

99TH BOMB GROUP

Volume 24 Issue 1

SPECIAL 2004 REUNION ISSUE

July 2004

EDITOR'S NOTE: Attention Associate Members – Help Wanted!

My apologies, as you can see by the date at the top of this Newsletter, I am late again in getting out to the Membership our Newsletter to meet our quarterly schedule. Unfortunately the increasing demands of my full time job and other personal responsibilities and commitments have resulted in significant reductions of my free time for this volunteer work, and my ability to plan in advance how much and when I can schedule this free time. Jerry Buckingham and I work very closely together with the help of a few other members to pull together information and write articles that we hope our Membership will find interesting and informative. We have had an excellent response from our members who continue to share with us their stories, and other memorabilia from their times with the 99th BG and we continue to work on articles for upcoming Newsletters. We have also tried to create regular columns to be included in each Newsletter such as “On The Home Front” and “In Search Of”. We also take care of other 99th BGHS work such as: maintaining and updating the Membership List; answering correspondence from Members and from others who have questions about the 99th BG, their members, missions, aircraft, history, etc.; working to help secure information and materials to help preserve and spread the history of the 99th BG; and identifying new opportunities to provide 99th BGHS members additional services or items they request such as the B-17 Flying Fortress Historical Calendar and the 99th BGHS hats. We also have a number of other potential projects underway that will provide additional items or services to our members such as Squadron patches, and discount prices for the few remaining copies of the “The Diamondbacks – the History of the 99th Bomb Group (H)” published by Turner Publishing in 1998.

The point of all this is that our success has led to more work than we have time for so we are asking for a few more of our Associate Members to volunteer to join our small working group. We especially could use a few Associates who are computer friendly and willing to help with the Newsletter each quarter by writing one of the regular columns such as “In Search of”. Another recently identified need is that of a person with computer website operation and maintenance experience and the willingness to devote the time to maintain a 99th BGHS Website. Ford Lauer III who created a 99th BG webpage moved to Oklahoma City, OK and due to his frequent travel for work cannot maintain the site. He is willing to work with a volunteer to get the website back up and running as he saved the entire webpage to CD ROM so it can be reposted if we rent a website and have an individual to post, maintain and modify the website as necessary. There are other projects such as the Squadron patches and book purchases that do not require special computer skills, and we will do our best to work with you to put you time and skills to good use to help serve our members. This is an excellent opportunity for any Associate who would like to give something back to the 99th BG members who have done so much for us.

Please contact me by mail, e-mail or by phone and join us in this very rewarding personal experience and help give something back to our members.

Gary T. Staffo,
99th BGHS Newsletter Editor
6226 Garden Road, Springfield, VA 22152-1504
E-mail: GStaffo@gis.net Daytime: 202-586-9577

Evenings: 703-866-2023

99th Bomb Group 2004 Annual Reunion Schedule
September 8th to 12th, 2004 in Timonium, MD

This is a reminder to complete and mail in your Registration for our 2004 99th Bomb Group Annual Reunion to be held in Timonium, MD September 8th – 12th, 2004. Jim and Rose LaVey have done a great job of putting together a fantastic program that everyone will enjoy. The Registration Form and information on the Holiday Inn Select where it will be held are also in this Newsletter. This year the Reunion Committee and the President of the 99th BGHS have agreed to help subsidize the cost of those members attending the Reunion and thus the cost for each event per person is only \$10.00, for a total of \$60.00 to attend all of the scheduled events. Details for each day are provided below.

BALTIMORE WASHINGTON (BWI) AIRPORT SHUTTLE TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

There is no free hotel shuttle. Transportation is available with the **SUPER SHUTTLE 1-800-BLUEVAN (1-800-258-3826)** and the rate one way is \$28 for first person and \$10 for each additional. Advance Reservations are **not** required but you can call ahead for an advance reservation or you can sign up at the airport. There is a SUPER SHUTTLE Desk located in the middle of the baggage claim area Section Pier C. Just let them know you wish to go to the Holiday Inn Select Timonium, MD. Rental cars are also available at BWI airport and there are no restrictions for travel throughout the Washington DC metropolitan area.

