

# **“MILK RUN”**

Oregon Chapter 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force Historical Society News  
Update  
June 2011



## **History News**

*Readers, where's your story? See the last page on how to share history with others.*

### **From a blog**

". . . was talking to friend of mine at a Memorial Day party. He has been in the Marine Corps for 25 years and is getting ready to head back for his 5th tour in the Middle East. As we were talking, I asked him if the other Marines he served with trusted the government. He replied "No, but when you are in a combat zone you don't think about that kind of stuff. All you think about is the Marine on each side of you". It struck me as ironic that these extraordinary men and women who defend us with their lives do not trust the very people who put them in harm's way. "

### **Scottish WW II Crash Sites to be Surveyed**

Various crash sites, including that of a B-17 that crashed in transit from Iceland to London when it crashed on Skye, will be just one of nine sites.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-13135376>

### **A “Tomboy” in the ATA**

The USA had WASP unit while the British had the ATA which had both men and women in it. Both had to same mission – ferry planes around as needed so that other men could fly combat. Nancy Miller Livingston Stratford was one of those WWII ferry pilots in the ATA.

“The Spitfire was my favorite fighter; flying it was a real treat. As you open it up for takeoff, there's a surge of power. You're forced hack into the seat and must make a definite effort to retain balance. As you get used to this surge, you anticipate it, make the correction beforehand, and hardly notice it on the actual takeoff. The hand is fairly tensé on the throttle; the head is set ahead briefly to notice the direction of takeoff and any correction to be made. In a Spitfire, you look side to side, as you can't see ahead at all until the tail is up. The rush of air whips into the cockpit, blowing particles up and around. The right hand moves according to the feel of the plane - the tail coming up, the slight pressure back, and the feeling of becoming airborne.”

<http://www.militaryaerospace.com/index/display/avi-wire-news-display/1409468728.html>

### **Royal Marines Historical Society**

Royal Marines Historical Society has a web site with lots of interesting stories on it, it is: [www.modern-day-commando.com](http://www.modern-day-commando.com).

If you have stories send them along to Peter Cairns.

## **KUIK Interviews**

During the airshow last year KUIK interviewed four veterans, Ben Carson, Wally Groce, Urban Kluthe and Lew Barnes, and broadcast those interviews during the airshow. KUIK has now provided me with the links to those interviewed. Wally Groce & Urban Kluthe are both members of our local 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS Chapter of Oregon. All four have interesting stories about their WW II service.

[http://hillsboro.kuik.com/production/VeteranInterviews/AIRSHOWINT\\_BenCarson.mp3](http://hillsboro.kuik.com/production/VeteranInterviews/AIRSHOWINT_BenCarson.mp3)

[http://hillsboro.kuik.com/production/VeteranInterviews/AIRSHOWINT\\_WallyGroce.mp3](http://hillsboro.kuik.com/production/VeteranInterviews/AIRSHOWINT_WallyGroce.mp3)

[http://hillsboro.kuik.com/production/VeteranInterviews/AIRSHOWINT\\_UrbanKluthe.mp3](http://hillsboro.kuik.com/production/VeteranInterviews/AIRSHOWINT_UrbanKluthe.mp3)

[http://hillsboro.kuik.com/production/VeteranInterviews/AIRSHOWINT\\_LewBarnes.mp3](http://hillsboro.kuik.com/production/VeteranInterviews/AIRSHOWINT_LewBarnes.mp3)

Many thanks to Mike Foster of Westside Radio AM 1360 KUIK; 503-640-1360  
[www.kuik.com](http://www.kuik.com)

## **F-35 Lightning II JTF – still building the plane at \$90 million+ a copy**

This does not count the maintenance of course. During WW II a P-51 Mustang cost just over \$100,000 a copy. If you factor in inflation and could build a P-51 at a factory now it SHOULD cost \$1,542,492.86 a copy.

Annual inflation rate was 3.99 from 1944 to now. You can use this site to convert past dollar amounts into present. <http://www.dollartimes.com/calculators/inflation.htm>

This firm makes part of the airframe.

