

JULY, 2004 Edition

Celebration of the 35th Anniversary of the 315th Airlift Wing

The 315th Airlift Wing is a reserve outfit that flies C-17 at Charleston AF Base, SC. They celebrated the 35th Anniversary of the 315th Airlift Wing on the 14th and 15th of May 2004. The old World War II 315th Troop Carrier Group Assn was invited as their guests! Leonard Thomas represented us at the celebration and was received with open arms. His weekend included golfing, touring the USS Yorktown, a ride on a C-17, and an invitation to France!

Tommy reports: "The numbers of ships the Yorktown had sunk absolutely amazed me. I had never thought about an aircraft carrier sinking 40 ships! She had quite a record. I also toured a submarine. It is difficult to walk through them. You are always bent over or walking sideways through some kind of tunnel."

"The next day we boarded a C-17 for a ride and flew over Myrtle Beach. The size was impressive, but the thing that I found the most interesting about the aircraft was the floor. The floor was smooth, solid metal. It was made up of strips that were four inches wide, and these strips turn over. The loadmaster has a stick with a poker on it. She would touch a certain place on the strip, and it would flip over. In one instance rollers would appear, and others would have lash-down hooks. It was absolutely astounding to me that they could have that many different things in the floor and still have the floor able to be perfectly smooth. The C-17 is multifaceted – it can haul cargo, it can haul troops and casualties. I was invited to the cockpit for the flight back to Charleston."

"Saturday evening I was invited to sit at the head table with Col. Gary Cook, the Wind commander. (Editors note: The Colonel is invited to be the guest speaker at our banquet on September 25th.) The people at the banquet were all 315th alumni, and ran the entire spectrum of ages. The base commander said that they are very, very busy. They fly missions to more places and countries than you can imagine. They are both an active-duty organization and a reserve organization operating from the same field. The 315th has been there for 35 years. If either organization is short on aircraft they borrow from one another."

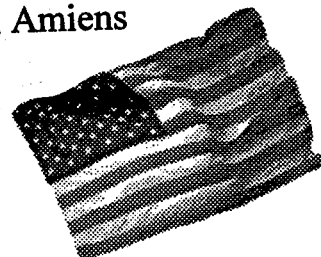
"It is absolutely amazing the way it is done. I have never seen anything as impressive as the Reserve Wing. It is just like one big family – the whole city of Charleston is married to that squadron. Their mothers, their fathers and kids all belong to it. The personnel were all extremely well-trained and as nice as you could ever ask for."

"As a D-Day veteran, I was given a very special invitation to fly with a half-dozen D-Day veterans to Normandy with paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division for the 60th Anniversary of that great day. Unfortunately I had to decline because of a potential medical condition."

"I have to say again, that the 315th and the city of Charleston is like one big family – and includes everybody in the area and everything in that city. The spirit is outstanding!"

315th TROOP CARRIER GROUP ASSOCIATION
Olmsted, Florence, Aldermaston, Blida, Spanhoe, Amiens

OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD



Message from the President:

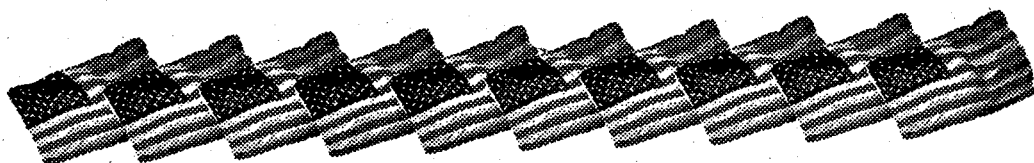
Our reunion in Louisville is just about 3 months away, June 22-25, so let me remind you to get your registrations and reservations in ASAP. I ask each of you to pull out your roster of names and call a member of your group or squadron and invite them to our reunion. They have received all the information and just need to have someone--YOU--to invite them. We lose buddies every two years between reunions and when we see their names as deceased, we know we should have called. So let's give it a try.

Last year and this year have seen good things happen. The placement of our plaque in recognition of those in our group who gave their lives, is in the Memorial Garden at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. You are invited to stop on your way to or from Louisville. It is impressive. Also, our nation finally has a wonderful permanent memorial in place, honoring all veterans of WWII. And, of course, there was the recent recognition of D-Day on national television, which brought back many memories, just to see so many veterans who participated in that action was so moving. We must remember our comrades.

