

Heritage Herald



Issue 30

February 2001

THE MEMORIAL TRUST OF THE SECOND AIR DIVISION USAAF



Pictured left to right:

Tom Eaton, Trust. Hon. President
Alfred Jenner, Hon. Life Governor
Bud Koorndyk, Hon. Life Governor-seated
Carson Holloway, 2AD Fulbright Fellow Librarian
David Hstings, Trust Vice-Chairman
Chuck Walker, 2ADA Representative to the Board of Governors

Photograph by Alan Howard

Paul King, Trust Chairman

Vicki Warning, Heritage League Representative to the Board of Governors.

Vikie is holding an artist's impression of the 28 foot long mural to be placed in the new Memorial Library in the Millennium Library complex. (Read Vicki's article on p. 5)

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SPRING BRINGS WITH IT CHANGE



I would like to say hello to all of the Heritage League members and friends.

As I sit at my desk looking out on the snow-covered fields, I start daydreaming about the flowers, which will come in the spring. After three weeks of temperatures that have not risen above freezing, I feel that it is time for a change. Days in the 50s sound like a heat wave.

Your Executive Committee has been busy reviewing the list of tasks it would like to see accomplished in this new year. It has also been reviewing some of its accomplishments.

As I reported in the last Herald, Vicki Brooks Warning accepted the nomination to become our first Heritage League Representative to the Board of Governors. Vicki traveled to Norwich for the October 26, 2000 meeting. She joined Bud Koorndyke (Hon. Life Governor) and Chuck Walker (Second Air Division Association representative to the Board of Governors) and members of the Board of Governors for a tour of the Millennium Library Complex currently under construction. Vicki attended the meeting of the Board of Governors and presented a check for \$3,000.00 from the Heritage League.

Paul King, Chairman of the Board of Governors, David Hastings, our liaison to the Board of Governors and others wrote that Vicki is a wonderful representative of our Heritage League. Mr. King also wrote that our donation makes it possible to have a large picture of

the cemetery at Madingley, Cambridge in the shrine area of the new Memorial Room.

I traveled to Savannah, Georgia to attend the mini-reunion of the 453rd Bomb Group on the 19th of October. It was a special trip for me as was my first visit to the Mighty 8th Heritage Museum. My daughter accompanied me. This was her first reunion. My father and mother, Bert and Claire Biel, and my sister, Rosemary Biel Lighty were also in attendance. This was a real family affair.

After a tour of the museum, visiting with Judy Walker, Director of Development, and with Chief Historian, Rusty Bloxom about the needs of the museum, it was determined that our donation would be used for the purchase of books. A check for \$500.00 was presented to Judy Walker during a luncheon held at the museum.

I suggested that our members may be able to help with books and other items on the library's want list. Some of the desired items are listed in another part of our newsletter. Please, be sure to get in touch with the museum before sending any item to verify that the item is still needed.

The Executive Committee is continuing to plan for another get-together in early summer. The list of topics to be discussed is beginning to be assembled. One of the most important will be to begin a search for officers for the coming business year. I mentioned in the title that Spring brings change. Our Communications Vice-President, Kathy Jackson has written that because of increased duties at work,

she will retire from office at the end of this business year. Kathy has done an outstanding job publishing the Heritage Herald for four years and has maintained the website. We all thank her for a job well done. We will need, therefore, someone to take on the responsibilities of publishing the Heritage Herald and monitoring the website. I would also like to see someone become a historian for the Heritage League. If anyone would be interested in any one of these positions, please contact one of the officers. I believe that it would be a good idea to have an orientation time before taking on one of these duties.

The Executive Committee did appoint Observers to the 2ADA at the August meeting. Our representatives will be in contact with the various committees, attend meetings during the year, if possible, and then report to our membership. I believe that our next issue of the Herald will contain some of those reports.

I want to remind members that our dues are now \$8.00 for all members whether you are designated Regular or Associate. Just send your name, address, telephone number, notation of type of membership, and relationship of member to veteran with a check to The Heritage League, Ruth Anderson, 1615 Elmwood Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107.

As I previously mentioned, spring brings changes. The new millennium is officially here. Did you feel the difference? We each made history by watching the New Year come. Our grandchildren will

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want to know what it was like at the Turn of the Century just as we wanted to know from our grandparents.

Change can be subtle or obvious. I hope that the changes that come to your lives during this year will all be memorable and wonderful. The new Memorial Room in the Millennium Library will be re-dedicated in November. I believe that the coming

celebration will be one of my fondest memories. I am looking forward with utmost enthusiasm to this change. To which changes are you looking forward?

I will end with a wish that God blesses each one of you with good health and happiness in this first year of a new century.

Irene Hurner, President



Irene presenting the Heritage League check to Judy Walker.

MIGHTY EIGHTH AIR FORCE HERITAGE MUSEUM WANT LIST (partial list)

McLaren, David—*Beware the Thunderbolt! The 56th Fighter Group in World War II*
 Farrow, Vern—*Squadron 27: The 27th Photo Squadron in World War II*
 Rust & Hess—*The Slybird Group: The 353rd Fighter Group on Escort & Ground Attack Operations History of the 388th Bomb Group*
 Fry, Gary—*Debden Eagles: The 4th Fighter Group in World War II*
 Lamensdorf, Rolland—*History of the 31st Fighter Group*
 Brown, James R.—*Combat Record of the Original 100th Bombardment Group (H) The "Bloody Hundredth"*
 Ellison, Bruce—*Orange Tails: The Story of the 358th Fighter Group & Ancillary Units 381st Bombardment Group, 432nd Air Service Group*
The History of the 389th Bombardment Group (1946 book)
 Kramer & Michaelzyk—*The 448th Bomb Group*
 Preston & Conway—*Rackheath Memories: 467th Bomb Group (H) 479th Fighter Group (1945 book)*
 Reynolds, George—*European Theater of Operations Carpetbaggers*
 McLachlan, Ian—*Night of the Intruders*
 Freeman, Roger—*The Mighty Eighth in Art*
 Baroni, Goerge—*The Story of the 98th: From Palestine Through Italy*
 Rose, Robert—*Lonely Eagles: The Story of America's Black Air Force in World War II*
 Ethell, Jeffrey—*Bomber Command*
 David, Richard G.—*Carl A. Spaatz and the Air War in Europe*