[http://www.smartplanet.com/blog/smart-takes/atk-lands-110-million-contract-for-f-35-lightning-ii/16033?tag=mantle\\_skin;content](http://www.smartplanet.com/blog/smart-takes/atk-lands-110-million-contract-for-f-35-lightning-ii/16033?tag=mantle_skin;content)

## **A Quote**

"Although a soldier by profession, I have never felt any sort of fondness for war, and I have never advocated it, except as a means of peace." -- Ulysses S. Grant.

## **From Spartans to Osama Bin Laden - Victory Parades and Celebrations**

Putting into context of the Bin Laden rejoicing and those of ancient Greece and World War II celebrations and how different cultures look at rejoicing.

<http://www.opednews.com/articles/Glory-and-Malice-by-Mark-Sashine-110503-880.html?show=votes>

## **Hungarian War Crimes Trial**

Sandor Kepiro, 97 years old, is being tried on alleged crimes at Novi Sad in 1942.

## **Revised History Education at Pearl Harbor**

The expanded museum at Pearl Harbor now shows the viewpoints of the Japanese of events - though it is not stated if the new museum articulates the empire building of the pre-WW II government.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/travel/pearl-harbor-visitors-now-get-japanese-as-well-as-us-perspective-on-dec-7-1941-attack/2011/05/02/AFPkoxZF\\_story\\_1.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/travel/pearl-harbor-visitors-now-get-japanese-as-well-as-us-perspective-on-dec-7-1941-attack/2011/05/02/AFPkoxZF_story_1.html)

## **What Happened to the US Bases in the Philippines?**

From the time we were granted control of the Philippines after defeating Spain in the Spanish American war up until the Philippines refused to renew base leases, the US built and maintained bases throughout the island chain.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gAwU9OM2vMqbdRT8ZXb18qkqfeMA?docId=CNG.5531a5fdacd2913af0d710c9a6a041f8.b11>

## **Finding WW II Dog tags**

Using a metal detector in one case, and plain old eyeballs in another, these two people find dog tags in two vastly different places in Idaho: those of Martin Caturia and Denzil E Schetzle who was a waist gunner in the 8th Air Force.

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/522440c6d72e4dd7b0b0ffd81724eb8e/ID--Dog-Tag-Tales/>

## **“Hump” Pilots Final Reunion**

The men who flew supplies over the mountains – hence the “Hump” into China during WW II in the CBI Theatre held their final reunion. Over 500 aircraft were lost in crashes flying supplies into China.

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20110504/us\\_nm/us\\_military\\_pilots\\_reunion](http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20110504/us_nm/us_military_pilots_reunion)

## **Harold Thune Signs Photographs - for his son**

Harold Thune flew F6F "Hellcats" in the Pacific during the Second World War off the USS Intrepid. His son is US Senator John Thorne.

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/bc52dd8f96614df2967ad8b6693476f7/SD--Fighter-Plane-Signing/>

and to see photos / video go to:

<http://www.keloland.com/News/NewsDetail6371.cfm?Id=114121>

## **Flying Spitfires in 92 Squadron**

[First Light](#) by Geoffrey Wellum came out in 2003. "Never fly straight and level for more than 20 seconds. If you do, you'll die." He started flying in 1939 and fought through the Battle of Britain.

## **Serving in the 7th and 8th AF**

James R Kaufman was both in the 7th Air Force and then assigned to the 8th when is started moving to Okinawa in preparation to invade Japan after the war in Europe ended. While in the 7th he was in the 98th Bomb Squadron of the 11th Bomb group.

<http://www.hopestar.com/newsnow/x1146475853/James-Kaufman>

## **Talking WW II and Osama Bin Ladin at The American Legion Post**

The Monday gathering at this American Legion Post was a different with the announced death of Bin Ladin where they compared WW II, 9/11 and the new of the day.

<http://dunedin.patch.com/articles/dunedin-ww-ii-veterans-recall-hitler-talk-bin-laden>

## **Getting your Combat Infantry Badge**

At the end of WW II most soldiers just wanted to get home fast. And thus paperwork was often overlooked or unknown that it was to be filled out. Thus, Emerson "Cappy" Eldredge never picked up his POW Medal, Bronze Star, Combat Infantry Badge, the European-African-Middle East Campaign Medal with four bronze stars, the WWII Victory Medal, the Army Good Conduct Badge, the Rifle/Marksman Badge and the Honorable Service Badge till May 21, 2011.

