



August 2002

YOUR HERITAGE LEAGUE

By
Irene Hurner, President

During the years that I have been a Heritage League member I have attended conventions in many areas in the United States and in Norwich, England. I generally travel with my parents and one or more of my sisters. When possible, my daughter and husband have joined us. The whole experience has had a permanent effect on my family and me. Friendships and camaraderie have developed with attendees of various age groups, history has been learned from those who actually experienced what most people only read about, pride in our country and in the accomplishments of ordinary men and women who became extraordinary heroes has welled up, I have seen places that I may otherwise not have ever visited, and an appreciation for life and all that is good are results of my association with The Heritage League and the Second Air Division Association. My term as President has given me an even greater opportunity to meet people here and abroad who have worked toward the fulfillment of the veterans' goal of a living memorial. This past year I have received support and advice from 2ADA President Walt Mundy and his wife Ruth, Chuck Walker, 2ADA Representative to the Board of Governors, Jim and Mary Lorenz, 2ADA liaisons to The Heritage League, David Hastings, Chairman of the Board of Governors, Ray Pytel, Editor of The Journal, Evelyn Cohen, 2ADA Membership Vice-President and from many more. It was truly appreciated.

The League was created to continue what the veterans have begun. The 2AD Memorial Library in The Forum is a unique tribute to the Second Air Division and one that everyone should visit at least once. The pictures that have appeared in past issues of The Journal only give a glimpse of what one sees. It is difficult to convey the true enthusiasm and friendship that is bestowed on us Yanks by the British. Maintenance of friendships is very important between our European allies, but it is also critical for us to develop a relationship between the spouses, descendants, and friends of the veterans so that we will have a common bond with which to aid in our effort to continue supporting the memorials that the veterans begun. With that in mind, the officers of Heritage League are considering future activities that will help to develop this common bond.

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Pictured : 1) Andrea Hough, 2ADA Fulbright Librarian, 2001-2002 Norwich, England. 2)Linda Wittig, Secretary, Irene Hurner, President, and Tahitia Orr, 2002-2003 Fulbright Librarian at the Southwest Regional Dinner, Dallas, TX April 2002. 3) The Forum

Memorial Library is housed Norwich November 2001. 4 & 5) Inside the 2AD Memorial Library.



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A FAMILY PROJECT

As a tribute, Linda Wittig, HL Secretary, and her family have created a film on the life of her father, "Moose" Allen, Jimmy Stewart, Mike Bernarcik, and Andy Lowe. This film, originally screened at the 453rd mini-reunion at Dayton, Ohio, September 2001, will be shown at Baltimore during the convention. It is a wonderful example of a common bond that gave the impetus to show friendships that developed over time, a history lesson regarding those who lived it, pride of country, and of veterans who were ordinary people who became extraordinary heroes. Attendance at conventions enhances the opportunity for friendships to develop between members. Most attend because they want to honor and remember veterans who are or were close to them. It is difficult, if not impossible, to improve upon the wording that is so eloquently stated by our British friends, "They came as friends, they stayed as friends, they remain friends." This sentiment is a basis for us as League members. Friendship and understanding among our members and with our British friends will ensure the continuance of the 2ADA memorials begun in the last century. If you have suggestions for activities that will help bring members together, to aid in getting to know one another, please feel free to call or write.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Our annual business meeting will be held on Saturday, August 31 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Inner Harbor, Baltimore, Maryland during the 55th annual convention of the Second Air division Association.

According to Bob Books:

Average visits have been **WEB SITE**

been around 700. However, July had an all-time record of 859 visits. This site also has international interest and the following are the countries that have visited in July (in order of number of visits): United Kingdom, Japan, Canada, Belgium, Netherlands, Australia, Spain, Czech

Republic, Sweden, Denmark, Italy, New Zealand, France, Croatia, Poland, Mexico, Argentina, Belize and Taiwan. The range of visits number from 60 (UK) to 1(Taiwan).

MEMORIAL DAY 2002

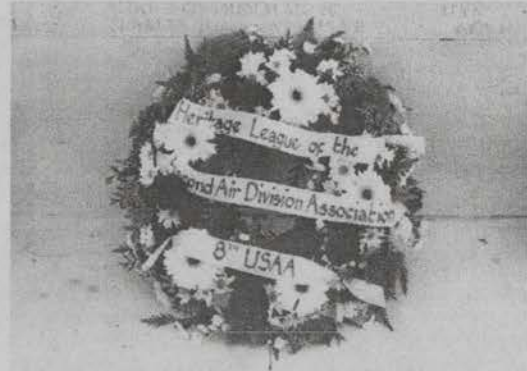
On another note, it gives me pride and pleasure to let you know that Ann Phillips, Membership Vice-President, traveled to Cambridge, England to lay a wreath from the Heritage League at the Memorial Day ceremonies. Chairman David Neale wrote in Second Thoughts of the ceremonies and said that the weather held fine and warm and



