

March 1, 2014

339th



Fighter Group Association

Station F378 – Fowlmere, England

NEWSLETTER

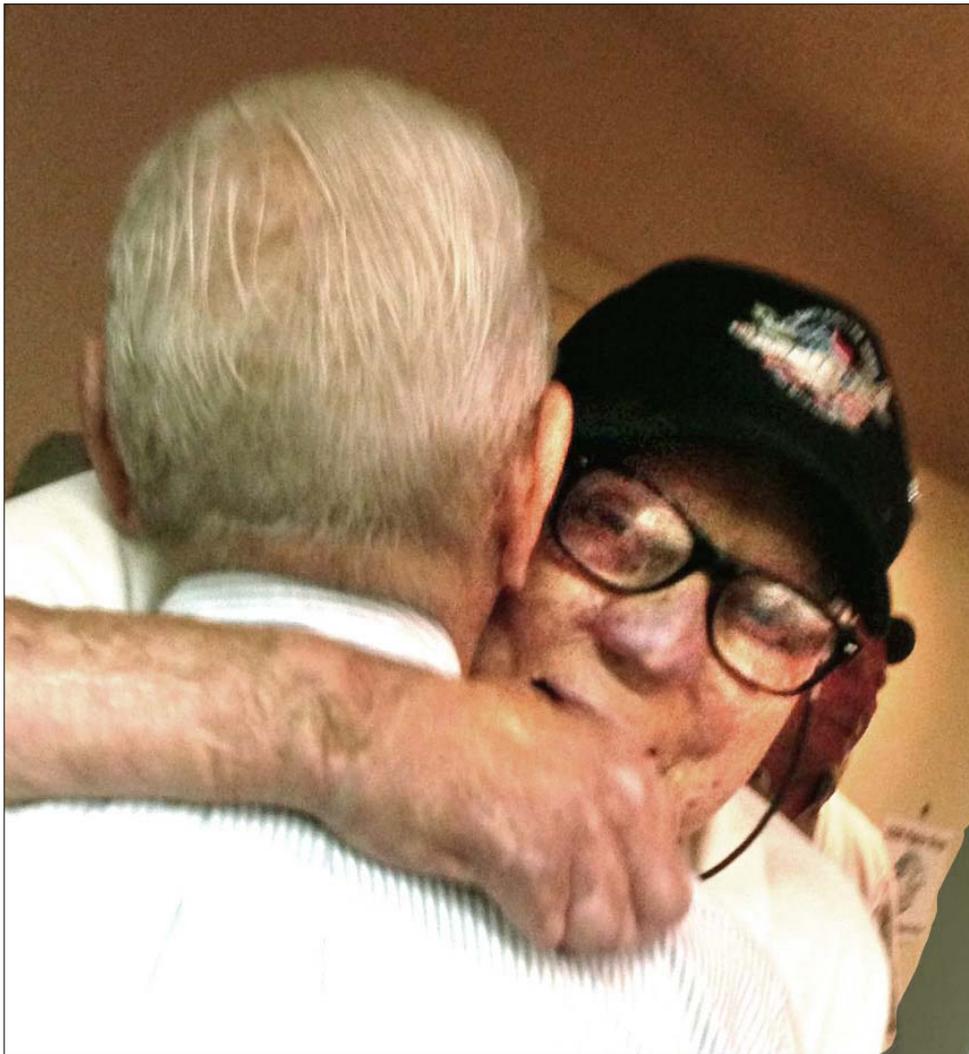
“The Lads from Fowlmere”



Volume 34, Issue 1

Editor: Stephen C. Ananian

Reunion In Milwaukee



Larry Powell greets Jerry Graham at our Reunion in Milwaukee after a nine year absence!
Photo Cathie Wilke

Where Old Friends Meet!

Story on next page

A Tribute To John Henry



Bill Clark Jr.

Photo Linda Moore

Another Great Reunion

By William Clark, Jr.

(Reunion Chairman)

The 2013 Reunion in Milwaukee turned out to be such a success that the Board of Directors and members present decided to do it again this year. The date is set for Sept. 25 - 29. This success came from the fact we were able to get nine of our veterans to attend and had a total attendance of 74. It was great to see Dick Thieme, our Treasurer and Jerry Graham again. In addition, there were a number of new people from the area that are now "Friends of the 339th".

We were especially fortunate to have Anne and Herb Bevelhymer attend following the passing of her father, our own CO, Maj. Gen. John Henry, just a few weeks before the reunion. Their attendance - - - and the reception they received from the membership at the Sunday Dinner reminded us all of what John Henry meant to this organization and each of us personally. It is the mark of a great man when the depth of his character is revealed more from the stories that are told about him rather than mere accolades. We heard a lot of stories at the dinner honoring John Henry and they were all inspiring.

The Reunion started with two bus tours, the first being a "City Tour" on Friday. That tour gave us a feeling for the history of the city and the blending of cultures that have made it into such a major industrial powerhouse. Our tour guide was a local girl who really knew her stuff and we all enjoyed eating at the German restaurant,



Anne and Herb Bevelhymer at Sunday Dinner

Photo Linda Moore

Continued next page



Bill Clark on the extreme right thanks Chuck Greenhill on his right and fellow pilots for their performance and presents Chuck, our host with a Certificate of Gratitude from the 339th FGA. *Photo Linda Moore*

"Marders" where we had a tasty lunch. We saw the art museum, many breweries past and present, - - - where "Harley" Motor Cycle engines are assembled, and the home of the "Milwaukee Brewers" baseball team.

