



# Ten-Forty Times

The American Legion - Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post 1040 - Delmar NY

September - October 2013

## U.S. Air Force Fact Sheet - BOEING B-17F MEMPHIS BELLE®

The Memphis Belle, a B-17F Flying Fortress, is one of the most famous aircraft in history. In May 1943 it became the first U.S. Army Air Forces heavy bomber to complete 25 missions over Europe and return to the United States. The pilot, then-Lt. Robert Morgan, named the aircraft after his wartime girlfriend, Margaret Polk, of Memphis, Tenn. Lt. Morgan chose the artwork from a 1941 George Petty illustration in Esquire magazine.

Flying in the 324th Bomb Squadron of the 91st Bomb Group (Heavy), the Memphis Belle and its crew of 10 flew their first combat mission on Nov. 7, 1942. Until the arrival of long-range fighters later in the war, USAAF heavy bombers often flew without escort for part of their missions. Faced with hordes of enemy aircraft, deadly anti-aircraft fire and the lack of friendly fighters in the target area, it was highly unlikely that a bomber crew would finish their required 25 missions.

The crew of the Memphis Belle beat the odds with their 25th combat mission on May 17, 1943, against the naval yard at Lorient, France. Interestingly, this raid was the Belle's 24th combat mission--the original crew occasionally flew missions on other 91st BG (H) B-17s (and others took the Belle on some missions also). So, on May 19, the Memphis Belle flew its 25th combat mission on a strike against Kiel, Germany, while manned by a different crew.

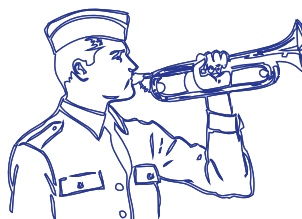
Upon their return to the United States in June 1943, the Memphis Belle's crew flew the aircraft across the country on a three-month war bond and morale boosting tour. With the bond tour and the 1944 William Wyler documentary film titled *The Memphis Belle* -- depicting actual combat footage -- the

aircraft and its crew became widely known and celebrated. In 1990 a major motion picture of the same name added to their fame.

For many, the story of the Memphis Belle has become a timeless symbol of all the heroic USAAF bomber crews who flew against Nazi Germany in World War II. In need of a thorough restoration, the Memphis Belle arrived at the National Museum of the United States Air Force in October 2005. A careful, multi-year conservation and restoration effort by museum staff -- including corrosion treatment, the full outfitting of missing equipment and accurate markings -- will bring the Memphis Belle back to pristine condition.



Reprinted from: *National Museum of the US Air Force website*



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## From The Commander

This is my first letter as Commander of the Blanchard Post. I would like to tell you how honored I am to serve as your Commander, and I would like to thank my predecessor, Steve Riedel, for handing over a post that is doing well. This mission I am on could not have started without the help of many, but in particular, our Chairman of the Board of Directors, Phil Giacone, whose guidance has greatly improved this Post above and beyond. I promise to work hard for all of you and I truly value all the work that is and has been done already for the Post.

I want, at this time, to ask for your input and also for your support. In order to continue to be successful, we need teamwork... to become a "family", not like what you were born into but rather what you are living in now. This Post cannot survive without all it's parts working in unison as a family. Our S.A.L. is a key component in making the many functions we have planned so successful. I thank our new Commander, Butch Levine and past Commander Bob Wagner for all the work they have done and continue to do. The Sons are the muscle of the Post. As our members grow older we need them to be as strong as we once were.

On this note, let me acknowledge MERLE OLIVER as our most experienced member, followed by AL HOFAKER, born, about two weeks after Merle. To serve our country as they did needs our Post's recognition. I hope to be as fit, both mentally and physically, as those two if I am blessed to reach their age. Our Auxiliary is truly an asset to the Blanchard Post and completes the "family" very well. We will look to them to guide us on the path of Honor, Service and Integrity.

The summer is more than half over and it is time to roll up our sleeves and get to work. I would like to challenge all of our Regular Legion members to step up and volunteer on one or

more of the main activities coming up on the calendar. Our 2nd Vice Commander, Jeremy Martelle, will be happy to give you an assignment or take your offer to work. This is for Regular Legion members only. Please give him a call or e-mail him with your availability at 439-3829 or [Jeremy@martelle.us](mailto:Jeremy@martelle.us). He will direct you to the lead person if it is needed. Most of the time the same people do the majority of work. Let's see if we can change this. The Post has done a good job supporting local and national veteran groups. I want to continue doing this.

Let's have fun! Past Commander Paul Lukatschat's model turned the corner to having fun with the start of Sunday football. Let's continue TO HAVE FUN and we can continue to be great. As I walk through our lobby and see our Past Commander's board, I realize there is not one Past Commander that I have not learned from. Starting with Gerry Decker, who recruited me as a member, Bob Glastetter, Tom Frazier, Ollie Palmer, Pete Rossman, Bob Conti, Ernie Gall (May he Rest in Peace), Dave Duff, Joe VanDeloo, Mark Wahl, Paul Lukatschat, Both Phil & Joe Giacone, and of course, the aforementioned Commander, Steve Riedel, just to name a few. Also, I would like to thank all who served over the years for their time and service as Commander.

