 and the bird house were up there. Dick figured out a way that it could be done. So in 2005 down came the P-51. While the plane was down Dick re-did the lettering with Boomerang's markings and up they went.

Fast forward to this summer. - We are having a new lawn put in including eliminating the sharpness of the bank at the alley to make a gentler slope for mowing. That meant the steel pole, set in 3 feet of concrete, had to be moved six feet to the east. Down they came once again!



A Fathers Day gift - D7-J  
Bird house down, P-51 up!

It was a good time to do some maintenance. After scraping and sanding the pole, it was given a fresh coat of paint. The bird house was cleaned out, scrubbed with bleach and repainted. For the p-51, a bearing had to be replaced so the prop could spin better. By glancing out our west kitchen window we can always tell wind direction and how windy it is outdoors. We are surprised to find nesting material jam-packed into the front end of the



plane! Of course, it was also removed. (By the way, one of the nesting sections had babies in it. Two flew out when dick tried to carry the nest to a safe place and the third was gone when I went to see it. They surely learned to fly in a hurry!) We had often noticed a bird perched on the cockpit canopy and thought he just wanted to be top dog. He sure was frustrated when everything was back up in the air again and for a couple of days he kept packing away at the wire screening Dick fastened inside the cockpit to prevent any more building in there.

Now you know the "Rest of the Story" - - as Paul Harvey would say.



# Ronald Edker Miller-



We Thank You!

By Steve Ananian, *editor*

Ronald Miller, armorer 505<sup>th</sup> FS, is a regular contributor to our Newsletter. His articles are a vital part of the anecdotal history of WWII and the 339<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group that help make our newsletter interesting reading. His contributions of the life of an enlisted man give us a perspective that neither Jim Starnes nor I have. Jim and I were Aviation Cadets before we were officers so we have a different perspective of military life and experiences than that of the average enlisted man.

Ron was born July 5, 1919. He had a tragic life as a child. Born to dysfunctional parents, he and his younger brother were raised in an orphanage in Massachusetts. His brother was killed in an accident shortly after, leaving him with fellow orphans as his only family.

"I remember well when I was an 8 year old kid on Memorial Day, - how we would scramble like crazy to retrieve the empty cartridge cases from the rifles fired in memoriam salute. Those brass cases then were even more treasured than today's Pokoman trading cards."

"When I was 10 years old I had three ambitions for when I grew up.

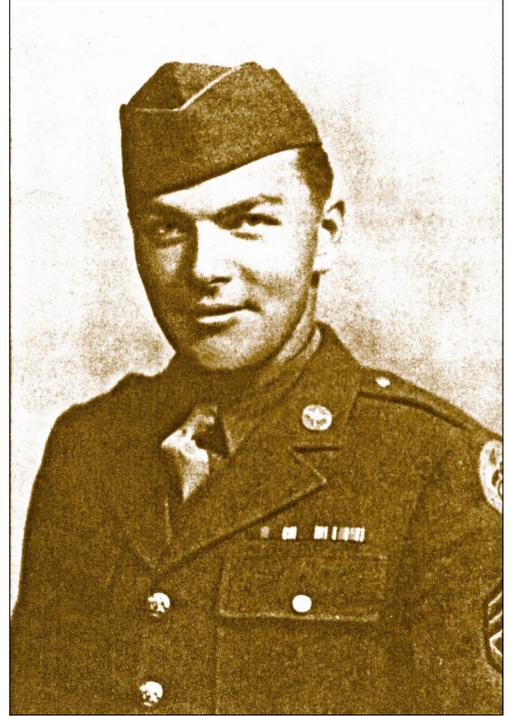
Number one was to live long enough to be an adult (21). Accomplished!

Number two was to become a marine (Jan '37 - Jan 41). Accomplished that too!

Number three was to become a cowboy. Accomplished that in 1941!"

"When I was 13 years of age and attending Charlemont High School, Charlemont, Massachusetts, I played in the school band. On October 1932, I was selected to play the trumpet at the dedication of the "Hail to the Sunrise" Mohawk Warrior statue on the Mohawk Trail. I stood by where the arrow is on the base of the statue, facing in the same direction as the warrior. If my memory is correct, I played "To the Colors," a tune honoring our national flag as it is being hoisted aloft. Friends are so surprised and enthused that I was one of the people at the dedication of the statue that happened so many years ago."

"From 1940 to 1941 I was stationed at the Marine Barracks; Naval Ammunition Depot at Hingham, Mass. In addition to my regular duty in Field Music (bugler) I was selected to do duty with the horse patrol. At that time there were only two remaining units of the horse marines, one in Peking and ours in Hingham."