The Milwaukee cheese and sausage were fantastic and the locals were warm and friendly. It was a great tour and gave us a very positive inside look at the city and the people that live there.

Our second bus ride was on the next day, Saturday where we went south a few miles to the Kenosha City Airport and visited the hanger of a gentleman by the name of Chuck Greenhill who just so happens to own a few airplanes including two P-51 Mustangs. He graciously hosted our whole group and was joined by Mike George with his P-51 "Worrybird", Greg Vallero with his AT-6, two local pilots with their Stearmans, and Mike Scimone with his Italian built Marchetti SF.300 (a NATO Fighter-Trainer). They all put on a great air show and many of us were able to get a ride as well.



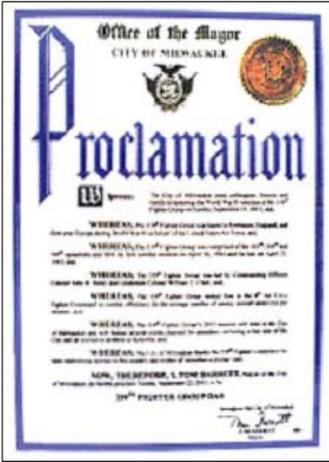
Bill and Cathie Wilke at the Banquet Dinner *Photo Linda Moore*

Food was kindly donated by Teresa and Mike Tarling (Jerry Graham's daughter and son-in-law) which was a welcome surprise, and we could have all stayed much longer. The good news is that Chuck invited us back for next year, and we want to do it all over again.

The Sunday banquet was one for the books, not because of the *Continued next page*

food, which was great, but because it was a testimony to our deceased Commander! The keynote speakers were the Fowlmere Veterans themselves who told of their personal experiences with John Henry. He was their commander 69 years ago at the most significant time in their lives, and their friend and compatriot for most of the years since as part of the 339th FG Association. This relationship of trust and respect endured the years and all were enriched and touched by his presence and integrity. General Henry was looking forward to being there with us in Milwaukee as he has been at nearly all our Reunions in the past.

We owe much of the success of this reunion to the efforts of Cathie Wilke and her husband Bill. Not only did she make the entire hotel, bus tour, and restaurant arrangements but she also took care of the small things such as having her husband, Bill run Sharon and I around for hospitality room provisions. Thanks so much Cathie and Bill. We are looking forward to doing the same next year.



Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett standing in rear, poses with 339th Veterans of Fowlmere in the hospitality suite of the hotel. L-R Edward Purzycki, Jerry Graham, Larry Powell, Bill Perry in rear, Dick Thieme, Steve Ananian, Bill MacClarence and Bill Moore. Bob Frisch, also at the Reunion, was not in photo.

Proclamation of the Mayor is shown in the upper Left Corner

Photo Linda Moore

Sunday, was proclaimed "339th Fighter Group Day" by Tom Barrett mayor of Milwaukee. The Mayor came to our Reunion on Sunday and met with our Veterans and presented them with the proclamation which read - "Whereas the City of Milwaukee thanks the members of the 339th Fighter Group for their meritorious service to this country and wishes all attendees a joyous visit: Now therefore Tom Barrett mayor of the city of Milwaukee, do hereby proclaim Sunday Sept 22, 2013 to be 339th Fighter Group Day." 

The John Henry I Knew

The Day We First Met

By Stephen C. Ananian,
Pilot 505th FS

The following speech was one of those given at our reunion as a tribute to our Commanding Officer and leader Maj. Gen. John Henry.

Oliver Wendell Holmes urged that "- - - we not ponder with sad thoughts the passing of our loved ones but rather ponder their legacy - the life they made possible for us by their commitment and pain."

Today we ponder the legacy of our leader, Maj. Gen. John B Henry Jr. a truly Great Man! An American Patriot!

A leader who I flew many missions with in combat, a leader, who we all respected, admired and loved!

I will never forget the first time I met John Henry.

I had just been assigned to the 339th Fighter Group as a "replacement pilot" and it was the first time I flew a P-51 Mustang fighter!

It was at Fowlmere in England!

Capt. Archie Tower was the 505th Operations Officer. After "checking me out" while I sat seated in the cockpit of a Mustang, he said, "OK kid! Take this Bird up and wring it out! Show me how you can fly! Fly around for about an hour or so and bring it back! I'll be up in the Control Tower in case you have any questions! - - - Good Luck kid!"

I taxied to the end of the Runway and was cleared for takeoff by Archie who was now sitting up in the Control Tower!