I'm expecting a good response to our reunion. Our second generation is stepping forward to see that their dads or mothers get there or are at least represented. We are proud of them.

This reunion is very important to the future of our group. We need to see active members come forward to fill vacancies on our board as well as vice-president and also assistant treasurer. If we are to stay active, we must fill these positions. I know I can count on you. Registration forms for the convention are on pages 10 and 11 of this issue. Get them filled out and sent in today!

See you in Louisville!
Bernard Brown



*The WW II 315th Troop Carrier Group Association publishes this newsletter irregularly
1318 N. 126th St., Omaha, Nebraska 68154*

*Bernard C. Brown
President*

*Leonard Thomas
Vice-President*

*Mary Lynn Schwietz
Editor*

*Cathy Beck
Assistant Editor*

Taps

**With deep regret we record the
loss of these comrades.**

**(If you were close friends a letter to their
family would be truly welcome.)**

Mark Grosinger	34th	13 April 2004
William R. Lincoln	34th	23 May 2004
Leon Easlet	43rd	11 Nov. 2003
A.D. Gus Muzio	310th	14 Feb. 2004
William E. Bruce	34th	1 April 2004
William H. Carrier	34th	Unknown

Donations

Donations are gratefully accepted
whether in memory of former comrades
or in support of the Association.
Families are notified when appropriate.

From	In Memory Of
L. Pierce	Monroe Zartman
G. Byrd	Cameron Byrd
Wayne Bowers	William Bowers
Wayne Bowers	Frank Paluska (512th)

**R.B. Kithcart, Calvin E. Harris and
Georganne Baroody Byrd in honor of the
315th Troop Carrier Group Association**

In support of the Association,
and in remembrance of those
for whom Taps were sounded.

by Andy Rooney.

*I've learned....
That the best classroom in the world is at the feet of
an elderly person.*

*I've learned....
That when you're in love, it shows.*

*I've learned....
That just one person saying to me, "You've made my
day!" makes my day.*

*I've learned....
That having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of
the most peaceful feelings in the world.*

*I've learned....
That being kind is more important than being right.*

*I've learned....
That you should never say no to a gift from a child.*

*I've learned....
That I can always pray for someone when I don't have
the strength to help him in some other way.*

*I've learned....
That sometimes all a person needs is a hand to hold
and a heart to understand.*

*I've learned....
That simple walks with my father around the block on
summer nights when I was a child did wonders for me
as an adult.*

*I've learned....
That life is paper. The closer it gets to the end, the
faster it goes.*

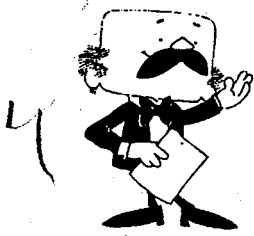
*I've learned....
That we should be glad God doesn't give us
everything we ask for.*

*I've learned...
That money doesn't buy class.*

*I've learned....
That it's those small daily happenings that make life
so spectacular.*

*I've learned...
That under everyone's hard shell is someone who
wants to be held when it is a life- threatening situation.*

*I've learned....
That the less time I have to work with, the more things
I get done.*



Items of Interest (I hope) From your Recording Secretary

Believe it or not - this years reunion in Louisville, KY will be the first for a few, who until this last year, never knew there was a 315th Reunion Association. Yes, after 60 years, we are still locating old Buddies that we couldn't find - they are surfacing! I hope you are all planning to be there to welcome them.

At the Saturday Morning Business Meeting you will be deciding the future of the 315th Reunion Association. Over the past six or eight years we have seen more and more sons and daughters coming to the reunions with Dad. They are a welcome addition to the group and thoroughly enjoy meeting their father's comrades and listening to the stories shared. Also, some of us need their help to travel. Knowing that most of the second-generation still have a job, in some cases it is impossible for them to take the week off. It would be great if you could make it at least for Friday and Saturday.