S/Sgt. Ronald Edker Miller  
"Send home photo" taken at Fowlmere.

"We used the old McClellan saddle with a boot for our Springfield rifle and as a sidearm we carried a 45 automatic pistol. My horse was a retired polo pony, very intelligent, very sturdy and very fast. But whenever he managed to get the bit between his teeth he would become headstrong and stubborn. His name was Andy and I loved him and always felt he liked me - in his own affectionate way."

Herman H. Hanneken became a General and hero in the Pacific Theatre during WWII; but at the termination of my Marine Corps enlistment he was my CO at the Hingham Ammo Depot (Eleven months prior to WWII).

"If you re-up, I'll make you a Sergeant tomorrow." - "No, thank you, Sir." - "Why not?" "I just want to be a Blankety blank civilian, Sir!"

"Dismissed!" I was no longer a Marine!

"Eleven months passed, part of that time I was a cowboy, but I was on a civil engineering crew in Boston, Mass. when Pearl Harbor happened. When President Roosevelt made his speech, I immediately applied to the Army Air Corp because I wanted training in aeronautical engineering. Instead, they sent me to armament school at Lowry Field, Colorado (typical military methodology)." "The Army Air Corps required a 115 IQ, mine was 128."

Ron is one of the few original members of the Group. He was assigned to the 339<sup>th</sup> at Drew Field as a tail gunner on the Douglas A-24 SBD Dauntless dive-bomber! When the Group switched to the P-39 at Rice Field he was assigned as Master Sergeant in armament with the 505<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron.

Ron says, "As an artist, I am one of the thousands of unknowns, but nonetheless do good artwork! - After the war, I received my bachelor's degree in art from Lewis and Clark College here in Portland in 1952. I have been an artist since the age of 6 years, but my profession (prior to retirement) was as an Urban Planner in Design for Multnomah County (Oregon) and as a Land Use Planner for the Bureau of Indian Affairs."

Always the military man, he served in the Oregon Air National Guard where he says he learned to sleep well. - Ron and his wife Betty are the proud grandparents of 12 grandchildren and live in Portland Oregon. Betty, a writer too, writes vivid children's stories which their son illustrates. Ron loves Hawaii, sailing (that's the Marine in him), painting, sculpting and plays the bag pipes as well as the bugle. His grandchildren call him "Mr. Miller" since he says "Grandpa" ages him so!



"Hail to the Sunrise" Statue of Mohawk Native American, on the Mohawk Trail Charlemont, MA.

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While at Fowlmere Ron being our only artist painted "Nose Art" on planes, the murals in the Recreation rooms and was always volunteering to assist Mary and Jean our Red Cross directors! We all have enjoyed his stories and sketches in our newsletter.



Ron says, "I have a grandson who is a Marine who was stationed at 29 Palms, CA, until 0400 last Sunday (9/03/06) when his whole outfit was shipped to a place in Iraq near the Syrian border. I presume they are in a combat zone and can expect combat situations."

Ron, we are proud to present you with our "Blue Skies Award" and thank you for your contributions to our Newsletter. Aloha 

Ron Miller, once a marine himself, poses with Sgt. Preston Judd of the Marine color guard. - M. Tarling

## **REUNION SNAPSHOTS!**



Carl and Ann Ashworth, 339<sup>th</sup>'s answer to Nelson Eddie and Janet McDonald. - M. Tarling



Warren And Gladys Olsen (ORD) ask them about hurricanes! - M. Tarling



Left - Frank Swinand, armorer 505<sup>th</sup> FS and wife Sunny, they have no hurricanes! Just Forest Fires, Mud Slides, Earth Quakes and Hollywood! - M. Tarling



# REUNION SNAPSHOTS!



**THE 339<sup>th</sup> FIGHTER GROUP**

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WWII '44 – 45' FOWLMERE ENGLAND  
659 ENEMY AIRPLANES DESTROYED  
CO MAJ. GEN. (COL) JOHN B. HENRY, Jr.

Joyce Eiswald had this banner made and it hung over our tent at the Air Show!

- Photo R. Armstrong



Bill Bryan and Sharron Clark enjoy the fine weather at the Show!  
- Bill Clark, Jr.