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

2nd Air Division Association
 Nov. 1 - 9, 2001
 Norwich, England
 Contact: Evelyn Cohen, 215-632-3992

448th Bomb Group
 May 9 - 12, 2001
 Shreveport, LA
 Contact: Cater Lee, 334-943-7000
 Clee@vulcanic.com

446th Bomb Group
 May 10 - 13, 2001
 New Orleans
 Contact: Bill Davenport, 714-832-2829

2ADA So California Regional
 Feb. 24, 2001
 Anaheim, CA
 Contact: Dick Baynes 949-552-3889
 Actor Robert Stack, a Navy B-24 gunner and gunnery instructor will be guest speaker

Heritage League New Members

CHARLES WALKER	445
CHRISTINE FLANINGAM	93
STEVE GREENHOW	448
EDNA SMITH	445
DAVID ENGLER	489
JUDITH SIFF	489
STUART PAYNE	HQ
OLIVER PAYNE	HQ
KENNETH TUSS	466
FLOYD SANDERS	HQ
VIVIAN SANDERS	HQ



Wow !!!! There's a B-24 in my back yard !!!!

A B-24 weathervane that is.....check it out at:

<http://users.erols.com/fhosagej/>

And find out how to obtain the plans to build
your own!



Kathy Jackson, Editor

44th Database Update

All 344 of the 44th BG's missions are
available at:

8thairforce.com

VISIT RAF COLTISHALL

On the internet at:

[Www.raf.mod.uk/rafcoltishall](http://www.raf.mod.uk/rafcoltishall)

The Heritage League :

<http://www.heritageleague.org>

email: info@heritageleague.org

2ADA Memorial:

[http://www.obycity.com/2admemorial/
index.html](http://www.obycity.com/2admemorial/index.html)

The Mighty 8th Heritage Museum:

<http://www.mighty8thmuseum.com>



The Annual General Meeting of the Board of Governors of The Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division USAAF

by Vicki Warning

This is a summary of my trip to England for the Annual General Meeting of the Board of Governors of The Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division USAAF.

I left Chicago on Tuesday evening October 24th for the flight to London Heathrow. Cleared customs about 8:00 am and took the Tube to Liverpool Station. There I caught the 9:30 am train to Norwich. Arrived Norwich about 12:30 pm and checked in to the Swallow Nelson Hotel across from the train station. Paul King had arranged a room there for me.

I called David Hastings upon my arrival and agreed that he would pick me up at 2:30. At 3:00 Paul King had arranged for the visitors from the US to tour the Millennium Library complex which is currently under construction. The American Memorial Room will be part of the complex.

Mr. David Janssens, the Project Director for the Millennium Project, led the tour. In attendance were Paul King (Trust Chairman), David Hastings (Trust Vice-Chairman), Bud Koorndyke (Hon. Life Governor), Chuck Walker (Second Air Division Association representative to the Board of Governors), Carson Holloway (Second Air Division Fulbright Fellow Librarian), Charlie Walker (son of Chuck Walker), and myself, Vicki Warning (representative of the Heritage League of the Second Air Division Association). We signed in for our passes, donned steel-toed boots and hard hats and began our tour.

The building is not yet "under roof" but they hope to be soon –

before winter arrives. The walls are being built of specially made red bricks from the area and are a lovely blend for the area. The Library complex is directly across from St. Peter Mancroft Church, which is the largest church in Norwich. It was built between 1430 and 1455 and stands at one side of the market place and directly across from the Millennium Complex.

In addition to the American Memorial room, the three-story complex will include a Visitor Centre, Business and Learning Facilities, Library, Catering and Bar (restaurant), an Auditorium and a Forum. There will also be two floors for the car park. One special addition to the library grounds will be the planting of a number of American trees. The plans are to have the building completed in May 2001 with a public opening in August 2001. This will be in plenty of time for the planned reunion by the 2ADA in Norwich in November 2001.

Following the facilities tour we met with Robin Hall, Chief Executive of the Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Company. He answered many of our questions and showed us samples of the interior flooring, shelving and wood paneling. All very impressive. The dedication and enthusiasm of both Robin and David Janssens was incredible. They certainly made the walls "come alive". I am most anxious to see the finished complex.

That evening I had the honor of having dinner with David and Jean Hastings in their home. It was a most enjoyable evening – and an early evening, as I had not yet slept

since my overnight flight from Chicago and our Annual General Meeting of the Board of Governors was to begin at 9:45 am the next morning.

Following breakfast with Chuck and Charlie Walker and Bud Koorndyke, Bud, Chuck and I took a taxi to County Hall for the meeting. Our British friends could not have been more gracious and welcoming. I met each of the Governors who were in attendance and after tea and coffee the meeting was called to order. I was officially welcomed along with Chuck Walker and Bud Koorndyke. Various committee reports were given all of which I found to be quite interesting.

Of special interest however were the reports from the County Archivist, the 2001 convention, Wymondham College, Trust Librarian report and the report from the Events group, which is designing the interior of the Memorial Room.

The County Archivist discussed the need to properly archive the articles at the Library. Bringing the records into a generally recognized standard for archiving will ensure that all property and donations can be easily accessed and are available.

The 2001 convention planning is moving forward. At the current time they expect approximately 600 attendees. There will be a special event/activity planned for the Friends and Heritage League. We want to encourage as many people as we can to sign up for the event. Details will be included in the convention packet that Evelyn sends

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to those who have signed up to attend the reunion.

