

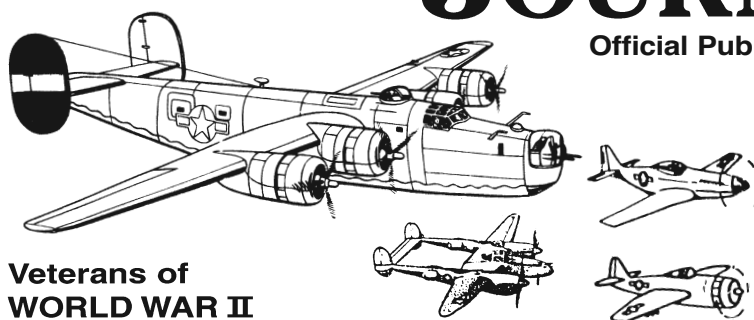
**MARK YOUR
2010 CALENDAR!**

**63rd Annual
2ADA Convention**

**September 10-13
in New Orleans**

THE JOURNAL

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Fall/Winter 2009

Farewell to Yanks' "Mother Superior"

BY STEVE SNELLING • REPRINTED FROM THE EASTERN DAILY PRESS, NORWICH, ENGLAND, JULY 11, 2009

It was a throaty, long-distance laugh trailing off down the telephone that remains my abiding memory of the charismatic woman they called the Mother Superior of the 2nd Air Division Association.

I'd just asked Evelyn Cohen, life and soul of one of the most enduringly successful veterans' organisations on either side of the Atlantic, what she thought of the suggestion that the Association might not have survived half as long or achieved half as much without her dedicated work. "Let's just say this," she said after she'd finished laughing, "I never learned not to volunteer. Back in 1954 we'd had some problems and they asked me to take on the membership job for a year, and here I am still doing it. And I've enjoyed every minute of it . . ."

That was back in 2001, shortly before the veterans' last hurrah, an extraordinary farewell to Norfolk that, in many ways, represented Evelyn's finest hour, a grandly choreographed reunion involving a cast of many hundreds that not only celebrated the proud opening of the new and expanded 2nd Air Division Memorial Library but culminated in the Association being uniquely honoured with the Freedom of the City of Norwich.

And now the woman who was, for more than half a century, a driving force behind a truly special relationship between the veterans and the appreciative people of Norfolk has gone, laid to rest yesterday aged 88 in the Montefiore cemetery in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

It seems almost impossible to imagine the Association without her remarkable presence, such was her commitment and total dedication to the cause of the veterans and the 7,000 men whose wartime sacrifice had come to be symbolised by the inspirational "living memorial" which had risen with renewed vigour from the ashes of the Norwich Central Library which had been destroyed by fire.

In the estimation of Matthew Martin, Chairman of the 2nd



Air Division Memorial Trust, Evelyn had been "central to the whole operation of the 2ADA over a number of decades."

David Hastings, a former Memorial Trust Governor and past chairman who worked closely with Evelyn in organising a number of conventions, went further, describing her as a "remarkable lady who devoted her life" to the veterans and a "true friend who spoke her mind and demanded the best for her '2nd Air Division family.'"

That Evelyn Cohen was a feisty and formidable woman was plain to everyone who met

her. As Matthew Martin observed, "she commanded respect and loyalty, but brooked no nonsense."

Such had always been the case, according to Jordan Uttal, 2nd Air Division veteran and honorary president of the 2ADA who, like Evelyn, had served at Horsham St. Faith and Ketteringham Hall during the war.

"In the service, as afterwards, she always said what she thought and she not only rejected promotions, but on a few occasions she went out of her way to get herself busted."

That service had been spent as a member of the small force of Women's Army Corps sent to Norfolk to play their part in the 2nd Air Division's relentless and costly bombing campaign against targets in Germany and Nazi-occupied Europe.

She later recalled those times with mixed feelings. "When we first came over," she told me, "we were stationed at Horsham St. Faith and living in permanent barracks at Old Catton. We loved it there and hated leaving to go to Ketteringham Hall. Believe me, we weren't happy, but we had no say in the matter. We got out there and all we had was Nissen huts and mud, but what do you do? You're young and you manage to live with it."

Friendships forged and experiences shared during those years made a profound impression, and when Matthew Martin reflects that "her time in Norfolk during the war shaped the

(continued on page 5)

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SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION

JOURNAL



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President's Message

BY RICHARD C. ROBERT (453RD)

I congratulate John Lee for his service during this past year. It is my great honor and privilege to follow him as President of the Second Air Division Association. I am looking forward to my term as president of this outstanding association of WWII Veterans of the 2nd Air Division, 8th Air Force, United States Army Air Forces. The other elected 2ADA officers are: Executive Vice President – Charles L. Walker; Membership Vice President – Oak Mackey; Treasurer – Elwood W. Nothstein; Secretary – James P. Dyke (appointed by the President with approval of the Executive Committee, to replace Fielder Newton who was elected Secretary, but resigned the same day); and Journal Editor – Ray R. Pytel.

For those of you who do not know me, I am a native and life-long resident of Louisiana. During World War II, I served a total of three and one-half years (1942-1945) in the U.S. Army Air Forces. The first six months was in the Reserves (Inactive Duty) awaiting call-up for the aviation cadet program, and then three years of active duty which included seven months overseas in the United Kingdom as a B-24 aerial gunner with the 8th Air Force.

I entered the U.S. Army Air Forces directly from civilian life into pilot training as an Aviation Cadet in late 1942. After six months in the aviation cadet program, I attended Radio Operator and Aerial Gunnery Schools, and then was assigned to a B-24 replacement crew for combat training in the Mojave Desert, near Hollywood, California. On completion of training for combat duty in early April 1944, our crew flew a brand new B-24 to England by way of South America and Africa, to join the 8th Air Force as a replacement crew.

From May to September 1944, I completed a combat tour of 35 missions over Germany and France, as tail gunner on the "Hollywood & Vine" crew in the 453rd Bomb Group at Old Buckenham, England. Shortly afterward, I was rotated back to the USA by cruise ship for stateside duty.

When the war ended, I returned to civilian life and completed my bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering at Louisiana State University. I worked in the public and private sector as a Professional Civil Engineer and Land Surveyor on municipal public works and interstate highway projects until retirement in 1984. I joined the 2nd Air Division Association in 1985 after learning of its existence on a vacation to Norwich, England.

This year's 2ADA convention at the Westin O'Hare Hotel in Rosemont (Chicago), Illinois was a great success. Hotel occupancy by the 2ADA was 310 room nights for the period September 1-9, 2009. A total of 157 people registered for the convention, and some 170 attended the Sunday night banquet, according to figures from Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. which handled the convention for the 2ADA. Last year's numbers for the Grapevine (Dallas), Texas convention were almost identical. Convention attendance is holding steady, but the number of registered veterans has decreased somewhat. There were 53 Second Air Division veterans at this year's convention, barely enough to satisfy quorum requirements for the General Business Meeting. Therefore, it is vitally important that our veteran members who are able to travel, make every effort to attend our conventions.

We are still a vibrant WWII veterans' organization of approximately 2400 members. With the continuing help of the younger generation in the Heritage League, we should be able to continue operation as the 2ADA for some years to come. We now have two members of the younger generation serving in backup positions on the 2ADA Executive Committee. Irene Hurner (453rd AM) is Backup Secretary; and K. James Guddal (93rd AM) is the new Backup Treasurer. These young people have lots of energy and good computer skills, and are a welcome addition to the Executive Committee.

A number of important matters were approved at this convention. The 2ADA *Journal* will be published at least three times per year beginning in 2010. A memorial for Evelyn Cohen will be established in the Memorial Library from funds to be collected for the memorial. A total of \$20,000 was transferred from the General Fund to the Memorial

(continued on next page)



Richard C. Robert in 1943 and 2008

SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION



JOURNAL



THE SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION traces its initial meeting to 1948 in Chicago, Illinois. It was organized as a nonprofit corporation in the State of Illinois on January 10, 1950. Members of the original Board of Directors were 2nd Air Division veterans Marilyn Fritz, Howard W. Moore, Jordan R. Uttal, and Percy C. Young. The association's purpose is to advocate and support an adequate, effective and efficient Army, Navy and Air Force at all times; to perpetuate the friendships and memories of service together in the 2nd Air Division, 8th Air Force in England during World War II; to support financially, and in any other way, the Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division as represented by the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library of the Norwich Millennium Library; and to undertake such other activities as may from time to time be deemed appropriate by the membership.

REGULAR (VOTING) MEMBERSHIP in the association is limited to those personnel, military and civilian, American or British, who at any time served with the Headquarters organization of the 2nd Bomb Wing, 2nd Bomb Division or 2nd Air Division during World War II and any person who served with any bomb group or fighter group or any other unit of the 2nd Air Division assigned or attached. Provisions are made for Associate (Non-Voting) memberships and also for subscribing memberships (Non-Voting).

THE JOURNAL is the official publication of the 2nd Air Division Association.

ATTENTION!

2010 CONVENTION FLASH

It is time to mark your 2010 calendar for our next reunion! We will meet at the beautiful AAA Four Diamond "Omni Royal Orleans" in the heart of the French Quarter of New Orleans. The dates are:

SEPTEMBER 10-13, 2010

You will be just steps away from all the excitement of Bourbon Street, and the balconies are perfect for just watching the activities. The rooftop pool offers an amazing view of the Mississippi River and the city. More details to follow. Meanwhile, please plan to come and
LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!!!

Betty Lee,
Convention Committee Chair

Executive Vice President's Message

BY CHUCK WALKER (445TH)

I was privileged to be elected Executive Vice President of the 2ADA at the Chicago convention in September. The Chicago convention was held in an excellent facility and we should not be displeased as there were approximately 168 enthusiastic attendees.

Betty Lee, with the able help of Maxine Mackey, should be complimented as Chairman of the Convention Committee. She did an outstanding job in making the arrangements with Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. Although the convention was well managed and enjoyed, we all missed Evelyn Cohen's participation.

I was very disappointed in the lack of attendance of Group Vice Presidents. It made it difficult to acquire a quorum in the Executive Committee, but John Lee

appropriately appointed replacements in order that business could be conducted in a proper manner.

I would particularly note Irene Hurner's excellent job as Recording Secretary, backing up Secretary Ray Strong who was unable to attend.

I am pleased that the Executive Committee voted down accepting second generation participants as active Executive Committee members. The Bylaws state we are a last man organization, and in my humble opinion, it should remain purely a veterans' organization until it is actually closed down. There is a disposition plan that is already approved by the Executive Committee to properly and legally close the Association.

It was with great pleasure that we wel-

comed eleven Brits to this convention, including Matthew Martin, Andrew and Andrea Hawker, Trust Librarian Libby Morgan, the Gooch Family, and Fred Squires.

We are fortunate to have Dick Robert as our new President. He is a man of integrity and one who pays close attention to details, as evidenced by the manner in which he conducted the post Executive Committee.

Parentally, Dick even reminded me to write an Executive Vice President's Message for the *Journal*.

Dick and his wife, Gwen, are enthusiastic about next year's 63rd Annual 2ADA Convention in New Orleans. More details will follow.

In the meantime — let the good times roll!!! ■

Past President's Message

BY JOHN LEE (93RD)

The year that just past during which I was President of the 2ADA was a very satisfying experience. I indicated from the beginning that I would work toward the younger generation being utilized more in areas of responsibility. We are doing much more now to achieve this goal. We did not consider dissolution at this time, but the average age of our vets is now 87, so this action will be reviewed within the next couple of years. I congratulate Dick Robert, who is now the President of the 2ADA. I am confident that he will do a good job. He will prepare for the question of how to carry on the memory of not only the nearly 7,000 members who died during WWII but also those who served and have since passed away. The next convention will be in New Orleans, September 10-13, 2010. I am confident that Dick Robert and Betty Lee (the convention chairman) will address this subject in more detail in this issue of the *Journal*.

Betty and I have had a successful experience that may be worth mentioning as a possible source of donations for the Memorial Library in Norwich. We are stockholders of the Harris Corp. We made contact and addressed the possibility that they may be willing to be involved as donors. We were pleasantly surprised to receive a favorable response. After several

months of correspondence, we received a reply that they would make a donation of \$1,000.00, which has been accomplished.

It was gratifying to receive a long list from our Memorial Trust Librarian Libby Morgan of books purchased through our Book Endowment Program. These books are well received by the people of Norfolk.

I have been appointed by Dick Robert to chair the Group Relations Committee. We need to update the Group Vice Presidents position, a process which I believe is very much out of date. I will make an effort to contact each group and request the name of their current VP. This may be difficult, so I solicit your help to accomplish this goal. I would also like to encourage each group to plan their next group reunion in New Orleans to achieve solidarity. There is a great deal of advantage to bringing everyone together. It helps with the overall cost and also achieves the unity that would be in the best interest of all of us. We can work together to have the backing that is necessary to continue for some time in the future. Our overall goals should be similar, and we need to work together toward the younger generation's carrying on the objective to honor those who made the supreme sacrifice. Those of us Veterans will not be here much longer, so it is important to do something now. ■

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (cont.)

Trust. When the current 2ADA Representative on the Memorial Trust Board of Governors can no longer serve, his replacement will be a Heritage League member. A procedure for disposing of 2ADA property was established. The 2ADA Bylaws were amended to reduce the quorum requirements for Executive Committee Meetings.

And last, but not least, the 2ADA 2010 Convention will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, September 10-13. The Convention Committee, chaired by Betty Lee, has settled on the Omni Royal Orleans Hotel in the heart of the French Quarter, just steps away from all the excitement of Bourbon Street.

New Orleans, the most unique city in America, also known as the Crescent City and the Big Easy, was founded in 1718 by the French explorer Bienville. It is located in southeastern Louisiana near the Gulf of Mexico, between the Mississippi River and Lake Pontchartrain. It is easily accessible by land, sea or air. The city is served by Interstate Highways 10, 55 and 59, New Orleans International Airport (MSY), Amtrak trains, cruise ships, and river boats. New Orleans is known worldwide for its food, music and culture. It is a very popular convention and tourist destination. Make plans to come on down next year — we'll be waiting for you. *Laissez Les Bons Temps Rouler: Let The Good Times Roll!* ■

IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

BY OAK MACKEY (392ND), 2ADA VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP

You have read of Evelyn Cohen's passing elsewhere in this *Journal*. She was a grand lady and she loved us all. Yet she enforced a strict code in membership and convention matters, and woe to anyone who took exception to her ways. She kept the membership records straight and took us to so many delightful conventions, eleven of them in Norwich. She will be missed, and remembered for a long, long time.

In all their collective wisdom the members at the General Business Meeting at the 2009 convention in Chicago elected me to be the new Vice President of Membership to take Evelyn's place. Well, there's really no way I can take her place, nor will I pretend to; I will do the best I can.

While Evelyn was in the hospital in June, then President John Lee appointed me as temporary VP of Membership, and Lillian Cohen, Evelyn's sister, sent all of the membership records to me. Since then there have been some late payments of 2009 dues, address changes, four new members, and 22 deaths. All those things have been passed on to Rick Rokicki, Director of Data Processing, so he can make the changes in the 2ADA roster.

Dues Notices for 2010 will be mailed out in **December** after all of you have received your copy of this *Journal*, which should be in your hands in late November. There is no need to pay your dues until you get the Dues Notice. The deadline for 2010 dues will be **February 1, 2010**. Please pay your dues within this time frame to simplify my record keeping processes. If 100% of the 2431 members paid their dues prior to the February 1, 2010 deadline, there would be no need to send out a second dues notice. Well, that won't happen. Those who have not paid by then will receive a second dues notice by March 1, 2010. Dues to retain your 2ADA membership remains a paltry **\$20.00**. In 2006 Evelyn began asking Life Members to make an annual voluntary dona-

tion of \$20.00. If you are a Life Member and do make this donation, thank you very much. If you choose not to make the donation, that's okay, and your membership will not, and cannot, be terminated. Also, there will be a line on the Dues Notice for donations to the 2AD Memorial Library.

Dues Notices for 2010 will be a simple postcard. There really is no need to stuff dues notices into an envelope. Americopy Printers, right here in Mesa, will print and mail the postcards for 35 cents each, and that includes the postage. That will save a little money, and reduce my work load!

From the latest roster in my possession, there are a total of 2431 members; included are 289 associate members and 87 subscribing members. Total attendance at the 2ADA convention in Chicago was 168, including 51 who are veterans from the Second Air Division of the Eighth U.S. Army Air Forces. Also we were honored to have 11 visitors from England: Matthew Martin, Chairman of the Memorial Trust Board of Governors; Andrew Hawker, Member, Memorial Trust Board of Governors and Andrea Hawker; Libby Morgan, Second Air Division Memorial Trust Librarian; Edward and Annabelle Gooch with Oliver Gooch and Alexina Taylor; and Fred Squires with Kevin and Matthew Waterfield. I hope all of the above is correct and no one was left out.

If any of you know someone who would like to become a member of the Second Air Division Association, and is eligible, please direct him/her to me. Also, be sure to send me your address changes, and be sure to report all deaths of members to me. My address is: 6406 E. Presidio Street, Mesa, AZ 85215, phone 480-641-3033, fax 480-641-0506, e-mail: oakmackey@msn.com.

HEARD IN PASSING: *Being married is just like any other job. It's a lot easier if you learn to get along with your boss.* ■

FAREWELL TO EVELYN COHEN (*continued from front page*)
rest of her life," he is not overstating the fact.

Evelyn Cohen cared about the veterans and those who didn't make it home with a passion. Nothing was too much trouble for where their welfare or their special legacy, characterised by the Memorial Library, was concerned.

Her organisational skills and attention to detail were legendary. As David Hastings recalls, "she demanded 110 percent . . . and woe betide you if you failed, but she and her sister Lillian were great fun to work with."

When I spoke to her in 2001 she cited numerous highlights from her many trips back to Norfolk. Among her proudest memories was the re-creation in 1995 of the 1945 victory march past City Hall. "That was the greatest moment of all," she said. "A lot of the veterans weren't really fit to march, but they did because they were determined to show the city that they could and to show their appreciation."

