

**8<sup>th</sup> AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REUNION  
WESTIN CROWN CENTER – KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI  
OCTOBER 5 – 10, 2004**

October really isn't *that* far away, so make plans now to attend the 30<sup>th</sup> annual reunion, to be held in Kansas City, Missouri, in our nation's heartland. We have expectations for a large reunion this year, as several new Bomb Groups will join in! Make your reservations early, as rooms may be limited, as well as some of the tours. The weather is wonderful in October with high temps ranging from the mid-60s to mid-70s.

Kansas City played a major role in history as a gateway for pioneers heading West along the Oregon, California, and Santa Fe trails. In the mid-1800s, settlers, missionaries and traders began their overland journeys from several local points while the Town of Kansas was incorporated in 1850. Railroads and livestock helped Kansas City establish itself as a booming business community, and jazz and barbeque set the tone for signature entertainment and food. Famous Kansas Citians include Harry S. Truman, Walt Disney, Jean Harlow, Thomas Hart Benton, Charlie "Bird" Parker, Ed Asner, Satchel Paige, Melissa Ethridge, Robert Altman, Oleta Adams, George Brett, Maurice Green, and Tom Watson.

**REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS**

See choices below and complete the Registration Form noting your event choices and personal information. By "WWII GROUP," we're asking for the group or unit in which you served (specific Bomb Group, Fighter Group, PRG, HQ, etc.). We use this information for tallying totals for each group, nametags, and seating arrangements. If you prefer to sit with a different group, please give us that information too. Remit by check or money order payable to Armed Forces Reunions by September 2, 2004 (no credit cards or phone reservations accepted). Forms received after this date will be accepted on a space available basis only. Hotel reservation forms should be filled out completely and mailed to the hotel by September 2, 2004.

**ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. CANCELLATION POLICY**

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less a \$5 processing fee. 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 a \$5 processing 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 doesn't cancel your reunion activities.

**MEALS / EVENTS CHOICES**

CHOICE #1 TOTAL PACKAGE \$180

Package includes 7 hotel food functions starting with breakfast on Thursday. Tours are separate.

CHOICE # 2 PARTIAL PACKAGE \$128

Package includes 5 hotel food functions starting with breakfast on Friday. Tours are separate.

Breakfast menus: The continental breakfasts on Thursday, Friday, and Sunday include juice, breakfast breads, yogurt, cold cereals & milk, fruit, coffee, and tea. The breakfast buffet on Saturday includes juice, assorted breakfast breads, eggs, pancakes, sausage, potatoes, fruit, coffee, and tea.

CHOICE #3 INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

Friday Rendezvous Dinner \$35 and Saturday Banquet \$40 can be purchased separately, but are included in both packages above.

**TOUR OPTIONS**

Wednesday: City Tour \$27, Stephenson's Restaurant & Truman Museum \$45, and New Theatre Restaurant \$64. Thursday: Fort Leavenworth \$40 and Steamboat Arabia / Miniature Toy Museum \$42. Friday: Steamboat Arabia / Miniature Toy Museum \$42 and Stephenson's Restaurant & Truman Museum \$45. Saturday: City Tour \$27.

# **8<sup>th</sup> AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REUNION**

**OCTOBER 5 – 10, 2004**

**WESTIN CROWN CENTER – KANSAS CITY**

## **Tuesday, October 5**

2:00pm - 7:00pm **Early Bird Registration open**

## **Wednesday, October 6**

8:00am - 10:00 **Reunion Registration open**  
9:00am - Tbd Hospitality/Gathering Room & Memorabilia Room opens  
9:00am - 2:00pm CITY TOUR  
11:00am - 3:45pm STEPHENSON'S APPLE FARM / TRUMAN MUSEUM  
1:00pm - Tbd 8AFHS 'PX' open through Sunday  
1:00pm - 5:00pm **Reunion Registration open**  
2:00pm - 8AFHS Board Meeting  
3:00pm - 4:00pm Discussion on Web Page Development for 8AFHS Units/Chapters  
5:45pm - 10:30pm NEW THEATRE RESTAURANT

