

The 379th Bomb Group WWII Association



THE "GRAND SLAM" GROUP

379th Bombardment Group (H)
Formed at Wendover, Utah – December 1942
Moved to Kimbolton Hunts, England – May 1943
AAF Station 117
Activated for 2 years, 7 months, 29 days



B-17 Flying Fortress

Commanding Officers:
Colonel Maurice A. Preston
Nov. 1942 – Oct. 1944
Colonel Lewis E. Lyle
Oct. 1944 – May 1945

When it comes to magnificent scenery and natural beauty, Colorado Springs has it all. Here you will find *Pikes Peak*, one of Colorado's highest mountains at 14,110 feet, *Cheyenne Mountain* and the famous *Garden of the Gods*. Visited by millions every year, "Colorado Springs is as Colorado as you can get". Home to the *Olympic Training Complex* and the *Air Force Academy*, this area is rich with diversity, history and culture. Whether it is art, history, gaming or viewing some of the most beautiful scenery in the country, you will find something memorable in Colorado Springs.

If you are flying to the reunion, the airlines serving Colorado Springs include: Allegiant Air, American Airlines, Continental, Delta, Frontier Airlines, Northwest, United, and US Airways. The hotel provides a complimentary airport shuttle to the Colorado Springs Municipal Airport. For those of you driving to the reunion, the hotel provides complimentary guest parking. The hotel is conveniently located at exit # 138 off Interstate 25. Call the hotel for specific directions if needed.

The *Garden of the Gods* tour on Wednesday will provide dramatic views, 300' towering sandstone rock formations against a backdrop of snow-capped Pikes Peak and brilliant blue skies. At the *Garden of the Gods Trading Post*, located at the other side of the park, there will be time for lunch on your own and browsing the Southwestern gift shop and art gallery. Our welcome reception buffet with cash bar will follow in the evening.

Thursday, board the bus for the guided *Cripple Creek* tour. More than 100 years ago this charming community attracted tens of thousands of gold prospector's to its hillsides in search of their fortunes. At *Cripple Creek*, you will find unusual shops, as well as places for lunch on your own. In the evening, a buffet dinner and cash bar will follow.

On Friday, we will tour the Air Force Academy, view the cadet lunch formation, visit the 379th monument and have lunch at the officers club. In the evening, we will have a chuck wagon dinner with all the trimmings and western style entertainment at the *Flying W Ranch*, a working mountain cattle ranch, located in the foothills of Colorado Springs.

Saturday we start the day with squadron and general membership meetings. In the afternoon the popular symposium will feature a POW round table. A photographer will be on-site to record the evening highlights as well as take the veterans' group photo and reunion attendee pictures for the Memory Book. Make sure you have your picture taken for the memory book even if you do not plan to purchase one.

Military Reunion Planners must receive the activity registration form with payment by **August 21, 2009**.

The Crowne Plaza Hotel must receive your telephone registration or the hotel registration form including payment information no later than **August 24, 2009**.

Please make your reservations early. When our allotment of hotel rooms is filled, the hotel cannot guarantee additional rooms. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

See you in Colorado Springs at our 23rd reunion!

Michael Hart, President (469) 633-0689
Larry Loveless, 1st Vice-President (540) 373-1596

Email: mmphart@sbcglobal.net
Email: ginlotfarms@verizon.net

Crowne Plaza Colorado Springs Hotel
2886 S. Circle Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
Reservations (Mon-Fri) 9-4 MST: (719) 576-5900 or (800) 981-4012
www.crowneplaza.com/coloradospring

The hotel, at 6,000 feet in elevation, is situated just south of downtown Colorado Springs at I-25 exit #138. To the west is the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains with spectacular views of Pikes Peak. Many shops and restaurants are also nearby.

Renovated in 2008, guestrooms are non-smoking rooms with either one king size bed or two queen beds. All rooms have hair dryers, irons, ironing boards and coffee makers. Other amenities include open courtyards to the pools and solarium, a 24-hour business center, high-speed, wireless Internet access and an on-site gift and food store.

Handicap accessible rooms are available. Please request special accommodations when making your reservation. The hotel offers complimentary registered guest parking, complimentary airport shuttle to and from Colorado Springs Municipal Airport (COS) and a local area shuttle within a 5.0-mile radius, subject to availability. The check-in time is 3:00 PM and check-out is 12:00 PM.

-----Cut Here and Mail to the Hotel -----
379th Bomb Group Association – Hotel Reservation Form
Reunion Dates: September 23-26, 2009

Name _____ Sharing room w/ _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
TEL # (____) _____ - _____ Email address _____
Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____ # Nites _____
of rooms _____ #of people in room _____

____ Handicap access ____ King Bed ____ 2 Queen Beds (If room type is not available, nearest room type will be assigned).