Her own determination was evidenced six years later in the wake of 9/11 and the hysteria surrounding air travel across the Atlantic. Asked if their planned convention in Norwich a few weeks away was in jeopardy, she was typically forthright. "It's not an issue," she said. "As far as the veterans are concerned, they feel they were there in worse times and flew under worse conditions."

At the forefront of her mind was the knowledge that the journey would be the last great gathering in Norfolk and that it



Evelyn Cohen in Norwich in 2001, beside an image of her on the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library mural.

would mark the reopening of the Memorial Library, that far-sighted, sacred and enduring link which she felt ensured that the airmen who died would "never be forgotten."

Evelyn's Cohen's consistency, dedication, and sheer enthusiasm should not be forgotten either. Jordan Uttal described her devotion to the 2ADA as a "labour of love." It was one for which many on both sides of the Atlantic should be eternally grateful. ■

The Editor's Contribution

BY RAY PYTEL (445TH)

YOUR LONGEVITY

The statistics are as stark as mortality itself: Of the 16,112,566 American veterans of the Second World War, fewer than 2.5 million remain alive, or about 15.5%. With another 311,000 projected to die this year, they are passing at the rate of 852 a day, or 35 an hour, or about one every two minutes. Sometime around Christmas 2014, the number will dip below one million, according to demographic tables compiled by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and a decade later, in 2024, fewer than 100,000 will remain. In 2036, the latest year for which figures have been calculated, the cohort that fought and won the most destructive war in human his-

tory will be reduced to 370 survivors.

Of the 2.4 million in the Army Air Forces, about 55 should be alive. Since the 8th Air Force had about 350,000 members, this amounts to about 10 to be divided by the three 8AF divisions — Will you be one of them?

Your editor will be 90 in 2010, 94 in 2014, 104 in 2024, and 116 in 2036. I'm already planning for the 2036 2ADA convention.

2AD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOOK ENDOWMENT 2008-2009

Trust Librarian Libby Morgan reports that the following books were presented to the Library "by friends and family of Ray Pytel, 445th Bomb Group, Tibenham, World War II, in loving memory of his beloved wife and helpmate, Twyla Martha Kieffer, deceased 6 November 2000": *The Freedom Quilting Bee: Folk Art and Civil Rights Movement in Gee's Bend, Alabama* by Nancy Callahan, and *Are We There Yet? The Golden Age of American Family Vacations* by Susan Sessions Rugh.

ANSWERS TO THE SPRING QUIZ

The answers are in the article on page 7.

Winter Quiz



EVELYN COHEN received many awards and accolades during her lifetime of service to the 2ADA. Can you state the occasion, time, and significance of this particular honor?



Young Godzilla

Bangers and Mash Top Comfort Food in U.K. Credit Crunch

Yes, humble bangers and mash has proven the most popular comfort food during the current economic downturn. The survey by TV channel Good Food found fish & chips in second place, followed by beans on toast. It also claims most Britons are gaining weight during the recession.



GOOD OLD BANGERS AND MASH!

THE 16 ARMY AIR FORCES DURING WWII... WHERE DID THEY SERVE?

Answers to the Spring/Summer Quiz

BY RAY PYTEL (445TH)

FIRST AIR FORCE

Established as Northeast Air District USA on 19 Oct 1940. Activated on 18 Dec 1940. Redesignated First AF early in 1941. Trained new organizations and, later replacements for combat units. Also provided anti-u-boat patrols and, air defense for the eastern US until 1943.



SECOND AIR FORCE

Established as Northwest Air District USA on 19 Oct 1940. Activated on 18 Dec 1940. Redesignated Second AF early in 1941. Served as both an air defense and a training organization in 1941. Afterward, was engaged chiefly in training units and replacements for heavy and later, very heavy bombardment operations.



THIRD AIR FORCE

Established as Southeast Air District USA on 19 Oct 1940. Activated on 18 Dec 1940. Redesignated Third AF early in 1941. Trained units, crews, and individuals for bombardment, fighter, and reconnaissance operations. Also had some air defense responsibilities during 1940-1941 and engaged in antisubmarine activities from Dec 1941 to Oct 1942.



FOURTH AIR FORCE

Established as Southwest Air District USA on 19 Oct 1940. Activated on 18 Dec 1940. Redesignated Fourth AF early in 1941. Provided air defense for the western US until 1943, and at the same time trained new organizations. Later, was engaged primarily in training replacements for combat units.



FIFTH AIR FORCE

Established as Philippine Department AF on 16 Aug 1941. Activated in the Philippines on 29 Sep 1941. Redesignated



Far East AF in Oct 1941, and Fifth AF in Feb 1942. This air force lost most of its men and equipment in the defense of the Philippines after 7 Dec 1941. Later in Dec 1941, headquarters and some crews and planes moved to Australia, and in Jan 1942 they were sent to Java to help delay Japanese advances in the Netherlands Indies. The Fifth did not function as an air force for some time after Feb 1942 (the AAF organizations in the Southwest Pacific being under the control of American-British-Dutch-Australian Command and later Allied Air Forces). Headquarters was remanned in Sep 1942 and assumed control of AAF organizations in Australia and New Guinea. The Fifth participated in operations that stopped the Japanese drive in Papua, recovered New Guinea, neutralized islands in the Bismarck Archipelago and the Netherlands East Indies, and liberated the Philippines.

SIXTH AIR FORCE

Established as Panama Canal AF on 19 Oct 1940. Activated in the Canal Zone on 20 Nov 1940. Redesignated Caribbean AF in Aug 1941, and Sixth AF in Feb 1942. Served primarily in defense of the Panama Canal; also engaged in antisubmarine operations.



SEVENTH AIR FORCE

Established as Hawaiian AF on 19 Oct 1940. Activated in Hawaii on 1 Nov 1940. Redesignated Seventh AF in Feb 1942. Provided air defense for the Hawaiian Islands and, after mid-1943, served in combat in the central and western Pacific areas.



EIGHTH AIR FORCE

Established as VIII Bomber Command on 19 Jan 1942. Activated in the US on 1 Feb 1942. An advanced detachment was established in England on 23 Feb and units began arriving from the US during the spring of 1942. The command conducted the heavy bombardment operations of Eighth AF from 17 Aug 1942 until early in 1944. Redesignated Eighth AF on 22 Feb 1944. Afterward, engaged primarily in bombardment of strategic targets in Europe. Transferred, without personnel, equipment, and combat elements, to Okinawa on 16 Jul 1945. Although some personnel and combat units were assigned before V-J Day, the Eighth did not participate in combat against Japan.



NINTH AIR FORCE

Established as V Air Support Command on 21 Aug 1941. Activated on 1 Sep 1941. Redesignated Ninth AF in Apr 1942. Moved to Egypt and began operations on 12 Nov 1942, participating in the Allied drive across Egypt and Libya, the campaign in Tunisia, and the invasion of Sicily and Italy. Moved to England in Oct 1943 to become the tactical air force for the invasion of the Continent. Helped prepare for the assault on Normandy, supported operations on the beach in Jun 1944, and took part in the drive that carried the Allies across France and culminated in victory over Germany.



TENTH AIR FORCE

Established Tenth AF on 4 Feb 1942 and activated on 12 Feb. Moved to India, Mar-May 1942. Served in India, Burma, and China until Mar 1943 when Fourteenth AF was activated in China. Then the Tenth operated in India and Burma until it moved to China late in Jul 1945.



ELEVENTH AIR FORCE

Established as Alaskan AF on 28 Dec 1941. Activated in Alaska on 15 Jan 1942. Redesignated Eleventh AF in Feb 1942. Participated in the offensive that drove the Japanese from the Aleutians, attacked the enemy in the Kuril Islands, and, both during and after the war, served as part of the defense force for Alaska.



TWELFTH AIR FORCE

Established as Twelfth AF on 20 Aug 1942 and activated the same day. Moved to England, Aug-Sep 1942, and then on to North Africa for the invasion of Algeria and French Morocco in Nov 1942. Operated in the Mediterranean Theater until the end of the war, serving with Northwest African Air Forces from Feb to Dec 1943, and afterward with Mediterranean Allied Air Forces.



THIRTEENTH AIR FORCE

Established as Thirteenth AF on 14 Dec 1942. Activated in New Caledonia on 13 Jan 1943. Served in the South Pacific and, later, Southwest Pacific, participating in the Allied drive north and west from the Solomons to the Philippines.



FOURTEENTH AIR FORCE

Established as Fourteenth AF on 5 Mar 1943 and activated in China on 10 Mar. Served in combat against the Japanese, operating primarily in China, until the end of the war.



FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE

Established as Fifteenth AF on 30 Oct 1943. Activated in the Mediterranean Theater on 1 Nov 1943. Began operations on 2 Nov and engaged primarily in strategic bombardment of targets in Italy, France, Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Hungary, and the Balkans until the end of the war.



TWENTIETH AIR FORCE

Established as Twentieth AF on 4 Apr 1944 and activated the same day. Some combat elements moved in the summer of 1944 from the US to India where they carried out very heavy bombardment operations against targets in Japan, Formosa, Thailand, and Burma. Other combat elements began moving late in 1944 from the US to the Marianas, being joined there early in 1945 by the elements that had been in India. Headquarters, which had remained in the US, was transferred to Guam in Jul 1945. From the Marianas the Twentieth conducted a strategic air offensive that was climaxed by the dropping of two atomic bombs on Japan. ■



Report of the 2ADA Representative on the Board of Governors of the Memorial Library

BY CHUCK WALKER (445TH)

I was privileged to attend the July 9, 2009 Governors' meeting in Norwich. The meeting was well attended and was masterfully conducted by Chairman Matthew Martin.

He opened the meeting with a tribute to Evelyn Cohen. He recognized her contribution to the successful operation of the Second Air Division Association for some 62 years. She was the force behind the twelve conventions held in Norwich. She will be sorely missed by all.

I feel confident that all who read the *Journal* will appreciate the following report from Meghan Purvis, our first UEA American Scholar:

REPORT BY AMERICAN SCHOLAR MEGHAN PURVIS, JUNE 2009

As my final report for a Governors' meeting, I wanted to give a summary of the year, the larger projects that I've worked on during that time, and what I am leaving for the next two Scholars. Some of these projects have been mentioned here before, some of you have heard about them in more detail, but I hope this overview will give you all an idea of how I've spent my time at the Memorial Library.

A lot of my work, of course, was dealing with the daily business of the Library.

I set up a few of the monthly displays at the front of the Library, as well as creating two special bibliographies in celebration of Abraham Lincoln and Thomas Paine, both of whom are American politicians with ties to Norfolk, and who had some form of bicentenary this year. I helped Libby Morgan with selecting new books for our stock, and in most cases even managed to let those books get out into circulation for a few weeks before snapping them up myself! (If you are waiting for a lender who shall remain unnamed to get her claws off the book of Southern food writing, I can only apologize and assure you the read will be more than worth the wait.)

One of the last projects I've been working on is writing and setting up a PowerPoint presentation about the 2nd Air Division, the Memorial Trust, and the Memorial Library itself. Ideally this will form a base script for any of the librarians giving talks to the public so that each speaker can elaborate on and personalize as they see fit. It also provides scope for tailoring towards particular audiences; talks

to local history groups, for example, can spend more time on the portions of the presentation about flying missions and statistics of the 2nd Air Division, while presentations to schoolchildren can move swiftly on to pictures of airmen playing baseball and reacting to British food!

I've also had the opportunity to work on a few things which are more tailored to my own work as a creative writer. I planned a beginners' creative writing workshop as part of Adult Learners' Week in May that I think was a great success. The participants did some creative writing based on photos from our archives and items from the artifacts box; before the workshop began I was a little worried that beginning writers might be put off by the history tie-in, but everyone attending the workshop got very involved in it, and I think went away really happy about the experience. And, of course, one of the longer-running projects from my time at the Library has been "Reading Across the Pond," the book club reading American fiction. We're still quite oversubscribed — I got yet another email asking to be added to the wait list this morning — but the initial group who signed up show no signs of wanting to leave! It's a fascinating group, and it's led to some of the most interesting conversations I've had about literature.

As one of my last acts as American Scholar, I'm planning on grandfathering myself in as a member so I can continue coming even after I'm no longer the person running it!

And, of course, some of my work as of late has been preparing for my successors! I'm afraid since I'm going into the fourth year of my PhD, I'm not eligible to apply for a second year at the Library; otherwise you can be assured I would have my application in and be fighting the urge to sabotage all the other candidates. But since I'm safely an objective observer this time around, I'll just mention that all the applicants look great, and one of them is a good friend of mine, which I suppose is a sort of endorsement of my time here in and of itself.

I want to end by just thanking all of you for an amazing experience. Working at the Library has been a tremendous opportunity for me, and one I hope I've paid back at least a little bit with the work I've done over the year. But I don't think there's any way I could possibly have put in as

much as I've gotten out of this — beyond the work experience and the fellowship award itself, working here has exposed me to people and parts of Norwich that I don't think I would have known otherwise. It — and all of you — have made me feel more at home here than I ever have before, and there's not a way to adequately thank you for it. Instead, I'm afraid you'll have to make do with me lurking around the Library rifling through the periodicals and nosily inquiring about the new book purchases. Being the American Scholar has turned me into a Memorial Library regular, and that's not a status I plan on giving up anytime soon.

It's been a wonderful experience; thank you all so very, very much for it." ■

Chuck & Dede take the plunge



We took the adage

"it's never too late" at heart

For we know it's never too late to love
So Vic married us in the eyes of God
In a Blessing of the Family Ceremony

August 6th, 2009

CHUCK WALKER & DEDE CASAD

KETTERINGHAM HALL DIVISION



SUBMITTED BY LIBBY MORGAN,
2AD MEMORIAL TRUST LIBRARIAN

2nd Air Division Memorial Library Book Endowment: HEADQUARTERS 2008-2009 Report

*In honor of all those who served at
Headquarters, 2nd Air Division
Located at Old Catton, Horsham St.
Faith, and Ketteringham Hall
1942-1945*

*Vanishing Point: Fifty Years of
Photography*
by David Plowden

Aviation Art of Mike Bailey
by Mike Bailey

Black Hawk and the War of 1832
by John P. Bowes

*The Power Makers: Steam,
Electricity and the Men Who
Invented Modern America*
by Maury Klein

*RAF Wattisham:
A Pictorial History*
by David Eade

*The USAAF Airman:
Service and Survival 1941-45*
by Martin Brayley

2nd Air Division Memorial Library Book Endowment: WACS 2008-2009 Report

*Presented by WAC Detachment
Headquarters, 2nd Air Division
(Ketteringham Hall)
In honor and memory of
The Women's Army Corps who
served during World War II*

*The Encyclopedia of Scrapbooking
Tools and Techniques*
by Susan Rothamel

*Her Turn: Why It's Time
for Women to Lead America*
by Vicki Donlan and H.F. Graves

African American Dance
by B.S. Glass

Denim: An American Story
by David Little

Ansel Adams: 400 Photographs
by Ansel Adams

*Reporting America:
The Life of the Nation 1946-2004*
by Alistair Cooke

Mary Todd Lincoln: A Biography
by Jean H. Baker

*The Story of Hollywood:
An Illustrated History*
by G.P. Williams

*Martha Stewart's
Cooking School:
Lessons and Recipes
for the Home Cook*
by Martha Stewart

*Action Abstraction:
Pollock, De Kooning and
American Art 1940-1976*
by Norman L. Kleeblait

Second Air Division Association Financial Report

GENERAL FUND BALANCE, July 1, 2008		\$100,179.44
INCOME		
Membership Dues	\$46,660.81	
Interest	\$232.52	
Other	\$9,482.08	
Total Operating Income		\$56,375.41
EXPENSES		
Journal & Related Expenses	\$25,000.65	
Operating & Administrative Expenses	\$27,604.04	
Total Operating Expenses		\$52,604.69
Net Income (after expenses)		\$3,770.72
General Fund Balance (after expenses), June 30, 2009		\$103,950.16
MEMORIAL TRUST FUND, July 1, 2008		\$21,582.20
Library	\$12,443.00	
Memorial	\$2,000.00	
Interest	\$28.50	
Total Donations Received		\$14,471.50
DISBURSEMENTS		
Library Grant	\$20,000.00	
Bank Charges	\$11.00	
Total Donations Disbursed		\$20,011.00
Balance, June 30, 2009		\$16,042.70

Elwood W. Nothstein, Treasurer

The 62nd Annual Convention of the 2nd Air Division Association

BY BETTY LEE, CONVENTION CHAIRMAN

To all who could not join us in Chicago in September — we wish you had been there. I'll try to fill you in on what took place.

Actually before the convention began, five of us who had arrived early in Chicago boarded a commuter train and headed downtown to "Tommy Guns Garage" for an afternoon show. After a shuttle trip, the train and a taxi, we arrived and were greeted by "Gloves" and the gang for a fun-filled afternoon. You would have been very proud of your distinguished Director of the Board of Governors who gave a masterly performance as Jimmy Cagney. Good food, good entertainment, terrific company — an all-around super beginning to the reunion. Thanks to Dick Robert for suggesting this adventure.

The hotel provided excellent space for the day-long Executive Committee meeting on Thursday. Everyone seemed pleased with all the hospitality and meeting rooms.

On Friday we had a "Sold Out" bus trip into the city for the Chicago Architectural Cruise. The spectacular buildings along the river took our breath away. Our guide kept us entertained with historical, and some hysterical, events that led to the reclaiming of the riverfront. We munched on cookies and drank Starbucks coffee or lemonade while enjoying the most wonderful trip and weather. Then we were back to the hotel for dinner, some visiting and early to bed.

The General Business Meeting took place on Saturday morning. It was held in a beautiful theatre-type room, which to the committee's dismay was not as handicapped-accessible as we thought. There was no wheelchair access to the stage area, which presented some problems for conducting the meeting. Fortunately the Heritage League members were there to help. A portable microphone was carried up and down the stairs to each person who spoke. Others will report on the events of the meeting, but I'd like to say how much we appreciated the Younger Generation's help.