The Articles of Association need to be updated. We need to elect a new Vice President, Assistant Treasurer, two Board Members, plus an Alternate Board Member. My hope is that we change the membership rules in the Articles of Association so our second generation can be regular members and hold office. That is the longtime future of the 315th. We presently have a second-generation member as editor of our newspaper. The newsletter is the only thing that keeps a Reunion Association going!

Many of our members have a computer and are on e-mail. (I encourage you to get online - it is not that hard - if I can do it anyone can.) Sometimes when I send out an important item of interest to all on my address book - a few are returned. If you have changed your e-mail address, please send me your new one. If you are online and never sent me your address and would like to be added to the 315th roster, please do! I promise that I will never insult your intelligence by forwarding group political or religious messages but I might send you a joke once in a while! E-mail makes it easy to get information out in a hurry. Give it a try!

SEE YA ALL IN LOUISVILLE!
Doc Cloer

LIFE AFTER DEATH

"Do you believe in life after death?" the boss asked one of his employees.

"Yes, sir," the new employee replied.

"Well, then, that makes everything just fine," the boss went on. "After you left early yesterday to go to your Grandmother's funeral, she stopped in to see you."

THE MOOD RING

My husband bought me a "mood" ring the other day. When I'm in a good mood, it turns green. When I'm in a bad mood, it leaves a red mark on his forehead.



New Aviation Terms

Airspeed.... Speed of an airplane. Deduct 25% when listening to a Navy Pilot.

Angle of Attack....Pick up lines a pilot uses

Bank....the folks who hold the lien on most pilot's cars

Barrel Roll.....Sport enjoyed at squadron picnic, usually after the barrels are empty

Carburetor Icing.....A phenomenon happening to aero club pilots at exactly the same time they run out of fuel

Cone of Confusion.....An area about the size of New Jersey located near the final approach beacon at an airport.

Crab.....the squadron Ops officer

Dead Reckoning.....You reckon correctly, or you are

Engine Failure.....A condition which occurs when all fuel tanks become filled with air

Firewall.....Section of the aircraft designed to let heat and smoke enter the cockpit

Glide Distance.....Half the distance from an aircraft to the nearest emergency landing field

Hydroplane.....An airplane designed to land on a wet runway, 20,000 feet long

IFR.....A method of flying by needle and parachute

Nanosecond....Time Delay built into the stall warning system

Parasitic Drag.....A pilot who bums a ride back and complains about the service

Range.....Usually about 30 miles beyond the point where the fuel tanks fill with air

Roger.....Used when you are not sure what else to say

Spoilers.....The Federal Aviation Administration

Stall....Technique used to explain to the bank why your car payment is late

Tactics.....What a clock sounds like when it needs fixing

Yankee.....Any pilot that asks Houston tower to "Say Again"

Leonard Thomas, Vice President of the 315th - Recovering from Surgery

Col. Len Thomas went in to the Hospital June 14th, 2004 for a MRI exam. He had been experiencing a loss of strength and the doctor thought that he might be having a small stroke. However, it turned out to be a spinal problem and when they laid him back in the MRI machine it triggered a lot of pain and by the time the exam was over he was unable to move his arms and legs. After they discovered the spinal problem they scheduled him for surgery (1 week later) and went in and removed 4 ruptured disks, and one vertebral body, did a bone graft, added a steel plate from the front, and a steel rod from the back. The surgery took 11 hours. He is now trying to recover from the surgery and regain the use of his arms and his legs. This will be a learning process as well as strength building. Long term, the jury is still out as to how much recovery will happen but we are all hopeful. The next week or two should give us a lot of clues as to what the future will hold.

This is a much abbreviated version of what has transpired. It has been very tough for the last 2 weeks but we have had a brilliant doctors and the rehabilitation hospital has been wonderful. Thanks for your interest, and every ones best thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated. It is my plan for him to walk into the reunion in Louisville, in September.

Kit Collins, son of Leonard Thomas

(Len Thomas is to be our new President next year. Send him a get well card at: 445 Maplecroft Ct., Cincinnati, OH 45255)

Senator McCain's thoughts on The Pledge of Allegiance

"The Pledge of Allegiance" - From a speech made by Capt. John S. McCain, US, (Ret) who represents Arizona in the U.S. Senate:

As you may know, I spent five and one half years as a prisoner of war during the Vietnam War. In the early years of our imprisonment, the NVA kept us in solitary confinement or two or three to a cell. In 1971 the NVA moved us from these conditions of isolation into large rooms with as many as 30 to 40 men to a room. This was, as you can imagine, a wonderful change and was a direct result of the efforts of millions of Americans on behalf of a few hundred POWs 10,000 miles from home.