At Wymondham College they are working on a letter writing exchange with a classroom in the US. This activity will encourage communication between the two countries at the primary school level.

The Library and Memorial Room are housed in temporary quarters. I had a chance to visit the library with Derek Hills and Carson Holloway and was very impressed with what has been accomplished in such a small space. They continue to have visitors from the US and when possible, with some advance notice, arrange for visits to the bases. Many locals make themselves available to visitors from abroad and conduct the visits.

In my tour of the memorial room I viewed the book that contains the various newsletters from the bomb groups and other organizations. The latest Heritage Herald they had was August 1999. I had two more current issues with me and gave them both copies. Their records are in a bit of disarray right now, but my guess is that they do not have a complete set of Heritage Heralds. A formal request should be made of Derek Hills and Carson Holloway for confirmation.

The presentation by Derek of the

Event Communications Ltd in London was incredible. This group is designing the interior of the memorial room. He brought plans of the room and shared with us a model of the 28-foot mural that will adorn one wall of the Memorial room. It is quite spectacular and includes pictures of WAC's, bombers, newlyweds, school children talking to pilots, a crew working on a plane and Jimmy Stewart receiving a medal.

The Memorial Area will include the remembrance book and the Bomb Group Banners. The \$3,000 check presented by the Heritage League will be used to the purchase a large picture of the cemetery at Madingley, Cambridge.

The meeting recessed for lunch and many of the past Governors joined us for refreshments, sandwiches and pastries. I had a chance to visit with many of the governors.

During the afternoon session of the meeting I presented a report on the Heritage League activities. They were most impressed with the interest and activity of our organization. Both David and Paul spoke highly of the Heritage League meetings they have attended in the US. The presentation of the \$3,000 check was most overwhelming to them. Unfortunately I did not get a

picture but I know Paul did write a note to Irene.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm. Afterward I spoke with Kevin Thomas of the Friends and now a Governor and he is most excited about the event planned for the November 2001 reunion with the Friends and Heritage League. Many of the Friends will be volunteering their time to act as tour guides on the buses. They are most excited about our coming. David Neale of the Friends reported that they would be having their annual Thanksgiving dinner and expect a sellout crowd.

I'm sure I have forgotten something – and do apologize for being so delayed in getting this to you all. I will review my notes again and follow up with anything I have forgotten.

I want to thank you, the officers of the Heritage League, for the opportunity you have given me to represent the Heritage League in England at the Board of Governors. I will do my best to represent you well and keep you informed of continuing developments and activities.

Respectfully submitted by:

Vicki Warning

EASTERN DAILY PRESS RELEASE EXCERPT

Paul King welcomed to the annual general meeting of the Memorial Trust of the 2AD USAAF, Mrs. Vicki Warning from Chicago. She is the first representative to the Board of Governors of the 2nd Air Division's Heritage League, whose members are the children and grandchildren of those who served here in the War years.

Mrs. Warning presented the Trust

with a cheque for \$3,000 from the Heritage League to be used in purchasing items for the new Memorial Library.

The trust Chairman, Paul King said:

"As always our American friends have been most generous. We shall be pleased to welcome Vicki Warning to our future meetings and

to strengthen further the bonds of friendship, which exist between people, young and old on both sides of the Atlantic. We look forward to welcoming the 650 veterans and their families, who will be coming to Norwich in Nov. 2001 for the Official Opening of the new Memorial Library."

REPORT TO HERITAGE LEAGUE

By David J. Hastings

With Christmas fast approaching can all of us involved with the 2nd Air Division Memorial extend our best wishes to the Heritage League for a very Merry Christmas with good health and happiness in the New Year.

Everyone is now getting very excited about the new Central Library and with the roof almost complete the full beauty of this new building in our City centre can be appreciated.

Had a very interesting Memorial Trust AGM in October and it was good to see Vicki Brooks Warning in attendance as the Heritage League representative. She made a very useful contribution to the discussions. Prior to the meeting we managed a site visit for our American friends and I know they were as impressed as we are with the building. We promised the 2nd Air Division USAAF that your new Memorial Library would be the finest of its kind in the world and the dream is coming true. The Design Group Sub-Committee now meets

almost twice a month, indeed we are meeting tomorrow, and the final details are all very exciting. We are indeed so lucky to have such a great Memorial Library staff team and they are all working very hard on the project.

The Friends of the Memorial Thanksgiving Dinner was as usual a complete sell-out and this year was held at the Oaklands Hotel in Norwich. David and Pearl Neale arranged a superb evening with a first class meal in great surroundings. We were also so pleased to have members of the 3rd US Air Force with us. The evening ended with a toast "To the 2nd Air Division USAAF and our American Friends".

We have also seen the final occasions to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain and our deliverance by "The Few". In Norfolk we have the only RAF Battle of Britain Station still active in the defense of our country, RAF Coltishall and they held two very moving events with memories that will last forever.

As always we are enjoying working with Evelyn Cohen on the planning of your visit next November and the programme is coming along well. Look out for the very special event on the Sunday when the Friends of the Memorial and the Heritage League will have an afternoon and evening together - should be great fun.

Carson Holloway, the 2nd Air Division Fulbright Scholar Librarian has settled in well with his charming wife Elaine and son Alex and is once again a tremendous ambassador for the 2nd ADA. They all came to the Founders Day Service at Wymondham College with us which gave them a chance to meet the pupils and staff. Terrible how time flies as I go to Fulbright in London on December 19th to select the next Fulbright Librarian.

So, once again all our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year and we look forward to seeing you in November 2001.

David J. Hastings

THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF NORWICH

By David J. Hastings

I thought you would like to know that I have just returned home from the City Hall in Norwich after having been invited by the Leader of The Council to attend the meeting at which the Freedom of the City was awarded to the 2nd Air Division USAAF Association and it was a very moving occasion that I will always remember.

