

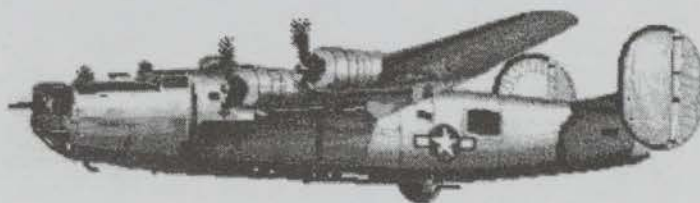
Heritage Herald



Issue 25

April 1999

1999 - The Year of the Liberator



1999 has been declared "The Year of the Liberator" in as much as 1999 is the 60th Anniversary of the Consolidated B-24.

In the Spring of 1944 there were more B-24's operating from British bases than in any other theatre of operations, the majority serving with the Second Air Division in East Anglia.

When the B-24 Liberator first flew in 1939, it was the most complicated and expensive aircraft ever produced. It was the first American heavy bomber with a tricycle undercarriage, produced in greater numbers (over 19,000) than any other American Aircraft before or since, and the majority were built by Ford. At one time the Ford plant at Willow Run, Michigan, was assembling a new B-24 every 53 minutes. The B-24's slender Davis wing, ideal for cruising flight, combined with great fuel capacity gave the bomber the greatest range of any land-based aircraft of its day. The B-24 was designed to

specifications required by the Army Air Corps - speed 300, range 3,000 miles, altitude 30,000 feet, bomb load 8,000 pounds. During WWII it flew more missions than any other aircraft. It served the Air Force in every theatre of operations and flew for 15 nations. The Liberator was flown by crews in the 2nd

Air Division. The 1st Air Division had B-17's and the 3rd Air Division had both at one time or another. Hundreds of Liberators flew with the U.K. based U.S. Eighth Air Force, "The Mighty Eighth", the largest air striking force ever committed to battle. Liberators of the Eighth undertook daylight bombing raids alongside B-17 Flying Fortresses in massive formations. Liberators were also useful in the Pacific War because of the aircraft's great range.



*reprinted from
The N.J. News*

*The Eighth Air Force Historical Society
Volume 11, Spring 1999, Number 1*

AS I SEE IT.....
by Earl Wassom (466th BG)
President, 2nd Air Division Association

When the decade of the 1940's began, England was in desperate need. Her cities were under siege from the air and the Atlantic Ocean sea lanes from America to the British Isles were under constant attack by Nazi submarines. War-time and Civilian material needs were being rapidly depleted. The new prime minister of England, Winston Churchill, told his countrymen in an early speech, "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat." He made a commitment to his comrades and issued a threat to the enemy. "We shall not flag or fail ... we shall fight on the seas and oceans... we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and on the streets, we shall fight in the hills, we shall never surrender.

On the other side of the Atlantic, President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared to the American people, "This generation has a rendezvous with destiny." With the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the United States could no longer remain neutral. It was suddenly cast into a world-wide conflict. Men and women of America had to change their quiet and sequestered life-style. Women went to war-time factories and men went to combat. Soon a determined nation became "the arsenal of democracy." There had been little preparedness for war, there were few men in uniform and there were limited quantities of obsolete equipment in all branches of the military. Industry rose to the occasion and men volunteered. The men in their new role as soldier felt alternating fear, rage, calm, and yet, an overpowering determination to survive.

Since the readers of this journal are mostly children of Eighth Air Force veterans, some statistics might be of interest. A total of 350,000 airmen served with the Eighth in England. Of this number, 26,000 were killed. The Air Corps sustained the greatest percentage loss of any branch of service in the military. In addition, 21,000 from the Eighth Air Force ended up in Prisoner of War Camps. Equipment used by the Eighth had suffered unusually high attrition rates. A typical

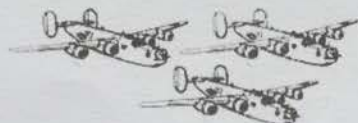
bomber in service lasted only 147 days. The losses among B-17 and B-24 four engine bombers totaled 6,537 and 3,337 fighter aircraft were lost. Even with such devastating losses, thousands persevered until victory came. The survivors returned home and lived full, fruitful and productive lives.