One of the men who moved into my room was a young man named Mike Christian. Mike came from a small town near Selma, Alabama. He didn't wear a pair of shoes until he was 13 years old. At 17, he enlisted in the US Navy. He later earned a commission by going to Officer Training School.

Then he became a Naval Flight Officer and was shot down and captured in 1967. Mike had a keen and deep appreciation of the opportunities this country and our military provide for people who want to work and want to succeed.

As part of the change in treatment, the Vietnamese allowed some prisoners to receive packages from home. In some of these packages were handkerchiefs, scarves and other items of clothing. Mike got himself a bamboo needle. Over a period of a couple of months, he created an American flag and sewed on the inside of his shirt. Every afternoon, before we had a bowl of soup, we would hang Mike's shirt on the wall of the cell and say the Pledge of Allegiance. I know the Pledge of Allegiance may not seem the most important part of our day now, but I can assure you that in that stark cell it was indeed the most important and meaningful event.

One day the Vietnamese searched our cell, as they did periodically, and discovered Mike's shirt with the flag sewn inside, and removed it. That evening they returned, opened the door of the cell, and for the benefit of all of us, beat Mike Christian severely for the next couple of hours. Then, they opened the door of the cell and threw him in. We cleaned him up as well as we could. The cell in which we lived had a concrete slab in the middle on which we slept.

Four naked light bulbs hung in each corner of the room. As I said, we tried to clean up Mike as well as we could. After the excitement died down, I looked in the corner of the room, and sitting there beneath that dim light bulb with a piece of red cloth, another shirt and his bamboo needle, was my friend, Mike Christian. He was sitting there with his eyes almost shut from the beating he had received, making another American flag. He was not making the flag because it made Mike Christian feel better. He was making that flag because he knew how important it was to us to be able to pledge our allegiance to our flag and country.

So the next time you say the Pledge of Allegiance, you must never forget the sacrifice and courage that thousands of Americans have made to build our nation and promote freedom around the world. You must remember our duty, our honor, and our country.

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."



How to Request Copies of Medals

The 315th received valuable information from Sheila McLelland Hoefler on how to request copies of medals. Medals can be requested by the service member or next-of-kin. This is a one-time, free request.

Use a 3x5 index card and print the information to your right.

Place in an envelope and mail to:
National Personnel Records Center
(Military Personnel Records)
9700 Page Blvd.
St. Louis, Mo 63132.

Name of Service Member
Military of Social Security Number
Branch of Service (USN, USMC, etc)
Years of Service (month, date, year)
Statement: I am requesting copies of
_____ medals and awards.

(Service Member's Name)

Address where medals are to be sent
Name:
Address:
City, State, Zip:

While cruising at 30,000 feet, the airplane shuddered. A passenger looked out the window. "Good Lord!" he screamed. "One of the engines just blew up!"

Other passengers left their seats and came running over. Suddenly the aircraft was rocked by a second blast as yet another engine exploded on the other side. The passengers were in a panic now, and even the flight attendants couldn't maintain order.

Just then, standing tall and smiling confidently, the pilot strode out from the cockpit and assured everyone there was nothing to worry about. His words and his demeanor seemed to make most of the passengers feel better, and they sat down as the pilot calmly walked to the door of the aircraft. There he grabbed several packages from under the seats and behind handing them to the flight attendants. Each crew member attached the package to his or her back.

"Say," spoke up an alert passenger, "are those parachutes?"
The pilot said they were.

The passenger went on, "But I thought you said there was nothing to worry about."

"There isn't," replied the pilot as the third engine exploded. "We're just going to get help."

The sergeant was in a rare mood as he finished drilling his company. He barked out a final order: "All right, you idiots, fall out!"

The men fell out, but one rookie stood firm. The sergeant stared as the rookie smiled. "There sure were a lot of them, weren't there, Sarge?"