<http://www.woonsocketcall.com/node/2596>

## **B-17 "Mary Alice" Undergoing Restoration Work**

This non-flying B-17 based at Duxford's American Air Museum is going in for some much needed internal and external paint work. It's been at the American Air Museum since the museum opened in 1997. The BBC article is completely wrong in the number of B-17s in the world, and the number of them that are flight worthy.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cambridgeshire-13471334>

## **UK Remembers the First Convoy to USSR**

On the HMS Belfast in the Thames near London Bridge, USSR and British WW II Veterans remember the first of many convoys that sent supplies to the USSR when it was most needed.

<http://www.culture24.org.uk/history+%26+heritage/war+%26+conflict/world+war+two/art355361>

## **Armenia Starts Paying Pensions again for USSR Veterans**

When the USSR dissolved in 1993 banks were affected and USSR veterans living in Armenia stopped getting their pensions. They have now restarted paying them.

[http://www.panarmenian.net/eng/society/news/68864/2808\\_Great\\_Patriotic\\_War\\_veterans\\_refunded\\_for\\_frozen\\_Soviet\\_deposits\\_in\\_Armenia](http://www.panarmenian.net/eng/society/news/68864/2808_Great_Patriotic_War_veterans_refunded_for_frozen_Soviet_deposits_in_Armenia)

## **Stephan Hicks - Top of Class he chose to be a Bombardier**

As the top member of his class 44-10 at Deming New Mexico bombardier school, out of 162 cadets, he eventually went to B-17 training at Sioux City. He ended up in the 8th Air Force at Ridgewell where the 381st Bomb Group was stationed.

<http://www.dglobe.com/event/article/id/47968/>

## **The Indian Munity of 1857 and how it Affected Europe**

A new book examines the revolt that occurred in India in 1857 and how different European nations and individuals reported and were affected by it - including Karl Marx.

<http://www.frontline.in/stories/20110520281007700.htm>

## **Navy Man Digs in on Utah Beach**

With his ship disabled they go ashore and dig foxholes behind the beach on D-Day - then never leave France again till December of 1944. he then gets assigned to Okinawa and land there three days after the invasion started.

[http://www.reporterherald.com/news\\_story.asp?ID=32493&pg=2](http://www.reporterherald.com/news_story.asp?ID=32493&pg=2)

## **Wolfram - The Boy Who Went To War**

This is a true book about a German who is drafted and sent both to Eastern Front and to the Western front - and survives both.

<http://www.stratfordpress.co.nz/life-style/news/pain-and-suffering-on-other-side-too/3949091/>

## **Art Looted By Nazis**

Want to find out (some) of the art that was looted during the war you can go to a number of websites to find this out now.

[www.iisg.nl/publications/errsurvey](http://www.iisg.nl/publications/errsurvey)

[www.errproject.org/jeudepaume](http://www.errproject.org/jeudepaume)

<http://err.tsdavo.org.ua>

Article lists even more locations

[http://www.artdaily.org/index.asp?int\\_sec=2&int\\_new=46977](http://www.artdaily.org/index.asp?int_sec=2&int_new=46977)

## Post War Books by Germans about WW II

Five books are listed with short synopsis about each of them. Stalingrad letters to the fall of Berlin.

- Last Letters From Stalingrad
- I Will Bear Witness
- A Stranger to Myself
- A Woman in Berlin
- My Father's Country

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703712504576244953552644470.html?mod=googlenews\\_wsj](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703712504576244953552644470.html?mod=googlenews_wsj)

## Trained by the OSS to Jump into Italy - Sent to Holland

John Cardinalli was a next generation American of Italian decent and was in the service when his parents were sent inland after the start of the war.

Joining the OSS he was all set to parachute into Italy when after a prior group of OSS agents were captured and executed as spies - so he went to Holland instead. He still has his map of his contact agents in Germany.