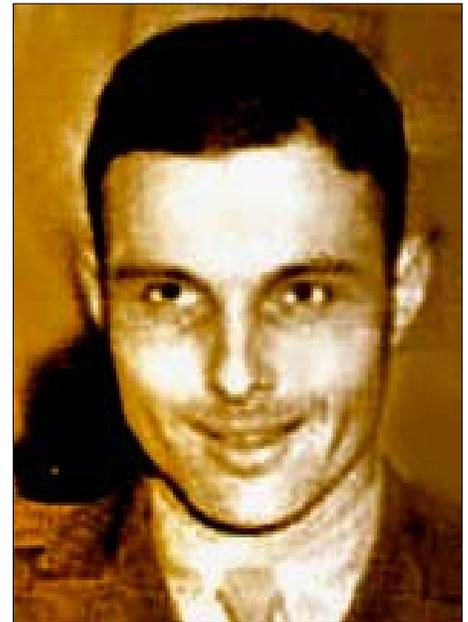
I "poured on the coal" and eased that beautiful bird into the blue!

I flew that plane and "wring it out"!

I did spins, stalls, snap rolls, slow rolls, barrel rolls, Immelman turns, loops, "Cuban Eights" and all that stuff while Archie sat in the tower and watched.

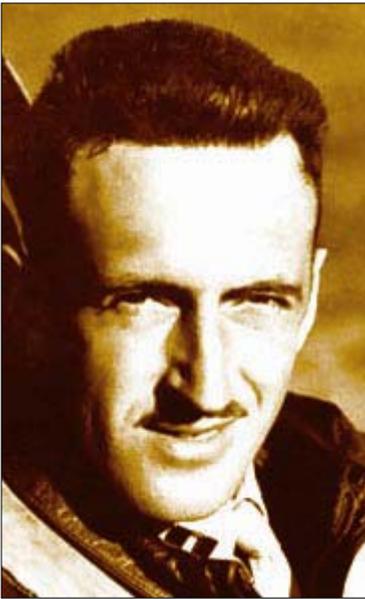
What a beautiful airplane! - - - I was in love!

An hour later, as instructed, I came in for my landing with the normal "three-sixty overhead approach". As I flew by the Tower I did a slow-roll "on the deck" and pulled it up and around to make the softest landing ever. What I did just then was a "No-No!" It was forbidden! A slow-roll at low altitude is a very dangerous stunt. In the RAF it is considered a Court Martial Offense! They had lost too many pilots attempting that stunt! But I was in love with this beautiful bird and - - After all - - Archie did ask me to "wring it out" and show him how I could fly!



Lt. Col. John B. Henry, CO
of the 339th Fighter Group at
Fowlmere in England

Continued next page



505th FS Operations Officer
Capt. Archie Tower

Upon my landing, Capt. Tower pulled up to my parked plane in his Jeep. His face had a "put-on" look of sternness, but I could see he was pleased! He said, "You're in trouble kid! (He always called me Kid!) The CO was up in the tower with me and he saw that slow roll."

That night, at the Officer's Club, I, the "New Replacement Pilot", was standing at the bar getting to meet the men in the outfit - - - and "downing a few pints".

There was some discussion as to my fate by some.

Capt. "O. P." Farmer told me about the time he was court-martialed by Col. Henry in the States for "dog-fighting" with a Marine student pilot contrary to strict orders not to!

"O.P." was court martialed and fined \$100.

I had performed a "roll" on the "deck" and broken the rules.

We were awaiting the outcome of my disregard for regulations. A slow roll over the field was only permitted as a sign of victory after a pilot had destroyed an enemy aircraft.

Capt. Archie Tower was sitting at the bar about three feet from me. He had a peculiar smile on his face anticipating my pending discipline by the Boss, Col. Henry!

Then our Commanding Officer, Col. John Henry, came into the club and passed just behind me. John took a few steps past me then slowly turned around and came back. He said, "You are Lt. Ananian aren't you? Let me welcome you to the Group! If there is anything I can do to be of assistance, the door to my office is always open, feel free to come by."

He turned away - - - and then came back and said, "By the way I saw that roll - - - it wasn't too hot!" He then turned and walked away - - - smiling.

The smile on Archie's face dropped!

I knew I had performed a perfect slow roll, but that was all the discipline I was going to get? I was elated! Not because I had not been Court Martialed or "chewed out" - - - but because this was the kind of outfit I wanted to be a part of! This was a **Real Fighter Group!**

John Henry and I became the best of friends within the constraints of rank and that persisted to the very end.

He was a great leader and I was proud to serve under his command!

The 339th Fighter Group broke all records and it was that sense of pride that he developed in us that put the 339th up there as one of the top-scoring Groups of the 8th Air Force! He served in the United States Air Force for thirty-five years in many positions of authority but he was proudest always of **His 339th Fighter Group!**

He said, "Those are my boys," when he heard we had destroyed **291** enemy aircraft in three successive assaults on April 10, 16 and 17 of 1945!

Lucky us!

How fortunate and proud we were to have known and fought with him!



Annual Report of the President / Secretary / Editor

By Stephen C. Ananian,
President, Secretary, Editor 339th FGA



Stephen C. Ananian

In spite of the unfortunate loss of our Commanding Officer the 339th FGA is still around, active and in good spirits!

The year started out with a five-page "lead article" in **Aeroplane Magazine** (Jan 2013) whose editor is a friend of the 339th, Jarrod Cotter. The article entitiled "**The 339th Versus the Jets**"! was authored by your president and featured a double-page oil painting of 339th Mustangs engaging German Jet Fighters in an Air battle by aviation artist, Timothy O'Brien. The highly coveted original oil painting was then offered as a prize to one of the magazine's readers in a contest!