The Lord Mayor was very gracious in his greeting as were the many other Councilors with whom I had worked during my two years as

Chairman of the neighboring Authority in Broadland.

Your Award was the first item on the Agenda and Nick Williams, the Leader of the Council made a deeply moving proposal. This was seconded by Councilor Ian Couzens, the Leader of the Liberal Democrats, who again made a very impressive speech. He was then followed by Councilor Martin Verran who spoke at length about your bravery and sacrifice and the great friendship that had been

formed in the Forties and continued to the present day. The great debt that the City and County owe to the 2nd Air Division USAAF was stressed as was the appreciation for your wonderful gift of the unique 2nd Air Division Memorial Library and the huge support given to the Library by the 2nd Air Division Association over many years. Also the joy of the Council that you will be returning to Norwich in November.

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The proposal was then formally moved by The Lord Mayor and carried unanimously with acclamation. After the meeting ended all the councilors I spoke to expressed their delight at the award and how they look forward to meeting you later this year and their intention to make it a memorable visit. Brenda Ferris (The Lord Mayor at the VE Day Parade in 1995) in

particular asked me to send you her best wishes and congratulations.

So the dream that we began in 1995, when we first discussed the possibility of obtaining the Freedom of the City for you at a VE Parade Committee Meeting at the City Hall has now become a reality this evening and you will receive the Scroll in November at the Civic Reception on the Tuesday evening.

Well Done, you all deserve this

rare award. Indeed you are the only members of the 8th Air Force to receive such a high honour. We are all so proud of you.

Best wishes for the New Year.

David J. Hastings

Vice Chairman. Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division USAAF
Heritage League Liaison officer.

THE WILD BLUE YONDER

The official Air Force song sung by thousands of aviation cadets marching to and from the flight line was born out of a contest sponsored by the old Liberty magazine. It was selected from some 757 entries by a group of Air Force wives.

It was submitted by Robert MacArthur Crawford, a graduate fellow of New York's Julliard School of Music who bought and learned to fly his own airplane and was known as the flying baritone and sang the song in its first public presentation at the Cleveland Air Races on Sept. 2, 1939.

When the U.S. entered the war, Crawford became a pilot in the Air Transport Command and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. He died in 1961 and, as a tribute to him, the first score of his song was carried to the surface of the moon on July 30, 1971 aboard the only Apollo crew made up entirely of Air Force officers—the Apollo 15 Falcon lunar module. As the Falcon blasted off the surface of the moon, a rendition of the Air Force Song was broadcast to the world from the Endeavor command module orbiting the moon. Although the first verse is well known, the other two verses are seldom heard, and the chorus (which we sang as cadets) is hardly known; but here it is, as it is today.

Off we go, into the wild blue yonder,

Climbing high, into the sun;

Here they come, zooming to meet our thunder,

At 'em boys, giver the gun

Down we dive, spouting our flame from under

Off with one helluva roar!

We live in fame or go down in flame, hey!

Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force!

Minds of men fashioned a crate of thunder,

Sent it high, into the blue;

Minds of men busted the world asunder,

How they lived God only knew!

Souls of man dreaming of skies to conquer

Gave us wings ever to soar!

With scouts before and bombers galore, hey!

Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force!

Off we go into the wild sky yonder,
Keep the wings level and true.

And you'll live to be a gray-haired wonder

Keep the nose out of the blue!

Flying men guarding the Nation's border,

*We'll be there, followed by more!
In echelon we carry on, hey!
Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force*

Chorus:

To a friend we'll send a message of

His fellow men who fly

And drink to those who gave their all of old

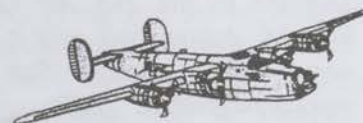
And down we roar to score the rainbow's pot of gold

A toast to the host of those we boast

The U.S. Air Force

(Note: The words were changed slightly after the old Army Air Corps became the U.S. Air Force in 1947.)

Reprinted from the 3D Strategic Air Depot Association Newsletter, Nov. 2000



Dear Irene,

It was a delight for me to read to our Governors your gracious letter of the 26th September, which Vicki Warning passed to me this morning.

All of us were so pleased to accept Vicki as your non-voting representative to our Board. Vicki will be a tremendous asset and we look forward to working with her in the future. She gave an excellent report about the Heritage League and its aspirations. It is essential for the future well-being and development of the Trust to work closely with you and the Friends of the Memorial.

We had a meeting, which extended into most of the day as we were considering all the exciting plans for our new Library.

What made our day was the presentation at the end of the meeting of The Heritage League's cheque for \$3,000. This is a most generous gift and so deeply appreciated by all of us. At our meeting today discussion focused upon having a large picture of the cemetery at Madingley, Cambridge in the shrine area of our new Memorial Room. We did not know whether funds would be available for this but your cheque will take care of this and more. It is a marvelous gesture. Please pass on the thanks of all our Governors to each and everyone of you.

I hope to meet you over here in November next year. We toured the new Millennium building yesterday. It will finish in August next year and will be a magnificent complex.

All good wishes,

Paul King
Trust Chairman

Dear Irene,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, volunteers and staff, thank you for your recent tax deductible contribution of \$500.00. No goods or services have been rendered for this contribution. As requested, this donation will be used for books for the Library.

Excitement about the progress of the Heritage Museum is evident in the feedback we are receiving. Over 95% of our visitors rate their experience in the Museum as "Excellent ... and will strongly recommend the Museum to others." Groups of veterans continue to travel to the Heritage Museum from across the country for reunions. Thus far, the Museum has hosted over 30,000 reunion veterans and their families.