Following the 2ADA meeting the Heritage League held their annual meeting. Many of us stayed for that and enjoyed their hospitality as they treated us with coffee, tea and trimmings, set out beautifully by the hotel.

Immediately following that meeting was our next "Sold Out" bus tour, to the

Museum of Science & Industry. Once again the Heritage League treated the group. They had arranged a super box lunch aboard the bus for all the participants. What a thoughtful thing it was, as it not only was nourishing but gave us more time to explore the museum.

Following dinner on Saturday, Joe Dzenowagis showed his new film. If you couldn't come to Chicago for anything else, it is too bad you couldn't come for this film. It was the shortest ninety minutes I can remember. Some laughs, some smiles, some tears. Just absolutely wonderful! Thank you so much, Joe, for bringing it to us.

The banquet on Sunday evening is always so special. This time all the more so because of Maxine Mackey's idea to honor all the living Past Presidents of the 2ADA, and as always the meaningful Candle Lighting Ceremony. Chuck Walker did an outstanding job as the Master of Ceremonies. The Presentation of the Colors by a young and very proud Civil Air Patrol followed by the Parade of Veterans was wonderful.

The Candle Lighting Ceremony conducted by Dick Butler was very moving, and the dedication of the last candle to Evelyn Cohen, followed by a moment of silence, made the event most significant.

Our musicians came to me at the end of the evening and the leader said, "What a great group . . . Next time I'll bring my whole swing band out!" He even said he would come to New Orleans to play for us. Just an aside . . . During the cocktail hour before dinner, several ladies gathered around the grand piano and sang some of our old favorite tunes. We could have more times like that!

Finally I would like to thank all those who helped so much to make this a really good reunion. The only regret I have is that there was not more time for just visiting with everyone. And, well, maybe that there wasn't a better coffee shop . . . or one or two other little snags. Truly it was a pleasure working with Maxine and Oak Mackey and Armed Forces Reunions Inc., and I hope those of you who were there feel as I do that it was wonderful to see everyone and all in all it was a great reunion.

President Dick Robert has asked me to be the Convention Chairman again, in New Orleans, September 10-13, 2010. I will try to make it Just Right this time. Please plan to come. ■

Reflections and Memories

BY MAXINE MACKEY,
WIFE OF OAK MACKEY (392ND)

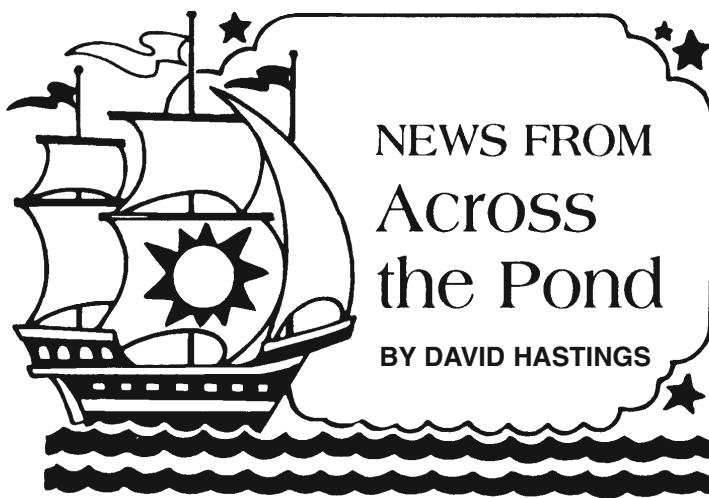
At this writing, it's been almost a month since we attended the convention at the Westin O'Hare Hotel in Chicago. Time flies quickly in old age. Betty Lee and I were the Convention Committee, and we think everything went very well with very few complaints. Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. gave us a good outline to follow, and we highly recommend them.

I have a few memories I would like to share. Among those from our 392nd BG were Judge S.J. Elden and his wife Odie. They were old friends from Ann Arbor, MI whom we had not seen since we moved from there in 1971. It didn't take us long to renew our friendship, and we had many great memories to share. Oak's report will include more on the fun we had with all our 392nd friends. Also, a great big "Thank You" to all the Brits for flying over the pond once again. We took time out from our schedule to have lunch with Andrew and Andrea Hawker to celebrate Andrea's birthday (she didn't tell how old she was). It was the highlight of our day.

Now to a more serious side. As always, the candle lighting ceremony at the banquet is a solemn and meaningful occasion. Master of Ceremonies Dick Butler asked me to light the last candle in memory of the deceased and especially for Evelyn Cohen. Before the candle was lit Dick made a most moving tribute to Evelyn. I am sure there was not a dry eye as he spoke. With Ardith Butler on one side of me and Lucille Nothstein on the other, I managed to light the last candle. It was a spiritual-like feeling that I shall never forget and a great privilege.

The rest of the evening was for celebrating and renewing friendships. The band played our kind of music during dinner and late into the evening. Oak and I had to leave early as we had an early flight in the morning. I have heard there was jitterbugging until midnight, which brings back some memories. Anyway, a good time was had by all!

Until we meet again, God Bless You, and take care of each other. ■



Threat to Old Wartime 2nd Air Division Airfield

Government plans to build so-called Eco-Towns in Norfolk have now pinpointed Rackheath and the old 2nd Air Division airfield as one of the sites, which has caused huge concern locally, as the construction of up to 5,000 new houses will totally destroy the character of the village of Rackheath as well as covering the entire site of the airfield with buildings and the loss of valuable farmland.

The villages of Rackheath and Salhouse have formed a protest group to try and halt this development, and support from across the Atlantic would be welcome. If you are concerned, please send your comments to D.J. Hastings at the following e-mail address: FlyDJAir@aol.com. Your support will be deeply appreciated, as we do not see why politicians should destroy our history.

The British Grenadiers honour the 2nd Air Division USAAF

Recently one of the top bands of the British Army visited Norwich and also kindly agreed to spend a day at Wymondham College to provide a music workshop for the college where they also visited the 2nd Air Division Memorial Garden and the

wartime chapel. For the students to be able to spend a full day with the professional musicians of the Band of the Grenadier Guards was an unforgettable experience. The visit ended with a spectacular concert where the Grenadier Guards musicians in their smart red uniforms were mixed in with the students of the College Concert Band and played a tremendous programme of Military Band and College music. The formal opening of the new "Lincoln Hall" and "Enid Ralphs Building" will take place later this year.

"2nd Air Division USAAF" Locomotive Gets a Refit

In 1998 when the Executive Committee of the 2nd Air Division Association came to England, they kindly visited the Bure Valley Railway in Norfolk, where the then President Earl Wassom named the main diesel locomotive "2nd Air Division USAAF" after the Association had kindly helped towards the refit. This locomotive was built specially for the line in 1989 and was used in the construction of the nine mile long narrow gauge railway running between Aylsham and Wroxham which was opened in 1990. After the naming ceremony the Executive Committee enjoyed a special train to Wroxham, headed by the diesel and driven by a Trust Governor, David Hastings, who was heavily involved in the building and running of the Bure Valley Railway.

Now in 2009, this large diesel locomotive, which is used to haul passenger trains every day, has had a massive refit including improved hydraulics, larger roof cooling fans, new headlights, and a totally refurbished driving cab with up-to-date instrumentation. She has also been repainted in a striking golden ochre colour and grey roof which has caused much interest to the 100,000 passengers who travel on the line each year and always ask about her name (*see photo*). Although David Hastings has now retired from active driving, the railway kindly allows him once a year to drive the diesel after normal passenger services have ceased, and to take a complete train from Aylsham to Wroxham and then return in the twilight, just to keep memories alive.

In 2011, this leading narrow gauge railway in Great Britain will celebrate its 21st birthday, when David Hastings and other founders of the line will gather with the present team to celebrate the success of the railway in which the "2nd Air Division USAAF" locomotive has played such an important part. You will never be forgotten. ■





A year in the life of the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library (Norwich)

October 2008 Two Americans, Meghan Purvis and Sarah-Beth Nelson join the library team. Meghan our first American Scholar from the University of East Anglia in Norwich, Sarah-Beth a visiting children's librarian, in Norwich for the year.



November 2008 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust AGM in Norwich, and the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the American Chapel at St Paul's Cathedral in London.

December 2008 Our new enquiry desk arrives, funded by donations received in memory of Geoff Gregory. This is very well received by staff and library patrons alike. A fitting tribute to such a great supporter of the Memorial Library.



Reading Across the Pond

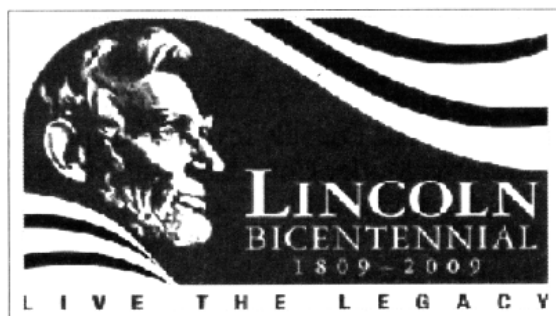
Looking for a new reading group?

Are you interested in American literature, or looking for a new book club? Reading Across the Pond is the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library's book club for American literature. [more...](#)

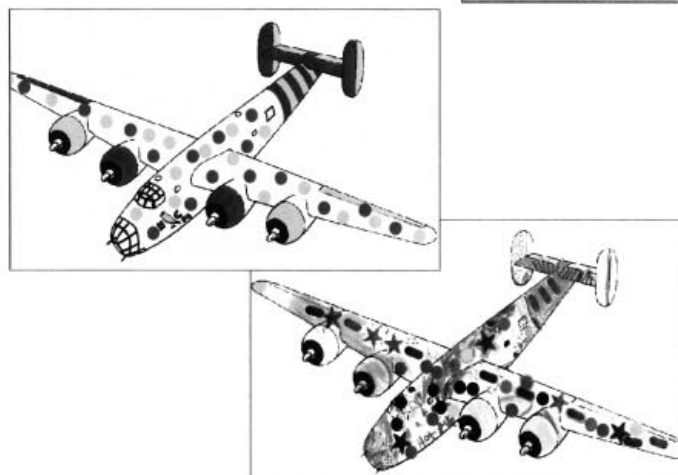
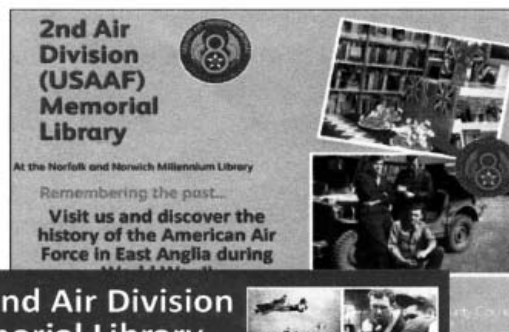


January 2009 Meghan launches our new book group "Reading Across the Pond". This has proved a great success and is thriving.

February 2009 We celebrated the birth of Abraham Lincoln this month (12th February 1809) with a special book display, and later in the year by supporting Dereham Library's "American Week", and the Lincoln Festival at Swanton Morley Church.

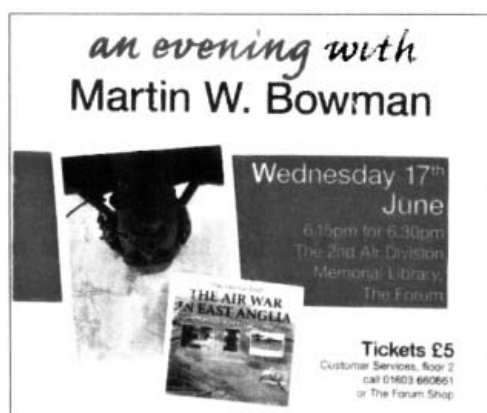


March 2009 A new promotional leaflet is produced, and we have some plasma screen pages designed to advertise the Memorial Library more widely within the main Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library.



April 2009 Sarah-Beth continues her good work with children and young people, organising an aviation crafts and activities event for children in the Easter holidays called "Flights of Fancy".

May 2009 Meghan leads a creative writing workshop during Adult Learners Week called "Remembering the Past, Writing the Future".



June 2009 Jarrolds Department Store hold a book launch in the Memorial Library, which was a great success with over 60 people attending.



July 2009 "The Friendly Invasion" display and talk at Swanton Morley Church as part of their Lincoln Festival celebrations.

Produced by Libby Morgan (August 2009)



HETHEL

389th Bomb Group Green Dragon Flares

BY FIELDER NEWTON

The 2ADA convention was held September 4-7 in Chicago, the city where the founders started the Association 62 years ago. Betty Lee and Maxine Mackey chaired the event for 168 attendees, and praise goes to them for a job well done. Each past president in attendance was recognized and given handsome hour glasses in wooden holders crafted and presented by Earl Zimmerman.

It was decided by the Executive Committee that another convention will be held in New Orleans in September 2010. Many decisions regarding the future of our organization will have to be made in New Orleans, and everyone is encouraged to try their best to attend.

Many of you know of my interest in the Eighth Air Force Archives at the Penn State Paterno Library and my urging to support it financially. One way is to honor a family member or a friend with a memorial contribution to Pennsylvania State University to support the Eighth Air Force Archives Endowment, Office of Development, 510 Paterno Library, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802. These contributions are tax deductible and will be used to support the archives now and in the future. It should be noted that many historians come to Penn State to do research on the Eighth Air Force. The library is also interested in receiving the following items to add to the Eighth Air Force Archives: books authored by members, Bomb Group histories, mission reports, and newsletters.

This *Journal* will be in the mail before the holidays, so sincere best wishes to all of you for a Merry Christmas and the best in the New Year.

Keep 'em flying till we meet again. ■

“Last Mission”

BY JOHN N. GOODWIN

This poem was written in honor of my father, Lt. John J. Goodwin, co-pilot of “GI Jane” aka “Pallas Athene,” 392nd Bomb Group. He flew 31 missions from Wendling. This poem can honor more than just my dad, who passed away a year ago.

I think I know how Pop's ground crew must have felt.

They had gassed the B-24 and loaded the bombs and polished the plexiglass.

*They had watched it taxi to the runway's end and in its turn speed on,
until full-throttle the nose pointed skyward.*

They watched it go higher, bound for the assembly point above.

*It faded up into the mist and vanished. One second they could see it
and the next it was gone.*

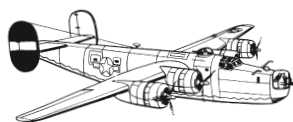
*Soon the sounds of engines faded and there was nothing —
nothing but the wait.*

On his last mission, early last Monday, it was the same.

*He was there and then he was gone. He hadn't turned back this time either,
just lifted off, up beyond the clouds.*

*Off to a successful landing — just not on this strip.
Happy landings, Pop.*

*And we are left, looking at the clouds,
ears straining to hear engines.*



The Speeding Ticket That Wasn't

A guy is pulled over for speeding. The officer asks for his license and registration. The guy says, “I don't have a license. I lost it on a DUI.” Surprised, the officer then asks, “Do you have a registration for this vehicle?” The man replies, “No, sir. The car is not mine. I stole it, but I did see a registration in the glove compartment when I put my gun in it.”

The officer was shocked and stepped back. “You have a gun in the vehicle?” And the man says, “Yeah, I used it to kill the woman who owns this car. Her body is in the trunk.”

Now the officer decides the guy is not just kidding and shouts at the driver, “Sir, step out of the car, stand over there and don't move. If you try to run, I'll have to take you down and cuff you.” He goes back to his squad car and calls for backup.

When the second officer arrives, he demands that the driver produce a license and registration, and the man says, “Sure, officer, here they are right here.”

After the officer is satisfied, he asks, “Do you have a gun in the glove compartment?” The man laughs and says, “That's ridiculous. I have no need for a gun.” So he opens the glove compartment to show the officer it is empty.

Now the second officer asks him to open the trunk, because he was told there is a dead body in it. The guy complies and opens the trunk — no dead body! The officer says, “Sir, I don't understand what is going on here. The officer who pulled you over said you did not have a license or registration, the car was stolen, there was a gun in the glove compartment and a dead body in the trunk.”

The man looks the officer in the eye and says, “Yeah, and I bet he told you I was speeding too.”

Last Requests

Two men, sentenced to die in the electric chair on the same day, were led down to the room in which they would meet their maker. A priest had given them last rites, the warden had made his formal speech, and the witnesses and participants had said a final prayer.

Turning to the first man, the warden asked, “Son, do you have a last request?”

To which the man replied, “Yes, sir, I do. I love dance music. Could you please play the Macarena for me one last time?”

“Certainly,” replied the warden. He turned to the other man and asked, “What about you, son? What is your final request?”

“Please,” said the condemned man, “kill me first.”



BY CLARENCE LUHMANN

This will be my last article for the *Journal* as the VP of the 445th Bomb Group. I have had so much to deal with the last two years. Last year, two surgeries to get my left hip replaced. Infection caused the two surgeries. This past August I had my right hip replaced. That went okay, but we did cancel our plans for the convention at that time. Now in September, I got hit with a severe case of pancreatitis and spent a week in the hospital. Enough of that stuff. I'm slow at getting back. Therefore I am resigning as Group Vice President.

When I enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1942 it was my wish to become a pilot. I did get my wings as a pilot on December 5, 1943. I am proud of my time in the 8th Air Force, 2nd Air Division spent at the Tibenham base in England. I finished 35 missions in 1944, most of them with the same crew. I had a guardian angel with me all the time — especially on the last mission, when we found a piece of flak embedded in my seat behind my head. I have that piece yet to this day.

I took a new crew up to fly their first mission. They asked me if I was ever scared. I said yes. I am scared every time.

We were fortunate not to have been shot up real bad. But once we were about 100 miles south of Berlin when we were hit real bad. We lost the first motor before the English Channel and continued to the base. We finally landed with one motor. It's real good to be able to tell about that mission. That plane was not repaired.

We had a very good ground crew. Sometimes they had to work a long time to get the plane ready for another mission. They were an important part of the crew. They waited at the hardstand for us to return. The air crew would tell them what they knew would need to be fixed, besides patching holes.