339<sup>th</sup>'s Tent at Miramar, that's our CO John Henry standing at the left!  
- S. Clark



L-R Dave Williams, Susan Gibbs, "Dutch" Eisenhart, Louise Higbee and Jeffrey Williams at our Banquet Dinner! Great Food!  
- M. Tarling

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# MORE SNAPSHOTS - - -



L-R Bob Frisch, 503rd pilot, "Dutch" Eisenhart, 504th pilot and Dave William, son of Red Cross Director Mary Kopius Williams!  
- S. Clark



On the Right reading from L-R Jim Davidson, 503rd Armament superintendent, Bill Bryan III, son of 503<sup>rd</sup>'s Operations Officer and his wife Karen.  
- M. Tarling



Larry Powell and his Crew Chief "Bud" Martin both 505<sup>th</sup> FS. Ever figure out "Who does the plane belong to?" - R. Armstrong



Jim Stanes' Crew Chief Gabe Cutri 505<sup>th</sup> FS and Gabe's wife Neva. Gabe says, "It was MY plane - and Jim Starnes was MY pilot!"  
- M. Tarling



# Editor's Corner

## Our "CO" bids us Farewell!

By Steve Ananian, editor, *pilot 505<sup>th</sup>*



From France we hear that the ceremony in the memory of 505<sup>th</sup> pilot Joseph Sawicki will take place on June 24, 2007, in Princé (See March '06 NL). Further details as I receive them.

At our banquet dinner on Sunday, John Henry shocked us in parting. He announced to those assembled that he was aging (now 90); he was hurting from illnesses brought on by his age and questioned if he would be able to be with us next year at our reunion. - He was giving us his "Farewell Address"!

I guess we were shocked because he and Maxine looked so great! That announcement by John changed the location for our next reunion. "If Mohamed could not go to the mountain the mountain would go to Mohamed." I felt we should be going to San Antonio next year, not Cincinnati! There was little time to make any changes at the Reunion. Everyone was leaving or had left!

We had selected Ohio to see "the Gathering of Mustangs" at Eddie Rickenbacker Field in Columbus Ohio next year for our reunion. "Stallion 51" from Kissimmee Florida has again planned for an Air Show at Columbus, with 100 mustangs attending! However Columbus is not readily accessible for Airlines so we had to go to Cincinnati for our reunion and set a day aside to take a one hour bus ride to Columbus to see the Mustangs. What if it rained that day? All our plans would go up in smoke. I really felt it was too risky for our Group. Besides we had just attended an Air Show in Miramar under super conditions! The walking in Columbus would have been too much even for the hearty members of the 339<sup>th</sup>!

I contacted the Board of Directors and Past Presidents and asked their permission to make the change. They all agreed with the decision! There is much to be seen in San Antonio and everyone raved about the visit last time. We will time our reunion so that the dates do not conflict with "the Gathering of Mustangs", for those wishing to attend both events.

Always dependable, Francis Gerard wrote me, "Dear Steve, Ready to go to the Mountain! It's a "no brainer". All of us would do our utmost for General Henry and Maxine. My mind is willing to go to San Antonio--but we will see about the body."

Change your schedules - we are going to San Antonio next year - not Cincinnati!

Can just taste that Mexican Soup and those tall Margaritas! 

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## 2006 DUES ARE DUE!

Your \$10 (tax-deductible) dues cover the cost of this newsletter.  
Newsletter Circulation – 466 – (431 USA, 35 Overseas)

# We mourn the loss - - -



## Deceased

**Louis A. Krausman, Jr.** 505<sup>th</sup> (Corporal), Passed away on August 24<sup>th</sup> 2006 - obituary from the Des Moines Register.

*"It seems to me if a guy that thought 'enuf of his service connection to arrange to have it mentioned in his obituary his comrades should know."*  
- Jack Templeton, 5<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. Vet. WW2



**George Jennings Johnstone**, Pilot 503<sup>rd</sup> FS, Passed away on October 1, 2006. George began his love of flying at the age of 10 when he took his first airplane ride at an air show in Birmingham, AL. My mother, Doris, survives him. He attended some of the stateside reunions. -Nancy Serne, daughter

Our condolences to all the families - - -



## The Mail Bag

I received this Email from the son of a Spitfire pilot in "Air Sea Rescue" that searched for me when I went down in the North Sea sixty-one years ago!

*Steve,*  
*Just stumbled across your name on Peter Randall's site, amazed to find the 278 Squadron ORB being reproduced and even more amazed to read my dad was one of the Spitfire pilots who were part of your rescue. On Peter's site F/S Howard Ferguson "Hugh" Murland, (my Dad), was flying with Vic Vickery on that sortie from Martlesham Heath in Suffolk. I have some pictures of the 278 Squadron Spitfires and at least one of the actual Spitfire that was flown on that sortie. Take care, Jerry Murland*

I am sorry to hear your father is no longer alive. I owed him much! *STEVE*



10/21/06



F/S "Hugh" Murland stands in front of Spitfire he flew that day and photo above, in cockpit.