**"You're not paranoid. Someone is following you.
He's trying to collect your 315th T.C. Group
Membership Dues."**

Annual dues are only \$20 for a year. That investment keeps you in touch with the people you served with so many years ago. If you are not a dues paying member – please consider helping out and becoming one. You can send dues to:
Sandy Friedman, 2425 Buckhurst Drive, Beachwood, OH
55122

The Positive Side of life.

Living on earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.

Did you ever notice that people who are late are often jollier than the people who have to wait for them?
If Wal-Mart is lowering prices every day, how come nothing is free yet?

A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on the detour.

The Airborne Wants You!

I'm not kidding, the American Airborne Association has an offer too good to pass up. They will send you a free copy of the AMERICAN AIRBORNE ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY for the asking. No gimmicks, no subscriptions to cancel, no BS.

The Quarterly is a first class magazine printed on heavy glossy paper and is more than a hundred pages in each issue, with lots of color. More importantly the QUARTERLY is a history digest that covers current Airborne events, veterans issues, Troop Carrier and is dedicated to accurate history.

For more than a year editor Bill Weber has made a tremendous effort to dedicate many pages of the Quarterly to the history of Troop Carrier. As he said, "Without Troop Carrier there wouldn't have been an Airborne."

Bill thinks you will like the Quarterly so much he is willing to bet a free issue on it and he actively seeks Troop Carrier articles and personal history for the Quarterly.

You can contact Bill Weber and the American Airborne Association via email at: eagle187@direcway.com or US Mail at:

The American Airborne Association
10301 McKinstry Mill Road
New Windsor, MD 21776-7903

A years subscription to the Quarterly not including your free issue is \$17.50 per year.

For those of you online go to their website at:
<http://objectionable.org/440thtcg>

I have a number of 315th caps and pins on hand. If orders are received in the mail, it will assure that I can reorder more to bring to the reunion.

Also all dues and donations are gladly accepted.

Your Treasurer,
Sandy Friedman



In a letter dated 5/2/04 Sandy Friedman reports that the State of Ohio offers Service Veterans special auto license plates. No charge, just apply and present your Discharge Form. Sandy now has a great looking license plate that reads:

AIR FORCE U.S. VETERAN

He suggests you check with your own state to determine if it has a Veteran Plate program.

An Invitation to the Second Generation *Join the 315th at our Reunion in Louisville!*

About twelve years ago my father invited my sister and I to join him at his WWII reunion. It was a wonderful weekend meeting his friends, listening to stories, telling jokes, and seeing the sites. We were fascinated with this remarkable group of men! Our brothers felt they were missing out and now join us for the annual reunion.

Patriotism has been overflowing the last month with the celebration of D-Day, the Tribute to a Generation in Washington D.C., and the dedication of the WWII Memorial. The entire nation is so proud of the sacrifices made by these brave men. Take out your calendar, set aside the time, grab the opportunity to join us at the 315th Reunion in September. I guarantee you will be glad you did.

Mary Lynn Schwietz and Joanne Edney
Daughters of John A. Edney

Contest Question?????????



If you double one penny every day for 31 days, how much money would you have on the 31st day?
And Now the Answer!!!!!!
\$10,737,428.24

The contest winners were: Eldon Sellers, Bill Borneman and someone who prefers to remain anonymous.

Honor Guards for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

1. How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknowns and why?
Twenty-one steps. It alludes to the twenty-one gun salute, which is the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary.
2. How long does he hesitate after his about face to begin his return walk and why?
Twenty-one seconds for the same reason as answer number 1.
3. Why are his gloves wet?
His gloves are moistened to prevent his losing his grip on the rifle.
4. Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all the time, and if not, why not?
He carries the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb. After his march across the path, he executes an about face, and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.
5. How often are the guards changed?
Guards are changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.
6. What are the physical traits of the guard limited to?
For a person to apply for guard duty at the tomb, he must be between 5' 10" and 6' 2" tall and his waist size cannot exceed 30."

Other requirements of the Guard:

- They must commit 2 years of life to guard the tomb, live in a barracks under the tomb, and cannot drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives. They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform {fighting} or the tomb in any way. After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guard of the tomb. There are only 400 presently worn.
- The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin.
- The shoes are specially made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt.
- There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform.
- Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror.
- The first six months of duty a guard cannot talk to anyone, nor watch TV.