I want more members to attend meetings. We will have better fare after regular Post meetings. Look for a "Menu" to be catered. I will use every resource available to this end. Any suggestions to increase attendance will be welcome. Please E-mail [scorson@juno.com](mailto:scorson@juno.com) with any concerns on any topic. Now to finish my say.

The lounge is there to relax from the daily grind and as a release from the work we all do. It should be free of bad attitudes and ill feelings, and every member should feel welcome and be respected. This Post is not about consuming alcohol, but enjoying company and camaraderie. I hope to see you soon at the Post. Remember Our "Welcome Back" Party is Sunday September 8th. Please join us for the FUN!

Join us at the September Meeting and celebrate 50 years of Eugene Fitzpatrick's continuous service. I invite all members with 50+ years of service to be included in the celebration. Cake will be served. Refreshments will also be served after the meeting.

For God and Country

*Steve Corson*

Commander American Legion - N.A. Blanchard Post 1040

## Legion Officers

Commander.....	Steve Corson
1st Vice Commander.....	Al Hofaker
2nd Vice Commander.....	Jeremy Martelle
3rd Vice Commander.....	Clif Thompson
Adjutant.....	Mike Kanuk
Finance Officer.....	Joe VanDeloo
Chaplain.....	Ralph Rahm
Sergeant-at-Arms.....	Steve Riedel
Historian.....	Merle Oliver

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## Sons of the Legion News

Welcome Back All Sons Members

I hope you had a great summer. It is time to get back to work on helping the Blanchard Post on completing some projects. We have some events coming up in September. They are the Welcome Back Party on September 8 and a Breakfast on the last Sunday of the month.

I would like to give thanks to John Weidman and John Rees for their excellent work on the Golf Outing in June. Hooray to Bobby Wagner on the clambake.

We have a meeting on September 11th and I would like to see some new faces at the meeting. Let's have fun helping the Blanchard Post grow.

**Butch Levine**  
Commander

*Sons of the American Legion  
Paying Tribute to the Service of our Fathers*

**Thank You!**

My heartfelt thanks go out to all the volunteers who handed out poppies the week before Memorial Day. The Poppy Program elevates community awareness and respect of those who sacrificed their lives and health to keep our nation free. This year was a huge success largely due to you donating your time. Thanks again!

**Maryann Enrico - Chairperson**

## Sons of the Legion Officers

Commander.....	Butch Levine
1st Vice Commander.....	Bob Wagner
2nd Vice Commander.....	John Weidman
3rd Vice Commander.....	John Rees
Adjutant.....	Don Geurtze
Treasurer.....	Mike Giacone
Historian.....	Mike Coffey
Sgt. at Arms.....	Eric Swett
Chaplain.....	Johnny Osterhout

## Legion Auxiliary News

Dear Friends:

I trust you have all had a relaxing summer and are ready to join our Unit in accomplishing various projects. We still need our members to step up to chair one of our empty committees - please give it some thought. The "NICU" program for collecting baby items for our service personnel in Germany is an on-going project, so we are looking for items such as baby clothing, diapers, powder, etc. These items can be dropped off in the coat room as you enter the Post.

Also, coupons, can tabs, soup and education labels can be left in the coat room, in the box on the shelf. At last years meetings, it was decided that an item would be brought for our food pantry. This will continue and if able it is suggested that we bring an item for the "NICU" box.

Let's come together and attend our meetings on the first Tuesday of the month now thru June. Let's patronize and assist the various functions at our Post. This is one way to keep us afloat - until next month.....

Your President,  
**Roseann Lohrey**



**Pancakes, Waffles,  
Fruit, French Toast,  
Home Fries, Ham,  
Sausage, Omelettes  
Scrambled Eggs,  
Juice & Coffee**

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**SEP 29, OCT 27 & NOV 24**

**9am - Noon  
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# September 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>1</div>  <p>Sunday Football Games Bring a dish.</p>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Post Affairs 7pm</div>  <div>Legion Meeting 7:30pm</div>  <div>Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm</div>	<div>4</div>	<div>5</div>	<div>6</div>	<div>7</div>
<div>8</div> <p>Welcome Back Party 4pm - 7pm</p>  <p>Sunday Football Games Bring a dish.</p>	<div>9</div>	<div>10</div>	<div>11</div>  <div>SAL Meeting 7pm</div>	<div>12</div>	<div>13</div>	<div>14</div>
<div>15</div>  <p>Sunday Football Games Bring a dish.</p>	<div>16</div>	<div>17</div>	<div>18</div>	<div>19</div>  <p>Albany County Legion Golf Outing</p>	<div>20</div>	<div>21</div> <p>Karaoke w/ Marie 8pm</p> 
<div>22</div>  <p>Sunday Football Games Bring a dish.</p>	<div>23</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>
<div>29</div> <p>Sunday Football Games Bring a dish.</p>   <p>Breakfast Buffet 9am - Noon</p>	<div>30</div>  <p>Board of Directors 7pm</p>	<div>SAL Member</div> <div>Bethlehem Home Maintenance</div> <div>Your Local HANDYMAN Prompt, Safe, Reliable, Fully Insured All Calls Returned Mark Burke, Contractor 488-0595</div>				