A neighbor here in Minnesota had immigrated from Germany. When I returned from England, he asked me if we had bombed Stettin. I hated to say yes. But it

turned out we had bombed on the west side and his family lived on the east side. So there was hope we hadn't harmed them.

The nicest sight was to see our fighters. They really kept the enemy planes away. If a plane had trouble, they escorted it to safer territory.

Everyone has the same kinds of stories and memories.

We need to keep our military people in our prayers.

Hope to be able to make it to New Orleans next year. ■

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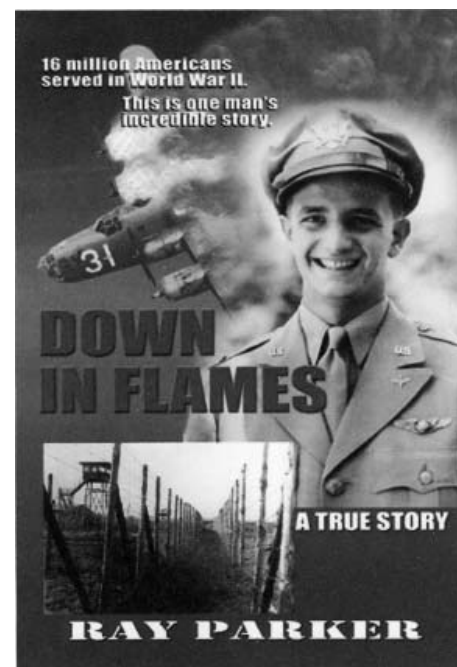
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BOOK REVIEW

Down in Flames

NEW BOOK BY 445TH VETERAN
RAY PARKER

Lt. Ray Parker reveals an incredible story shared by many young men during WWII — fighting through the hell of aerial combat over Europe. Shot down over France, Ray is taken prisoner by the Germans. Continuing his struggle against the enemy, he runs an underground newspaper for the 9,000 airmen at Stalag Luft 1. Ray shares for the first time this tale of hope, fear, and unrelenting courage in the face of the enemy.



"Once I started reading *Down in Flames*, I couldn't put it down. It's well written and kept me turning the pages. Ray Parker was head writer on my daily CBS TV show, *House Party*, but he never talked about bombing missions over Germany during World War II and surviving a Nazi prison camp. What a surprise! I can certainly recommend this book."

— Art Linkletter, host of *House Party* and *Kids Say the Darndest Things*

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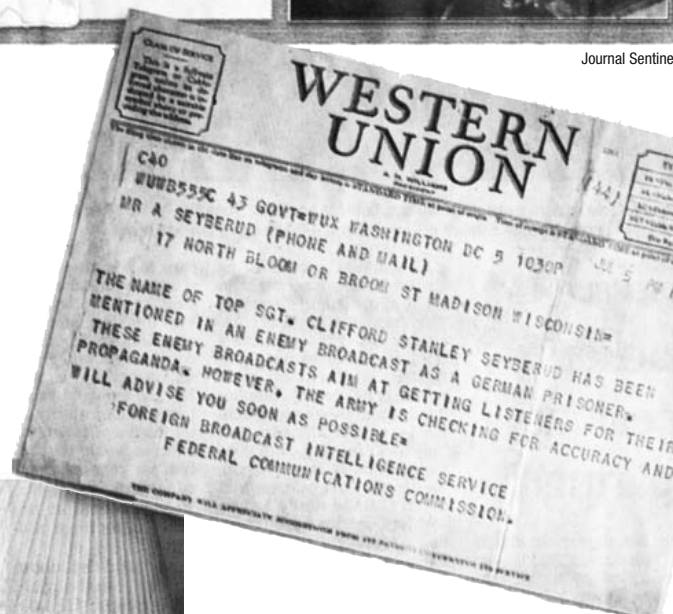
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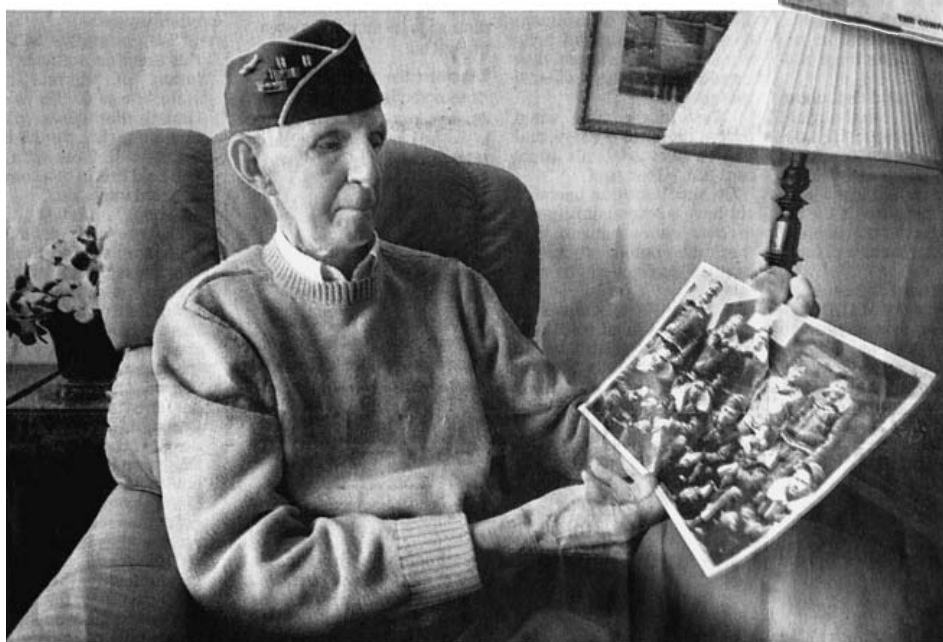
Prisoners' ordeal was borne on foot

"For 86 days we had to march in severe weather, starvation rations, slept in local fields and barns, and filth beyond the human mind, on less than 800 calories a day."

— CLIFF SYVERUD



BY RICK WOOD
Reprinted from the
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel,
June 3, 2009



Above: Cliff Syverud, 87, of Waunakee, Wisconsin studies a photo of his comrades in the 701st Bomb Squadron of the 8th Air Force. Out of a force of 350,000 officers and men, 26,000 members of the 8th were killed in WWII, according to statistics from the 8th Air Force Historical Society. PHOTO BY RICK WOOD

Right: Syverud, shown two months after his liberation, married his fiancée Arlet in October 1945; she died in May 2006.



"I walked with four guys, shared food, stole food, helped each other, and I think the fact that we did made it possible for us to survive."

Cliff Syverud, 87, tried to enlist after Pearl Harbor but was too young. He joined the military six months later, assigned to the 8th Air Force. His bomber was struck by enemy planes over Germany, where — after parachuting to the ground — he became a prisoner of war.

"I think I hit the biggest tree in Germany. . . . My instructions were, whenever you chute down, wait 'til somebody from the military shows up. I waited in a house; finally a German soldier came. He commandeered two bicycles. We rode 20 miles, and they kept me in jail until they took me to an interrogation center."

The initial questioning lasted five days.

"I thought as long as they thought I had information, I would stay alive. . . . And so I just kept giving my name, rank and serial number, which I was told to do, and after five days I was let out, and about 50 of us were loaded into a boxcar for a trip to Poland, and we were packed so tight we couldn't sit or lie or move, so we had to stand for four days."

At the prison camp, life was bleak.

"It was a real lifesaver when we got Red Cross packages with meat, Spam, cheese, powdered milk, and each package had six cartons of cigarettes. . . . We used them to trade with the guards, smuggled them in. . . . Some of the guards were decent, others were very nasty."

In time, when the wind was right, Syverud and the others could hear the Russian front getting closer. Then they were evacuated, marched westward on a wintry trek that lasted 86 days. Syverud was among 80,000 Allied prisoners of war subjected to the hardships of what became known as the Black March.

"It felt like 30 below — I had no idea what the wind-chill factor was. I remember February 10 for several reasons. It was my mother's birthday, and it was the worst day I had spent in my life. . . . We had no choice but to keep on walking. When it became dark, we were herded like cattle into an open field, told to sit. We had walked 35 kilometers. We sat as close as we could that night, in a circle with one of us on the outside, sitting on the foot of the ones inside. We kept rotating, to keep everyone awake. . . . If they'd fall asleep, they would freeze to death."

Eventually, they were liberated by an English unit and set off to find Americans.

"After seeing swastika after swastika for one year, what a feeling when we saw an American flag. . . . It was unbelievable." ■



The radio operator aboard a B-24, Syverud was one mission away from completing his tour when his plane was shot down over Germany on his 24th trip over Europe.

Online Video: Cliff Syverud's story

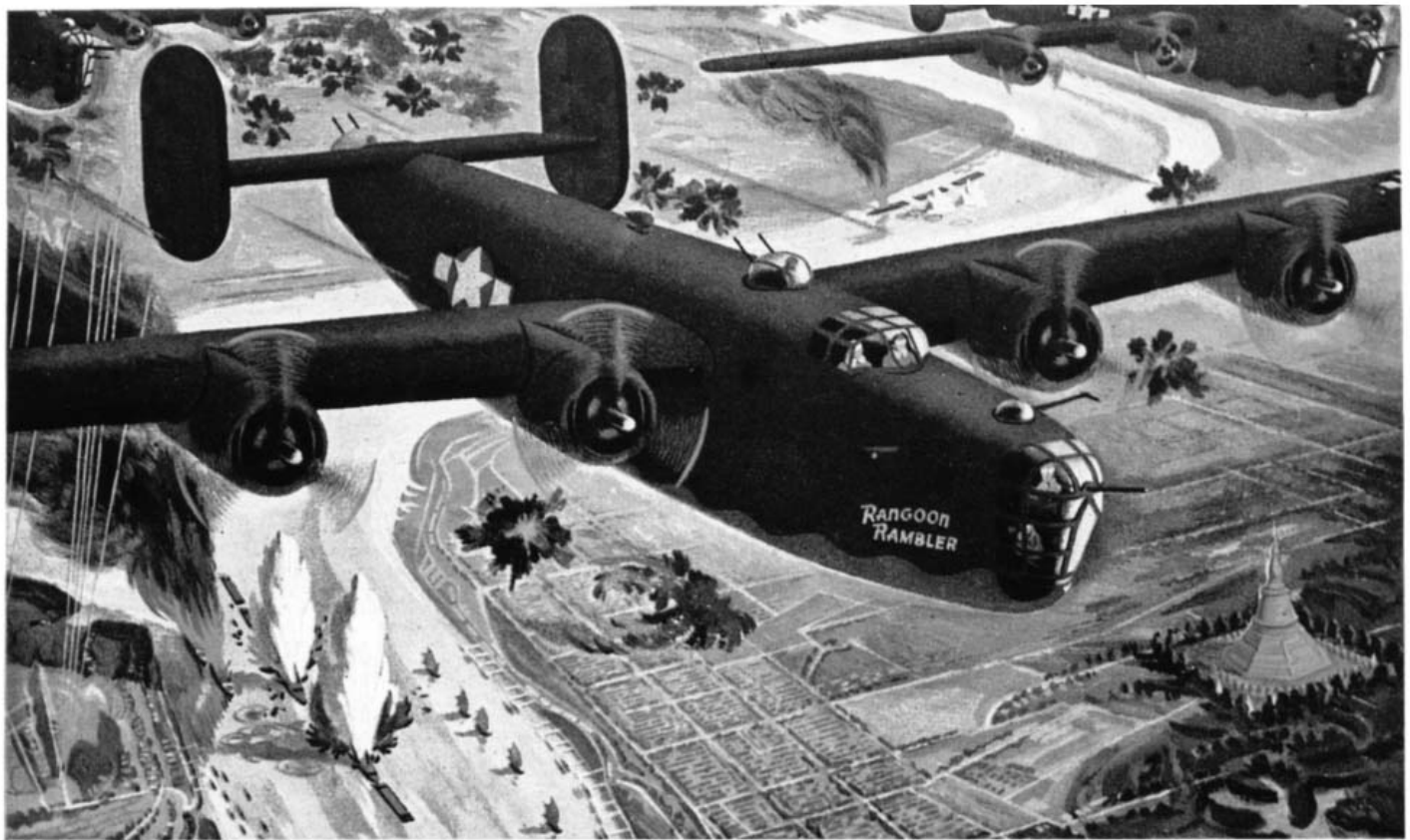
Go to www.jsonline.com/warstories to see:

- *Cliff Syverud talk about the horrors he endured as a prisoner of war*
- *Videos of other World War II veterans*
- *A chance to share your own World War II stories*



Today: Syverud is retired and speaks to school and civic groups. He told his experiences to students at La Follette High School in Madison. "I never told anyone about my experiences for 38 years. I had to tell my wife because of the nightmares I was having."

PHOTO BY RICK WOOD



The "Rambler" Roars into Rangoon

This morning you're flying with the crew of the famous "Rangoon Rambler" . . .

Crouched in the glassed-in nose beside you, Lt. Guy Spotts, the navigator, studies a map spread across his knees, checks off landmarks as they slide past underneath. Suddenly he peers ahead . . . speaks into his throat-microphone: "Pilot from navigator. There she is, Rote. We can see the target now. Alter course to three-three-zero."

"Roger!" Capt. Raymond Rote, the pilot, eases the big B-24 around and straightens out on his new course.

Then *you* see it . . . a splash of flame against the green horizon . . . the great, gold-domed Shwe Dagôn Pagoda that towers over Rangoon. You're getting close . . . and the crew gets set. Lt. Robert Currie, the bombardier, fiddles with the knobs on his bombsight. Capt. Gordon Wilson, co-pilot, gives the instruments a last-minute check.

Now you're over the target . . . a flock of pot-bellied Jap cargo ships squatting there in the river's bend. The "Rambler" lurches and bucks as she ducks through bursts of ack-ack and goes into her bombing run.

Your heart pounds hard. Then Currie comes in on the intercom . . . cool as if he were ordering cokes at the Assam Officers Club: "Pilot from bombardier. Bombs away! Let's get out of here, pal!"

Looking back and below, you watch the formation's bombs bullseye the target. A freighter goes up in a blast of fire and black smoke. The ship beside it explodes. Flames break out from a third. And a fourth. Currie and the other bombardiers were "on the beam" today.

Rote banks the Lib around steep, and you high-tail for home. You're congratulating yourself when . . . "Fighters at four o'clock—high!" somebody yells. You look up and see a formation of Japs sweeping out of the sun.

Now it's the gunners' turn. And between squirts of their big, twin-50's they keep up a running pep-talk:

"There goes his wing down! He's coming in! This one's *my* meat, Salley!"

"Hey, skipper—kick her over a little. I want a good shot at this guy."

And two Japs spiral down in flames, and the rest decide to quit. That's all for today. You look around at the crew, relaxing now, shooting the breeze, adding up the score. You think of the ribbons each man has won for flights like this.

And it makes your chest puff out with pride to be flying with guys like these . . . to be wearing the wings of the A.A.F.—the "greatest team in the world!"

U. S. ARMY RECRUITING SERVICE



FLY AND FIGHT WITH THE



THE "RANGOON RAMBLERS": Standing: Sgt. Ferdinand Knechtel, gunner; Capt. Raymond Rote; Capt. Gordon Wilson; Lt. Guy Spotts; Lt. Robert Currie; Sgt. Joseph Willis, gunner. Seated: Sgt. John Craigie, Sgt. Carl Paak, Sgt. Adolph Scolavino, Sgt. Edward Salley, gunners.

MEN OF 17



... if *you* want to fly on a team like the "Rangoon Ramblers" . . . as Navigator, Bombardier, Pilot or Gunner . . . go to your nearest Aviation Cadet Examining Board . . . see if you can qualify for the Air Corps Enlisted Reserve. If you qualify, you will receive this insignia . . . but will not be called for training until you are 18 or over. When called, your special apti-

tudes will be studied further to determine the type of training you will receive. For the A.A.F. carefully selects for each position on a combat crew the man best qualified for the job . . . and then adds the thorough training which makes this all-star team the world's finest. For pre-aviation training, see your local Civil Air Patrol officers. Also see your High School Principal or Adviser about recommended courses in the Air Service Division of the High School Victory Corps.

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458th BOMB GROUP

HORSHAM ST. FAITH



BY RICK ROKICKI

THE PASSING OF A 2ADA ICON

Elsewhere in this *Journal*, you will read of Evelyn Cohen who passed away recently. We knew she was ill and hospitalized when we talked to her sister, Lillian, months earlier.

Here's how our close relationship started. After serving as president in 1978-1979, I was elected as 458th Group Vice President in 1980. Bill Robertie, who was the *Journal* Editor, found out that doing both the *Journal* and the roster was too much of a workload, and at the Executive Committee meeting he asked for a volunteer to do the computer work. Since there were no volunteers, I offered to take over the year-old Apple 2e. Actually, I volunteered my wife, Ceil, to help me since she had computer experience working as an assistant bank manager. As my training was going poorly, she found that doing it herself was easier and quicker than my slow progress. Eventually, I was left with a minor job of pressing the "Print" button and stuffing paper into the computer printer.

Evelyn, of course, sent us all revisions which consisted of data that kept our fast-growing roster growing. (The 2ADA reached almost 9,000 members at its peak.) Evvie kept us busy for the next 29 years. We ran through three printers and five computers. She worked through multi Rolodexes and two fax machines. (We also had to purchase a second fax last year.) Our communications were both by fax and phone and when necessary, by "snail mail." All this was more frequent than we ever thought possible. Through it all, it was a great learning experience with a great lady. Both Ceil and I felt like she was an older sister. We shall miss her. Working together, sharing some almost unsolvable problems with name spellings, zip codes, dual addresses of our "snow birds" and the ever-increasing Folded Wings columns. Evvie, all of us who knew you in our brotherhood and sisterhood will never forget what you did for us and the 2ADA.

When we made arrangements to plant a tree in her name in Israel, the lady taking down the information asked how we were related to Evelyn. When Ceil replied that we worked together for almost 29 years in a WWII organization, she checked us off as "sister" — end of story.