On a recent tour of the Museum, Georgia Governor Roy Barnes said "This Museum is a vivid reminder about the price of freedom and the lessons of tyranny." The Heritage Museum has been selected as a Center for Character Education by the Georgia Department of Education. Students from all over the state will come to the Heritage Museum to learn about courage, patriotism, citizenship, honesty, fairness, respect for others and 21 other character traits. We will accomplish this by telling the personal stories of our veterans.

Contributions such as yours make it possible for us to provide a world-class experience for our visitors. We sincerely hope to see you at the Heritage Museum at some point in the future. Thank you again for your contribution and your continuing support of our mission.

Sincerely,
Judy W. Walker
Director of Development
The Mighty 8th Air Force Heritage Museum

THE MIGHTY EIGHTH AIR FORCE HERITAGE MUSEUM NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO, C. J. ROBERTS.

Upon his initial visit to the museum, Roberts confides, "I was drawn to the Museum from the moment I first toured it. I was captivated by the stories told within the galleries and the power of the artifacts. These compelling stories are the real treasure of the Mighty Eighth. We want every single museum visitor to experience these stories and return time and again to hear more."

The Mighty 8th AFHM is the third World War II museum project for Roberts who also served as the Director of the George C. Marshall Museum in Lexington, Virginia.

Says Roberts, "The Mighty Eighth is a remarkable museum. Sarah (his wife) and I feel privileged to be able to be a part of it."

Reprinted from The Heritage News, Fall 2000

B-24 LIBERATOR STATE & CITY NAMES

Many B-24 Liberators of the Mighty Eighth were named after State or City locations thereby carrying hometown pride to the airbases in England and over enemy targets.

State and city names sometimes were chosen as a token of appreciation to those people of a locale who helped raise money through war bond purchases to finance the cost of a particular aircraft. Others honored the home place of the crew's pilot or another special member of the crew. A sampling of names follows.

ALABAMA

Birmingham Express
Dixie Flyer
Dixie Dumper

ARKANSAS

Arkansas Traveler

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles City Limits
Hollywood & Vine

COLORADO

Denver Zephyr

GEORGIA

Georgia Belle
Georgia Peach
Jaw Ja Boy

ILLINOIS

Chicago Red
Windy City Belle
Chicago Shirl

INDIANA

Wabash Cannon Ball

KENTUCKY

Kentucky Babe
Kentucky Baby
Kentucky Belle
Kentucky Colonel

LOUISIANA

Louisiana Belle

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts Girl
Old Man Boston Marclar
Belle of Boston
Cape Cod Special

MICHIGAN

Detroit (Spirit of Cooley H.S.)

MISSOURI

Missouri Mauler
Missouri Belle/Sue
St. Louis Woman
Missouri Sue

NEW JERSEY

Jersey Bounce 2nd

NEW YORK

Brooklyn-No Name Jive
Niagara Special

OHIO

Ohio Silver
The Massillon Tiger

OKLAHOMA

The Oklahoman
Oklahoma Girl

SOUTH CAROLINA

Carolina Moon

PENNSYLVANIA

Pittsburgh Babe

TENNESSEE

Chattanooga Choo Choo
Tennessee Dottie

TEXAS

Palace of Dallas
Touch of Texas
Texas Rose
Fort Worth Maid
Sweetest Rose of Texas
Texas Refugees

UTAH

Utah Man

VIRGINIA

Miss Virginia

USA

Miss America
US Express

SACRIFICE, YOU OLDER GENERATION!

What a frivolous group we were

Our beloved President shares our pain ...

I was embarrassed to read that President Clinton and his advisors have said, "The older generation must learn to sacrifice as other generations have done."

That's my generation. I knew eventually someone would ferret out the dirty secret: we've lived the "lifestyle of the rich and famous" all our lives.

Now, I know I must bare the truth about my generation and let the country condemn us for our selfishness. During the Depression we had a hilarious time dancing to the tune of "Brother Can You Spare A Dime?" we could choose to dine at any of the country's fabulous soup kitchens, often joined by our parents and siblings...those were the heady days of carefree self-indulgence.

Then, with World War II, the cup filled to overflowing. We had the chance to bask on the exotic beaches of Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima and Okinawa; to see the capitals of Europe and travel to such scenic spots as Bastogne, Malmedy and Monte Cassino. Of course, one of the most exhilarating adventures was the stroll from Bataan to the local Japanese hotels, laughingly known as death camps.

But the good times really rolled for those lucky enough to be on the beaches of Normandy for the swimming and boating that pleasant June day in '44. Unforgettable.

Even luckier were those that drew the prized holiday tickets for cruises on sleek, gray ships to fun filled spots like Midway, The Solomons and Murmansk. Instead of asking, "What can we do for our country," an indulgent government let us fritter away our youth wandering idly through the lush and lovely jungles of Burma and New Guinea.

Yes, it's all true: we were pampered, we were spoiled rotten, we never did realize what sacrifice meant. We envy you, Mr. Clinton, the harsh lessons you learned in London, Moscow and Little Rock.

My generation is old, Mr. President ... and guilty; but we are repentant.

Punish us for our failings, sir that we may learn the true meaning of Duty, Honor, and Country.

Robert J. Grady, Lt. Col., USAF (Ret)

*Reprinted from the 3D Strategic Air Depot
Assn. Newsletter, Nov. 2000*

*Reprinted from the 8th AF News
June 2000*

MAILBAG.....(emails we have received)

H_i,

Am trying to locate JAMES McINTRYE, Navigator on Fleckenstein's Crew, 8th A.F., 2ADA, 453rd BG, 734th Sqdn, for a crew reunion. I was the tail gunner on that crew. Any info you can provide will be most helpful.

Thanks,
Dick Robert

H_i,

Kathy --

I've just found the information on my father's crew that I'll copy below. Can you tell me if they were in the 2nd Air Division? Also, if this is part of the group you work with, please let me know if you can put me in touch with any of these men or their families!