We also were active in getting the story published on 15 Feb. 2013 in a German newspaper of the senseless cold-blooded murder of 505th pilot Major John R. Reynolds! Major Reynolds was killed by two civilian Nazi activists after he had "bailed out" of his badly damaged aircraft. He was injured from his low-altitude parachute jump and had been captured and was a defenseless POW.

After the war, the two Nazi cowards were tried for murder, found guilty and executed, They were hung by The Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal. I was able to contact Major Reynolds' son who was now 70 years old and living on "assisted living" in San Antonio. I was able to tell him how his father had died and sent him a copy of the June Newsletter with the complete story of the cruel, senseless, cold-blooded murder of an injured, defenseless prisoner of war!

More recently, we have been working with the Imperial War Museum in Duxford, England. The American Air Museum has a "Mini Exhibit" about the Americans in England during WWII and includes a photo and story of the 339th FG at Fowlmere. The exhibit features a photo donated by the Eighth Air Force Historian, Roger Freeman's widow of your Group President dressed as "Runway Control Officer" and my story about the way we "Took Off" on missions during the War, from the grass air-field at Fowlmere.



Above, the article in German Newspaper on 505th pilot Maj. Reynold's capture and murder

Since our last report we have been *Continued next page*



The 339th versus the Jets

Former 339th Fighter Group North American P-51D Mustang pilot **STEPHEN C. ANANIAN** was in five separate encounters with Messerschmitt Me 262s and is credited with having destroyed one and damaging two others of the dozen jets that the 339th officially shot down. He recounts his experiences of flying a piston-engined fighter in combat against a jet

"Twelve of theirs to four of ours are pretty good odds, considering they were supposedly invincible!"

Above: A painting by TIM O'BRIEN GAVa (www.timobrienart.co.uk) depicting a Messerschmitt Me 262 diving through a USAF B-17 Flying Fortress bomber formation, and being pursued by a pair of P-51 Mustangs of the 339th Fighter Group. Turn to page 48 for your chance to win the original.

A recent 339th Fighter Group reunion in Nashville, Tennessee, USA, while partaking of a few pints with former 505th Fighter Sqn (FS) pilot Leroy Steiger, we were reminiscing about some of our encounters with the German jets. We were discussing in particular the mission on April 4, 1945 when Capt Harry Corey (505th) downed a Messerschmitt Me 262. Both Lt Steiger and I took part in that engagement. Leroy was behind Harry, protecting his tail, when a piece of the disintegrating jet smashed Leroy's canopy and ripped the goggles from his head! Fortunately he was able to return and land his damaged bird without injury to himself. He said that no one believed him when he told them the only enemy aircraft he fought were jets and suggested I write a piece about our experiences. This then is that story as I experienced it. German pilots called the Me 262 the "Swallow" because of its bird-like appearance in flight. Although I personally thought they should be called vultures rather than the poor little swallow!

The 339th was fairly successful in combating the German Me 262s. The Group was credited with having destroyed 12 (unofficially 13) jet-propelled fighters, making it the second highest scoring Fighter Group in the Eighth Air Force for the destruction of jets. One of our pilots, Capt Nile C. Greer of the 504th FS, even distinguished himself by destroying one and a half Me 262s. Unfortunately, four of our pilots were shot down by Me 262s when they were bounced from behind by these high-speed aircraft (560 m.p.h.). None of the unfortunate pilots recall seeing the "Swallow" that downed them. They never

18 AEROPLANE JANUARY 2013 19 TIMOTHY O'BRIEN 2012

Shown above is the "Double-page spread". These are the first two pages of the 339th five page article in the January 2013 issue of *Aeroplane Magazine*.

working on ways to cut costs. It was felt by me, that a good portion of our distribution of 627 Newsletters were being mailed to members that were no longer alive or interested. I decided to update our mailing list, by asking our readers to fill out a form printed on the back-page of the Newsletters during the last year indicating the reader's preference in receiving the newsletter and mailing their requests to the Editor!

I am pleased to inform you that we received about 412 responses from our readers. Of these, 181 requests were for the printed version in the USA and 24 from readers overseas. In addition there were 206 requests for the full color Email version! (183 USA - 24 OS). This is a one-third reduction of our distribution and therefore a highly desired reduction of printing and mailing costs. Although at this writing, the postal rates have once again changed with a four cent increase. Postage cost is 70 cents in the U.S.A. for our Newsletter and \$2.13 for our overseas mailing. I feel our present distribution is quite accurate and is now mailed to readers desiring to read the Newsletter! Unfortunately a few of our readers, due to old-age and poor health may have neglected to respond as yet and will not receive the newsletter but I hope they will eventually realize the situation and will

Continued next page

write us, asking that we resume delivery and that they will be receiving the newsletter in the future!

Of great importance to us are our overseas readers! These are the loyal individuals that attend our Memorial Day Services at Madingley and other Military Cemeteries year after year. Our Newsletter and Web site, helps in spreading the word and makes them aware of our existence and the battles fought and records set by the men of the 339th Fighter Group during WWII.

During the year, we sent out many letters responding to requests from authors, relatives, historians and friends of the 339th Fighter Group Association. In addition, we mail out



Bill Jaaskelainen
Webmaster of the 339th

"Sympathy Cards" to families of the deceased. Families of deceased Veterans of Fowlmere are sent a card with "The Missing Man Formation" on it. This is a practice that was originated 35 years ago by Jim Starnes and I naturally, have continued doing it.