THE AIR WAR REMEMBERED

Ed Sealy, 753rd Squadron, sent me a copy of his book, *The Air War Remembered: Letters to Chris*. Roughly 5 x 8 size with 103 pages, Ed takes us through induction, Miami Beach, combat and discharge. Soon to be available on Amazon, but now available on order from edsealy@comcast.net. Cost is \$14.00 and includes postage if ordered through him.

THE COLONEL'S ALBUM

Arriving too late to be included in the last *Journal* were two disks entitled *The Colonel's Album* sent to me by Del Shaffer. Some time back, I received the original VHS version from Col. Chuck Booth. This two-disk unit is available to any member by request. Hopefully, you will return it for another member who wishes to view it.

DYNAMIC DIORAMAS

Joe Tomich (Chuck Melton's Crew 67) sent me an interesting pamphlet of creative work of WWII, Joseph Neumeyer's *Dynamic Dioramas*. The photos are a visual storytelling and can be seen on www.dynamicdioramas.org (all lower case, one word). If you desire personal contact for more information, write him at 765 West 26th Street, #307, San Pedro, CA 90731.

"HELL'S ANGELS"

MaryEllen Greening, Chuck Ferrell's daughter, recently wrote to tell me she and her dad continue correspondence with the surviving crew members of "Hell's Angels." Chuck was the nose gunner, Don Findlayson was navigator, and Henry Arias was tail gunner. These are the only "Angels" crew members remaining, all in their mid and late 80s. She writes that she, her father, and her brother Tim flew in the Collings B-24 during a three-day Michigan visit in 1993. She's also a private pilot and has flown Pipers and Cessnas. Obviously, a "chip off the ol' block."

NEW BOOKS AT THE 2AD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Ms. Libby Morgan, Memorial Trust Librarian, advised of the latest books purchased by the 458th Endowment Fund in 2009. They are: *Aviation Art of Mike Bailey*, *The Candy Bombers* (Berlin Airlift) by Andre Cherny; *Encyclopedia of the Underground Railroad* by J.B. Hudson; and *Airfields of the Eighth, Then and Now*, by Roger Freeman.

WISDOM FROM THE MILITARY MANUAL

Bud Hartzell sends us the following "Wisdom from the Military Manual":

1. It is generally inadvisable to bail out over the area you just bombed.
2. When one engine fails on a twin-engine airplane, you always have enough power left to get you to the scene of the crash.
3. Even with ammunition, the USAF is just another expensive flying club.
4. What is the similarity between air traffic controllers and pilots? If a pilot screws up, the pilot dies; if the ATC screws up, the pilot dies.
5. Flying the airplane is more important than radioing your plight to a person on the ground incapable of understanding or doing anything about it.
6. The Piper Cub is the safest airplane in the world; it can just barely kill you.
7. As the test pilot climbs out of the experimental aircraft, having torn off the wings and tail in the crash landing, the crash truck arrives, the rescuer sees a bloodied pilot and asks, "What happened?" Pilot's reply: "I don't know, I just got here myself!"

CHICAGO CONVENTION

Hannah Piskin was kind enough to send me this photo of the
(continued on page 22)



SEETHING

The 448th Speaks

BY KING SCHULTZ

FOLDED WINGS OF THE 448TH

Edward Chu, Corsica, Texas, February 17, 2009

Paul F. Dwyer, Alexandria, Virginia, May 31, 2009

Walter Farmer, Corsica, Texas, February 17, 2009

John W. Snyder, February 2009

Lawrence W. Wolfe, San Antonio, Texas, May 27, 2009

MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOOK PURCHASES

Libby Morgan, Second Air Division Trust Librarian, reports the following books were purchased recently in memory of 448th Bomb Group members who gave their lives in WWII 1943-1945: *THE CANDY BOMBERS: The Untold Story of The Berlin Air-lift and America's Finest Hour* by André Cherny; and *STATE BY STATE*, by Matt & Wilsey Weiland, Sean Cotty – editor.

2ADA CHICAGO CONVENTION

There were three attendees from the 448th: Dale Bottoms and King & Paula Schultz. Pat Everson was presented in absentia with the "Award for Outstanding Service."

THE STRANGER AND THE B-24

The B-24 Pilot Transition School in Liberal, Kansas was not universally enjoyed by all student pilots. For your enjoyment, here is a poem by one such unhappy pilot:

*They sat in state, the heroes in the vaunted Halls of Fame,
In proud and scornful silence, for each had made his name,
On fields of storied battle, on many a bloody sea,
Though forged in fire, or carved in mire, each deed is history.
There was little Davy Crockett, and the martyr, Nathan Hale,
And that rebel line that fell in Shenandoah's bloody vale,
There was Grant, who knew brief glory, but died another way,
And others known to Time alone, but each had had his day.*

*There was on each visage a deep, forbidding gloom,
And every gaze upon a Stranger who shambled in the room,
In his left hand was a checklist, in his right an R.B.I.
His face was worn, his clothes were torn, his flight cap was awry.*

*The first to speak was Caesar, by virtue of his age,
And the finger that he pointed was trembling with his rage,
"What right have you, brash youngster, with these gallant
men of yore?"
And the man replied, though not with pride, "I flew a B-24."*

*It was out on the plains of Kansas, in this land that God forgot,
Where the winter winds are piercing and the summer suns
are hot,
We were young and brave and hopeful, fresh from ten day leaves,
Though somehow we knew, and the feeling grew, they were
really Last Reprieves.*



P-51 Mustang rebuilt and now flying from Hardwick airfield. Seen here over Seething in the summer of 2003 with two Boeing Stearman trainers in the foreground.

*For there's a sort of manic madness in the superchargers' whine,
As you hear the ice cubes tinkling in the Turbo Balance Line,
And the runway strips are narrow, but the snowbanks they
are wide;*

*While the crash trucks say, in a mournful way, that you're
on your final ride.*

*The nose gear rocks and trembles, for it's held on with baling wire,
And the wings are filled with Thermite to make a hotter fire,
The camouflage is peeling off, it lends an added luster,
While pitot head is filled with lead, to help the load adjuster.
The bomb bay doors are rusted, and they close with a
ghastly shriek,*

*And the Plexiglas is smeared with some forgotten oil leak.
The Oleo struts are twisted, the wheels are not quite round,
And the bulkheads thin (Ford builds them with tin) admits
the slightest sound.*

*You taxi to the runway, 'mid the groans of the tortured gear,
And you feel the check-riders practiced teeth, gnawing your
tender rear;*

*The co-pilot dozing on the right, in a liquor laden coma,
Mingles his breath, like the kiss of death, with the Put-Put's
foul aroma.*

*So it's off in the overcast yonder, though number one is missing,
And the hydraulic fluid escaping, sets up a gentle hissing,
The compass dial is spinning in a way that broods no stopping,
And row by row, the fuses blow with an intermittent popping.*

*It was named the "Liberator" by a low and twisted mind,
But men who come to Liberal, no freedom ever find,
There is no hope, no sunny ray, to dry their tears of sorrow,
For those who land, and still can stand, fly the goddamn
things tomorrow.*

*The Stranger's voice was silent, a tear shone in his eye,
And from all his hallowed audience arose a vast sigh,
Great Caesar rose up to him with pity on his face,
And bowing low, he turned to show the Stranger to his place. ■*

HETHEL HIGHLIGHTS



BY EARL ZIMMERMAN

During our reunion in Dallas last year we agreed to have two collages made for Frances Davies and David Hastings who retired from the Memorial Trust Board of Governors after many years of service to the 2ADA. Kelsey McMillan, the 389th Historian, made both collages and I made the trip in July to Norwich to present the collages to Fran and David. The presentation was made at the Carleton Rode village church after the service. I thought it appropriate to have the presentation there as David started his "career" with the 389th there, pestering the crews at Hethel when he was a small lad, and ending his "career" there where the 389th has a memorial for two crews involved in a mid-air in November 1944 over the parish. One of the crew was T/Sgt. Harold M. Thompson, my engineer, his second mid-air.

After the ceremony, refreshments were served by the ladies of the parish. Attending the ceremony were members of the wedding party of the previous day which took place at the chapel/museum at Hethel. The wedding party and guests were all dressed a la WWII and the food served at the reception included Spam and WWII goodies. I wore my Ike jacket and donated it to the chapel. The bride and groom, Penny and Steve, arrived at the chapel in a 6 by with quad fifties fitted and decorated with white buntings. (See their story on page 24.) They have volunteered many years restoring the chapel. After the ceremony at Carleton Rode, the congregation was invited to visit the chapel at Hethel. It was a great day for Fran Davies and David Hastings, and of course the newlyweds Steve and Penny.

The 453rd has a memorial at Carleton Rode for two of their planes involved in a mid-air. A few years ago a ring of six bells was dedicated at Carleton Rode, the first in 250 years, by both groups and the congregation. ■



Penny Daynes and Steve Mendham at the Hethel Chapel

458TH BOMB GROUP (continued from page 20)

458th attendees at the Chicago convention. Ceil and I were at our granddaughter's wedding.



L-R: Frank & Lucille Birmingham, Birt & Ann Brumby, Joanna & Elmo Geppelt, Hannah & Arnold Piskin, Charles Domek.

A Well-Planned Retirement

ADAPTED FROM THE LONDON TIMES
SUBMITTED BY RICK ROKICKI (458TH)

Outside the Bristol Zoo, in England, there is a parking lot for 150 cars and 8 coaches, or buses. It was manned by a very pleasant attendant with a ticket machine charging cars £1 (about \$1.40) and coaches £5 (about \$7). This parking attendant worked there solid for all of 25 years. Then, one day, he just didn't turn up for work. "Oh well," said Bristol Zoo Management, "we'd better phone up the City Council and get them to send a new parking attendant . . ."

"Err . . . no," said the Council, "that parking lot is your responsibility."

"Err . . . no," said Bristol Zoo Management, "the attendant was employed by the City Council, wasn't he?"

"Err . . . no!" insisted the Council.

Sitting in his villa somewhere on the coast of Spain (presumably), is a man who had been taking the parking lot fees, estimated at £400 (about \$560) per day at Bristol Zoo for the last 25 years. Assuming seven days a week, this amounts to just over \$3.6 million (\$7 million — or \$280,000 every year for 25 years)! And no one even knows his name. ■

HALESWORTH 489TH NOTES

BY CHARLES FREUDENTHAL

It has been a good long while since I wrote a "489th Notes" column, and considering that I'm really just filling in for our greatly missed Mel Pontillo, I feel at a loss for both words and direction.

I guess, like most of us, that my thoughts turn quickly to the past, and for me that's a long, long way. Thirty-six years of active service, and now nearly the same number as a member of the 489th Bomb Group and the 2nd Air Division Association. There is much to recall.

So what are the highlights? Is it possible to say what are high (or low) lights? I don't know. But narrowing my field of thought, let's stay with the almost two years with the 489th. Here's one, from Gowen Field, 1943. I was assigned to the 453rd BG as a squadron bombardier, but a few days later was trapped in a B-24 as I was trying to move from the nose compartment to the flight deck. As I was about halfway through, the co-pilot (I think) lowered the main gear. The nose wheel well doors on the "E" model opened inward, and trapped my left ankle between the door and the iron (steel?) pipe that I was using as a walkway. Two thousand pounds per square foot (again, I think). The crew chief brought some pliers, and between the three of us — the crew bombardier also worked on the problem — got me loose. I believe it was in July '43. Anyway, we were met by an ambulance and I was off to the hospital. About three days later I was discharged, and found that my orders to the 453rd had been cancelled. So then came the 489th.

My first convention/reunion was in 1975, at Norwich, and Jack Albright and I were the whole 489th contingent. I saw Jack only on the night of the banquet because, as he told me, he spent his days visiting "old friends," all of whom seemed to be in pubs.

I think often of our Halesworth reunions. The first one was in either 1983 or 1987, and was actually a day at Halesworth while attending the 2ADA convention. I remember that at one of them, when the bus came to get us back to Norwich and the banquet, Twyla Baker didn't want to go, saying "I like it here." And at one

of the later "stand-alone" reunions there was a distinctive and lone man in an Aussie hat playing the good old music for us. The sign on his bicycle trailer warned all traffic that he was pedaling a "Long Vehicle." I remember, too, the "bobbing up and down again" to Paddy Cox's music, and to Tony Kerrison as well. I wonder, will there ever be another one over there?

Actually, I guess we don't get together to see *places*, but to meet again with friends of long standing — old friends, most of whom I didn't know in 1943-44. Exception — Jim Gililland, because John McGrath (Group Navigator) and I were good friends, and so I got to know navigators. I also miss Charlie Chaplain Wakefield, Pop Tanner, Curly Harper, Norm Russell and Walt Randall, plus a lot more. Don't you once in a while wonder about a missing friend?

We're going to have at least one more get-together, to swap some more war stories, and maybe "bob up and down again" a few times. Hey, it's worth it! Ask anyone who was at Cocoa Beach, and the Space Center, or the Air Force Museum, or all the places in Charlotte, to name just a few. Add another good memory! ■



San Antonio, early 1944.
L-R: Charlie Freudenthal,
Jim & Charlie (Charlene) Gililland,
John McGrath.



HARDWICK

Open Letter to the 93rd

BY AL ASCH

Our fine editor, Ray Pytel, reminded me that I was the backup for Vice President of the 93rd. It is difficult for me to write something useful because I have not been able to attend the last two conventions. However, I strongly support our helping an organization made up of people who are supportive of keeping the believers in our organization, the Second Air Division Association (2ADA), alive and active, especially our Memorial Library. I know of no other organization that has developed such a memorial for those we lost in World War II. For example, I personally lost four crew members on a mission and it gives me a great deal of comfort knowing we have such an imaginative and useful memorial for those we lost in the 2nd Air Division.

For what good it will do, I endorse the continuation of our efforts to work with our English friends to maintain our Memorial Library into perpetuity. I have grown too old and handicapped to participate in any kind of a project that would result in an organization to carry the work of the 2ADA forward. There is one thing, however, that we can all do, and that is to encourage our offspring to take an interest and make a contribution.

Just a year ago now, September 30, 2008, I lost my lovely wife, Naomi, after 66 years of marriage. She was a great Air Force wife and helped me in many ways to carry out my duties as an Air Force officer. Many of you expressed your sadness and sympathy to my family and me. We thank you so much for this. Naomi is now buried at Arlington National Cemetery. I will be joining her there when I am deceased. I am now living in an assisted living home at 300 Wheatfield Circle, #B207, Brentwood, Tennessee 37027-4486, phone 615-370-6053.

As a final note, I can think of no better way to begin our offspring's journey of what we endured in England and gain their interest than to send them "over there" to England so they can see the Memorial Library in Norwich and the many other WWII memorials scattered throughout. It would be a trip your family would remember forever, and it would "connect" them firsthand to what we experienced and why we are passionate about seeing continued support after we have "folded our wings." ■

The bride and groom arrived in the back of a 1942 GMC troop carrier, with anti-aircraft guns behind them.

They made their promises in front of a congregation dressed in 1940s clothing, in the chapel where 65 years ago many American airmen would have said their prayers and taken communion before departing on their last missions. Even the normally stoic were moved to tears.

Steve Mendham and Penny Daynes had their wedding blessed on Saturday at the 389th Bombardment Group Memorial Chapel in Hethel, near Wymondham. Today it is a quiet, remote spot, but from 1943 to 1945 it was the Hethel air base, home to American airmen and Liberator bombers.

Together with other volunteers, the Mulbarton couple have spent years restoring the chapel and its wartime murals.

The blessing of their wedding was the first such ceremony to be performed there. The building is not licensed for weddings, so they had a quiet register office ceremony in Norwich before the blessing at the chapel. Miss Daynes, 48, an insurance worker at Marsh, said: "It was just indescribable. It was a perfect day.

"There was so much emotion in that room, you could have heard a pin drop.

"We are religious about this place. We live and breathe it. We want to keep it alive."

Mr. Mendham, 49, a maintenance engineer at Wymondham leisure centre, said: "I don't think we will ever forget it. This place is our heart and soul."

A veteran of the 389th Bombardment Group, former radio operator Earl Zimmerman, flew from the United States to give a reading at the ceremony. And he brought a precious bracelet made for his wife from gold sovereigns given to each airman in his escape kit, for the bride to wear. And Robert Sweatt Jr., whose father of the same name was a tail gunner in the 389th Group, also flew from Texas to be at the wedding. Father and son had first visited the museum together in 2006. He said: "It is great. It is different to be able to go somewhere my dad was 60 years ago and relive to a point what it was like."

Mr. Mendham said: "It was such an honour to have people like that here. They came over just for our wedding day."

They said they were deeply grateful to the U.S. and British servicemen of the Second World War. Mr. Mendham said: "Those chaps came here to help us out. Two or three hundred men were dying

Here Comes the Bride . . . in a 1942 GMC troop carrier

By SARAH BREALEY • Reprinted from the Eastern Daily Press, July 13, 2009



Penny Daynes and Steve Mendham on their wedding day at the chapel on the small Hethel airbase which they have helped restore, alongside their wedding "car," a 1942 GMC troop carrier.

PHOTO: COLIN FINCH



NOSTALGIA: The happy couple as depicted on their wedding cake. Right, guests at the blessing ceremony in 1940s costume.

PHOTO: COLIN FINCH

every day. The ones who are suffering are the ones who are still alive, and saw their comrades dying."

Miss Daynes added: "It is just incredible what they did. We just do it [*the chapel restoration*] as our way of saying thank you."

The wedding was celebrated with wartime food, including Spam sandwiches, ginger cake and syrup cake made to recipes by Marguerite Patten. The cake had bullets instead of pillars and was topped in sugar models of the couple in their wed-

ding gear — a 1940s dress for her and an American Second World War colonel's uniform for him. In keeping with the wartime make-do-and-mend spirit, the bride made the invitations, the order of service, and the bouquets.

