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**Subject:** Thirsty 13th Book (D.O.N.E.), New Website, Reunion Nov 5, New Email Address

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**From:** Seth Washburne (seth@thirsty13th.com)

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**To:** nhwashburne@yahoo.com;

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**Date:** Friday, September 23, 2011 2:15 PM

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Dear Thirsty 13<sup>th</sup> Members, Relatives, and friends,

The following is an update on several initiatives:

**Book** - I uploaded the book to the printer, and expect to receive proofs next week. After I approve these, they will roll the presses, and the book should be ready to mail in late October. I will email you again at that time with a link to a website where you will be able to enter your information and charge a copy using PayPal. The cost per book will probably be \$125 plus taxes, shipping and handling. If this is beyond anyone's means, I will be happy to discount it. About 100 people will receive a free book for contributing photos or other items, and I will contact you about these separately in mid-October.

**Website** – I created a new website [www.thirsty13th.com](http://www.thirsty13th.com), which includes: a) three sets of sample pages from the book, b) an update on the airplane restoration, and c) links to ten movies I found, purchased use of, and put on YouTube that include squadron planes or similar missions. Note that most of these movies have no sound. Try to click on at least #3 and #9 (about the 54<sup>th</sup> TCS, but similar to the Thirsty 13<sup>th</sup>). Site thirsty13th.org is no longer active. The new site was designed for Internet Explorer, and some images may shift in Firefox and other internet browsers. Be sure to click in the "Hear their voices" section to hear some of the men. There are still some bugs to work out. It would also be a help if everyone would search for "13<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron," and then click on this website in their results, to move it up in the rankings; currently it is on Google's page 2.

**Reunion** – On Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, in Fort Worth, Texas, at the Vintage Flying Museum where the plane is being restored, at least four squadron pilots (Peters, Judd, Sackett, and Soderland, mostly from 1944-1945) and their relatives are planning to gather, and hopefully other members and relatives, to reunite, and to celebrate the three initiatives to remember the squadron: the book, the plane being restored, and the collection of artifacts, and you are also invited. Weather permitting, there will be free DC-3 airplane rides in the afternoon, and rides in a B-25 free for members, and rides in the B-25 for a fee for others. The website includes a link to the schedule of events, also at: <http://thirsty13th.com/Reunion.htm>.

A prior day, November 4, was added for these four pilots to spend about 6 hours flying somewhere and

back, landing often and switching off, each getting about 1 hour of left-seat time. The plane carries 16 passengers, and 9 seats are taken, so a few more air crew members can be added. If more air crew members attend it will be no problem to divide this into two 3-hour flights. Because of the space constraints, it would be better if non-aircrew members planned to go up on Saturday.

Non air-crew members may still want to come Thursday night in order to have two full days to reunite with others. No events are planned for Sunday other than breakfast, so this can be a travel day, or will be a rain date to fly if Friday or Saturday flights are rained out.

Please let me know you are coming before buying an airplane ticket to confirm nothing has changed.

**Next Reunion** – I plan to have the next reunion September 21-23, 2012, in Lockbourne, Ohio, where the restored plane took off from in 1942, exactly 70 years before. At that one I hope to: a) present the squadron plane completed, and b) have visited the overseas camps and to present findings. This will also be closer to people living in the Northeast. Due to health problems that can strike any of us at anytime, members are encouraged to come to this year's reunion if able. I apologize that the book will not be out very far in advance of this year's reunion, but it is as soon as was humanly possible.

New Email Address – Lastly I am going to discontinue my prior email address, so please note that my new email is [seth@thirsty13th.com](mailto:seth@thirsty13th.com).

Thank you.

Seth P. Washburne

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