[http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci\\_17894319?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_17894319?nclick_check=1)

## Diversity of Forces in WW II

Italy was the one campaign where the most diverse set of countries fought side by side in combat out of all the land campaigns. But in the air the RAF had all other forces beat by a long shot by the diversity of individuals and countries that they came from – and surprisingly a lot from the Caribbean.

[http://www.blacknet.co.uk/1661\\_diversity-in-the-raf-afro-caribbean-contributions](http://www.blacknet.co.uk/1661_diversity-in-the-raf-afro-caribbean-contributions)

## Photos of the Netherlands in WW II

From their online national archive web site. You will require a translation program to understand what is written.

<http://beeldbank.nationaalarchief.nl/nl/afbeeldingen/thema/18-bevrijding-van-nederland>

## Last Man Standing Laid to Rest

At the age of 110 Claude Choules died in a Perth Australian nursing home. He joined the Royal Navy at the age of 14 and served in both world wars. He was born in 1901 at Wyre Piddle in the county of Worcestershire, England.

Florence Green of Britain is the only known other living veteran of WWI - but she did not serve in combat.

He published his autobiography in 2009. [The Last of the Last: The Final Survivor of the First World War](#)

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/may/05/claude-choules-obituary>

## **VE Day Means a Lot to The Eastern Nations**

According to official figures, the USSR lost 6.8 million soldiers "that were killed, died of wounds in captivity, from diseases, accidents, or court-martialed", and 4.4 million captured or missing in action. The lost civilian population was 14.4 million dead for a total of 26.6 million people killed (some estimates are at 28 million) of all people who were under Soviet control at the start of the war. An estimated total of 55 million people in total died as a result of the war.

61 nations participated in WW II; with combat operations in over 40 countries.

In Belarus alone one third of all Belarusians died. More than 200 cities were completely ruined.

The Great Patriotic War, the Eastern Front portion of World War II, lasted for 1418 days and nights.

## **1933 to 1937 William Dodd Ambassador to Germany**

From a teaching long time teaching background in Chicago then appointed to be the Ambassador to Germany by Franklin Roosevelt (after a lot turned it down), this man soon learned what was being said in Germany was not just bluster – but truth and was being implemented.

<http://www.npr.org/2011/05/09/135922322/william-dodd-the-u-s-ambassador-in-hitlers-berlin>

## **New Man / Drone Spy Plane "Firebird"**

<http://www.smartplanet.com/blog/thinking-tech/video-piloted-aircraft-transforms-into-a-spy-drone/7200?tag=nl.e660>

<http://www.sacred-texts.com/>

## **P-51 & Spitfire Flying Together**

Autumn air show last year at Duxford.

<http://www.ferociousfrankie.com/video1.html>

## **Carriers are making a comeback in many Navies**

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/despite-criticism-aircraft-carriers-stake-new-claims-at-forefront-of-naval-power/2011/05/08/AFsHokOG\\_story\\_1.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/despite-criticism-aircraft-carriers-stake-new-claims-at-forefront-of-naval-power/2011/05/08/AFsHokOG_story_1.html)

## **Sparta / Wilkins Crew**

Bill Giambrone bailed out of a B-24 on July 3, 1944 over Romania – then a retired Brig General read about him in the local newspaper – and recognized one of the crewman that was killed that day.

[http://articles.philly.com/2011-05-09/news/29525365\\_1\\_cargo-plane-field-trip-crew](http://articles.philly.com/2011-05-09/news/29525365_1_cargo-plane-field-trip-crew)

## **Searching for that Bronze Star**

A traffic accident left Don Greenwood of Bellingham Washington in a hospital and so he missed his awards ceremony – and with the records fire in St Louis in 1973 finding the men in the unit to verify his award is getting difficult.

<http://www.bellinghamherald.com/2011/05/16/2008843/missing-records-stymie-bellingham.html>

## **Picking Up Where he Left Off**

After 35 missions in a B-17 as a navigator, Harry Sanger was sent to pilot school and had already soloed when the war ended -- and thus never finished and got his wings. He finally went up in a Stearman Bi-plane at 90 to pick up where he left off in 1945.