The couple start their honeymoon on Saturday, but are not jetting off to an exotic destination. Instead they are spending a week in a military tent at the War and Peace Show in Kent, the world's largest military show. ■



NEWS OF THE 453RD FROM FLAME LEAP

BY LLOYD W. PRANG

In an effort for my two fingers to begin to type this message, I checked what I had written in the last *Journal*. I noticed that **Bob Marx** mentioned that his pilot, **Eino Alve**, remained in not so good health. I wish I could report that Eino had gotten better, but it was not to be. Eino passed away. Isn't this a rotten way to start a report? YES, it is! There, you don't have to say it.

Anyway, I was certain that nothing could possibly beat the 2ADA convention in Grapevine (Dallas) Texas, and I was right! The Rosemont (Chicago) convention was good, but it's hard to equal Texas. Mostly the same bunch of 453rd people were in attendance. Darn, why don't more of you come? I know, I know, it's hard — you say you don't know anyone. Heck, Irene and I didn't know anyone either when we first started. It takes a little while, but it's worth it. Also, there are the aches and pains that come with the territory and the counsel against traveling by your doctor. However, if now now, WHEN? In addition, due to the security measures now in place, the airplane ride is no longer fun. It's a p.i.t.a. Nuff said, I'll shut up!

The people who had a grand time at the Rosemont convention were: **Jim Dyke**, **Bert & Claire Biel** along with their daughters **Irene Hurner** and **Rosemary Lighty**, **Mo & Ludie Morris** and their daughter **Karen Merrell**, **Jack & Bette Jones**, **Russ & Nona Neatrour**, **Dick & Gwen Robert**, **Jeane Stites** and **Will Stites** with his wife **Bonnie**, **Brenda & Phil Tudek**, **Bob & Isabelle Victor**, **Linda & Herman Wittig**, and **Lloyd & Irene Prang**, bringing the total to 25 people. I had thought the 453rd would have the largest number of people in attendance, but the 445th had 11 more at a total of 36 people.

Jack & Bette Jones and Russ & Nona Neatrour managed to go on all of the tours. On Friday the four of them went on the Architectural Cruise. On Saturday they went to the Museum of Science and Industry. Irene and I used to live in the Chicago area; this museum is so big that it could take at least two days to walk around and see everything. I don't know how they managed in only about two hours. It's a lot of walking and looking,

and we just can't do it anymore. On Sunday they went on a tour of the city. It's good that a bus driver and a guide took care of them — Chicago is a big city and getting lost is very easy. Jeane Stites and her guests also went on the City Tour. Brenda & Phil Tudek and Linda & Herman Wittig went on the Museum Tour. I'm sure they were tired when they got back to the hotel even though they had time to rest on the return bus ride.

I received a phone call from **Frank Egloff** telling me that he had a new address. He is now at 6363 Transit Rd., East Amherst, NY 14051. He was in Jacksonville, Florida. Guess he got tired of all that sunshine and missed the snow. Since Amherst is close to Buffalo and he called in July, he's sure to get to see a lot of snow this winter. Frank was in the 733rd Sheet Metal Shop. Thanks for the change of address, Frank.

On a personal note, please note that I have a new phone number. It is 317-567-3251. I had to change phone companies due to the poor service I was getting from AT&T. Also, our daughter, Betty, insisted that we have a cell phone while traveling to Chicago this time, so she provided one. The cell phone number is 317-610-7780.

In July, **Libby Morgan**, the Trust Librarian at the 2AD Memorial Library in England, sent a letter plus a list of the books that were purchased by way of the 453rd donations to the Library. In her letter she extracted part of a letter she had received from one of the library patrons: *"I can't tell you how very much I appreciate the many generous donations to the library, which have made available to me such excellent and rare resources, and I hope you can find some way to get my message of appreciation passed to appropriate circles. What a wonderful way to keep alive and record the sacrifices of so many in those terrible years."*

Airfields of the Eighth Then and Now by Roger Freeman was the latest book purchased. The inscription read, *"Presented by the 453rd Bomb Group (H), B-24's, 2nd Wing, 2nd Air Division, 8th Air Force, Old Buckenham, England."*

In June, **Lynn Woodrow**, who is the school secretary at the Carleton Rode School, sent a letter telling of the books

they purchased. The following books are all by Dorling Kindersley: *Can You Feel the Force?*, *Think of a Number*, *Show Me the Money*, *It's Elementary*, *What Makes Me Me?* Lynn writes, *"They are really lovely books. Could you pass on our thanks and best wishes to everyone concerned."*

The books were in memory of and carried the inscriptions: *"In honour of Major General Andrew S. Low, Jr., Command Pilot, 453rd Bombardment Group (H), Old Buckenham, England,"* and *"In honour of Major General Ramsay Potts, Commanding Officer, 453rd Bombardment Group (H), Old Buckenham, England,"* and *"In honour of Captain Milton Stokes, Lead Pilot and Operations Officer, 735th Squadron, 453rd Bombardment Group (H), Old Buckenham, England."*

Finally, some sad news. When we returned from the 2ADA convention, the following e-mail was waiting for us: *"As you are President of the 453rd I want you to know that **Odell H. Johnson**, Lt. Col. Retired, died Friday late evening after a bad fall Thursday, the 3rd. He had a severe head injury, which caused major bleeding in the brain; there was nothing to be done for him. There will be a memorial service Thursday, September 10, at Peace Lutheran Church, Bloomington, MN. There will be an interment at the Fort Snelling Military Cemetery with military honors at a later date. Perhaps you would like to let those in the 453rd have this information. If you need more, please e-mail me. Virginia M. Johnson."* An e-mail copy of this letter was sent to Jeane Stites. We also sent an e-mail to Oak Mackey, who is taking over Evelyn Cohen's job in the 2ADA, and Odell's name should appear in the "Folded Wings" section of this issue of the *Journal*.

And further sad news has been received from **Leigh Hendrick** who submitted the following tribute to her father, **Joseph A. Intermor**:

S/Sgt. Joseph A. Intermor, 83, a WWII veteran, passed away on December 29,



2008. Sgt. Intermor was born on June 12, 1925 in Brooklyn, NY and attended Brooklyn Vocational School. He joined the U.S. Army Air Forces on July 31, 1943 and was trained

as an airplane armorer and gunner. As an aerial gunner-armorer he inspected and serviced

(continued on page 27)



JUST IN PASSING

1940 . . .

Do you remember?

**HITLER'S
'LAST APPEAL TO REASON'**

Part of his speech made on July 19th:
"If this struggle continues, it can only end in the annihilation of one of us. Mr Churchill thinks it will be Germany. I know it will be Britain. I am not the vanquished begging for mercy. I speak as a victor. I see no reason why this war must go on. We should like to avert the sacrifices which must claim millions..."

LEFT TO RIGHT: Hess, Hitler and Goering. ASTRA

Reprinted from FLYPAST

BOOK REVIEW

LION AT WAR

"Warlord" shows how Churchill's flaws helped make him great

BY DAVID WALTON

SPECIAL TO THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

In 2003, Gretchen Rubin published the excellent little book *Forty Ways to Look at Winston Churchill*. In it she singles out individual roles Churchill played in his long and momentous life: as Leader, as Liberty's Champion, as Failed Statesman, as a Genius with Words, as Painter, Spendthrift and Drinker.

The only one she omits is the one that historian Carlo D'Este focuses on at length in *Warlord*: that of soldier. D'Este's expansive *A Life of Winston Churchill* is a broadly researched and very readable biography that illuminates all the roles that Churchill played.

As a young man Churchill fought in the Boer War, where he performed courageously and oftentimes recklessly. He was captured and escaped, and garnered fame but also controversy, since he was also covering the war independently as a newspaper correspondent.

In World War I, he was First Lord of the Admiralty, the cabinet minister for the navy, where he distinguished himself by readying and guarding Britain's fleet at the first signs of war. However, his scheme to bypass the trench stalemate in Europe with an invasion through Turkey proved a military disaster at Gallipoli and led to Churchill's resignation and disgrace.

He went to the front and performed well as a lieutenant colonel for five and a half months before returning to civilian service. For long years thereafter, Churchill was eclipsed and had little influence. His was one of the few voices warning against the growing military threat of Nazi Germany and urging Britain to prepare its defenses.

As D'Este shows, Churchill's experience as a soldier not only matched his desire for action and adventure, but framed the more reckless streaks in his temperament. That temperament, quick to seize upon the thing of the moment, susceptible to rashness and misjudgment, was also the core of the greatness he showed as an old man, taking the helm of government in 1940 as Britain faced its retreat from Dunkirk.

"Little could anyone know that his traits of stubbornness and rebellion," D'Este writes of Churchill at St. George's boarding school, "would steel him for the future when, as prime minister during his nation's time of grave peril, Churchill would resist pressures and criticism that would surely have broken a lesser man."

The child is father to the man, Wordsworth wrote, and the line could stand as the theme for D'Este's book. Churchill is arguably the greatest, and certainly along with his friend and ally Franklin Roosevelt, the most complicated and appealing of the last century's great figures.

Rather than reducing Churchill to a single role and single line of investigation, D'Este has found a way to make his contradictions and his blunders and not-so-great features coherent with the greatness he achieved.

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Novelist David Walton teaches English at the University of Pittsburgh.

492ND BG PILOT TO SEARCH GERMAN CELLAR FOR MISSING WINGS

BY NORMA LOVE, ASSOCIATED PRESS • SEPTEMBER 6, 2009

CONCORD, N.H. — Sixty-five years ago, 1st Lt. Bernerd Harding huddled in a cellar with a few other airmen captured by German farmers and buried his pilot's wings, fearful he'd be beaten or shot as an American bomber pilot.

Now, at age 90, Harding wants his wings back. He's headed to Germany today and hopes — with the help of a German doctor — to find the farmhouse cellar and dig up the 3-inch long metal wings that he had proudly pinned to his shirt. The house was in rural Klein Quenstedt, Germany, southwest of Berlin, he said.

"I know exactly where the wings are. They're not very deep. I won't need a shovel," he said in a firm, clear voice during a telephone interview from his Milford, N.H. home.

A month after the D-Day invasion of Normandy, Harding was a 25-year-old B-24 pilot flying his 14th mission when he was shot down. Harding, a member of the 8th Air Force's 492nd Bomb Group, was leading nine other B-24s in the 859th Squadron on a daylight mission to bomb an aircraft manufacturing plant in Bernburgh on July 7, 1944. He was carrying 11 other airmen on his plane.

He had just dropped his bomb load when the support planes that kept German fighters at bay were diverted to protect bombers in another squadron. Shortly afterward, German fighters crippled his plane, nicknamed Georgette, and Harding ordered his crew to parachute.

"Our inboard engines were on fire. We lost every control. I gave the order for everyone to bail out. I bailed out last," Harding said.

All 10 planes in his squadron, carrying about 100 crewmen and pilots, were shot down, he recalled. At least half died, he said. Of the 12 men aboard Georgette, only one died that day, shot in the head by his German captors, Harding found out later. The others were all captured and survived the war, but have since died.

Harding landed in a freshly cut wheat field. Three farmers, two with pitchforks and one with a gun, captured him and herded him into the cellar. They held him until German army officers could take charge.

Two other airmen who had been shot down were already being held when Har-



492nd BG pilot Bernerd Harding, 90, at his home in Milford, N.H.

ding arrived. He dug a hole and buried his wings.

"We were there a while. We heard a wagon rumbling over the cobblestones," he said.

A young German who spoke English ordered the airmen to take the body of a dead American airman off the wagon.

After several hours, German soldiers loaded the captured Americans into a van that took them to Halberstadt Air Force Base. About 100 other Americans had been rounded up from 36 planes shot down that day, Harding said. Three days later, they were loaded onto a train to Frankfurt, interrogated and then sent to a prisoner of war camp in Barth.

After 10 months in the POW camp, the Russian army was approaching from the east. The German captors told the 7,500 prisoners to leave. The next morning, the Germans had fled, Harding said. The Russians freed the prisoners.

As the years passed, Harding didn't think much about his wings. He wasn't sure how the German villagers would treat an American pilot who had bombed their country.

Then last year, he attended services at Arlington National Cemetery for six airmen whose remains had only recently been discovered with the help of German villagers. Harding began to think Klein Quenstedt residents might help him recover his wings and close a chapter in his life.

Early this year, a friend of Harding's found a website about an old water mill in Klein Quenstedt owned by Dr. Ulrich

Heucke, a village resident. The friend e-mailed Heucke describing Harding's quest and asked for help.

Heucke, 41, became intrigued because of his interest in history, and wrote back. He began interviewing older village residents who remembered what had happened.

Heucke sent Harding pictures of several houses that might be where he was held, but Harding didn't recognize them. The pictures showed the front of the houses, and Harding had entered through the rear.

Heucke plans to take Harding and his family to four farmhouses on Wednesday in search of his wings. ■

NEWS OF THE 453RD (continued from page 25)

machine and turret guns, and loaded ammunition for guns and bombs in the bomb bay. During flights, he maintained the tail turret guns to combat enemy fighters. The high altitudes and cramped conditions made operations very difficult, but he persevered throughout the full quota of 35 missions.

Sgt. Intermor was a proud member of the 8th Air Force, 2nd Air Division, 453rd Bomb Group. His plane was "My Achin Back," flying missions as part of the Northern France, Central Europe and Germany campaigns between July 7, 1944 and December 24, 1944. He remained at Old Buckenham until VE Day.

His decorations and citations include the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Good Conduct Medal, the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters.

He was an active member of the 2ADA, the Mighty 8th Air Force Museum in Georgia, the Air Force Gunners Association, and Our Lady of Lourdes Church. He is survived by his wife Margaret of 64 years, his seven children and thirteen grandchildren.

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There's more to tell, but I think I've taken up the space allotted to me, so let's wait until the next *Journal*. ■

A Monument for The Idaho State 8AF Veterans

SUBMITTED BY JACK WENDLING (466TH)

Idaho was the last of the States to establish a State Veterans Cemetery; this was accomplished in 2004. Legionnaire Jack Wendling, Post 47, Filer, Idaho, an Idaho resident since retiring, visited the new facility after viewing a TV presentation of the Memorial Day observance in 2006; by this time the facility was essentially complete and functional.

Missing from the several organization monuments lining the Memorial Walk was a monument recognizing the Eighth United States Air Force, the largest ever and existing to the present. From the Cemetery Director, it was determined that all such monuments were to be like-size and feature a like-size bronze plaque with a commemorative statement. These were only available through a Cemetery source at a fixed fee of \$2500.

Wendling's initial thought was to try to fund a monument alone, but came to realize that others would choose to contribute given the opportunity. Needed was a roster of 8th Air Force Idaho vets. The Idaho American Legion Quarterly responded to the call for contacts with a brief item which provided several contacts and leads therefrom. The 2nd Air Division 8th Air Force Association *Journal* was likewise productive. A request for assistance from the 8th AF Historical Society drew a blank. Consequently, what had been thought possible by Memorial Day 2007 stretched to 2009 with the slowed progress of locating 8th AF vets in Idaho, a state with a population of just over one million persons!

There were some "fund-raisers" that suggested naming individual donors and soliciting donations from business entities; from the beginning, Wendling wanted a monument honoring the service of each and every 8th AF vet in whatever capacity he served as recognition of a massive team effort. Finally, in January 2009, donations topped the fixed cost of the monument and an inscription for the monument and a name for the donor organization was needed. The name was easy, as the thrice-annual reports to the roster began with the salutation "Veterans and Friends of the U.S. 8th Air Force."

The inscription for the plaque was the difficult part; trying to convey the origin,



Jack Wendling at the June 2, 2009 dedication of the 8th Air Force Monument at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery.

purpose, size, contribution to national interests, and longevity of the 8th AF in the allotted space, and doing so effectively. After numerous false starts and revisions, Wendling's proposal was circulated to the vets and friends for comment. Responses were almost universally favorable and only one addition was needed for consensus. The 8th Air Force Monument was in

place for Memorial Day 2009. An over-subscription of \$300 was donated to the Indigent Veterans Burial Fund at the Cemetery, the same as if the project had failed to conclude favorably.

The text of the inscription of the 8th AF Monument at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery is shown below.

Jack is grateful and indebted to all. ■



Eighth United States Air Force

Serving as an instrument of global power and prestige, in war and peace; created in January 1942 as a response to the German Declaration of War against the United States, and posted to England as the initial American offensive presence in the European Theatre of Operations, World War II; from meager beginnings, the 8th Air Force grew to a complement of over 350,000 persons, in a myriad of duty assignments and more than 4,500 aircraft, tasked with bringing the doctrine of air power from studied theory to grim reality on an unprecedented scale. The 8th Air Force continues into the 21st Century, extending a legacy of service, valor and merit.

"Take these men as your example; remember that freedom is a sure possession of those alone who have the courage to defend it." — Pericles, 431 B.C.

VETERANS AND FRIENDS OF THE U.S. 8TH AIR FORCE, 2009



WENDLING 392nd BY OAK MACKEY

Good morning to all you 392nd Crusaders. It's cool here in Arizona, a welcome change from Mother Nature's summer heat. Today is September 30, and Ray Pytel, the intrepid, though jolly, *Journal* editor, wants this report on his desk no later than today. It will be there by the magic of my handy-dandy fax machine. These modern gadgets boggle the mind.

Now, about that Second Air Division Association convention in Chicago at the Westin O'Hare Hotel the first week of September. The hotel staff were friendly and accommodating, the food was excellent,

the rooms were large and comfortable, and the shuttle to and from the airport ran on time. Betty Lee and Maxine Mackey were the Convention Committee — congratulations to them and a big "Thank You" for a job well done. They worked in conjunction with Armed Forces Reunions, Inc., an arrangement that worked so very well.

Attendees from our own 392nd BG were: Bob Books, Judge S.J. and Odes Elden, Dick and Rita Giesing, Bill and Renella Jurczyn, Oak and Maxine Mackey, Randy and Susan Mackey, Bill McCutcheon, and John and June Muka. That's only 14 folks, but a good turnout considering the Eighth Air Force Historical Society convention was in Cincinnati only two weeks earlier, and the annual 392nd BG business meeting was held there. Total attendance was 168, about the same as last year in Dallas.