Twelve million men were in uniform during this time. They were a large part of historic and social challenges and achievements that changed the world. They also produced a bumper crop of babyboomers. There have been many assertions about the boomers. The parents succeeded in life and their achievements enriched American society. What about the kids? Following the war, these veterans were said to have spoiled their children. They wanted their offspring to have it better than they had it when they were growing up. Consequently, they were labeled the Yuppie Generation. But, does this apply to all of them?

I am responsible for increasing the number of baby boomers by a total of two, a son and a daughter. I have watched my two children along with countless hundreds of others. I have been especially pleased with those individuals who are numbered among the Heritage League membership, the kids of the veterans of the Mighty Eighth Air Force. You have had deep involvement with us, the parents and all Second Air Division Association veterans. Basically, you are recipients of the good which has come from the right choices you have made and consequently have benefited from the circumstances of life in which you have placed yourselves.

The veterans, victors over war, are now becoming victims of the "pruning knife of time." The Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that about thirty-two hundred WWII vets die every month ... that is a little over one-hundred a day. We will not be here much longer. The Second Air Division Association will no longer exist nor will there be a need for it. Over the

(Continued on page 4)



E-MAILBAG.....

Just stumbled across this web site.....

I was with 389th BG, 566th BS at Hethel from Jan 'til 8 Mar '44; co-pilot; ran out of gas over central Netherlands after bombing Berlin (our 4th combat mission) and after being shot up by 2 FW-190s (we got both of them!); of the 11 man crew: 1 dead, 3 wounded aboard; after bailing out near Dordrecht, alone of the crew I evaded immediate capture by hiding in a shed under a rabbit hutch & covering myself with burlap potato sacks. A Green (Security) Policeman, with pistol drawn, searched the shed but failed to poke at the potato sacks! That night I was spirited over the river Noord to Dordrecht. Then, 2 days later was escorted by bicycle to Rotterdam, where I resided 'til 15 Jul, by which time I was insisting on getting to France to connect with our northward moving forces. However, after reaching Antwerp I was betrayed to Abwehr & gaoled in Beguijnen Straat Gefangnis for 2 weeks. Then off to Brussels where I & others were handed over to Luftwaffe West Hq. From there by train to Auswertestelle West, Oberursel; Durchgangslager, Wetzlar; Center Compound, Stalag Luft III, Sagan. Marched out into the blizzard the night of 27/28 Jan'45, arriving in Spremberg 5 days later; then by boxcar (goods wagon) -- 55 officers + 2 guards -- to Stalag VII A, Moosburg. Liberated there on Sunday, 29 Apr '45 by 14th Armored Division tanks of Gen. George Patton's U.S. 3rd Army. Disobeyed orders to "stay put!"; hitchhiked with another officer by foot, bicycle, truck, jeep and airplane through Nurnberg and Wiesbaden to U.S. Camp Lucky Strike in France; then by ship from Calais to New York & Camp Kilmer; then by train through Canada to Fort Lewis, Washington; home in Seattle the same day, 4 June 1945. And there you are! With more than I intended to write!

James H. Keefe
LtCol, USAF (Ret'd)

Heritage League New Members

ROBERT UNDERWOOD 446
LEE ANN LEONARD 446
SUE RIORDAN 446
WESLEY WILLIAMS JR. 492
KERRIN SCHULTZ 492
KEIRA SAQIEN 492
KENNA ROCKEY 492
DAVID ROCKEY 492
MARSHA PETERS 389
ANTHONY RIESER 492
RICHARD CHANDLER 491
CARTER CHANDLER 491
MARTHA DROSKE 389
NEIL WOLF HQ
ALLYSON NICHOLS 491
PAUL NICHOLS 491
JAMES NICHOLS JR. 491
HEATHER NICHOLS 491
GERALD SCOTT 445
JAMES STEWART MUSEUM 453
JOANNE GIBSON 453
DONALD BUTZER 448
JAY KERR 466
CHRISTOPHER CLARK 489/44
DANA MEINTZER 448
SCOTT MEINTZER 448
MARY LEWIS 446
MAJ. CHARLES MATEER 458
WILLIAM CETIN JR. 392
CATHERINE KUCHINSKI 467
KEVAN HESTER 492
KEN MERCER 445
EDWARD LASKEY 392
MICHAEL HADDOCK 448

NOTICE !!!