## **Thursday, October 7**

7:00am - 8:30am Continental Breakfast  
8:00am - 9:00am **Reunion Registration open**  
8:00am - 9:30am Unit Advisory and Chapter & Unit Development Meeting  
9:30am - 3:00pm FORT LEAVENWORTH  
9:45am - 3:15pm STEAMBOAT ARABIA MUSEUM / TOY AND MINIATURE MUSEUM  
3:30pm - 4:30pm Medical Advisory Seminar by Dr. Brown  
4:45pm - 5:30pm 8<sup>th</sup> AF Heritage Museum Presentation by Judy Walker  
2:00pm - 5:00pm **Reunion Registration open**  
6:00pm - 7:00pm Cash Bar Reception  
7:00pm - 9:00pm Group Dinner & Entertainment

## **Friday, October 8**

7:00am - 8:30am Continental Breakfast  
8:00am - 10:00am **Reunion Registration open**  
8:30am - 10:00am Individual Group Meetings  
10:15am - 3:45pm STEAMBOAT ARABIA MUSEUM / TOY AND MINIATURE MUSEUM  
11:00am - 3:45pm STEPHENSON'S APPLE FARM / TRUMAN MUSEUM  
2:00pm - 5:00pm **Reunion Registration open**  
6:00pm - 7:00pm 8AFHS Cash Bar Reception  
7:00pm - Rendezvous Dinners and 'Hangar Flying'

## **Saturday, October 9**

7:00am - 8:30am Full Breakfast Buffet  
9:00am - 11:00am General Membership Meeting  
11:15am - 4:15pm CITY TOUR  
1:00pm - 4:00pm SYMPOSIUM: "Remembering 'The Kassel Mission', Sept. 27, 1944"  
5:30pm - 6:00pm **Reunion Registration open**  
6:00pm - 7:00pm 8AFHS Cash Bar Reception  
7:00pm - 8AFHS Gala Banquet

## **Sunday, October 10**

7:00am - 8:30am Continental Breakfast  
8:30am - 9:15am Separate Protestant and Catholic Services at the hotel  
9:30am - 8AFHS Annual Board Meeting

## ***REUNION HIGHLIGHTS***

### **CITY TOUR**

Wednesday, October 6 and Saturday, October 9

Kansas City is known as the City of Fountains. See why as we make our way through the area. Drive through Westport, the renovated historic district featuring some of Kansas City's oldest buildings. This area marks the beginning of the Sante Fe Trail. Other points of interest include Lewis and Clark Point, the world famous stockyards, and the Liberty Memorial, which is the only memorial dedicated to those who served in World War I. This is a great place to take pictures of the Kansas City skyline. You'll have free time for lunch on your own at Country Club Plaza, Kansas City's premier retail, restaurant, and entertainment district. The plaza offers more than 150 shops and restaurants nestled within old-world architecture, captivating fountains, and expressive works of art.

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

**Saturday: 11:15am board bus, 4:15pm back at hotel**

**\$27/Person includes bus and guide. Lunch on your own.**

### **STEPHENSON'S APPLE FARM / TRUMAN MUSEUM**

Wednesday, October 6 and Friday, October 7

On the way to Independence, we'll stop at Stephenson's Apple Farm Family Restaurant. Enjoy a sit down lunch consisting of frozen fruit salad, green rice, hickory-smoked pork chop, bread, strawberry pie, and a beverage. Depart the restaurant for the Truman Museum. Enjoy the exhibits, films, and memorabilia of Harry Truman's presidency and private life. See a full-scale reproduction of the White House Oval Office, circa 1948, as well as gravesites of Harry and Bess Truman. A film depicting the life of Harry Truman is offered every hour on the half hour and runs approximately forty-five minutes. After leaving the museum you will drive by the Truman Home. Note: This tour may be limited to the first 175 people registered.