[http://www.gwinnettdailypost.com/home/headlines/Ace\\_for\\_a\\_day\\_121843124.html](http://www.gwinnettdailypost.com/home/headlines/Ace_for_a_day_121843124.html)

## **Ace in a Day**

Not many fighter pilots made "Ace in a Day" during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. Harry Crosby did it flying for the navy on April 16, 1945 in an F6F Hellcat.

[http://www.dailybulletin.com/ci\\_18111395](http://www.dailybulletin.com/ci_18111395)

## **Lt Frank McCauley – 56<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group**

McCauley was one of the early pilots assigned to the 56<sup>th</sup> flying his missions during 1943 in his P-47 named "Rat Racer". He lives in Hamilton Montana. He flew 46 missions. He was one of the speakers at the Rocky Mountain Museum of Military.

[http://missoulian.com/news/local/article\\_ba54b046-8a6f-11e0-9049-001cc4c002e0.html](http://missoulian.com/news/local/article_ba54b046-8a6f-11e0-9049-001cc4c002e0.html)

## **Chuck Duus Grand Marshall at Corvallis Memorial Day Parade**

A tail gunner in a B-17 through 17 missions over France and Germany he was shot down over Cologne on his 18<sup>th</sup> mission and spent the rest of the war as a POW.

"I'm the only WWII prisoner of war left in the Bitterroot Valley," Duus said last week at his longtime Hamilton home. "All the rest are gone. This will be a day for us to remember them all."

[http://missoulian.com/news/state-and-regional/article\\_940df373-a505-5c8e-a4fd-28b6ecc9c75a.html](http://missoulian.com/news/state-and-regional/article_940df373-a505-5c8e-a4fd-28b6ecc9c75a.html)

## **22 Months in Training – And the War Ends**

Stephen Hicks joined up and went through all the schools to become a bombardier and arrived in Europe two weeks before the war ended. Then went to school for two more weeks to learn the different radios in the ETO and the war ended there. Back to the states to be retrained for B-29s and the war ended.

<http://www.dglobe.com/event/article/id/47968/>



## **Clerks Get Metals Too**

Without a company clerk – no one got any medals. Bob King served with the 438<sup>th</sup> and served part of his time in the 8<sup>th</sup>, then after they were transferred to the 9<sup>th</sup>, with them where they deployed to France after the invasion.

[http://communitynewspapergroup.com/articles/2011/04/21/oelwein\\_daily\\_register/news/doc4daf14a73cdd0810490024.txt](http://communitynewspapergroup.com/articles/2011/04/21/oelwein_daily_register/news/doc4daf14a73cdd0810490024.txt)

## **Duxford Airshows in England**

Flying Legends July 9-10

Sally B & Friends July 31

American Air Day August 19

Duxford Air Show 3-4 September

Autumn Air Show 19 October

## **Oregon Chapter News and Contact Information**

***Oregon Chapter meeting is on **August 7, 2011. 10 AM till 2 PM*****

All meetings are free and open to the public – there is no cost to attend any 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force Historical Society meeting.

### ***Need a Ride to the Meeting?***

There are many members who can no longer drive due to age so we are trying to find out those who are in need of transportation so that we can find other members who live nearby who can pick you up and then take you home afterwards.

If you would like to come to the meeting and need a ride please contact any chapter officer or board member and let them know.

Tom Davis, Bob Dean, Tom Philo, Sharon Campbell, Charlie Gallagher, Wally Groce, Bob Schuberg, Jerry Ritter, Joani Hamilton, Bert Campbell, Warren Caldwell, or Don Bourgeois. Via e-mail you can send the request to [secretary@8thafhsorgeon.com](mailto:secretary@8thafhsorgeon.com) if you do not have the phone numbers for the people listed above.

### ***Send Stories and documents to be Borrowed / Archived***

If you have items that you wish to share with others, they can be loaned to the Oregon Chapter, scanned and catalogued and then returned to you. You can always donate them permanently to the chapter if you wish. Contact Tom Philo to make arrangements for the documents.

Items in the archive are usually be posted onto the web site (see release form on web site) so that everyone can learn from what others have experienced.

### ***Oregon Chapter 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS***

If you wish to be removed from the e-mail list please let us know.

Secretary 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS of Oregon

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