As of right now, 392nd BG plans for 2010 are indefinite. There is serious talk of having a stand-alone convention and

meeting, perhaps in Chicago. In all their collective wisdom, the 8AFHS has scheduled their next convention in Tucson, AZ in July. The attractions there include the Pima Air Museum where over 200 aircraft are on display, including a B-24, a B-17, and a B-29. It is an excellent museum. Also, bus tours of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base are available, including the storage area where thousands of out-of-date aircraft are moth-balled and awaiting their fate. But there is a problem. The average and normal daily temperature in July in Tucson is 105 degrees.

The next Second Air Division Association convention will be in the Big Easy, also known as New Orleans, September 10-13, 2010. The location was suggested by our new 2ADA President Richard Robert and approved by the Executive Committee.

We are old, but we are still having fun. Take care of each other. See you all somewhere next year!! ■

Four land in National Aviation Hall of Fame

ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAYTON, OHIO — Edward White, who made America's first spacewalk and later died in a spacecraft fire, is among the latest aviation and space pioneers inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame.

The other enshrinees were Jimmy Stewart, the late Hollywood actor and bomber pilot during World War II; Eileen Collins, the first woman to command the space shuttle; and Russell Meyer Jr., former head of Cessna Aircraft Co.

White, who flew in the Air Force, was among the second group of astronauts selected. His first mission was as pilot for Gemini IV, the first long-duration flight for the Gemini program. White made America's first spacewalk on the mission in 1965, a 21-minute event in which he maneuvered on the end of a 25-foot tether using a hand-held gas gun.

White died on January 27, 1967, when a flash fire swept through the Apollo I spacecraft during a pre-launch test at Cape Kennedy, Florida. Virgil "Gus" Grissom and Roger Chaffee also died in the blaze.

Stewart, a private pilot, enlisted in the Army in 1941 at the age of 33. He actively sought posting to a flying unit and was assigned to the U.K.-based 445th Bomb Group, first as a squadron operations officer and then as its commander.



White



Stewart



Collins



Meyer

Stewart flew 20 combat missions in B-24s, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross twice, the Croix de Guerre, and the Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters.

Continuing his post-war service with the United States Air Force Reserve, he

achieved the rank of brigadier general in 1959, retiring from reserve service in 1968. Stewart remained an American airpower advocate until his death in 1997.

Collins, who was the Air Force's first female flight instructor, was chosen to be an astronaut in 1991. She became the first woman to pilot a space shuttle, in 1995, and flew in a total of four shuttle missions, logging 872 hours before retiring in 2006.

Meyer was a pilot in the Air Force and Marine Reserves from 1955 to 1961. In 1974, he joined the Cessna Aircraft Co. as executive vice president and a year later was named chairman and CEO. He led a program that created more than 50,000 new licensed pilots.

The aviation hall was founded in 1962 in Dayton, hometown of Wilbur and Orville Wright, who were its first inductees.

ON THE INTERNET:

Visit the National
Aviation Hall of Fame at
www.nationalaviation.org

Wings of Freedom

Vintage aircraft educating public on history of flight

By BETH FOLEY • Reprinted from the Palestine (Texas) Herald Press, March 26, 2009

Submitted by HAROLD DIETZ (466th)

PALESTINE, TEXAS — The last time Dean Hobbs had flown in a B-17 Flying Fortress was 61 years ago as a young corporal in the peacetime U.S. Air Force.

Wednesday, Hobbs joined several others from the area on another B-17 bound from Temple to Palestine as part of the Wings of Freedom Tour, brought to the Palestine Municipal Airport by the Veterans Historic Education Center.

When asked how the flight was, Hobbs smiled as he teared up.

"It was great, real great," he said. "It was the trip of a lifetime."

The Collings Foundation's Wings of Freedom Tour flies vintage aircraft to airports around the country as a means of educating the public on the history of flight and the importance of the aircraft in America's past.

In addition to the B-17, a B-24 Liberator bomber, a P-51C Mustang Fighter and a Huey helicopter were also on display at the Palestine Municipal Airport. Tours were \$6 for children and \$12 for adults, with paid flights available on the various aircraft.

Cars and trucks lined the road leading from U.S. 287 North to the airport as people waited with binoculars, still cameras and video cameras to watch each plane's arrival.

One of those was 92-year-old Bill Ward, who served as a left waist gunner on a B-17. Ward flew 42 missions during World War II, earning a chest full of medals including the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with seven oak leaf clusters, Purple Heart and Silver Star.

While he didn't plan to take a ride, he was eager to see the planes up close one more time.

"I crossed the [English] Channel 42 times going to the Continent in one of these," Ward said, standing beneath the B-17's wing. "I flew 25 in 1943, came back to the States in '44 and went back in '45 and flew 17 more before the end of the war."

"I was wounded on the Fourth of July, 1943. That's where I got my Purple Heart, Silver Star and Air Medal, three medals all on one day. That was to the airfield in Nanz, France. It was my fifth mission."

At the time, Ward was 27 years old, the "old man" on the crew, he said. His co-pilot



466th Bomb Group veteran Harold Dietz, left, discusses the B-24 Liberator with Robert Gore, center, as the crew secures the plane after landing at the Palestine Municipal Airport in Texas.

PHOTO: BETH FOLEY

was 24, while the rest were younger.

Likewise, watching and listening to the planes roar in low and slow to land, Harold Dietz recalled his days of serving on a B-24 during the war.

"Brings back a lot of memories," said Dietz, who had flown on one of the planes last year during the tour's stop in Tyler. "I was based at Attlebridge, which was 10 miles west of Norwich, England. We were the 466th Bomb Group, I was in the 785th Squadron and I flew 26 missions as a tail and nose gunner."

The B-24, dubbed the "Witchcraft," was named after another Liberator in a different bomb group, Dietz said.

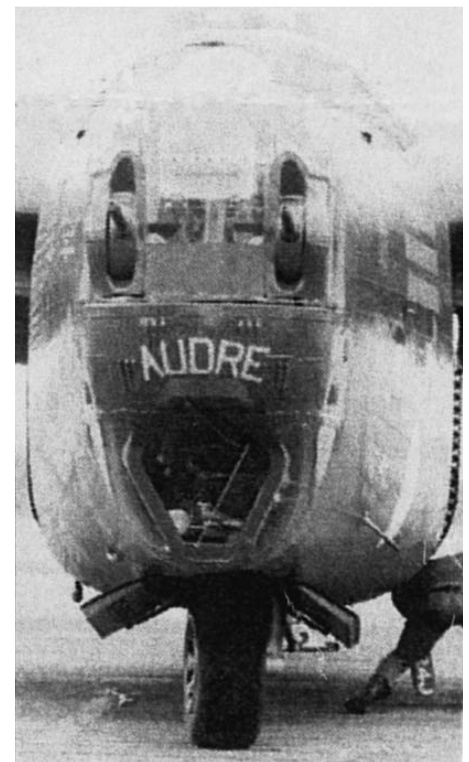
"The original 'Witchcraft' plane flew 100 missions, never had a problem, never got shot down," he said.

Being able to bring the planes to Palestine means a great deal to the Veterans Historical Education Center, organizer Anne Coleman said as she watched the B-24 taxi toward the waiting crowd.

"This is what our mission is, to Vietnam Wall, the restoration of the F-100 up in Tyler and these wonderful aircraft," Coleman said. "There is a possibility the Homeland Security folks are trying to knock out these kinds of flights, because of homeland security. They may end up as static displays. We've just got to do something not to let that happen."

Being able to experience the planes once more means so much to the veterans, and to their families and the public in general, she said.

"Look at the faces that are here; it's wonderful," Coleman said. ■



A crew member prepares to chock the wheels of B-24J Liberator "Witchcraft."

62nd Annual Business Meeting of the Second Air Division Association, 8th USAF September 5, 2009 • Rosemont (Chicago), Illinois

A. Call to Order:

1. The 62nd Annual Business Meeting of the Second Air Division Association, 8th USAF was called to order by President John Lee at 9:07 a.m. in The Forum of the Westin O'Hare Hotel in Rosemont, Illinois. Honorary President Jordan Uttal was absent.

2. Executive Vice President Richard Robert gave the invocation, and President John Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

3. President John Lee welcomed members and guests.

4. President Lee appointed Richard Butler to serve as Parliamentarian.

5. President Lee stated that only veterans are voting members. James Dyke requested a standing head count be taken to determine whether the 2ADA can continue to operate. After Parliamentarian Richard Butler referred to the Bylaws, and Convention Committee member Betty Lee reported that fifty-two veterans were registered to attend, Richard Robert moved to adjourn for a short Executive Committee meeting. Motion seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m. President John Lee reconvened the business meeting at 9:25 a.m. and declared a quorum present.

B. Report of the Delegate Committee (Richard Robert, Chairman):

Richard Robert read the Delegate Committee report and moved to have attending members of record be declared official delegates with a list to be published in the 2ADA *Journal*. Seconded by Chuck Walker. Motion carried. Richard Robert moved to have the report placed in the minutes. Motion seconded. Motion carried.

"The 2ADA is a non-profit, non-political organization composed of U.S. Veterans and registered with the Internal Revenue Service under Tax Code Section 501(c) (19). Its TIN (Tax Identification Number) is 25-1327743. As such, all voting members present are official delegates. The reasonable cost to such attendees is construed to be a charitable contribution and may be deductible by those who itemize deductions on their annual income tax returns. The 2ADA cannot provide advice on these matters. Members are advised to seek their own professional advice as may be needed."

C1. Report of the Secretary (Raymond E. Strong):

Secretary Strong was absent. Executive Vice President Richard Robert reported that the minutes were published in the *Journal* and would not be read. There being no corrections to the minutes, Richard Robert moved to approve the minutes as published. Seconded by Joseph Reus. Motion carried.

C2. Motions passed by the 2ADA Executive Committee September 3, 2009 to report to membership:

President Lee asked Backup Secretary Irene Hurner to read the decisions made by the Executive Committee at its meeting on September 3, 2009:

(1) There will be at least three *Journals* each year.

(2) Treasurer E.W. "Bill" Nothstein stated that \$500.00 has been received from members towards a memorial for Evelyn Cohen. A motion was made to put an article into the *Journal* regarding a memorial for Evelyn

stating that monies are being collected to fund a memorial.

(3) E.W. "Bill" Nothstein moved to donate funds for the Memorial Library as follows: (a) from the balance in the Trust Fund (\$16,000.00 plus) give \$15,000.00 to the Library, (b) \$2,000.00 from the General Fund to establish a memorial for Evelyn Cohen, (c) an additional \$3,000.00 from the General Fund as a grant. A total of \$20,000.00 to be given to the Memorial Trust.

(4) To request that the seat on the Memorial Trust Board of Governors presently filled by a 2ADA member be replaced by a Heritage League member when a 2ADA member can no longer serve.

(5) A motion was made to dispose of 2ADA property as follows:

(1) All office equipment with an original purchase of \$100.00 or less and property more than ten (10) years old be disposed of at the discretion of the custodian. (2) items of greater value and lesser age than those in proposal (1) may be sold or donated to a worthy charity as deemed proper by the custodian and/or the Director of Administrative Services. Any funds received from the possible sales will be deposited into the General Fund. (3) The 2ADA corporate seal shall be given to the Memorial Library for posterity.

Oak Mackey read a motion approved by the Executive Committee to amend the Bylaws Article 5, paragraph 2 as follows:

The Executive Committee shall be authorized to act on all matters that it might properly find before it. At any committee meeting, a quorum shall consist of the Executive Committee members who are present.

Oak moved to amend the second line of his motion before the membership to read:

The Executive Committee shall be authorized to act on all matters that it might properly find before it. At any committee meeting, a quorum shall consist of the Executive Committee members who are present, the presiding officer (President), and the secretary. Seconded by E.W. "Bill" Nothstein.

The motion will be printed and distributed to all members who are attending the convention for their review. A special meeting will be held Sunday, September 6, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. to consider the motion.

D1. Report of the Treasurer (Elwood W. "Bill" Nothstein):

Treasurer Nothstein summarized the financial status of the 2ADA as of July 1, 2009:

Beginning Balance, July 1, 2008	\$100,179.44
Receipts	\$56,375.41
Disbursements	\$52,604.69
General Fund Balance, June 30, 2009	\$103,950.16

Memorial Trust Fund

Beginning Balance, July 1, 2008	\$21,582.20
Donations Received	\$14,471.50
Disbursements	\$20,011.00
Memorial Trust Fund Balance, June 30, 2009	\$16,042.70

The Treasurer's report was accepted.

(continued on next page)

D2. Report of the Audit Committee (Oak Mackey, Chairman):

Oak Mackey reported that the Audit Committee met in July at the home of E.W. Nothstein to review the books. Those present were Vincent Palmer, E.W. Nothstein, Roy J. Farnsworth and Thomas Dawes. All records were in good order and there were no discrepancies. Oak Mackey moved to accept the report. Seconded by Richard Robert. Motion carried.

E. Report of the Vice President Membership (Oak Mackey):

Temporary Vice President Membership Oak Mackey stated that Membership Vice President Evelyn Cohen passed away on June 25, 2009 after serving for 55 consecutive years. Lillian Cohen has sent all membership records to him. There are 2,431 dues-paying regular members, 289 associate members, and 87 subscribing members. All mail sent to Evelyn is being forwarded to Oak Mackey. Information is recorded, sent to Rick Rokicki for inclusion in the database, and any funds are sent to the Treasurer. Rather than the form used previously, dues reminders will be printed on a postcard, thus saving time and money. They will be sent out after the next issue of the *Journal* has reached members with updated information. Dues will be late after March 1, 2010. Report accepted.

F. Report of the Journal Editor (Ray Pytel):

Journal Editor Pytel reported all is well with the *Journal*. If a request for reprint is made, let Ray know the issue and date the article was printed. Report accepted.

G. Report of the Memorial Trust Board of Governors (Matthew Martin, Chairman):

Chairman Matthew Martin reported that this has been a most eventful year for everyone connected with the Memorial Library. Even though the capital balance of the general fund has gone down, the cash flow has remained steady. The General Fund total is approximately \$2,250,000, the book fund about \$210,000 and the American Presence Fund about \$700,000. During the past year, the financial firm of Brewin Dolphin based in London was selected to manage the trust funds. Governors Fran Davies and David Hastings retired during the past year and both accepted the position of Honorary Life Governor. The newly appointed Governors are Tony Harmer, who worked in the advertising industry, and David Sisson, a retired attorney. To fill another vacancy, Simon Garnier, a former Regional Director of the National Trust in East Anglia, was appointed. The bi-annual lecture will be given this November 11th by General Sir Richard Dannatt, the recently retired Head of the British Army. Each speaker chooses his topic relative to Anglo-American relations. General Sir Dannatt has entitled his upcoming talk "The Challenges for US and UK Defense in the Next Decade."

Trust Governor Andrew Hawker gave a general report on activities of the Memorial Library in Norwich. The board decided to use the returned Fulbright Scholar funds to give a 6,000 pound scholarship to the University of East Anglia towards the cost of school fees for each American scholar who works part-time in the Memorial Library. Our first American scholar, Meghan Purvis (Fresno, CA), an American post-graduate student, has finished her term. The program was successful, and this year two part-time American scholars, Stephanie Leal (Glasstown, NJ) and Lucien Giordano (Baltimore, MD), have been designated. They will begin their duties in September with time spent in the library of nearly 20 hours each week total. Their skills are varied and include creative writing, poetry, coaching, communications, etc.

Libby Morgan, the Trust Librarian, reported that there were 48,274 visitors to the library from all over the world during the past year. This was an

increase of approximately 2,800 from the previous year. Samples of a new promotional brochure developed about the library were distributed to Executive Committee members. Meghan Purvis's term, our first "American Scholar," ended in July, and Sarah-Beth Nelson, a visiting children's librarian, returned to the U.S. in June. Libby described many successful activities and outreach programs conducted during the past year.

H. Convention Committee (Betty Lee):

Chairman Betty Lee reported that the Convention Committee (Betty Lee, Maxine and Oak Mackey) reviewed three different planners and chose to work with Armed Forces Reunion Services, Inc. Three hotels were suggested and Maxine and Oak Mackey visited each, spoke with the hotel staff and chose the Westin O'Hare. Richard Robert with the help of his granddaughter arranged for the Civil Air Patrol to do the Presentation of the Colors. A local musician was chosen to play at the Sunday banquet. The Heritage League is helping where needed. An official list of attendees will be published in the next *Journal*. The 2010 convention will be held in mid-October in New Orleans. The Convention Committee report was accepted.

I. Report of the President (John Lee):

President John Lee wants to encourage the younger generations to participate more fully and to assist the 2ADA veterans by serving in a backup capacity for the officers. Jim Guddal, Minneapolis, MN (93rd AM) was asked to speak to the members. Jim related information about his uncle, First Lieutenant Floyd Cook (93rd BG), as a background to why he became involved with the 93rd Bomb Group and the 2ADA. He suggested an amendment to the 2ADA Bylaws that would allow second generation members to vote and to take part in the Association.

J. New Business:

No new business was presented.

K. Report of the Nominating Committee (Earl Zimmerman, Chairman):

Chairman Earl Zimmerman reported that Kelsey McMillan (389th AM) created a collage for both retiring Trust Governors David Hastings and Fran Davies. These were presented by Chairman Zimmerman at a ceremony at the Carleton-Rode village church during this past summer.

Chairman Zimmerman presented the following slate of officers for the 2009-2010 year:

1. President: Richard C. Robert (453rd BG)
2. Executive Vice President: Charles L. Walker (445th BG)
3. Vice President Membership: Oak Mackey (392nd BG)
4. Treasurer: Elwood W. "Bill" Nothstein (466th BG)
5. Secretary: Fielder Newton (389th BG)
6. Journal Editor: Ray Pytel (445th BG)

There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved and seconded to accept the slate as presented. Motion carried.

L. Adjournment:

President John Lee declared the meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.