Until Ruth Anderson and her husband settle into their new home, please address all correspondence normally sent to her to:

Kathy Jackson
1027 Keeler St.
Maumee, OH 43537

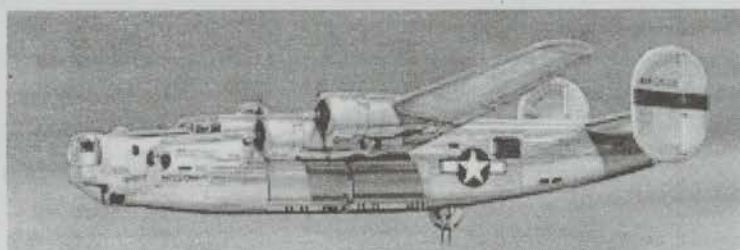
Thank you.

AS I SEE IT..... (cont.)

(Continued from page 2)

more than 50 years of its existence, it has initiated many worthy programs. Its activities and achievements are in place and their futures secured. But, there will always be a need for the Heritage League. I am not suggesting that the League Membership devote full or even part time to remembering and promoting the Eighth Air Force and its achievements and story as the Association had done. I am suggesting, however, that you take part in the high calling of enriching the lives of countless

others who follow by raising the sights of society and elevating its standards. This will be accomplished using the creativity of the membership of the Heritage League as you develop your own program and agenda. I would like to describe this calling as preserving the "legacy of values," those values which are fading in today's society. And when you look back in a few years, you can take pride in the fact of having had a small part in this struggle. Because of your commitment, the world will be a better place.



1999 Reunions of the 2nd ADA and Related Association

2nd Air Division Association Annual Convention
May 28-31
Austin, Texas

The Heritage League meets in conjunction with the 2ADA.

EAA-WWII Warbirds Fly-In & Convention
July 28 - August 3
Wittman Field, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

2ADA Midwest & Southeast Regional Reunion
September 30 - October 3
Savannah, Georgia

Eighth Air Force Historical Society Convention
October 26-31
Savannah, Georgia

The Heritage League :

<http://www.primenet.com/~hl-2ada>
email: hl-2ada@primenet.com

The Mighty 8th Heritage Museum:

<http://www.mighty8thmuseum.com>

2ADA Memorial:

<http://www.ecn.co.uk/memorial/index.htm>

1999 Reunions of the Groups of the 2nd Air Division Association

466th Bomb Group
April 14-18
Savannah, Georgia

446th Bomb Group
May 19 - 23
Tucson, Arizona

448th Bomb Group
June 30 - July 3
Wright Patterson, Dayton, Ohio

44th Bomb Group
Septembre 3-6
New Orleans, LA

467th Bomb Group
October 1-4
Tucson, Arizona

Second Air Division Association

52nd Annual Convention - May 29-June 1, 1999

HYATT REGENCY HOTEL, ON TOWN LAKE, 208 BARTON SPRINGS ROAD, AUSTIN, TEXAS
TELEPHONE (512) 477-1234

Schedule of Events

Friday, May 28

Registration & Early Bird Party - Complimentary Buffet & Drinks (coffee, tea, beer, sodas) - No Cash Bar

Saturday, May 29

Registration • Golf Tournament
 Cocktail Party & Buffet Dinner
 • Awards Ceremony

Sunday, May 30

Buffet Breakfast • Tours
 Cocktail Party & Group Dinners

Monday, May 31

Buffet Breakfast • Business Meeting
 Men's Luncheon • Ladies' Luncheon
 Cocktail Party & Banquet

Tuesday, June 1

Buffet Breakfast • Departure

Costs Per Person

The costs listed below are for the entire package (5/29-6/1) listed above, including hotel room for three nights. For special arrangements, write or call Evelyn Cohen, (215) 632-3992.

Single Occupancy.....	\$550.00
Double Occupancy.....	\$415.00 per person
Triple Occupancy.....	\$390.00 per person
Quadruple Occupancy.....	\$380.00 per person

Deposit with reservations - \$50.00 per person - payment in full by April 10, 1999

Cancellation Policy: 60 days prior to convention - \$15.00 charge per person

30 days prior to convention - \$25.00 charge per person

Full refund at the discretion of the convention committee (if funds are available).

Important Notes

Directions to the Hyatt Regency Austin: From Interstate 35, exit west on Riverside, past Congress Avenue to Barton Springs Road. At Barton Springs Road, turn right and the entrance to the Hyatt Regency Austin will be on the left.