On the ABC evening news, it was reported tonight that, because of the dangers from Hurricane Isabelle approaching Washington DC, the military members assigned the duty of guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were given permission to suspend the assignment.

They respectfully declined the offer, "No way, Sir!"

Soaked to the skin, marching in the pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said that guarding the Tomb was not just an assignment; it was the highest honor that can be afforded to a serviceperson.

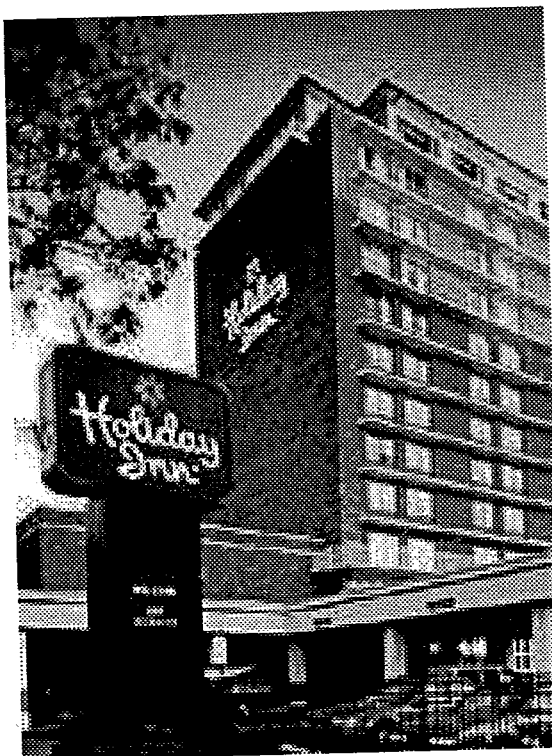


The tomb has been patrolled continuously, 24/7, since 1930.

We can be very proud of our young men and women in the service no matter where they serve.

God bless them.

**315th TROOP CARRIER GROUP
SEPTEMBER 22 - 26, 2004
HOLIDAY INN LOUISVILLE DOWNTOWN**



Wednesday, September 22

2:00pm - 6:00pm **Reunion Registration Open**
2:00pm - Hospitality room open throughout the reunion
Evening and dinner on your own

Thursday, September 23

8:00am - 8:30am **Reunion Registration Open**
9:00am - 2:30pm **AIR NATIONAL GUARD/BOWMAN'S FIELD/LUNCH CRUISE**
(description follows)
3:00pm - 4:00pm **Reunion Registration Open** Additional hours will be posted at the
reunion, if necessary.
3:30pm - 5:00pm **Board of Director's Meeting**
Evening and dinner on your own

Friday, September 24

11:00am - 4:00pm **FORT KNOX** (description follows)
Evening and dinner on your own

Saturday, September 25

9:30am - 11:00am **Business Meeting**
9:45am - 2:00pm **LADIES TOUR/FARMINGTON** (description follows)
6:00pm - 7:00pm **Cash Bar**
6:30pm - 7:00pm **Squadron Photos** will be taken
7:00pm - 11:00pm **Banquet**

Sunday, September 26

Farewells and departures

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

AIR NATIONAL GUARD/BOWMAN'S FIELD/LUNCH CRUISE

Thursday, September 23

Start the day at Kentucky's Air National Guard's 123rd Airlift Wing. They have a proud history and an unmatched record of sustained outstanding performance. Their mission is to provide worldwide theater airlift for U.S. military and humanitarian operations. The wing is equipped with twelve C-130H model aircraft. Eight squadrons and seven flights carry out the unit's mission by providing administrative and logistical support. Continue your tour towards the other end of the airport, Bowman Field. Bowman Field has played a vital role in the growth and evolution of our country's aviation industry. It was founded by Abram H. Bowman, who had a vision about the importance of aviation at a time when many people were unconvinced that air travel had a future. Twenty years later during WWII, Bowman Field was the busiest airport in the country. At that time thousands of members of the military called Bowman Field home while undergoing combat readiness training. The facility became known as "Air Base City" when a bomber squadron moved in, and more than 1600 recruits underwent basic training in a three-month period. Bowman Field was also home to the Army Air Force School of flight surgeons, medical technicians and flight nurses. Graduates of the school were responsible for evacuating and treating a half-million sick and wounded from war zones around the world by the end of 1944. Bowman Field today has replaced its sod strips with concrete aprons and runways. It is home to hundreds of privately owned aircraft as well Central American Airways, Falcon Aviation, and Kentucky Flying Service. Afterwards, board the Star of Louisville, a modern riverboat with three decks. Enjoy a scenic cruise up the Ohio River with a lavish luncheon buffet and live music.