Thanks,
Becky Smith, daughter of Jack R. Smith, Bombardier, 448th

I

'm looking for any of my dad's WWII B-24 crew or their families. They were 8th Air Force, 20th Bomb Wing, 448th Bomb Group, 713th Bomb Squadron, Radio call letter "E." Plane nicknamed "COMMANDO"; sustained severe damage from anti-aircraft guns; landed in Payerne, Switzerland, April 25, 1944 and were interned there. The entire crew survived.

Their names:

Pilot - Lt Henry B. SCHROEDER
Co-Pilot - 2Lt Lewis M. SARKOVICH
Navigator - 2Lt Bruce E. CRANE
Bombardier - 2Lt Jack R. SMITH
Nose Turret Gunner -
S/Sgt Alfred B. MAINO
Top Turret Gunner -
T/Sgt Hugh O. RILEY
Radio Operator—
T/Sgt William W. HUSTON
L. Waist Gunner -
S/Sgt William E. SEIDEL
R. Waist Gunner—
S/Sgt Robert D. MILLER
Tail Gunner -
S/Sgt Francis W. SCARBROUGH

In the photo (probably late 1943 of the original crew in Sioux City, IA, prior to going to Seething, England, the Radio Operator is LIEBMAN and one of the Waist Gunners is HILLER.

Becky Smith, daughter of Jack R. Smith, Bombardier, 448th

K

athy :

Saw your name and e-mail address on the net and figured you may be of some help. I'm looking for a needle in a haystack. My cousin 1st Lt Robert J. Podojil flew a B 24 in Europe (8th Air Force) From 1944 until he was killed in action in March of 1945. I know nothing of his military life and feel a great need, as the eldest of this family, to trace and leave behind some information of his life as an American Hero. I hope someone knows of his accomplishments and can help me.

My name is Roy E. Podojil from Cleveland Ohio and my e-mail address is geniep@gateway.net.

Thanks

M

y Father is Clifford W Harris. He was a waist gunner in the 448 713th sqdrn. If anyone can provide me a list of their missions. I would be most grateful thank you for your help.

Patricia L Rueppel
ruepranch@dtgnet.com

I

enjoy Finding out where my father Clifford W Harris was stationed with the 448th bomb group in Seething England. If anyone has any information about there missions. Please e-mail me at ruepranch@dtgnet.com Thank you
Patricia Rueppel

I

survived 30 Bombing missions with the 66th and 68th sqds of the 44th Bomb group, and 35 additional operational missions with the 2AD Weather and Relay Flight, Flying Weather Scout and Airborne Radio

relay. For the 2AD fighter Escorts when the bomber penetration was too deep for direct radio contact.

Robert L Schaper
ki6rg@utm.net

A

nyone have knowledge about the crew of Merrill Holtz Horshum St . Faith, Norwich, England. 458th BG 752nd sq

I'm Bob Smith, copilot, and the navigator was Jim Dutt.

Robert E Smith
resmith5312@msn.com

M

y cousin, 1/Lt. Ray Towles, was a 448BG 714BS pilot killed in action 10 June 44 over Evreux-Fauville airfield in France. Glad to have found this site.

Steve Greenhow
magbo@bga.com

A

ny suggestions as to how to research a particular member of the 44thBG? Major Norman Vickery was a Lead Bombardier and I would like to find out more about him if I can (i.e time served, positions held, aircraft assigned etc.) Thank you very much indeed.

Gary T. Alstrand
gary.alstrand@camoff.ang.af.mil

M

y father, George D. Cooksey, Jr. was a co-pilot in the 448th BG at Seething. His aircraft was shot down on 12 June '44 near Comborg, France. He survived and was helped by the French Underground. His story has become a touchstone for our family now that he has passed away (Dec '96) I send a thankful salute to all those that have served their country.

Dave Cooksey
liondc@home.com

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(Continued from page 11)

I was co-pilot on crew #1 712 BS from when the group was formed until the middle of May '44 when I completed thirty missions. Anyone out there from that period that remembers our crew please send a message. Thanks
Ray M. Boll
boll12347@aol.com

Looking for the following personnel who flew with the 467th BG, 791st BS. They all flew 41-29420, Does anyone know of them or their whereabouts?
Bruce Owens, John Simanowith,
Charles Schultz, Mick Lavery,
Charles Cochey, Bob Farnsworth,
Gene McMahon, Norval Cunningham,
Charles Kordes, Verner Gray, and
Thomas Lewis.
Dick Lindsay
r.lindsay@tinyworld.co.uk

Dick Gelvin and I with Mary Beth Barnard are working on a history of the 445th Bomb Group. We are nearing completion but have a few gaps to fill: First hand accounts from people in armament, electrician, sheet metal, supply.
Information about crews and planes that went down in Sweden and Switzerland. First hand accounts from evadees of which we had quite lot.
Any help we can get would be appreciated and acknowledged.
Happy holidays to all

Horace S. Turell
2236 E. Cactus Wren Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85020
Telephone 602 870 1603
Facsimile 602 870 3157
e mail halturell@home.com

Looking for info on B-24 tail gunner (my uncle) Granville B. Evans, 579th BS, stationed at Wendling, UK 1943-1944. Was KIA on 19 May '44 on a bombing mission to an airfield outside Brunswick, GE. The crewmembers that day were:

P - 2/Lt N.J. Hunt,
CP-2/Lt P.B. Roetzel,
N-2/Lt O.W. Shelton,
B-2/Lt F.J. Sullivan,
E-S/Sgt W.L. McKinzie,
R-T/Sgt H.C. Wilkinson,
G-S/Sgt M. Osment,
G-S/Sgt G.H. Bennett,
G-S/Sgt L.A. Jackson,
G-S/Sgt G.B. Evans.