IRENE M. HURNER

Backup Secretary for James P. Dyke
Second Air Division Association, 8th USAF

Special Business Meeting of the Second Air Division Association, 8th USAAF September 6, 2009 • Rosemont (Chicago), Illinois

Call to Order: (John Lee, President):

President John Lee called the Special Business Meeting to order in The Forum, Westin O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont, IL at 5:32 p.m.

1. President Lee stated a quorum was present.
2. President Lee asked Richard Butler to act as Parliamentarian.

Amendment for Consideration:

President Lee stated that the proposed bylaw amendment was printed and distributed to all voting members present at this convention for review. The parliamentarian stated the change is correct. President Lee asked Backup Secretary Irene Hurner to read the amendment under consideration.

Backup Secretary Hurner read the following:

At the annual business meeting Oak Mackey moved to amend the By-laws Article 5, paragraph 2 as follows:

The Executive Committee shall be authorized to act on all matters that it might properly find before it. At any committee meeting, a quorum shall consist of the Executive Committee members who are present, the presiding officer (President), and the secretary.

Current 2ADA Bylaws state: *The Executive Committee shall be authorized to act on all matters that it might properly find before it. It shall require*

the presence of a majority of voting members who are present at any meeting thereof to constitute a quorum.

Note: The second sentence of the current Bylaws would be replaced by the second sentence of the proposed amendment.

Judge S.J. Elden made a motion to approve the change as presented. Seconded by Antonio Bertapelle. Motion carried with 20 yeas of 23 in attendance.

Adjournment:

President John Lee declared the meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



IRENE M. HURNER

Backup Secretary for James P. Dyke

Second Air Division Association, 8th USAAF

62nd Annual 2ADA Convention Attendance Roster

44th Bomb Group

Richard & Ardith Butler,
Richard E. Butler
Kay Drake
Perry & Ruth Morse

93rd Bomb Group

Jim Guddal
George Johnson
John & Betty Lee
Kimberly Moore
William Sargent
Charles Sill
Fred & Inez Strombom

389th Bomb Group

David Borland
Allan & Jean Hallett
Leonard & Myrtle Howell
Jim McClain, John Kuebler,
Deborah Kuebler
Fielder & Marge Newton
Roberto & Gloria Ruiz
Steve & Sue Sills
Fred Squires, Kevin &
Matthew Waterfield
Earl Zimmerman

392nd Bomb Group

Bob Book
Judge S.J. & Odes Elden
Richard & Rita Giesing
Jim & Annabelle Goar
Bill & Renella Jurczyn
Oak & Maxine Mackey,
Randy Mackey,
Susan Mackey
Bill McCutcheon
John & June Muka
Thomas Perry

445th Bomb Group

Antonio & Lois Bertapelle,
Anthony Bertapelle,
Connie Bertapelle
Linda Dewey
Jack & Doris Dyson
June Elfstrom,
Lance Elfstrom
Steve & Marilyn Howard
Erlyn Jensen
Brian & Nancy Kleeman
John Ray & Jean Lemons
Sam & Joan Mastrogiacomio,

Brenda, Rachel &
Matt Hanby
Joan Patterson,
Carol Holliday
Ray Pytel
Joseph Reus, Curt Reus
Ed & Sue Roloff,
Randy Roloff
Art & Florence Shay
Shirley Suckow
Robert & Kathy Toeppe
Charles Walker, Dede Casad
Ira & Marilyn Weinstein
Ed & Rose Zobac

446th Bomb Group

Susan & David Risley

448th Bomb Group

Dale Bottoms, Janis Holt
E. King & Paula Schultz

453rd Bomb Group

Albert & Claire Biel, Irene
Hurner, Rose Biel Lighty
James Dyke

Jack & Bette Jones
Mo & Ada Morris,
Karen Merrell
Russell & Nona Neatrou
Lloyd & Irene Prang
Dick & Gwen Robert
Jeane Stites, Bonnie
Beverstock, Will Stites
Brenda & Phil Tudyk
Robert & Isabelle Victor
Linda & Herman Wittig

458th Bomb Group

Frank & Lucille Birmingham
Birto & Ann Brumby
Charles Domek
Marybeth & Steve Dyer
Elmo & Joanna Geppelt
Arnold & Hannah Piskin

466th Bomb Group

Frank & Lois Bostwick
Richard & Therese Chapdelaine
James & Mary Lorenz
Stanley & Jo Ann Mohr
Bill & Lucille Nothstein,

Nancy Knight, Ford Knight
Vicki & Kurt Warning
Melvin Westbrook

467th Bomb Group

Ray Bickel, Jonathan Bickel
Joseph & Helen Dzenowagis,
Joseph Jr., Victor, Joan,
Anastasia, & Linda
Dzenowagis
Brian Mahoney

491st Bomb Group

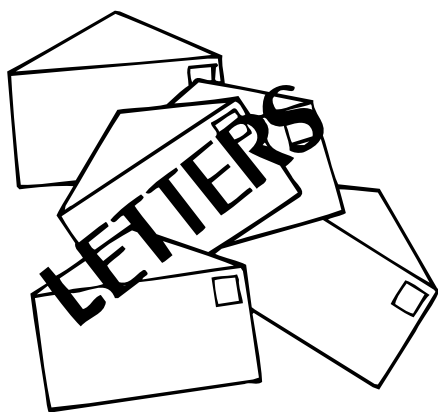
Hugh & Bernice Bennett

492nd Bomb Group

Brian Mahoney

British Friends

Edward & Annabelle Gooch,
Oliver Gooch, Alexina Taylor
Andrew & Andrea Hawker
Joan Kizaric
John & Martha Krager
Matthew Martin
Libby Morgan
Fred Squires, Kevin Water-
field, Matthew Waterfield



To the Editor:

Thanks so very much for your help to locate 8th AF vets in Idaho. If I can assist someone in a similar project, I would be pleased to do so. I do think the "window of opportunity" is closing — all too fast!

I've said it before, but I do think you are doing a great job with the *Journal*.

Jack Wendling (466th)
Filer, Idaho

✈ ✈ ✈ ✈

To the Editor:

On a recent visit to San Diego, I checked on the B-24 statue in Balboa Park proximate to the Veterans' Museum. A careful search around the area revealed no plaques, bronze or otherwise, bearing names of donors to that statue. Entering the museum, I encountered the Operations Manager who told me that the plaques had not yet been delivered, despite promises to do so, by the company contracted to produce them. I was also told that the museum CEO was on the problem and doing all he could.

It would seem to me that whoever is in charge of the Veterans' Museum is either extremely lax or just plain incompetent. It's been nearly four years since that statue was dedicated — the plaques should have been in place in MONTHS not YEARS!

John W. Bradford Jr.
CDR, USN (Ret)
Member, Groups Memorial, Inc.
P.O. Box 25
Wetmore, CO 81253

✈ ✈ ✈ ✈

To the Editor:

It's time to bring you up to date, and also to thank you again for all your good advice and help. You'll note that the book "WOW" is in 25 museums. By the time I finish all the U.S. contacts, it will be in fairly close to 40. BUT — my primary goal was to get it in post exchanges, Air Force in particular. If I could crack those big companies that have exclusives, by piggybacking on a smaller company, it would easily go into the hundreds and thousands.

I don't have a personal connection that could be of help. Oh well, ten at a time is better than nothing, and the museums are pleasant to work with.

In the latter part of July we are going to fly into Chicago and go over to Allegan, MI to pick up boxes of books my friend in the book business picked up from the printer in Ann Arbor (actually Saline) and stored for me. I will have him ship some, before then, to Osh Kosh, WI for the EAA people to sell during the fly in, and I have a spot in the author's corner to sell them too. It will be a long week! But I may find some other book person who could market it. And we will make a little trip out of it, going around the lake on the north side and down to Osh Kosh.

Ralph Welsh
1525A Golden Gate Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94115

✈ ✈ ✈ ✈

To the Editor:

My dad, S/Sgt. Joseph A. Intermor, a WWII vet, passed away several months ago. My mom is having a difficult time after almost 65 years of marriage with my dad. My dad regularly received the *Journal* and we continue to receive it. My mom is very excited that we are sending you a photo and bio about my dad. (See page 25.) He was a B-24 tail gunner and proud member of the Mighty Eighth Air Force, 2nd Air Division, 453rd Bomb Group.

Leigh Hendrick
653 Byron Avenue
Franklin Square, NY 11010

✈ ✈ ✈ ✈

May 18, 2009

To the Editor:

This is to inform you that I received the *Journal*. Thank you so much; I am so proud of it. I also appreciate your offer to put a write-up in the Fall edition about my husband Homer's experience. I will gather my thoughts the best I can. We were married for over 65 years before he passed, so you would think I could repeat all he has told me about his missions, etc. over the years. He was proud of his country and his duty to it, and he talked all the time about his time in service. I told him I flew one mission a week, sometimes more, all our married life. He had flown 33 credited missions, two volunteer ones, and was on the Queen Mary returning home on his 21st birthday. Again I want to thank you for your kindness.

Mrs. Christine Harrison
Colquitt, Georgia

August 8, 2009

Mr. Pytel, it is my pleasure to give you some more information about my hus-

band Homer. I hope it is what you asked me for. Of course I could talk forever about him and his/our experience during WWII. He was so military-minded; he loved his country and flag.

I just had a flag retirement for him at the local VFW. He would have been proud of that. We have a real tall flag pole and I retired the one that was flying when he passed away.

At the age of 19 Homer joined the Army Air Corps, which later became the Army Air Forces during WWII. He flew 30 combat missions and credited 2 volunteer. His missions were over Germany and France with the 445th Bomb Group, 700th Bomb Squadron. His crew was shot down over Belgium; they lost one gunner (KIA) and two wounded.

Homer was awarded the DFC and Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters and three Battle Stars for Normandy, France and Germany. Homer was a member of the Raymond V. Heitz crew, co-pilot Harold T. Vadera.

Just a little added information:

In your Fall 2007 *Journal* you showed a picture of a B-24 with a crew member bailing out. Homer said they were flying close enough that he could see that airman. That was over Cologne.

He also was at the Tibenham base shaving on the morning the "Bunny" crashed; he heard it and ran out to see.

We went over to Tibenham three times, he once alone after our grandson was stationed there, and he relived every moment of the past.

Mrs. Christine Harrison

✈ ✈ ✈ ✈

Re: Assembly B-24s

To the Editor:

I am writing on behalf of my mother, Joan Wright, with the sad news that George Wright passed away on 2nd October. Dad had been ill for several months and died peacefully in hospital.

Dad was very proud of his association with the 2nd Air Division and was honoured when his B-24 assembly ship models for each bomber group were put on display in the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England.

In his usual, organised way, Dad had written a note asking that we contact you in the event of his death. I have also informed the Memorial Library in Norwich.

Christine Wright
7 Cambridge Avenue
Wylde Green
Sutton Coldfield
West Midlands B73 5NA
ENGLAND

✈ ✈ ✈ ✈

To the Editor:

We are all still stunned at the death of Evelyn Cohen, and I felt that we in Norfolk ought to pay a tribute to her, so I phoned Peter Franzen, the editor of the *Eastern Daily Press*, to see if he would help, and as I thought he gladly agreed. I have enclosed a copy of the EDP article (see front page), and also our own tribute, from Jean and I (right).

On another note, we had a moving day at Hethel yesterday when Earl Zimmerman presented Fran Davies and me with our wonderful retirement gift from the 2ADA at a moving service in the church at Carleton Rode. The collage was so beautiful, and we can never thank you all enough. I gather Earl will be sending you a report and pictures.

With all our love, stay well and keep in touch.

David J. Hastings
"Westering"
32 Thieves Lane
Salhouse
Norwich NR13 6RQ
ENGLAND

✈ ✈ ✈ ✈

To Irene Hurner, 2ADA Backup Secretary:

Your minutes of the 2ADA 2009 Executive Committee Meeting on Thursday, September 3, and the General Business Meeting on Saturday, September 5, are hereby approved for publication.

Irene, you and Carol Holliday have done an outstanding job in so efficiently and accurately transcribing the minutes of these 2ADA meetings, particularly in view of the very brief time allotted by the *Journal* deadline. The minutes are professionally done, and accurately reflect what took place at the meetings.

Having prepared the 2ADA Minutes for several years, I am personally aware of the great amount of effort required to accomplish this job. Therefore, by copy of this letter, I am recommending that both of you be given a suitable award at the next convention for your hard and diligent work in preparing these 2ADA Minutes.

My sincere thanks,

Richard C. Robert (453rd)
2ADA President
Baton Rouge, LA

✈ ✈ ✈ ✈

A Tribute to Evelyn Cohen from an old Norfolk friend

BY DAVID HASTINGS

One of my greatest regrets from when we used to spend all our spare time with the 389th at Hethel was that we never plucked up the courage to cycle down the back lane leading to the Headquarters at Ketteringham Hall, as we found out much later that this path would have taken us right past Evelyn's hut and we might have met her earlier.

As it was, Jean and I did not meet her until 1981 at San Antonio where we saw for the first time how superbly she organised the 2ADA conventions, backed by her sister Lillian and their small team. We went on to enjoy 26 of your great conventions.

Then in 1983 we really found out what a huge amount of work was involved in making them so enjoyable when Evelyn asked us if we would help her with the Norwich conventions. We were just so delighted that my small team could help to repay just a little of the debt we owed to the 2nd Air Division. To work with Evelyn and Lillian and to get to know them both was one of the high spots in our lives, and we could never thank Evelyn enough for all her friendship and kindness. She rightly demanded 110%, but it was great fun to arrange the private trains, the hotels, the coaches, the base visits and visits to Madingley, as well as the Civic and Air Force receptions. Also how can we in Norfolk ever forget her support for the 1995 VE Day Parade when, thanks to the 2ADA, Norwich had the finest VE Day Parade outside London, followed by the Theatre Royal show in the evening. Thanks to the Dzenowagis family and their superb films, we and future generations in Norfolk will always be able to look back at those great Norwich conventions and remember Evelyn with love and affection. ■

Folded Wings

HDQ
Evelyn Cohen

93rd BG
Myron S. Griffin
Stanley L. Mikolajczyk

389th BG
Terrence J. O'Neill

392nd BG
John A. Samsell
Kenneth Q. Paddock
George A. Phelps

445th BG
Rowe Bowen

Eugene Buszta
Karl G. Goff
Thomas A. O'Neill
Rodney M. Peterson
Robert W. Suckow

448th BG
Edward Chu
Paul E. Dwyer
Walter Farmer
John W. Snyder
William A. Vickery
Lawrence W. Wolfe

453rd BG
Eino Alve
Joseph A. Intermor
Odell H. Johnson

458th BG
Donald H. Dugmore
Dick Pulse

466th BG
Harold K. Hardy

489th BG
John L. Predgen

492nd BG
Col. William F. Eastland
(467th)



"NOISE ABATEMENT"

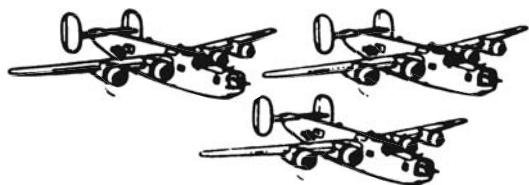
"Flight 1234," the control tower advised, "turn right 45 degrees for noise abatement."

"Roger," the pilot responded, "but we're at 35,000 feet. How much noise can we make up here?"

"Sir," the radar operator replied, "have you ever heard the noise a 727 makes when it hits a 747?"

SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION
EIGHTH AIR FORCE
RAY PYTEL, JOURNAL EDITOR
P.O. BOX 484, ELKHORN, WI 53121-0484

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**FOLDED WINGS?
CHANGE OF ADDRESS?**
All information should be sent to:

Oak Mackey
6406 E. Presidio Street
Mesa, AZ 85215

“Bomb Groups in Norfolk”

*A collection of booklets highlighting the Bomb Groups
of the USAAF 2nd Air Division during World War II*

SUBMITTED BY LIBBY MORGAN, 2AD MEMORIAL TRUST LIBRARIAN

There was a great deal of interest in this series of booklets shown at the 2ADA convention in Chicago, so I thought it would be good to share the information about them with the readers of the *Journal*. We have copies of all the currently published titles at the Memorial Library.

Written and compiled by Peter Bodle in collaboration with local Bomb Group historians, the “Bomb Groups in Norfolk” series gives a brief insight into the lives and times of the 2nd Air Division Bomb Groups who occupied the USAAF airfields that covered large swathes of East Anglia during WWII.

The life on these bases was recorded by the men themselves on cameras brought over when they first travelled from America to join in the efforts to beat Hitler's Nazi regime.

Each booklet contains approximately 100 photographs, many never seen before, that give an insight into the lives of both air crew and ground crew alike as they get to understand their adopted home, the war and their part in bringing it to a successful end.

Published in the UK by:

Liberator Publishing
23 The Moorings, Stoke Ferry
Norfolk PE33 9UE
ENGLAND
www.liberatorpublishing.co.uk



Bomb Groups



in Norfolk



Titles available:

- 3rd SAD & 25th Bomb Group Watton
- 44th Bomb Group Shipdham
- 93rd Bomb Group Hardwick
- 389th Bomb Group Hethel
- 392nd Bomb Group Wendling
- 445th Bomb Group Tibenham
- 446th Bomb Group Flixton
- 448th Bomb Group Seething
- 453rd Bomb Group Old Buckenham
- 458th Bomb Group Horsham St Faith
- 466th Bomb Group Attlebridge
- 492nd/491st Bomb Group
North Pickenham

In preparation:

- 467th Bomb Group Rackheath (2009)
- 489th Bomb Group Halesworth (2010)

Order from U.S. Distributor:

Adam Smith
2398 S. Cannon Drive, Apt. 303
Mount Prospect, IL 60056
Telephone 847-357-8821
E-mail: raflad@comcast.net

Price:

\$15.00 each (includes postage and packing). All checks or money orders should be made payable to Adam Smith, who will very kindly be donating \$2.00 to the 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust (for the Memorial Library) for each book sold. ■