9:00am board bus, 2:30pm back at hotel

\$48/person includes bus, guide, and lunch cruise.

FORT KNOX

Friday, September 24

Enjoy an all-you-can-eat lunch buffet at Doe Run Inn, which includes fried chicken, baked ham, roast beef, and all the trimmings. After lunch, continue on to Fort Knox and begin your self-guided tour of the Patton Museum of Cavalry and Armor, dedicated to General George S. Patton, one of the most colorful of all twentieth century military leaders. The exhibits depict the history of Fort Knox, where the Armored Force was formed in 1940, and the development of cavalry and armored weapons, equipment, and uniforms from the Revolutionary War to the present. The Patton Gallery contains many of the General's personal items, including his famous ivory-handled pistols. Outside, you will see many historically significant vehicles and equipment. Finally, take a drive through Fort Knox and drive by the famous Fort Knox Gold Depository.

11:00am board bus, 4:00pm back at hotel

\$42/Person includes bus, guide, and lunch.

FARMINGTON

Saturday, September 25

Farmington was built by John and Lucy Fry Speed in 1810 according to a plan by Thomas Jefferson. A masterpiece of Federal architecture, it features two central octagonal rooms, pre-1830 furnishings, an adventurous stairway, and a nineteenth century garden. Stop at the Captain's Quarters, a restaurant located on the banks of the Ohio River, for lunch featuring grilled chicken salad. Originally built as a carriage stop, the Captain's Quarters was intended to become the center of Louisville.

9:45am board bus, 2:00pm back at hotel

\$45/Person includes bus, guide, admission, and lunch.

(All tours require a minimum of 30 people)

Driver and guide gratuities are not included in the tour prices.

Please plan to be at the bus boarding area at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$5 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non-refundable AFR registration fee. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays.** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.

315th TROOP CARRIER GROUP ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order (no credit cards or phone reservations accepted). Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before **August 20, 2004**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing.

Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.
P.O. Box 11327
Norfolk, VA 23517
ATTN: 315th TROOP CARRIER GROUP

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Check _____	Date Received _____
Inputted _____	Nametag Completed _____

	Price Per	# of People	Total
CUT-OFF DATE IS 08/20/04			
TOURS			
Thursday: Air National Guard/Bowman's Field /Lunch Cruise	\$48		\$
Friday: Fort Knox	\$42		\$
Saturday: Ladies Tour/Farmington	\$45		\$
MEALS			
Saturday Banquet <i>(Please select your entrée)</i>			
Prime Rib	\$28		\$
Chicken Marsala	\$26		\$
MANDATORY PER PERSON REGISTRATION FEE			
Includes Hospitality Room and administrative expenses.	\$15		\$
Total Amount Payable to <u>Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.</u>			\$

Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

PLEASE PRINT

NAME (for nametags) _____

SQUADRON# _____ FIRST REUNION? YES NO

SPOUSE NAME _____

GUEST NAMES _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP _____ PH. NUMBER (____) _____

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS _____

IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN TOURS, WOULD YOU REQUIRE A WHEEL CHAIR LIFT ON THE BUS? YES NO
 (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ PH. NUMBER (____) _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

ARE YOU STAYING AT THE HOTEL? YES NO ARE YOU FLYING? DRIVING? RV?

For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined at the bottom of the reunion program. **CANCELLATIONS ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00am-5:00pm EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays).** Call (757) 625-6401 to obtain your cancellation code.