I received the following from Rachel Preddy Harris, sister of 503<sup>rd</sup>'s Bill Preddy, who was killed in action (KIA) -

*Dear Stephen,*  
*My cousin, Joe Noah, sent your newsletter to me. - - - - We certainly waited decades to learn some of the facts about my brother Bill's accident. As heartbreaking as it is, it does offer some closure. I appreciate Hans Gurlach informing us. Bill's life was cut so short, as were so many others at that time. - - - -*

10/23/06

*I sent an email to Hans Gerlach to express my gratitude for the tenacious manner in which he researched the identity of my brother Bill and also asked him to graciously thank his father for assisting in the effort to save him.*

*I want to thank you for conveying the gratitude to them on behalf of us all. I'm sure it is meaningful to them that we acknowledge their caring spirit. I was wondering if you were in the 339<sup>th</sup> and if you knew Bill. The last time I saw Bill was when he was at home on leave in December before leaving for Europe in January 1945.- - -*

*Thanks for offering to send me the newsletter. I would like that very much. I am receiving the one from my brother George's 352nd FG. I have visited the Eighth Air Force Museum near Savannah and am always interested in all pertaining to pilots. The names of George and Bill are on the wall in the garden and there are several displays inside concerning them. You have probably been there. Thank you so much*

*Best regards, Rachel*

It is comforting to know that Bill was nursed and cared for at the very end! We have added Rachel's name to our list of members. STEVE



Steve Finnigan, reader and Curator of US Navy Submarine Force Museum in Groton, CT writes: -

*Dear Steve*

*8/29/06*

*Just got the 339th newsletter, nice little story "out of the blue" from German family on Bill Preddy..*

*I see the bomber pilot lost while attempting transition to p51 is here from nearby RI...and a deceased pilots' wife lives here in town!!*

*Seems a lot of folks from 339th around here.*

*Shame on the mix up of things for Gilberts items at 8thAF museum. I would have recommended perhaps another 8th AF museum...or a nice display at the Providence airport. It's a small but busy regional comm. aviation (SouthWest).. and just completed new renovation. They always have some kind of exhibits going on there...artists to companies that work in Rhode Island.. now if we could just squeeze in a P47 there.....like they have done with the Wildcat at Chicago airport in honor of O'Hare.... still, at least something like Gilbert being rather unusual and a native son to RI more people would see it than in a VFW..... at least they went to the family*

*Cheers all. S. Finnigan*



Grandson of Sgt. William H Mangan 503<sup>rd</sup> mechanic writes from England:-.

*Dear Steve,*

*11/2/06*

*Just a quick note to show my appreciation for your help in tracking down my Grandfather's footsteps in Fowlmere. Today, a casual passer-by could look over those tranquil farmlands and never know they were once home to so many young men during such perilous times. Perhaps that's as much a part of your generation's legacy to ours as the memorials. Please accept the enclosed donation to keep up the 339<sup>th</sup> FGA's good work.*

*Yours Sincerely, Jeff Costello-McFeat.*

Thank you and welcome to your grandfather's group Jeff! STEVE



I just received the following Email from France – dated 11/18/06

*I would like to inform you that the ceremony in the memory of Joseph Sawicki will take place on June 24, 2007 in Princé. Details and official invitations will be sent to you in due time by the municipality of Princé. Francis Maigné*

Thank you Francis for that information. See March 2006 for story. 

## Roster Updates

Make the following changes to your new mailing list: -

**Change: -Holloway, John G., 505<sup>th</sup> – Pilot,**

22148 Montgomery Rd., Sonora, CA. 95370-9657

**Mildred Mansfield, 505 - Widow of medical NCO**

765 State Route 49, Cleveland, NY 13042-2199

**Frank Knapp, Jr., 504<sup>th</sup> Son of pilot,**

9547 Fall Pass Street, San Antonio TX 78251-4357

**George Thomas Rich, 505<sup>th</sup> Pilot,**

2590 Elms Plantation Blvd., Charleston, SC 29406-9164

**Henry Kanner, 505<sup>th</sup> - Mail Clerk,**

4159 Woods Edge Circle Apt. D, Riviera Beach, FL 33410-6489

**Thompson, Ralph, 504<sup>th</sup> – pilot**

2101 Marylyn Circle, Petaluma, CA 94954-1807

**Add: -Vernon, Shaye F., 504<sup>th</sup> – Daughter of Dale Fitzgerald, Communications,**

1803 E 350 No., St. Anthony, ID 83445

**Fitz-Allen, Seri, 504<sup>th</sup> – Daughter of Dale Fitzgerald, Communications,**

3163 E Hollyhock Hill, Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121

**Harris, Mrs. Rachel Preddy, 503<sup>rd</sup> Sister of pilot Bill Preddy,**

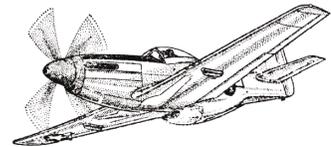
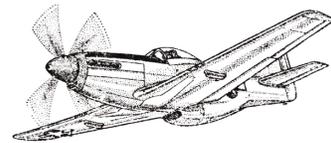
3850 Biggin Church Road, W., Jacksonville, FL 32224