**11:00am board bus, 3:45pm back at hotel**

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

### **NEW THEATRE RESTAURANT**

Wednesday, October 6

Spend the evening at the New Theatre Restaurant. Enjoy a buffet-style dinner and then a wonderful show. They perform Broadway hit comedies and musicals, and the New Theatre Restaurant always provides top quality entertainment with great food. October's schedule shows that *Driving Miss Daisy* will be playing, but a description is not yet available. Michael Learned from *The Waltons*, will star in it. The tour price includes dinner, show, tax and gratuity, but specialty drinks and desserts are not included. Note: This event is limited to the first 170 people registered.

**5:45pm board bus, 10:30pm back at hotel**

**\$64/Person includes bus, escort, dinner, and show.**

### **FORT LEAVENWORTH**

Thursday, October 7

The very name of Fort Leavenworth conjures up thoughts of our nation's early days. You'll meet your guide at the Buffalo Soldier Monument and continue on a driving tour of the Fort. Points of interest may include the National Cemetery, Memorial Chapel, Command & General Staff College and numerous historic buildings and mansions. Continue on to the Frontier Army Museum. It showcases the Army's role in the western expansion of this country and also features one of the finest collections of pioneer vehicles in the world. Enjoy lunch in town at the Riverfront Community Center, an old train depot. Step back in time to the late 1800's where Fred Harvey helped tame the West with his train depot restaurants and the "Harvey Girls." Lunch consists of salad, lasagna, garlic bread, dessert, and a beverage. This tour may be limited to the first 100 registered.

**9:30am board bus, 3:00pm back at hotel**

**\$40/Person includes bus, escort, tour fee, and lunch.**

## **STEAMBOAT ARABIA MUSEUM / TOY AND MINIATURE MUSEUM**

Thursday, October 7 and Friday, October 8

Discover the treasures of the Steamboat Arabia. You will journey back to 1856, America's Golden Age of steamboating, when the Great White Arabia sank in the Missouri River. Her excavation in 1988 uncovered a "time capsule" of remarkably preserved 1856 frontier supplies including jewelry, china, cookware, clothing, and food. This international cargo is the largest collection of pre-Civil War artifacts in existence. Enjoy lunch on your own at the museum's cafe, or at the adjacent City Market. This redeveloped historic area features a farmer's market, as well as gift shops, restaurants, and galleries. Continue on to the Toy and Miniature Museum of Kansas City. View a collection of miniatures, toys, and doll houses from every generation, dating from the 19th century to present day. This self-guided tour will lead you through all of the exhibit rooms in this renovated home of a prominent Kansas City family. The museum is considered one of the best of its kind in the world. Do not miss the gift shop filled with many enchanting toys and collectibles-the perfect souvenir. This tour is limited to the first 200 people registered.

**Thursday: 9:45am board bus, 3:15pm back at hotel**

**Friday: 10:15am board bus, 3:45pm back at hotel**

**\$42/Person includes bus, guide, and admissions. Lunch on your own.**

## **DINNER BUFFET & ENTERTAINMENT**

Thursday, October 7

What do you think of when you hear the words "Kansas City?" Most people think of KC BBQ; others think of Harry Truman, as he was from this area. Tonight, you'll think of both! After a cash bar reception, enjoy a group dinner at the hotel featuring slow-cooked barbeque beef brisket, honey whiskey-glazed chicken, a variety of K.C. barbecue sauces, along with salads, sides, and dessert. After dinner, meet the 33<sup>rd</sup> President of the United States, Harry Truman and First Lady, "Bess." Listen and learn about their native state, as well as the time they spent in the "big white jail." You'll laugh, you'll learn, you'll love them, and go away knowing you have two new friends from the past.