Our Treasurer Richard Thieme continues monitoring our finances and helping to guide me in many decisions. This in spite of his personal health problems! His Annual Treasurer's Report is on page 13. Thank you Dick for all that you do!

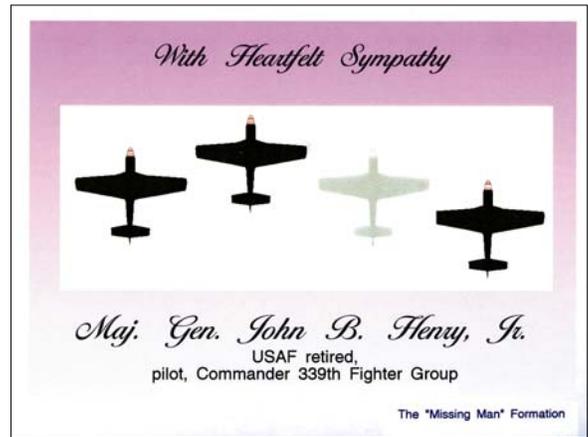
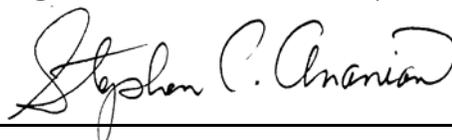
Bill Clark is, as always, there to run our Reunions and helps me constantly. Our thanks go also to Bill Jaaskelainen who runs our web site on the Internet! He also manages and maintains a library of our combat films. His site is responsible for helping families and people in general, learn about the existence of our Association and give the story of our accomplishments during WWII. Also Special thanks to

Cathie and Bill Wilke for their efforts on our behalf in giving us another great reunion! We are indebted to you all! To our friends of the 339th, the pilots that fly their aircraft to our reunions for us to enjoy. To Greg Vallero Michael Scione, Mike George, Chuck Greenhill, Pete Spear and the other PT-17 pilot who displayed their aircraft for us at great personal expense so that we can recall and enjoy what it was like flying these beautiful "Birds". You all have our undying gratitude!

Thank you also to Martin Sheldrick, our "Wreath Bearer" who donates a wreath every year in memory of our fallen comrades and represents us at the Memorial Day Services at Madingley. Thanks to all our overseas friends! We are so fortunate to have such friends!

With that expression of gratitude I conclude my annual report - - - so until next year!

♪♪ Blue Skies ♪♪"



"Missing Man Formation" Condolence Card that is mailed to our deceased Veterans of Fowlmere.

Our Own Air Show



Chuck Greenhill our generous host.
Photo Linda Moore



Above Chuck Greenhill in his P-51 "Geraldine" takes off to put on a great Show for the 339th FGA
Photo Bill Clark



Greg Vallero takes off with Amy Ananian for a ride in his AT-6. They will fly in formation alongside her grandfather; Steve Ananian Steve is flying as a passenger in Mike Scione's Marchetti sf.300.
Photo Linda Moore



Above, AT-6 owner and pilot Greg Vallero



Michael George flew to Milwaukee Reunion in his P-51 "Worry Bird" with the markings of 339th pilot Bob Frisch, just for our Air Show! That's Mike, wearing sun glasses and smiling on the left in *photo by Mike Ullery.*

More Photos

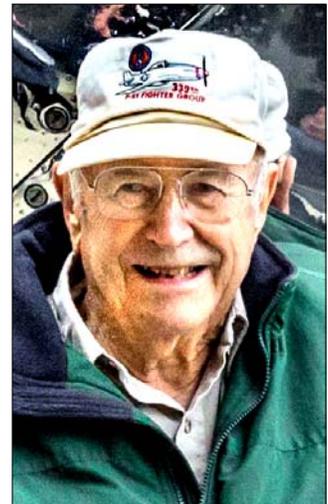


Friend of the 339th, Mike Scione seen on the left flew his Marchetti sf.300 to attend our reunion in Milwaukee with Greg Vallero to take part in our Air Show.
Photo John Roach



Mike George flew his P-51 with markings of the aircraft of 339th FG pilot Bob Frisch who is seen on right. Mike flew in just for our Air Show and to show Bob his name painted on the canopy of Worry Bird.

Photo Linda Moore



Sixty-Fifth Wedding Anniversary!



Emma and Dick Thieme celebrated their 65th wedding Anniversary with their family at our Reunion Banquet. L-R back Tom, Dick, Jack and Ted Thieme. In the front Emma, Jeanne, Judy and Candy Thieme.
Photo by Thieme

Two More Families Were There



William MacClarence and family from L-R are son-in-law James Bashford, Gillian Bashford, Sean Bashford, Talichia Bashford, Michael Bashford, Bill MacClarence and Tom MacClarence.

Photo Linda Moore



Jerry and Mary Graham were there with their family also. Standing L-R Jack Verhill, Theresa Graham, Graham Tarling, Bill Wilke and Cathie Wilke. Seated L-R Greg Graham, Mary Graham, Ryan Wilke, Jerry Graham, Melinda Wilke and baby Reid Wilke. Jerry is elated! He is seated in front of his daughter with his granddaughter and great grandson on his right. How fortunate is he?