Memorial Service

May 27, 2002

Cambridge American Cemetery
Cambridgeshire, England



welcomed many people from all walks of life. Many Veterans and representatives from dozens of dedicated groups were present including the Friends of the Second Air Division memorial. The Service was excellent, then it came to the laying of the wreaths in silent tribute to the fallen, over 100 wreaths were laid. The Missing Man formation flew over in perfect timing, followed by the old faithful flying fortress, "Sally B" who gave three low passes and caused a tear or two." "Sally B" was one of many B-17s critical to the U.S. Army Air Corps daylight precision bombing campaign

of World War II. She earned the nickname "Flying Fortress" because she was armed with 13 machine guns. She is now the only airworthy B-17 in the United Kingdom and is permanently based at the Imperial War Museum, Duxford. Ann will give a more complete and personal report at the convention.



The "Sally B" flies overhead at the closing of the Cambridge American Cemetery Memorial Day ceremony. The only airworthy B-17 in England circled above the cemetery four times.

FUND RAISERS

There are a few pins left for sale that commemorate the rededication of the library. The design is red, white and blue incorporating the American and British flags. The cost is \$5.00 per pin and \$1.00 shipping for up to three pins to the same address. All profits are designated for the Memorial Library. There are also blue and white buttons with the Heritage League logo available at \$2.00 each. Orders can be sent to The Heritage League, 45415 San Antonio Valley Road, Livermore, CA 94550.

Heritage League Rededication Pin



Heritage League Button



BOOK ENDOWMENT

Derek Hills, Trust Librarian, wrote to thank the League for its book endowment program. He said that the program provides the Norwich community with a growing collection of books on all aspects of the United States. The library has been purchasing books that support the local schools' teaching of topics not well covered in other libraries in the region. Books purchased this year were On My Honor: Boy Scouts and the Making of American Youth by Jay Mechling, and Mustang Ace: The Story of Don S. Gentle by Mark M. Spagnuolo.

VICKI BROOKS WARNING

HERITAGE LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Board of Governors meeting November 6 2001, Norwich, England

The attendance list for the annual general meeting was quite extensive since the 2ADA was holding their annual convention in Norwich at the same time. Invited guests and board members were present.

The Board of Governors holds four meetings a year as well as numerous committee meetings. The next Annual General Meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday 24 October 2002. The board is comprised of very dedicated individuals who strongly believe in the Memorial and will make every effort that the Memorial Room continues into perpetuity. Board Members present included Paul King (Chairman), David Hastings (Vice-Chairman), Fran Davies, Roger

Freeman, Ted Inman, Chuck Walker, Richard Crockatt, Bill Wuest, David Gurney, Hilary Hammond, Keith Thomas, Victoria Musgrave, David Hill, Carol Lynn MacCurdy.

Highlights of the meeting include:

- Fund raising is very much an issue both in the selling of cards and prints to raise funds and the larger fund raising effort to increase the capital Endowment fund. It is necessary to increase the Capital Endowment Fund in order to provide continuous future income. It was noted that the 2nd Air division Memorial Trust had raised more money than any other organization in raising funds for the Millennium Library project. The Forum Trust was then able to obtain matching funding upon the monies that the Memorial Trust had raised.
- Staffing of the 2AD Memorial Library is an issue being addressed. With the anticipated longer opening hours it will be a challenge to stay open for the extended hours without careful planning.
- The next Fulbright Fellow Librarian will be working on archiving the collections of the Memorial Room. Memorabilia includes, but is not limited to, medals newspaper articles, books, papers, photos, veterans clothing and audio-visual material.
- Various subcommittee reports were presented. An interesting fact is that there are approximately 4,000 books being displayed in the new library with six study desks including two which can be adapted for used by the disabled.
- Chairman of the Friends of the Second Air Division Memorial, David Neale, outlined some of the highlights of the Friends' work. They placed a bouquet at Madingley Military Cemetery in tribute to the victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 and produced a commemorative calendar that was sold to the non-veterans (free to veterans). At their AGM, the Friends agreed to develop closer links with the Heritage League and particularly support the exchange of students between the UK and the US>

Paul King will step down as Chairman of the Memorial Trust and David Hastings will stand for election in February 2002. Matthew Martin will be seeking election as Chairman in February 2003. In Paul's report he confirmed that the key challenges for the Memorial Trust in the coming years are addressing the financial situation and marketing the Trust's work. It is also the desire of the Trust to attract younger Governors.

Carol Lynn MacCurdy presented Paul King with a letter from President George W. Bush that was read at the opening ceremony. A letter was also read from Queen Elizabeth. Both will be framed and placed in the Library.