**6:00pm Cash Bar Reception, 7:00pm Dinner.**

**Cost is included in Package #1.**

## **RENDEZVOUS DINNERS**

Friday, October 8

Gather in your respective banquet rooms with your individual groups for dinner featuring Grilled Chicken w/ marinara sauce and pasta. Units (BGs, FGs, PRGs, etc.) with approximately fifty or more people in attendance will have a private room. Smaller groups will be combined with others. Think of this as your "reunion within the reunion."

**6:00pm Cash Bar Reception, 7:00pm Dinner.**

**Cost is included in both meal packages or \$35 separately.**

## **SYMPOSIUM: "Remembering 'The Kassel Mission', Sept. 27, 1944"**

Saturday, October 9

The symposium will commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Second Air Division's ill-fated mission to Kassel on Sept. 27, 1944. Specifically, it was a disaster for the 445th BG, which strayed from the bomber stream and lost twenty-five of their twenty-six B24s, the largest loss of any group for any one mission. All told, twenty-eight bombers were lost, but the 376th Sqdn. of the 361st FG in their yellow-nosed P51s accounted for eighteen enemy aircraft claimed and probably saved the 445th BG from annihilation.

**1-4pm at the hotel**

**Cost is included in your Registration Fee.**

## **8<sup>th</sup> AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL BANQUET**

Saturday, October 9

Assemble in the ballroom for the Posting of the Colors and Memorial Service. Dinner will be a choice of Roast Prime Rib of Beef or pan-seared salmon w/ lemon cream sauce and the usual accompaniments. After dinner, we'll proceed with the awards ceremony and guest speaker.

**6:00pm Cash Bar Reception, 7:00pm Banquet.**

**Cost is included in both meal packages or \$40 separately.**

*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.*

## 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS 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 September 2, 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: 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS**

<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b>	
Check # _____	Date Received _____
Inputted _____	Nametag Completed _____

	Price Per	# of People	Total
<b>CUT-OFF DATE IS 9/2/04</b>			
<b>REGISTRATION FEE</b>			
Includes Unit rebates, Saturday's Symposium expenses, and other reunion expenses.	\$40		\$
<b>MEAL PACKAGES</b>			
<i>Choice #1 includes 7 hotel meals beginning with breakfast on Thursday.</i>			
<i>Choice #2 includes 5 hotel meals beginning with breakfast on Friday.</i>			
Choice #1	\$180		\$
Choice #2	\$128		\$
<b>Please select your entrée choice(s) for the Banquet:</b>			
Roast Prime Rib of Beef		#	
Pan-Seared Salmon w/ lemon cream sauce		#	
<b>SEPARATELY PRICED MEALS (if not purchasing a package)</b>			
Friday: Rendezvous Dinner (chicken)	\$35		\$
<b>Saturday: Banquet (please select your entrée)</b>			
Roast Prime Rib of Beef	\$40		\$
Pan-Seared Salmon w/ lemon cream sauce	\$40		\$
<b>TOURS</b>			
<i>Please choose one of the following two tours:</i>			
Wednesday: City Tour	\$27		\$
Wednesday: Stephenson's Apple Farm / Truman Museum	\$45		\$
Wednesday: New Theatre Restaurant	\$64		\$
<i>Please choose one of the following two tours:</i>			
Thursday: Fort Leavenworth	\$40		\$
Thursday: Steamboat Arabia / Toy & Miniature Museum	\$42		\$
<i>Please choose one of the following two tours:</i>			
Friday: Steamboat Arabia / Toy & Miniature Museum	\$42		\$
Friday: Stephenson's Apple Farm / Truman Museum	\$45		\$
Saturday: City Tour	\$27		\$
Total Amount Payable to <b>Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.</b>			\$

PLEASE PRINT MEMBER NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

LIFE MEMBER? \_\_\_ 8AFHS MEMBERSHIP # \_\_\_\_\_ WWII GROUP \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE NAME \_\_\_\_\_ LIFE MEMBER? \_\_\_ MEMBER # \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER'S 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? \_\_\_\_\_  
**(PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).**

EMERGENCY CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ PH. NUMBER (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**THE WESTIN CROWN CENTER - (816) 474-4400**