Photo Linda Moore



Dues for 2014 are still only \$10

Newsletter Circulation is 412 – USA 181+ (183 Email), Overseas 24+ (24 Email)

Treasurer's Annual Report



Richard G Thieme

**339th FIGHTER GROUP ASSOCIATION
TREASURER'S REPORT
(Period 1 Jan thru 31 Dec 2013)**

INCOME FOR THE PERIOD

Dues	\$850.00
Donations	2,373.00
Memorials	100.00
DVD Sales	120.00
Pin Sales	515.00
Cap Sales	275.00
Reunion Income	6,177.00
Hotel Refund	145.42
Interest	19.55
	<u>\$10,574.97</u>

EXPENSES FOR THE PERIOD

Henry Reunion Refund	\$510.00
Olander Meal Refund	70.00
Tour Bus	2,000.00
Best Western	2,529.53
State of Florida (Corp. Fee)	61.25
Newsletter Account	3,500.00
Postage	18.20
Caps	304.00
Hospitality Supplies	<u>696.92</u>
	\$9,689.90

SUMMARY

Income	\$10,574.97
Expenses	<u>9,690.90</u>
Gain	\$885.07

Cash Balance as of 1 January 2013	\$19,630.30
Gain for the period	<u>885.07</u>
Cash Balance as of 31 December 2013	\$20,515.37

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

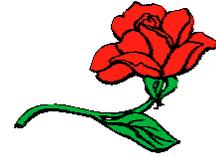
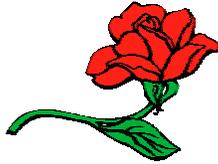
Checking Account	\$846.70
Money Market	<u>19,670.42</u>
	\$20,515.37

Richard G Thieme

Richard G. "Dick" Thieme
Treasurer



We mourn our loss - - -



DECEASED:-

Bradford V. Stevens

Leonard A. Kunz

Bradford V. Stevens, 504th pilot, 97 years old, passed away on July 1st 2012 at Good Samaritan Assisted Living Center in Idaho Falls. Brad was the pilot of recently reconstructed P-51 "Marinell" by Maurice Hammond in England.
- *Mary Shuffleton* -

Leonard Albert Kunz, 504th pilot passed away peacefully on September 25, 2013. Len is survived by his wife Nora and two daughters, and sons-in-law, Barbara and Ron Hack of Sunset Hills and Nancy and Jeff Winston of Portland, OR, and four grandchildren, Christopher and Jessica Hack and Jeremy and Jacob Winston. - *Nora Kunz, wife* -

Our condolences go to all the families on their loss. 

In Memoriam

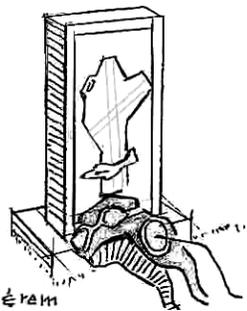
The following have donated monies in memory of their loved ones:-

Plaque donated in memory of 505th pilot Jim & Mary Woolery at the National Air & Space Museum by son-in-law and daughter, Jim and Sue Schier (page 17)

\$200 in memory of 505th pilot Robert H. Paul by his son.

\$50 in memory of William Preddy, 503rd pilot by the Preddy Memorial Foundation.

\$50 In memory of 503rd pilot William Stockton by his cousin Ray D. Stockton



Thank you for your generous donations! 

Donations

\$100, James Bashford, \$100 Mike George, \$60 Richard Thieme, \$50 Harold Thomas, \$30 Richard Keyishian, \$40 Jack Verhil, \$30 Edward Purzycki

Thanks to Teresa and Mike Tarling for donating the Lunch served at the Air Show!

Thank you all for your generous donations! 



The Mail Bag

I received the following E mail from a friend in France that is grateful to the American soldiers that fought to liberate France in WWII:-



2nd Lt. Myer Winkelman, pilot 504th FS, KIA.



Myer Winkelman's grave

Hello,

1/4/2014

I am the godfather of the grave in Epinal cemetery, of Myer Winkelman, dead the 13 August 1944.

Three or four times a year, I decorate with flowers his grave.

I am very grateful for our liberators.

I you sending a photo of the place of Myer

Thank you for everything

Francis

Hello,

Thank you Francis for your kindness, Lt. Winkelman was strafing targets North of Paris when he was believed to have been shot down by Anti Aircraft Fire. He was flying Capt. Stevens plane "Marinell" at the time. That plane was recently restored by Maurice Hammond (see page 14 & Vol. 28 #1).

We also note the passing of Capt. Stevens in this issue.

Continued next page



**Our good friend, owner of Manor Farms and our Air Field in England,
Martin Sheldrick Writes:-**

Hello Steve

12/8/13

I have just received the latest newsletter that contains wonderful tributes to a great man.

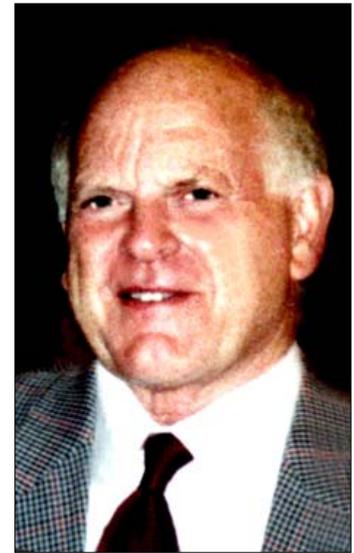
All the eulogies to John B Henry have something in common - they paint a picture of a man who was essentially modest, fair and gentle yet had the ability to inspire those under his command.