Cost of Extra Nights: Single and Double - \$85.00 per night plus tax. Triple - \$110.00 per night plus tax. Quad - \$135.00 per night plus tax. All extra nights and incidental charges are to be paid directly to the hotel upon checkout.

Non-Smoking Rooms: 382 **Handicapped Rooms:** 13

Parking: Self Parking - no charge. Valet Parking \$8.00 per day

Reservations: Cut off date is **MAY 7th** - after May 7th if space available.

Tours: See next page for information and reservation form.

Limo Service: We have a problem - they expect the new Austin airport to be open May 1st and there is no information at present regarding limo service. I hope to have this info when I confirm your reservation. If not, it is a short taxi ride to the hotel.

Golf Tournament: Our 18th annual will be held the morning of Saturday, May 29th. Details will be in the Spring 2ADA Journal. We will also be sending golf registration forms to those who played last year. If interested contact Kurt Warning, 2736A North Dayton, Chicago, IL 60614, phone (773) 549-3546.

52nd Annual Convention - Reservation Form

Name _____ Group _____

Spouse _____ Phone Number () _____

Address _____

Group for Group Dinner Seating _____ Group for Banquet _____

Arrive _____ Depart _____ First 2ADA Convention? _____

Single _____ Double _____ Triple _____ Quad _____ Will Share _____ Non-Smoking _____

Special Room Request: Handicapped _____ Kind Bed _____ Double/Double _____

Deposit _____ Paid in Full _____

Nicknames _____

Names of Additional Persons in Triple or Quad Rooms _____

DO NOT CALL HOTEL FOR RESERVATIONS, CHANGES, CANCELLATIONS, ETC.,
ALL OF THESE SHOULD BE SENT TO:
Evelyn Cohen, 06-410 Delaire Landing Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114 Tel. 215-632-3992

Lyndon B. Johnson Ranch - 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

\$31.00 per person (minimum 40)

8:30 - 10:00 Travel to Stonewall, Texas
10:00 - 10:30 Tour of Museum
10:30 - 12:15 Tour of Ranch
12:15 - 12:45 Travel to Johnson City

12:45 - 1:45 Buffet Lunch (3 entrees, vegetable,
dessert, full salad bar)
1:45 - 3:00 Travel back to Austin

LBJ Library, Lunch & Riverboat Cruise - 9:45 AM to 4:00 PM

\$39.50 per person (minimum 50)

9:45 - 10:15 Travel to LBJ Librarys
10:15 - 11:15 Tour of Library
11:30 - 12:30 Lunch at Mall Fast Food Center
(Not included in cost)

12:45 - 1:00 Travel to Riverboat
1:00 - 3:30 Riverboat Cruise
3:30 Return to Hotel

TOUR RESERVATION FORM — Second Air Division Association — Sunday, May 30, 1999

NAME _____ PHONE _____

Trip 1 - LBJ RANCH	No. Persons _____	Check Enclosed: Total _____
Trip 2 - LBJ LIBRARY	No. Persons _____	Check Enclosed: Total _____

Mail this form with your check or money order payable to:
AROUND AUSTIN, 5508 Parkcrest Drive #104, Austin, Tx 78731-4914
Telephone: (512) 371-9111

DO NOT MAIL THIS TOUR RESERVATION FORM TO EVELYN COHEN



Message from the Mighty 8th AF Heritage Museum

by MaryBeth Barnard

The following is a listing of books purchased with the \$1500 donated to the 8th AF Heritage Museum Library by the Heritage League of the 2ADA. I have not used all of the donation. Will send updates of new books purchased. Purchased were books needed to build the Collection in the areas of General Reference, World War II and recently published on specific aircraft and units.