# October 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1  Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm	2	3	4	5
6  Sunday Football Games Bring a dish.	7 Post Affairs 7pm  Legion Meeting 7:30pm	8	9  SAL Meeting 7pm	10	11	12
13  Sunday Football Games Bring a dish.	14	15	16	17	18	19 <b>BUS TRIP</b>  a legendary gaming experience Karaoke w/ Marie 8pm <b>KARAOKE</b>
20  Sunday Football Games Bring a dish.	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Sunday Football Games Bring a dish.   Breakfast Buffet 9am - Noon	28  Board of Directors 7pm	29	30	31		

## The Editor's Corner

I know I sound like a broke record but we continue to concentrate on electronic communications to keep all of you up to date with everything that has been happening at the Post. During the summer all news was distributed by e-mail. A total of about 10 emails were sent out to the 364 members who have provided email addresses to us. The remaining 400+ members were in the dark.

This is the second edition that will be sent by postal mail to only those members with no email address or to those who has specifically requested a paper copy. Not having to mail about 300 copies saves the post on printing and mailing costs of about \$1500 per year.

Please drop me a note at: [nabpost1040@gmail.com](mailto:nabpost1040@gmail.com) and let me know what organization you belong to so I can add you to the e-mail distribution list. Help us go green and save some money at the same time. We do not share your e-mail with members. All e-mail communications are sent with member e-mail addresses hidden.

*Barry E. Bedrosian*  
Editor

## NEW YEARS EVE PARTY!!!!

Please call the post at 439-9819, if you're interested in coming to a New Years Eve Party to welcome in 2014. This will be a gala event, and going back to the old way of doing things. We need to make plans now for this event which is 8 months away.

This will be a semi formal event, with an open bar downstairs from 6pm to 7pm and a prime rib dinner upstairs at 7pm. A live band will play until 12 am when we will bring in the year 2014. The bar will remain open until 1am. At 1am the party will continue downstairs where a light buffet will be served.

The Post will provide drivers to pick you up and take you home so this will be a perfect evening. Just think, all of this for only \$50.00 per person. Again, please call if you're interested, we need 140 people to make this work.

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John Rees at Post 1040: 518-439-9819



After the event enjoy a  
Steak BBQ Dinner at  
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## Legion Auxiliary Officers

President - Roseann Lohrey  
Vice Pres. - Harriet Minick . . . . [grammy12209@hotmail.com](mailto:grammy12209@hotmail.com)  
Treasurer - Tracy Risko . . . . . [trisko@nysba.com](mailto:trisko@nysba.com)  
Secretary - Dale Lukatschat . . . . . [dlukats@aol.com](mailto:dlukats@aol.com)

**Members are welcome to bring guests to the lounge. The guest MUST sign the guest book at the door. The member must be in the lounge with their guest at ALL times. There are no exceptions. Members can loose lounge privileges for failing to follow this requirement.**

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## From The Chairman

I hope everyone had a the wonderful summer. Welcome back to another year at The Blanchard Post. Our Welcome Back Party, will be Sunday, September 8th, from 4PM to 7PM. Please make sure you call the post to make a reservation, as we don't want to run out of any shrimp. As always, anyone can bring in their specialty dish. As usual we will have a good selection of food.

The fundraiser for the heating and air conditioning system was a success. The new system should be installed by the Welcome Back Party. Our next project will be to remodel the downstairs bathrooms and continue on with the renovation of the lounge.

Our post is really looking good and I want to thank all who contributed either financially or physically. Butchie Levine and his crew, have done a wonderful job on the outside, and the flowers around the flag pole are absolutely beautiful.

All the events are in place, with the best chairman, and slate of officers from all three of our organizations, to ensure a success. Please mark your calenders accordingly, as these events will be sold out. Lets have a great year, and I hope to see you Sept 8th.

*Phil Giacone*  
Chairman of the Board

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Steve Riedel	Al Hofaker
Larry Justice	Mark Wahl
George Decker	Phil Giacone
Jeremy Martele	<i>Chairman</i>

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## NEW MEMBERS

**Legion** - Anthony Gonzalez, Frederick E. Heste,  
Nicole Rossman and George Matthews  
**Auxiliary** - Lisa Szymaszek, Rose Ann Garry, Alyson Brod,  
Frances Buist, Kathryn Wickham, Paulette Monaco  
and Lauren Schienker  
**Sons** - Robert Taranto, Robert Sullivan, Robert Peck,  
Keith Shufelt and Daniel Cunningham



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**OPEN BAR**

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**Open to**  
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**a guest only!**