Rate: \$109 + 9.4% tax and includes a daily breakfast buffet. Rate will be honored 2 days before /after reunion dates, based on availability. Reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or first night's deposit enclosed.

Cutoff Date: 8/24/09. Reservations received after this date will be processed on space & rate availability.

Cancellation Policy: Deposit is refundable if reservation is canceled 24 hours prior to day of arrival and a cancellation number must be obtained by the guest.

Reservation Direct Phone (9:00-4:00 Mon-Fri, Mountain Time): (719) 576-5900 or (800) 981-4012. Please inform the hotel that your reservation should be under the 379th Bomb Group Association rates.

____ American Express ____ Visa ____ MasterCard ____ Discover

Credit Card # _____ Exp Date _____

Signature (Regardless of payment method) _____

Mail To: Crowne Plaza Colorado Springs Hotel, 2886 S. Circle Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80906

379th BOMB GROUP ~ REUNION RESERVATION FORM

Complete and mail this entire form with a check made payable to:

Military Reunion Planners, P.O. Box 1588, Colleyville, TX 76034

REGISTRATION FEE -- Everyone Please Pay: _____ people at \$45 p.p. =

Members & Guests attending more than 1 event or group meal **must** pay the fee

EVENT A: Early Bird: *Garden of the Gods* Tour

Wednesday, September 23rd (1230-1630) _____ people at \$30 p.p. =

Welcome Dinner:

Wednesday, September 23rd (1800-2000 at the Hotel) _____ people at \$30 p.p. =

EVENT B: Historic *Cripple Creek* Tour:

Thursday, September 24th (0900-1500) _____ people at \$40 p.p. =

Buffet Dinner:

Thursday, September 24th (1800-2000 at the Hotel) _____ people at \$32 p.p. =

EVENT C: *Air Force Academy* Tour & Lunch:

Friday, September 25th (1000-1500) _____ people at \$32 p.p. =

EVENT D: Group Chuck Wagon Supper

Friday, September 25th (1700-2100) _____ people at \$49 p.p. =

Cocktails & Banquet Dinner:

Saturday, September 26th (1800 at the Hotel)

SELECT Beef _____ people at \$33 p.p. =

OR Chicken _____ people at \$33 p.p. =

OR Trout _____ people at \$33 p.p. =

Tour Cancellation Insurance: (Protect your money) _____ people at \$10 p.p. =

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$

>>> PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:

Name (As you want it to appear on badge): _____

Spouse: _____

Guest: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ Phone: (Other) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Emergency contact during the reunion: _____ Ph: _____

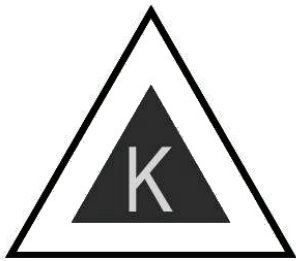
Squadron: _____

Yes, I have made reservations at the host hotel. Check In Date: _____ Check Out Date: _____

Must you be lifted hydraulically onto the bus while seated in your wheel chair in order to participate in bus trips?
(Please note that we cannot guarantee availability.) Yes, I require a lift _____ No, I do not _____

Reservations are due by August 21st, 2009. Late reservations accepted on a space available basis. You should make a copy of this form for your records. For information call weekdays: 817-251-3551 or Email: info@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com. Requests for refunds must be made in writing and postmarked before August 21st. No refunds will be made after this date, unless you have purchased *Tour Cancellation Insurance*. There is a \$10 per person refund processing fee. Your cancelled check is your receipt and proof of purchase. There is a \$25 return check fee for NSF. For a written confirmation please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. MRP will not be held liable for failure of vendors to provide contracted services or any injuries/accidents that may occur during the reunion. Sorry, no refunds will be given starting 3 days before the reunion for any reason. Tours require a minimum of 30 people in order to operate. Full refunds given for any cancelled Event.

Date Rec'd:	Check #	Amount\$	XCL #



379th BOMB GROUP **2009 REUNION EVENTS**

EVENT A: EARLY BIRD TOUR: GARDEN OF THE GODS

Wednesday, September 23rd (1230-1630)

Board your coach for the short ride to the *Garden of the Gods*, one of the most photographed natural wonders in the United States. The 1,350 acre park at the foot of *Pikes Peak* features fantastically shaped sandstone formations that jut from the earth at crazy angles. The Visitor's Center film explains the formation of these huge geological masterpieces. From here, you will have a spectacular view for pictures as well as geological and historical exhibits. Then board your coach for a driving tour through the *Garden*, stopping on route for pictures. At the *Garden of the Gods Trading Post*, located at the other side of the park, there will be time for lunch on your own, and browsing the Southwestern gift shop and art gallery.