WEDNESDAY 09/08/04 Registration from Noon to 11pm and opening of the Hospitality Room

THURSDAY 09/09/04 Tour by bus of Washington DC Historical Sites and the New National Air and Space Udvar-Hazy Museum located at Dulles International Airport. This is really going to be one of the highlights of the Reunion as we will start out the morning with a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington Cemetery, then proceed to the new National WWII Monument on the Mall, and then to the new NASM Udvar-Hazy facility where the Enola Gay, the SR-71, the Space Shuttle and many other famous aircraft are on display. If time permits we may also take in some of the other new museums such as the Women in WWII located at Arlington National Cemetery. *We will have a few wheelchairs and walkers available for use by our members during the Reunion. Please make a note in the Comments section on your Registration form for a walker or wheelchair to help us know how many to have available.*

FRIDAY 09/10/04 The 99th BGHS Board of Directors will meet in the morning and our 99th BGHS Business Luncheon will be held from 11:30am – 1pm. We hope that all will attend to hear from our President and the Board as we discuss our future plans for the 99th BGHS.

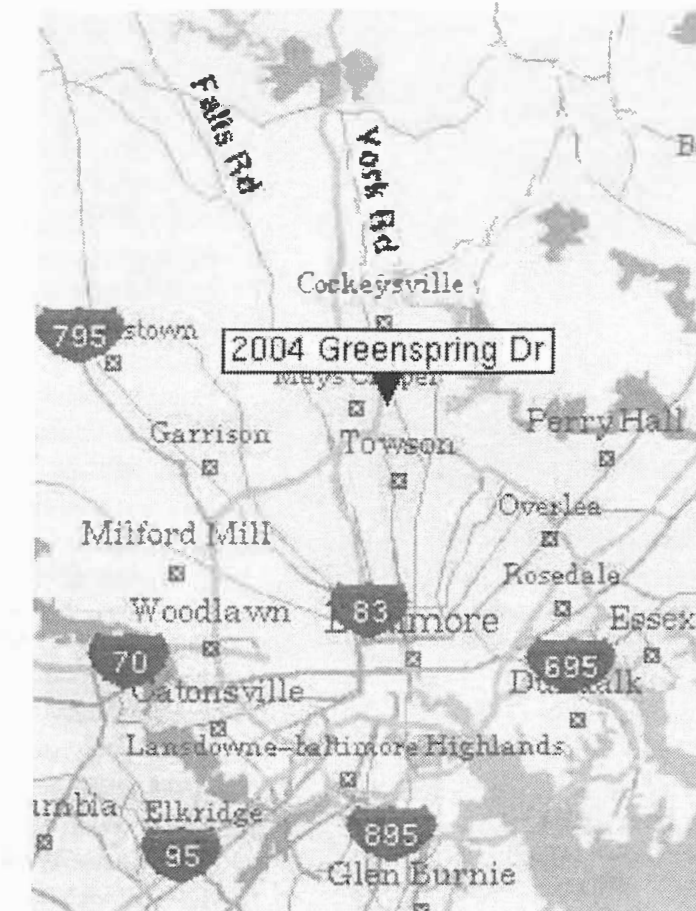
That evening from 6-10pm we will be attending the Timonium Dinner Theater where we will have a fine meal and enjoy the entertainment.

SATURDAY 09/11/04 From 11:30am – 5pm we will be off to the Pimlico Racetrack for lunch and to watch the horses and perhaps even wager a few dollars. The third race will be dedicated to the 99th BG and a delicious buffet lunch will be provided.

Our 99th BGHS Banquet will be held that evening from 6:30 – 10pm with music and a fine meal.

Please call Jim and Rose LaVey at 410-252-5688 if you have any questions concerning the activities.

Directions



From the South: Take I-95 North to 695 West toward Towson. Take exit 24 onto I-83 North (signs indicate York, PA). Take the first exit, 16A, Timonium Road. (see below)

From the North: Take I-95 South to 695 West toward Towson. Take exit 24 onto I-83 North (signs indicate York, PA). Take the first exit, 16A, Timonium Road. (see below)

From BWI Airport: Take I-295 North to 695 West toward Towson. Take exit 24 onto I-83 North (signs indicate York, PA). Take the first exit, 16A, Timonium Road. (see below)

Turn right at the light onto Greenspring Drive and right again at the fourth driveway to the Holiday Inn Select (2004 Greenspring Drive)

Holiday Inn SELECT®



2004 Greenspring Drive
Timonium, MD. 21093
Phone 410-252-7373 Fax 410-561-0182
Reservations: reservations@hotel-ballt.com
E-Mail Sales: sales@hotel-ballt.com
Internet Address: www.hotel-ballt.com

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

- ♣ Baltimore's Inner Harbor, Oriole Park at Camden Yards, Ravens Stadium, Maryland State Fairgrounds and Pimlico Race Track.
- ♣ Convenient to many restaurants and shopping including Towson Town Mall.
- ♣ Close to area colleges and universities.
- ♣ 1 hour from Washington DC., 45 min. to Annapolis.