Guide to Federal Records in the National Archives (3 Vols)
Guide to Records-Part 1, Policy
A Woman's War Too: US Women in the Military in WWII
American Women & The US Armed Forces
Guide to Holdings of the Still Picture Branch of the National Archives
FDR-Day of Infamy Address
Germany Surrenders 1945
Franklin Delano Roosevelt
The Secret War/OSS
Fighting for Life: American Military Medicine
America Goes To War, 1941-1943
To Fool A Glass Eye (Photo recon)
Tuskegee Airmen
Unexplained Mysteries of WWII
Design for Victory (Posters)
D-Day Maps
B-24 Nose Art Name Directory by W. Forman
B-17 Nose Art Name Directory by W. Forman
The U.S Eighth AF in Camera 1944-45 by M. Bowman
Army Air Force & USAF Decorations, Medals, Ribbons, Badges & Insignia 1941 to 1947, 1947 to 1997
Claims to Fame the B-17 Flying Fortress by Birdsall & Freeman
Images of America The Tuskegee Airmen by Holman & Reilly
The 390th Bomb Group Anthology, Vols 1 & 2
The Polish Air Force at War 1939-1943 1943-1945 by Cynk
Consolidated B-24 Liberator by M. Bowman
The B-17 Flying Fortress Story: Design, Production, History by R. Freeman w/D. Osborne
Tuskegee's Heroes-The Aviation Art of Roy LaGrone by C & A. Cooper
Red Tails & Black Wings, The Men of America's Black AF by J. Holway
A-Train Memoirs of a Tuskegee Airman by LTCOL Dryden

This is what's been added so far. I just received a note on a new book concerning those interned in Sweden, which I will acquire.

I want to extend an invitation for everyone to visit this facility. I am very proud of what we have accomplished here with the Museum, the Library and the Archive.

GREETINGS TO THE HERITAGE LEAGUE

The most important item is that the new 2nd Air Division Memorial Library is under construction and on time and on budget. There is no doubt that when our new Millenium Library and the Memorial opens in early 2001 that it will be the finest in Europe and a fitting tribute to those young men of the 2nd Air Division who lost their lives in the cause of freedom as well as all those who survived.

The Rebuilding Appeal is also coming along well, with the British Friends of the Memorial having pledged to raise £5000 by the end of 2000 and they are already over half way there. The Friends had once again a complete sell-out for the Thanksgiving Dinner last November, it was a super evening and it was great to see the Deputy Commander of the 3rd US Air Force in attendance. Next September they have hired a hangar at Norwich Airport (old 458th base) to hold a "Forties Dance" with the Jonathan Wyatt Big Band in order to raise funds for the Appeal - should be a great occasion.

We were all so pleased to see the 2nd ADA Executive Committee as well as your President over in Norwich last November and we had a great week together as always. The meetings went well and it was a great joy for me to see the Executive visit our wonderful Wymondham College, which is built on the site of the USAAF wartime Base Hospital. We have just under 1000 students in the campus and I hope we can establish even closer links with the Heritage League members. The students played the 2nd Air Division Fanfare for the Executive and again at the annual concert the following week and it caused many a tear..... The American Memorial Garden at the College is now almost complete.

Earl Wassom, the 2nd Air Division Association President, also named the main diesel locomotive on our famous Bure Valley Railway "2nd Air Division USAAF" and we then drove the entire

group in a private train the 9 miles from Aylsham to Wroxham. The railway kindly rostered me as the Driver (I still work as a volunteer on the BVR) and my co-driver was Dave Patterson of the 445th - two "old pilots" together once again. The loco was used on all the Santa Specials and the name caused a huge amount of interest - we even ran out of the special 2nd Air Division leaflets, so guess she will be very popular this season. We carried just under 100,000 passengers last year.

The Executive and their families also had a chance to visit Royal Air Force Coltishall, our famous Battle of Britain airfield whose Squadrons flew escort cover for the 2nd AD and the Royal Air Force paid them a fitting tribute. This was the station responsible for escorting the B.24 "Diamond Lil" when we flew here over to Norwich in 1992.

Finally the two special dinners given by the Executive to the Trust Governors and the Base contacts were deeply appreciated by all those attending and made a great end to the visit.

John Whitehouse one of our Trust Governors and the Director of the recording Studio Merlin Audio has produced a stunning CD record of the St. Peter Mancroft Memorial Service and the visit to Wymondham College - see the next issue of the 2nd ADA Journal for details.

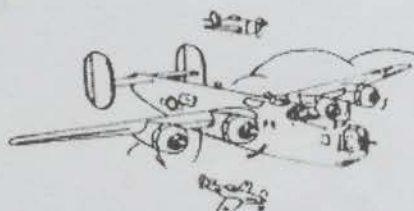
Regards to all the Heritage League from your British members.

David. J. Hastings.

Vice Chairman.

Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division USAAF.