Some of this crew were later killed in a crash. However a few did survive and I am wondering if anyone recognizes any of these names? Would appreciate any information. Am also looking for info on where my uncle's gunnery training would have taken him. He enlisted out of Yuba City, (Northern) CA. Wondering if there are any gunners out there that may remember going through training with him.

Feel free to email at my personal address, evans9@home.com.
Regards,
Everett Evans

Searching for details on Capt. Kenneth N. Kellow, Capt, USAAF, killed on or about July 28, 1944 over the Polesti oil fields. I would like to know what unit he belonged to, the type of aircraft he was in, and what his position was on the aircraft. All I have is a short newspaper article announcing his death on that date. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Thanks - Jack
jkc@bigfoot.com

My father was an aircraft armorer for the 704th Bombardment Squadron in the 446th Bomb Group. His name was Thomas E. Shaffer. He served in England from 12 Jul 44 till 6 Jul 45. I would like to find out any possible information about him.
Thank you.
John W. Shaffer
shafferj@earthlink.net

You may be interested to know that

the Eastern Daily Press, the daily paper in Norfolk, England, is currently running a poll to find out which book should be the first to be ceremonially placed on the shelves of the new Millennium library in Norwich.

The shortlist includes the Memorial Book of the 2nd Air Division.

You can also vote online at the paper's website,

<http://www.norfolk-now.co.uk> - there is a link from the front page.

The url of the story itself is:

<http://www.norfolk-now.co.uk/Content/News/htm/010102librarypoll.asp>

Best wishes,

Celia Sutton

web editor

Norfolk-now

Dear Friends of the 44th Bomb Group: My name is Ed Tkacik and I was a member of the Jack Ketchum and Jack Spencer's bomber crew prior to going over to England on the Ill De France. Once we arrived at the Shipdham Airfield I was a replacement on another crew that flew out of the same field, we in the 506th B24 Squadron with pilot Roy Owens, I was a nose gunner. The Ketchum crew completed their last mission before the war was over and were headed home to the states when something caused them to become enmeshed with the OSS and a catastrophe according to a book written by a nephew of one of the gunners, from the Ketchum crew, after many years of investigations to find the truth of his Uncle Raymond Davis's demise on their way home after the war. The name of the book is "Flight of the Forgotten" written by Mr. Mark A. Vance. If after reading the book, you can shed any light on the authenticity of the facts he has presented, and one piece of authenticity required is the copy of the "Stars and Stripes", the June issue of 1945 that is alleged to have the news of the demise of the Ketchum crew in a B24 crash. If this is truly a fact then all the copies could not have been destroyed to cover up the existence of this issue. If you have any knowledge of this issue, please

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notify the author of this book at (mav737007@aol.com). The author is also a senior pilot on a well known air line flying the 757 and or the 767 Boeing. The Ketchum crew was a member of the 44th Bomb Group and were distinguished in their 35 missions over enemy territory.

The crew list that were lost over Gairloch, Scotland, June 13, 1945.

The Jack Ketchum Crew:
1st Lt. Jack B. Ketchum, pilot, Kansas,
1st Lt. Jack H. Spencer, Co-pilot, Michigan,

2nd Lt. Richard J. Robak, Navigator, Wisconsin,

T/Sgt. Hillburn L. Cheek, Engineer, Oregon,

T/Sgt. Jimmy C. Stammer, Radio-Op, Iowa,

S/Sgt. Eldon J. Gilles, Gunner, Wisconsin,

S/Sgt. Albert L. Natkin, Gunner, Texas,

S/Sgt. Raymond E. Davis, Gunner, Indiana,

S/Sgt. Herman Riefen, Gunner, New York,

Passengers Listing for June 13 1945:

S/Sgt. Emil Einarsen, New Jersey,

S/Sgt. John B. Ellis, Jr., North Carolina,

S/Sgt. John H. Hallissey, Massachusetts,

S/Sgt. Robert J. Francis, New York, :

S/Sgt. Alexander W. Hastings, New Jersey

S/Sgt. James D. Harvey, New York.

According to the author of the Flight of the Forgotten these 15 brave heroes died an unnecessary death after the war was over and are now completely forgotten by the Air Force that they served during the destruction of Hitler's war machine. These brave men should be noted as the heroes that they are, by the Air Force.

Please buy a copy or go to the Library and check out this book and read what an offspring of one of the brave heroes of WW2 combat crew has produced and is struggling to set their families at ease after all these many years of doubt and obfuscation by the Air Force.

Thank you for any consideration.

S/Sgt. Edward Tkacik

emtka@sunlink.net

Dear Friends,

I can't resist to let you read this:

From: Adam Lynch

Subject: book

Dear Friend,

I just re-read your "Cruel Sky" again from cover to cover. I must say it is one of the finest examples of correct research and meaningful emotion that exists in the literature of WW II writing. You are simply wonderful.. Happy Holidays for all of you and yours
Adam

That's something very moving to me. But, please, don't let Cruel Sky be my only claim of fame, send me your recollections.

I would like to write about other groups but I am running out of materials, despite attending a couple of your reunions. So, it's up to you to fill my e and snail mailboxes up for Christmas.

Your friend from Belgium

Luc

(ed.-Luc Dewez is the author of "Cruel Sky")

My father, Michael (Mike) Paoletta was a tail and waist gunner on 42-51215-B, B-24, with the 458th BG, 752nd BS, stationed at Horsham St. Faith, England from Nov 44 until 22 Feb 45, when the A/C took a direct flak hit near Bebra, Germany on the bomb run to Hildesheim. Entire crew was KIA. I am trying to locate anyone from the 752nd bomb squadron, either flight or ground crew that may remember him. He was an artist and I have this sketchbook that was returned after the war, that has a number of noseart pinup drawings that he had done in it. I am also trying to locate a photo of the plane and find out if there was a nickname or noseart. Responses will be greatly appreciated.