**Papi, Joseph, 505<sup>th</sup> - Son of sheet metal maintenance Agamenone V. Papi.**

38 Mussey Road, Scarborough, ME 04074

**Delete: - Mrs. Warren Kuhnert, 505<sup>th</sup> Widow of engineering inspector. 504<sup>th</sup> –**

**Gertz, Earl, HQ – Gapinski, Aloysius V., ORD - Knighton, Ralph M., 505<sup>th</sup>.** 



### 339<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group Association Board of Directors

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Joyce Eiswald, Hospitality Room Coordinator

Stephen C. Ananian, Secretary and Editor- Phone (864) 288-2599

Email: - stephen.ananian@mindspring.com

December 1, 2006

# 2006 - Reunion Attendees -

<u>Overseas</u>	<u>Members</u>				
Harris,	John	UK	Henry, Jr.	John B.	CO
Harris,	Laurina	UK	Henry, Jr.	Maxine	CO
<u>Stateside</u>	<u>Members</u>		Higbee,	Louise	503
Allen,	Seri	504	Hroncich,	Margo	503
Ananian,	Isabel	505	Joe,	Dennis	503
Ananian,	Steve	505	Joe,	George	503
Armstrong,	Richard	505	Joe,	Jean	503
Ashworth,	Ann	505	Martin,	Bud	505
Ashworth,	Carl	505	McIlwain,	Kate	504
Auten,	Donald	USN	Miller,	Betty	505
Auten,	Katie	USN	Miller,	Ronald	505
Born,	Megan	504	Moore,	William	505
Bryan, III	Karen	503	Olsen,	Gladys	ORD
Bryan, III	Bill	503	Olsen,	Warren	ORD
Bryan, Jr	William E.	503	Pfister,	Irv	HQ
Clark, Jr.	William C.	HQ	Pfister,	Maryanne	HQ
Clark,	Dorothy	HQ	Poutre,	Rex	503
Clark, Jr.	Sharon	HQ	Powell,	Larry	505
Cutri,	Gabe	505	Puccio,	Cas	505
Cutri,	Neva	505	Puccio,	Valerie	505
Davidson,	James	503	Salsburry,	Caroline	504
Delisio,	James	503	Sams,	Gloria	503
Delisio,	Ruth	503	Sams,	Thomas	503
Eisenhart,	Lee	504	Stockman,	Hervey	504
Eiswald,	Joyce	HQ	Stockman,	Sally	504
Eiswald,	Larry	HQ	Stolte,	Aldo	503
Fitzgerald,	Virginia	504	Swinand,	Frank	505
Francis,	Luther	503	Swinand,	Sunny	505
Francis,	Betsy	503	Tarling,	Graham	505
Francis,	Bruce	503	Tarling,	Mike	505
French,	Beverly	503	Tarling,	Rachel	505
Frisch,	Robert	503	Tarling,	Teresa	505
Gerard,	Donald	503	Thieme,	Dick	505
Gibbs,	Susan	503	Thieme,	Emma	505
Graham,	Jerry	505	Vernon,	Shaye	504
Graham,	Mary	505	Wagner,	Casey	504
Graham,	Gregory	505	Wilke,	Cathie	505
Gresham,	Joan	HQ	Wilke,	Bill	505
Gresham,	Justin	HQ	Willard,	Ken	504
Grogan,	Dorothy	504	Willard,	Terri	504
Grogan,	Gail A.	504	Williams,	Dave	RC
Hamacek,	Diane	503	Williams,	Jeffrey	RC

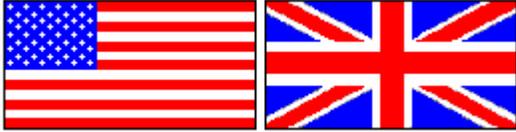
December 1, 2006

**339<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group Association, Inc.**

C/o Stephen C. Ananian  
4 North Orchard Farms Avenue  
Simpsonville, SC 29681-4866, USA



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*Season's Greetings*



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C/o S. C. Ananian  
4 North Orchard Farms Ave.  
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NAME \_\_\_\_\_

First Middle Last

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (if you wish) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_