**DAVID HASTINGS, CHAIRMAN
MEMORIAL TRUST of the 2nd AIR DIVISION USAAF**

THE ROYAL OPENING OF THE FORUM, JULY 18 2002

July 18 was a splendid day with blue skies and a huge crowd in the City centre to greet Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. Jennifer Holland as Head of Libraries and Information did a really superb job and managed in the end to get all the Trust Governors and wives on the Guest list. Second Air Division Association President Walt Mundy and his wife Ruth were also on the list.

After all the rehearsals and briefings, everything went smoothly and I was so privileged to be able to show His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh around your unique Memorial Library. Her Majesty The Queen passed by our main door escorted by Jennifer Holland on her way to the Children's Library, while I waited nervously at our main entrance to be presented to HRH by Janet Holden, the Principal Librarian. I welcomed His Royal Highness and we made our way inside as I explained to him the vision that you had in the Forties that brought about this wonderful memorial. According to the briefing, we should have looked at just the first part of the Mural, but the Duke was keen to see the entire mural so our well rehearsed plan started to change. He was certainly touched by the whole concept as to how your library began.

He then asked me to explain the Assembly Ship models (not in the plan!) before we then made our way into the Shrine Area and the roll of Honour which obviously moved him. Next I explained the WAC Key and the map of the bases which led me nicely on to explaining the massive role played by the 2nd Air Division Association in supporting the Memorial over so many years, including your wonderful Fulbright Scholar Librarian gift. Although we had been told that there could be no official presentations, I did ask if he would like to meet the 2nd ADA President and he readily agreed. I presented Walter Mundy to him and then quickly introduced Tom Eaton, Paul King and David Neale.

We then discussed staffing and I had a chance to introduce Derek Hills and Andrea Hough. Time was now running out and I asked his Royal Highness if he would be willing to sign our Visitors Book and again he agreed. He was so charming and had spoken to everyone, that I decided to risk it all and ask him if he would accept one of the 2ADA Medallions as a memento of his visit (this was not in the programme). To my delight, the Duke accepted and even better, which I think showed his interest in the entire project, he insisted on going back to the Shrine Area and thanking the 2ADA President personally for the medallion. So, Walter got two chances to talk with him!

This memorable visit ended and we had only just over-run our allotted time by one minute. The actual visit was totally different to the rehearsals, but thanks to the kindness and interest of the Duke of Edinburgh, we achieved everything and more than we dared to hope for. HRH then went on to visit the Tourist Office and Origins, while the seven of us in the 2AD Memorial were taken through the rear of the building to be reunited with our wives in the Atrium ready for the Queen to be invited by David McCall, the Chairman of the Forum Trust Limited to formally open The Forum.

Her Majesty and the Duke then left the Forum to mingle with the huge crowd on Millennium Plain before finally leaving Norwich for Sandringham.

There is no doubt that Robin Hall, Chief Executive of the Forum Trust, and Jennifer Holland of the County Council together with all their respective teams worked hard to make the occasion a huge success. Certainly none of us will ever forget that day.

2ADA POSTER

Alan Senior, 446th Bomb Group, designed a commemorative poster for the rededication of the Memorial Library. It measures 10" x 16" and is \$6.00 postpaid with an interesting narrative. Buy three and save \$2.00. Net proceeds will go to the 2ADA Memorial Trust. Make checks payable and send orders to Alan Senior, 610 Salerno Street, Sugarland, TX 77478.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Please check your mailing label for the expiration date of your membership. The Heritage League currently has over 750 members and needs the support of a growing membership to enable it to pursue its goals. I invite you to encourage your spouse, children, grandchildren and friends to join The Heritage League of the Second Air Division (USAAF). Together we can ensure that the memory of those who fought for the cause of peace and freedom during WWII will continue. Dues for The Heritage League are \$8.00 per year. Send your name, address, telephone number, and relationship of member to veteran with a check to The Heritage League, 3701 Chiswell Ct, Greensboro, NC 27410.

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!

Heritage League Membership Application

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.

Name _____ Spouse _____

Street Address _____ Home Tel. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Work Tel. _____

2ADA Member (Sponsor) _____ Bomb Group or Unit No. _____ Relationship _____

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

Email: _____ Signature _____

Send Remittance To: Heritage League of the 2ADA, Ann Philips, 3701 Chiswell CT, Greensboro, NC 27410.

Regular Members: Spouses, brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren of former personnel, military and civilian, American and British, who, at any time served with the Headquarters organization of the 2nd Bomb Wing, 2nd Bomb Division or 2nd Air Division during WWII and any person who served with any bomb group or any other unit of the 2nd Air Division, USAAF, either assigned or attached. These shall be voting members.

Associate Members: Friends or associates of regular members who by their demonstrated interest in the League and who make literary, artistic, historical or other valuable contributions to the 2nd Air Division Association, The Heritage League of the 2nd Air Division (USAAF) and/or The Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division. These shall be non-voting members.

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

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