Mike Paoletta

mikepaoletta@namfg.com

My Father, (Larry Rose) was a Top Turret Gunner 44th Bomb Gr, 68th Sqdn (flying 8 balls) out of Shipdham aerodrome. He served from April 44-end of war. He is still alive in Mass. I would like to know if anyone out there remembers him. Please e-mail.

John Rose

JRose22554@aol.com

I just finished reading "Wings of Morning," by Thomas Childers, and I was doing some additional research. I am awestruck by the bravery and dedication of these heroes. And I thank them for the prices they paid - both the ones that came back and those heroes who did not.

John C. Weldin

jweldin@focusbsi.com

My father Lt. Anthony P. Recchia served with the 96th Bomb Group Heavy, 458th at Horsham St. Faith. He was with the Chemical Unit, do not know the number designation. Do not know what dates he was stationed there. Any help would be appreciated. I also have many photos of the 458th air crews & aircraft.

Tony Recchia

arecchia@snet.net

Ex 44th BG member June 1944—June 1945. Flew 35 missions out of Shipdham.

Robert Dubowsky

irdub@aol.com

Kathy:

I'm overjoyed, I really can't believe that I got my cousins Roberts Bomb Group. 1st Lt. Robert J. Podojil served with the 44th Bomb Group, 66th Squadron, and I believe they were stationed at Shipdham England (station 115). I believe Robert

(Continued on page 14)

was there from mid to late 1944 until his death in March of 9145.

I was able to get Roberts address etc. from my 90 year old aunt. My aunt was Roberts second eldest aunt and is the last of six children. Roberts father Joe, was my aunts oldest brother. It did require some work on my part but, with my aunt did manage to find two letters from Robert (1944/45) with his return address on them.

Again, Kathy, if you can please help me to obtain some info on Roberts life while he was in England it would help so very much.

Thanks again,
Roy E. Podojil
Geniep@pateway.net

My father was a radio operator on a B24, 392 BG, 577 BS, ETO Dec 1944 to May 1945. Any information about his crewmates, mission specifics or airships would be appreciated.
Harry j. Reidy Jr.
Reidyhj@corning.com

A new site in honor of the men who flew with the 445th Bomb Group, 2nd Air Division has recently opened. I would appreciate any comments, suggestions, recollections, photos, etc. to add to the site. My dad *Capt. Leland S. 'Spike' Simpson) was the original 445th Group Bombardier. Alphonse Spahn later became the Group Bombardier, and my dad started flying PFF missions.

Michael S. Simpson
simpsonms@mindspring.com

Hi,
I am looking for a patch of the 2nd Air Division or a picture of a building with an arrow sticking out of it. Your help would be greatly appreciated.
Gale S carborough
gbs@dtc.net

Searching the B-24 42-52123 from the 713BS, 448BG which crashed in Exloo Holland on 11 January 1944 and someone who can tell me about the crew and the plane (nose-art).

Joep Mittelmeijer
Mittelmeijer@castle.nl

My grandfather, Oren Clifton Brown, was a radio operator with the 389th in Hethel, England. Any information on him or the group would be greatly appreciated. Thanks.
Philip Davenport
Pdavenport@mtmc.com

I had an uncle who served in the 44th BG 67 Bomb Squadron. He was Sgt. Earl McArthur. He was MIA/KIA July 29, 1949. I am always seeking info on him and his squadron.
Earl Cavanaugh CPO USN ret.
Enc550@sover.net

I was a ball turret and waist gunner with the 445th Bomb Group. I completed 32 missions and returned to US Sept. 44. Would like to hear from any of the crew I flew with.
James M. Baust
JB-6@ACI.NET

Ed.—as always, if you need further information or need help contacting any of these folks, please let us know.



Dear Fellow Officers, Members and Friends,

As Irene stated, due to increased responsibilities at work, I regret that I won't be able to perform the duties of Communications Vice President at this time.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my involvement with League activities and more than that I treasure the friends I have made as a result. Getting to know the veterans, their lives and loved ones and most of all obtaining a better understanding of my parents has enriched my life.

It must be mentioned that not only have I been publishing the Herald, I have also been actively involved with the development of our website. Thanks to Bob Books who has taken over the design and maintenance of our site, my duties there have been reduced to answering the inquiries we receive at our website. This task too needs to be assigned elsewhere. I feel confident that the League Officers would be willing to separate the newsletter and website functions should my successor prefer it this way. If anyone is interested in taking on either or both of these duties, please contact one of the officers. And of course, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I'd like to give a special Thank You to Ed Zobac, Earl Wassom, Jim Lorenz and David Hastings for their cooperation, support and guidance.

I will miss working with my fellow League Officers and await the day when I can once again be an active participant in such a wonderful and worthwhile organization.

Bye for now,
Kathy Jackson
Communications Vice President and
Heritage Herald Editor

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If you have a change of address, please take a moment to fill out the form and send it to the Membership VP. We can save \$.50 on each issue that does not need forwarding. Thank you.

Please note the dues expiration date on the mailing label. If your dues have expired or are about to expire, please take the time now to renew.

If you have received a renewal form, please return the original dues notice back with your payment so that it can be returned to you along with your membership card(s), which is your record of payment. Remember that donations can be used as an IRS record. Thank you!

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I wish to become a member of the Heritage League of the Second Air Division (USAAF) and to support its purposes. I certify that I am eligible for membership under one of the categories indicated.

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Membership Category (please check) ☐ Regular ☐ Associate ☐ New ☐ Renewal Annual Dues: **\$8.00**

Email: _____ Signature _____

Send Remittance To: Heritage League of the 2ADA, Ruth Anderson, 1615 Elmwood Ave. Lakewood, OH 44107

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REMINDER- DUES INCREASED TO \$8.00 JAN 1, 2001

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