I met John on three occasions - here at Fowlmere in 1986 for the Group's memorial dedication, and again at Fowlmere in 1994 when the Group visited to commemorate the 50th anniversary of their first combat mission. In 2003 I attended the 339th reunion at Nashville.

My own abiding memory of John is a man of the utmost courtesy and consideration for others. His name is synonymous with the 339th Fighter Group.

Kind regards Martin.

PS Thank you Steve for giving Mark Donagain a mention in the newsletter. Mark takes great interest in all things connected with Fowlmere Airfield and makes sure that your memorial is in good shape.



Martin Sheldrick

Thank you Martin for your very kind words, how fortunate we were to have known him!



I received this Email, a "carbon copy" of one sent to John Henry's daughter Anne Bevelhymer by Kevin White, Producer of the TV documentary entitled "Freedoms Desert". It tells of The Army's activities during WWII in the deserts of California and of the 339th's tour of duty at Rice Field!

Anne, I just read Steve Ananian's latest issue of the 339th Newsletter, and I found it a very moving tribute to your father.

Your brother's article did such a nice job of giving us a sense of your father. He mentioned the word Integrity, which certainly resonated with me in describing your father. In the very brief time I spent with your father, I quickly realized I was in the presence of a principled individual who embodied honesty, thoughtful leadership, and dedication to country and family. I find these qualities becoming increasingly endangered, and I just want to tell you again what an honor it was to spend time with him and your family.

Thank you.

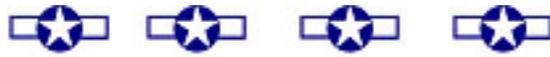
My best to Herb. I hope you and family are well.

With gratitude,

Kevin White, Producer/Director – Principal

Thank you Kevin for all you have done for us.

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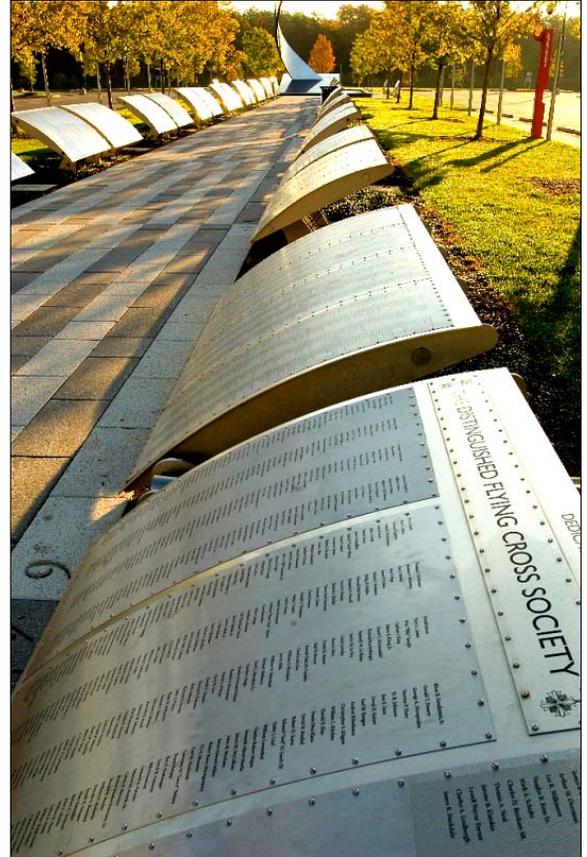


Some of you may remember, Jim Woolery, 505th pilot's son-in-law Jim Schier. He was the Docent (guide) in the Smithsonian Museum, Jim Emails us:-

Steve: We've met but you won't remember me. I'm the husband of Sue Schier (nee Woolery), daughter of Jim & Pepper Woolery. About 9 years ago when the 339th had its reunion in DC, you visited the Udvar-Hazy Center. I was one of the docents giving tours that day. We've kept our membership in the Association and I still get to explain WWII artifacts and history to visitors every week. Recently, the National Air & Space Museum (of which Udvar-Hazy Center is part) gave out some awards for the volunteer work that the docents do. I was lucky & won a plaque on the Wall of Honor at Udvar-Hazy. You can see what it looks like at their web site:

<http://airandspace.si.edu/support/wall-of-honor/>

Sue & I made a donation to the museum to put Jim Woolery on the Wall for his 80th birthday. Now I would like to donate the spot that I won to recognize the 339th Fighter Group and honor your service to our country. If this is acceptable to the Association, we need to decide the exact wording to be put on the plaque. They only allow 30 characters (see the attached form). I suggest something like "339th Fighter Group", "339th Fighter Group Assoc." or "8th AF 339th Fighter Group" but you can decide or poll the members to see what you actually want on the plaque. Please let me know how you want to proceed.



Wall of Honor

Honoring the 339th, Jim Schier

The name "339th Fighter Group 8th AF" is now on the "Wall of Honor", thanks to Jim and Sue Schier.



New 339th Fighter Group Lapel Pins



Actual size!