TRANSPORTATION

- ♣ Light rail provides transportation to Baltimore's Inner Harbor, BWI airport and Pennsylvania Train station.
- ♣ BWI "Super Shuttle" 1-800-BLUE VAN.

HOTEL INFORMATION

- ♣ 250 Newly renovated guestrooms with all the amenities including coffee makers, hair dryers, irons & boards, vanity mirrors, luxury upgraded linens.
- ♣ All rooms equipped with updated phone systems featuring voice mail. PC and Fax compatible.
- ♣ Relaxing airy Atrium with Martini Bar. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres served Monday-Friday during Happy Hour. Light fare available.
- ♣ Indoor/outdoor pool, whirlpool, fitness room, game area with billiard tables and electronic adventures.
- ♣ Full service restaurant "Music City Grille" featuring our famous Country Buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner. Room service available.
- ♣ Complimentary newspaper delivered daily to your door.
- ♣ Other hotel services include bell service, coin-operated laundry, fax and photocopying, same day dry cleaning, vending and our famous "Forget Something" program.
- ♣ Ample complimentary parking.

CONFERENCE CENTER

- ♣ Featuring 18 meeting areas with over 15,000 square feet of flexible meeting and banquet space, all conveniently located on the Lobby level.
- ♣ All rooms equipped with telephone w/modem and jack.
- ♣ Facilities accommodate 10 to 750 people.
- ♣ Separate group registration areas.
- ♣ Full range of audiovisual equipment available.

99th Bomb Group 2004 Annual Reunion REGISTRATION

September 8th to 12th, 2004 in Timonium, MD

Holiday Inn Select/Baltimore North

2004 Greenspring Drive

Timonium, MD 21093

410-252-7373, www.hotel-ballt.com, FAX 410-561-0182

There are 50 rooms held for the 99th Bomb Group at a rate of \$87.00 per night plus 13% tax. This is the same location as the Reunion in 1997 and the airport is Baltimore Washington International (BWI). Continental breakfast will be served each morning Wednesday through Sunday in the Hospitality Room from 7 to 9 am, except Thursday will be 6:30 – 7:30am. **Reservations must be received by August 16, 2004 in order to ensure a room at the group rate.** All rooms have coffee makers, hair dryers, and irons & boards. There are indoor/outdoor swimming pools and a game area. There is a full service Restaurant serving Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner, and room service. Convenient to many restaurants and shopping including Towson Town Mall. **Please phone the Holiday Inn 410-252-7373 directly to make your room reservations.** Additional detailed information for the Reunion is in this newsletter.

99th BGHS 2004 Annual Reunion Registration Form

Please complete and mail this **99th BGHS 2004 Reunion Registration Form** with your check payable to our Host, **Jim LaVey 99th BGHS** at the address provided below.

| | Per Person | Number of people | Total |
|---|------------|------------------|----------|
| Registration (Noon – 11pm Wednesday 09/08/04) | \$10.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| D.C. Tour (8am – 4pm Thursday 09/09/04) | \$10.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Luncheon (11:30am -1pm Friday 09/10/04) | \$10.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Dinner Theatre (6 – 10pm Friday 09/10/04) | \$10.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Racetrack (11:30am – 5pm Saturday 09/11/04) | \$10.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Banquet (6:30 – 10pm Saturday 09/11/04) | \$10.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Total | | | \$ _____ |

Send check to Host: **Jim LaVey** Phone: 410-252-5688
2414 Girdwood Road
Timonium, MD 21093

Your name: _____ Spouse or Friend: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City, State Zip: _____ Squadron: 346 347 348 416

Questions or Comments: _____

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE NOTE: _____ Wheelchair _____ Walker

We can provide the above for free so please let us know in advance what you might need.

Editors Note:

Our special "thank you" to Jim and Rose LaVey for being such gracious hosts once again.

The 99th Bombardment Group Historical Society
Gary T. Staffo, Newsletter Editor
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EDITORS NOTE

MAIL YOUR 99th BGHS 2004 REUNION REGISTRATION NOW!

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99th BGHS Annual Reunion Fall 2005, Las Vegas, NV with the 5th Bomb Wing!

NOTE: Articles and features will be provided in the next newsletter.