The Westin Crown Center is located at One Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108-2599. The hotel is within Hallmark's Crown Center, a huge complex of shops, restaurants and theaters, and boasts a spectacular five-story waterfall in the atrium lobby. Also under the same roof are the revitalized Union Station and the Hallmark Visitors Center. Please visit these unique attractions in your free time. Guest rooms feature remote control TV, digital alarm clock, hair dryer, iron and ironing board, in-room coffee maker, in-room safes, and The Westin Heavenly Bed. The hotel offers an all season swimming pool, fitness center, whirlpool, sauna, and steam room. Handicapped accessible and non-smoking rooms are subject to availability. Please request these special accommodations when making your hotel reservation. The hotel has 450 parking spaces located directly under the hotel. Self-parking rates are typically \$12.50 per day or valet parking is available at \$15.00 daily. However, 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force attendees will be granted 50% of the prevailing self-parking rates at time of arrival. Check-in time is 3:00pm, and check-out time is 12:00 noon. **Benton's Steak and Chop House** serves dinner Tuesday through Saturday. **The Brasserie** serves three meals a day with the air of a European bistro. Room service is available twenty-four hours. There are many dining opportunities in the adjacent shopping mall.

For units needing **Hospitality Suites**, you're in luck this year! The hotel has plenty. What's even better is that depending on the size of your group, it may even be complimentary! That's right. If a Bomb Group has fifty or more paid registration fees by September 2, the group will receive a complimentary Hospitality parlor. The host may reserve the adjoining sleeping room at the group rate. Other units (such as fighter groups) must have at least twenty-five paid registrations fees by the cut-off date for the complimentary parlor. Parlors range in size from 450-600 square feet. The larger suites will go to the larger groups. All of the parlors have a seating area, wet bar, small refrigerator, bathroom, and a balcony. Groups only need to make reservations for the parlors (\$92/night for parlor, \$92/night for each sleeping room) if you don't expect twenty-five members in attendance. Larger groups will have parlors reserved. After the cut-off date, details will be finalized regarding host names and whether or not the adjoining sleeping room(s) will be occupied by the host(s). Sleeping room reservations should be made in advance.

KCI Shuttle leaves on the half hour from the baggage claim area of the airport. The shuttle runs from 5:35am until 12:05 am. Currently, the fare is \$14.00 per person one-way and \$23.00 per person round trip. The hotel is approximately twenty-five minutes from the airport. Please call 816-471-2015 for additional information.

Should you need full hookup service for your RV, call the Independence Overnight Park at (816) 254-1463. They are located about twelve miles east of the hotel.

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.

Vendors, Schedules, and Prices are subject to change.

----- CUT HERE AND MAIL TO HOTEL -----

**8<sup>th</sup> AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY – HOTEL RESERVATION FORM**  
REUNION DATES: OCTOBER 5 – 10, 2004

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE # (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ SHARING ROOM W/ \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ TIME \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL REQUESTS:** Wheelchair accessible room \_\_\_\_\_ Non-smoking room \_\_\_\_\_  
King Bed \_\_\_\_\_ Two Double Beds \_\_\_\_\_ Bed types are not guaranteed.

**RATE:** \$92 (1-4 people in room) + tax (currently 13.5%). Rate good three days before and after reunion dates, based on availability.

**CUT OFF DATE: 9/2/04.** Reservations received after 9/2 will be processed on a space & rate available basis.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** Deposit is refundable if reservation is canceled 48 hrs. in advance of arrival date. Record your cancellation number. Call (816) 474-4400.

**GUARANTEE:** Reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or first night's deposit, enclosed.  
\_\_\_MC \_\_\_VISA \_\_\_AM. EXPRESS \_\_\_CARTE BLANCHE/DINERS \_\_\_DISCOVER \_\_\_JCB

CREDIT CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE (regardless of payment method) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: The Westin Crown Center, One Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108-2599  
Fax to: 816-391-4490