13

HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN LOUISVILLE
502-582-2241

The Holiday Inn ~~Downtown~~ Louisville is located at 120 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40202. It is near Interstate 65 and ~~only ten~~ minutes from the airport. The hotel is near the heart of Louisville's business center and close to the ~~city's~~ main attractions. The Holiday Inn Downtown Louisville offers 287 guest rooms. The twelve-story hotel ~~has~~ express check-in and check-out, same day valet service, and a gift shop. Each guest room is furnished ~~with~~ a coffee maker, complimentary coffee, iron/ironing board, hair dryer, two phones, data ports, remote control televisions, and on-command video and cable. In addition, their "forget something" program provides, at no cost, most often left behind personal amenities. An indoor heated pool allows guests to relax and swim year-round. The fitness area enables guests to continue exercise programs while away from home.

Handicapped-accessible and non-smoking rooms are subject to availability. Please request these special accommodations when making your hotel reservation. Complimentary parking is provided for hotel guests. Check in time is 3:00pm; check out is 12:00 noon. **Bentley's Restaurant**, offers a complete menu from deli/salad bar to fresh seafood. Open for breakfast and lunch; reopens for dinner. **Bentley's Lounge**, a lively, fun place just off the lobby. A local free trolley is within two blocks of the Holiday Inn that will take you to other restaurants and attractions in the downtown Louisville area.

The Holiday Inn has complimentary 24-hour airport shuttle service to and from the Louisville International Airport, located approximately five miles from the hotel. After retrieving your baggage, use the courtesy phone located in the baggage claim area of the airport to call the hotel. They will send a hotel van for you.

Please advise the hotel if you will need space to park an RV as a guest staying in the hotel. Should you require hookup services for an RV, the KOA campground in Clarksville is only 5-10 minutes from downtown Louisville. Located at 900 Marriott Drive, Clarksville, IN 47129, please call (812) 282-4474 for information, directions, and reservations.

Should you need to rent a wheelchair for the reunion, ScootAround rents both manual and power wheel chairs by the day and week. Please call their toll free number at (888) 441-7575 for details. All prices quoted include delivery fees.

Vendor, schedules, and prices are subject to change.

*****CUT HERE AND MAIL TO THE HOTEL *****

315th TROOP CARRIER GROUP ASSOCIATION HOTEL RESERVATION FORM
REUNION DATES: SEPTEMBER 22-26, 2004

NAME _____ PHONE (____) _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ APPROX. TIME _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

of rooms__ # of people __ Smoking __ Non-smoking __ Handicap Access __ King Bed __ 2 Double Beds__
(If room type requested is not available, nearest room type will be assigned)

RATE: \$79.00 + tax (currently 13.95%) for Double or King. Rate will be honored three days before and after reunion dates upon availability

CUT OFF DATE: 08/20/04 Reservations received after this date will be processed on space & rate availability.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Deposit is refundable if reservation is cancelled by 6:00pm on your arrival day.

All reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or first night's deposit, enclosed.

AMEX DINERS VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

CARD NUMBER _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature (regardless of payment method) _____

Mail to: Holiday Inn Downtown Louisville, 120 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40202

ML Schwietz
WW II 315th Troop Carrier Group Assoc.
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Omaha, NE 68154

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*September 22-25th
Louisville... Don't miss it!*

Miles M. Hamby
6505 Hillside Lane
Alexandria VA 22306

Where do you send information?

Everyone who received this newsletter is encouraged to **submit material**. Don't be afraid to jump in and contribute! Suggestions are welcome! Please send all submissions to: Mary Lynn Schwietz, 1318 North 126th St., Omaha, NE 68154 or send via E Mail to mlschwietz@aol.com.

Change of address, deaths, new members, etc. should be sent to Doc Cloer. His address is Robert Cloer, 1417 Valley View Drive, Yuba City, CA 95993. E-mail address is: rlcloer@syix.com

Annual dues of \$20, donations and requests for caps should be sent to: Sandy Friedman, 2425 Buckhurst Drive, Beachwood, OH 55122. Sandy's e-mail address is: Harsan316@aol.com (The famous 315th caps are \$15 each. Lapel pins of the C-47's are \$7.50)

Check out our own 315th Website at www.315group.org compliments of Miles Hamby!



"Don't startle 'im, Joe—it's almost full."



"Take off yer hat when ya mention sex here. It's a reverint subject."



"One more crack like that an' you woud have yer job back after th' war."