Please note: You may choose to have lunch prior to taking the tour; there will be an opportunity at the Garden of the Gods to have lunch at your expense.

EVENT B: HISTORIC CRIPPLE CREEK TOUR

Thursday, September 24th (0900-1500)

"GOLD" was the cry that reverberated around the world and "Pikes Peak or Bust" was the rallying cry of thousands of prospectors. The historic town of *Cripple Creek* sits on the southwest slopes of majestic *Pikes Peak*. More than 100 years ago, this community attracted tens of thousands of gold-seekers to its hillsides in search of their fortunes. The gold mines are an important part of *Cripple Creeks'* very colorful history. This tour will take you back to the abundant history of life in the 1890's. Upon arrival your luxury coach and experienced guide will provide a very informative riding tour of the *Cripple Creek* area. You will then have time on your own at *Cripple Creek*. You may choose to visit the *District Museum* located adjacent to the train station, spend your time at one of the many very hospitable casinos, or just stroll through the historic town where you will find unusual shops, as well as places for lunch on your own.

EVENT C: AIR FORCE ACADEMY TOUR & LUNCH

Friday, September 25th (1000-1500)

Spend the day at the *Air Force Academy* which spans 18,000 spectacular acres nestled against the Rocky Mountains. Your visit to the Academy includes a stop at the Visitor's Center where you will see a short introductory film, a museum, many exhibits, as well as a gift shop. There will be a short walking tour to the *Chapel, Arnold Hall & the Field House*. The tour includes a visit to the 379th Monument located at the Academy Cemetery. Following the tour, a special lunch (included in the tour price) has been arranged at the Officer's Club.

EVENT D: GROUP CHUCK WAGON SUPPER

Friday, September 25th (1700-2100)

This evening, enjoy a special group dinner at the *Flying W Ranch*, a working mountain cattle ranch, located in the foothills of Colorado Springs. Specializing in authentic western food and western style entertainment since 1953, this is going to be a dinner you won't forget. Experience picturesque natural surroundings, an authentic Western Village, and a mighty tasty *Chuck Wagon Supper*, a meal typical of one that might have been served on a cattle drive of years past. The Old West experience includes the *Flying W Wranglers*, who will top off the evening with their outstanding Western Stage Show. Don't miss this fabulous 'western' night out with your friends and family ~ boots optional.

Important Reunion Notes:

Please understand that a certain amount of walking is necessary from the bus to attractions and in some instances to also see the attractions. Please consider your abilities before purchasing tours. Be sure to bring photo identification (like a driver's license) on all events All tour times are subject to change. A final itinerary is available at registration.

379th BOMB GROUP WWII ASSOCIATION
Colorado Springs Crowne Plaza Hotel, CO
September 23-27, 2009
Tentative Schedule

Wednesday, September 23

0900 - 2100 Gallery of Photos/Memorabilia, PX, and video room open (for the duration of the reunion)
1000 - 1200 Board of Directors Meeting
1200 - 1700 Reunion Registration open (Hours will be posted at the reunion.)
1230 - 1630 Garden of the Gods (Lunch not included)
1800 - 2000 Welcome Reception Buffet and cash bar

Thursday, September 24

0700 - 0845 Full Breakfast Buffet
0900 - 2100 Memorabilia, PX, and video room open
0800 - 0845 Reunion Registration open (Hours will be posted at the reunion.)
0900 - 1500 Cripple Creek (Lunch not included)
1800 - 2000 Buffet Dinner and cash bar

Friday, September 25

0700 - 0845 Full Breakfast Buffet
0900 - 2100 Memorabilia, PX, and video room open
0800 - 0945 Reunion Registration open (Hours will be posted at the reunion.)
0845 - 0945 Next Generation Meeting
1000 - 1500 Air Force Academy (Lunch included)
1700 - 2100 Flying W Ranch Chuck Wagon Supper with Entertainment

Saturday, September 26

0700 - 0845 Full Breakfast Buffet
0900 - 1000 Memorabilia, PX, and video room closes at 1500
0830 - 0900 Reunion Registration open (Hours will be posted at the reunion.)
0900 - 1000 524th Squadron Meeting
0900 - 1000 525th Squadron Meeting
0900 - 1000 526th Squadron Meeting
0900 - 1000 527th Squadron Meeting
0900 - 1000 HQ & 82nd Meeting
1000 - 1200 General Membership Meeting
1200 - 1300 Lunch on your own
1300 - 1400 Board of Directors Meeting
1415 - 1600 Symposium-POW Round Table
1700 - 1730 Group Photo (WWII Veterans Only)
1730 - Cash Bar Reception and Memory Book pictures
1900 - 2100 Banquet Dinner

Sunday, September 27

Farewells and departures

Note: Buses load 15 minutes before departure.
All reunion registration hours will be posted at the registration desk and in the hotel lobby.