This silver plated four-colored Cloisonné lapel pin is a thing of beauty! It is a larger 1½ inch wide version of our previous lapel pin but has a bas relief sculptured P-51 on it! These pins were designed and donated by Pat Gousie in memory of her father, 505th pilot Roland Gousie. The price is only \$20 which includes shipping. Fill out the form on the last page and mail with a check to the return address on the back of this newsletter.

Roster Updates

Make the following additions or changes to your new mailing list: -

Change: -

Gregory Arabian, *Friend of the 339th FGA-*

22 Homer Road, Belmont MA 02478-2312

Robert C. Paul, *505th - son of pilot*

4540 Center Blvd #2604, Long Island City, NY 11109



Add: -

Deborah Maffucci, *504th Daughter of Tech/Sgt George Smith*

947 Crooked Road, Bar Harbor, ME 04609

Delete: -

Edwin Lejeune, Newsletter returned "Unable to Forward"

339th Fighter Group Association Board of Directors

Stephen C. Ananian *President & Secretary –*

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Sharon Clark, *Hospitality Room Coordinator*

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Stephenson, **Joseph L. Thury**

John B. Henry, *Past Commander -*

Newsletter Editor

Stephen C. Ananian - Phone (864) 288-2599

Email: - stephen.ananian@339fg.com

Linda Moore – Staff photographer

Bill Jaaskelainen – Webmaster and gun camera films archivist



We are on the Internet

339th Home page:- www.339thfg.com (*Bill Jaaskelainen*)
"Little Friends" at - www.littlefriends.co.uk (*Peter Randall*)

2013 Reunion Attendees-

Ananian, Amy	505	<u>Powell</u> <u>Larry</u>	<u>505</u>
<u>Ananian, Stephen</u>	<u>505</u>	<u>Purzycki, Edward</u>	<u>HQ</u>
Bashford, James	505	Roach, John	505
Bashford, Michael	505	Roach, Nancy	505
Bashford, Gillian	505	Roach, Tom	505
Bashford, Sean	505	Rosati, Deb	505
Bashford, Tilicia	505	Rosati, Jim	505
Benum, Bob	504	Rudolph, Bette	Frnd.
Benum, Carolyn	504	Rudolph, Jim	Frnd.
Bevelhymer, Anne	HQ	Rudolph, Warren	Frnd.
Bevelhymer, Herb	HQ	Tarling, Graham	505
Clark, Bill	HQ	Tarling, Michael	505
Clark, Sharon	HQ	Thieme, Candy	505
<u>Frisch, Robert</u>	<u>503</u>	Scimone, Mike	SF260
Gibbs, Susan	503	Spear, Pete	PT-17
George, Michael	P-51	<u>Thieme, Dick</u>	<u>505</u>
<u>Graham, Jerry</u>	<u>505</u>	Thieme, Emma	505
Graham, Gregory	505	Thieme, Jeanne	505
Graham, Mary	505	Thieme, John	505
Graham, Teresa	505	Thieme, Judy	505
Greenhill, Chuck	P-51	Thieme, Ted	505
Higbee, Louise	503	Thieme, Tom	505
Keeler, Arthur	Frnd.	Vallero, Greg	AT6
Knapp, Frank	504	Vallero, Vicki	AT6
<u>MacClarence, Bill</u>	<u>505</u>	Van Treeck, Cathie	505
MacClarence, Tom	505	Van Treeck, Terry	505
Marbach, Tressa	503	Verhil, Jack	505
Marcial, Gigi	HQ	Verhil, Lori	505
Moore, Linda	505	Ward, Doug	Frnd.
<u>Moore, William</u>	<u>505</u>	Wilke, Bill	505
Ohm, Judith	Frnd.	Wilke, Cathie	505
Olander, Donald	505	Wilke, Reid	505
Olander, Chris	505	Wilke, Ryan	505
Olander, Mike	505	Wilke, Melinda	505
Olander, Peggy	505		
Olander, Jennifer	505		
<u>Perry, Bill</u>	<u>503</u>		
Perry, Lova	503		
Piscacek, Debbie	Frnd.		
		Total Attendees	74
		Veterans of Fowlmere	9
		<i>The dark names underlined above</i>	<i>are the Veterans of Fowlmere</i>

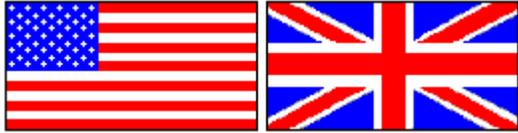


339th Fighter Group Association, Inc.

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



US
POSTAGE



To: -
Mailing Address

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



----- MAILING LIST UPDATE FORM -----

Have you paid your Dues for this year?

Check your name and address on the mailing label. Make certain it is correct. If not, fill out this form and mail to the return address above.

If you wish to pay dues or purchase lapel pins please use this form to do so.

Please send me _____ 339th Lapel Pins @ \$20 each (includes shipping charge)
(Number)

Make checks payable to the "339 FG Association".

Please send newsletters by conventional mail.

Please continue sending newsletters by E-mail – (My Email address is below)

Please accept my donation of \$10 for my annual dues for the 339th FGA. (Tax Exempt)

NAME _____

First Middle Last

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL address _____

PHONE (if you wish) _____