Heritage League Liaison Officer with the Memorial Trust Board of Governors.



A Veteran's Day To Remember

by Carol Lorenz Kendrick

(Daughter of Jim Lorenz, 466th Bomb Group)

If one single image comes to mind when thinking of England, it probably is one of pomp and circumstance. It was my joy to spend the first two weeks of November 1998 in England. The visit spanned both the British Remembrance Day and our U.S. Veteran's Day celebrations. The British people put on quite a "good show" when it comes to ceremonies and celebrations!

The trip was with the 2nd Air Division's visit to Norwich. Seeing all the places my 75 year old father (B-24 pilot @ 466th) speaks of so often and meeting both long-standing and new British friends was an awesome experience.

I have been fortunate (or perhaps unfortunate) to have never been called into military service. Without that experience it is difficult to understand how veterans feel and how their war service shaped them. Participating in a 2nd Air Division Association convention or attending a 2nd ADA trip, like this one, is as close as some of us baby boomers will get to understanding their experiences. Visiting the town of Norwich, with its old world charm and architecture mixed with progressive new ideas and buildings, was wonderful. I encourage all Heritage League members to go the next time the 2nd ADA plans a trip to England.

The people of Norwich and the surrounding area continue to be absolutely fascinated with the 2nd ADA's visits. They are so appreciative of how the American servicemen saved their town from the constant bombing and from an almost certain German invasion. Even at a country pub, miles from Norwich, the young pubmaster (who was an infant during WWII) couldn't stop asking questions and talking with the American veterans.

Sadly, the American interest in the war isn't as keen. I have seen a steady decline in the general public's display of respect for our country and its symbols. Unless directly addressed in school, many children do not know the meaning of many of our nation's symbols or why we celebrate holidays. As a 42 year old principal of a middle school in the Phoenix area, I annually provide several points of focus for both the instruction and the school's activities. This year one of our focal points was patriotism. I would like to share some of my comments, as they relate to this topic:

I have never volunteered or been called to serve in the U.S. Military to maintain or protect Democracy or our freedoms. My older brother was assigned a draft

lottery number in the early 1970's, but was never called to serve in Vietnam. My father and grandfathers both served during World War II and World War I respectively.

Except for several days in a coup experience in Chile in 1973, I have never been denied any of our American freedoms. Probably most of us could paint a similar picture of enjoying the freedoms of a Democracy without the sacrifice or even pausing to think about them.

For many Americans in our generation and younger, freedom means being able to "do their own thing." I believe it is analogous to a young couple who is just starting out. They struggle to make ends meet and finally save enough for a down payment on a house. They progress in their careers and then buy a larger home, their dream home and soon can afford all the "toys" of the good life. The now older couple appreciates every square inch of that new, wonderful home - because they participated in the struggle to attain it.

Their children, however, take their nice neighborhood, the square footage of the home and all the "toys" as normal - almost as their god-given right. In short, they don't and can't appreciate the true specialness of the situation because it was simply handed to them.

I believe our freedoms, what it means to be an American and to live in a Democracy, and the respect for our symbols of freedom are taken for granted if not ignored today. We didn't participate in the struggle - we think it is our god-given right.

When was the last time you even thought about WHY we have a day off from school or work on Memorial Day, 4th of July or Veteran's Day? These days have sadly grown into a day to either sleep in, have a picnic, watch a ball game or participate in a fabulous sale at the mall.

These holidays, back when we were kids, had meaning. I can still see in my mind ...parades, American flags, every child had a small flag to wave during the parade, and EVERYONE had a flag pole at their house to fly their flag. The Cuban Missile Crisis, the air raid drills all kept us participating, thinking about our freedoms and our country. We rallied around a common cause.

(Continued on page 10)

A Veteran's Day To Remember (cont.)

(Continued from page 9)

Those days are gone. The wants and needs of individuals have taken over the belief of the common good of the country. Thankfully we haven't been threatened with war, like a WWI or WWII during our adult lifetime. But we, and now our children, have forgotten. We've forgotten the horrors of war and how many men have died for those individual freedoms. A sobering few hours in the movie theater this summer with "Saving Private Ryan" hopefully will awaken the concept in our generation. Maybe we will realize how grateful we really should be to these men and how really lucky we are to enjoy these personal freedoms.

The comments continue discussing the specific plans for our schools and how we will remedy some of those issues and address patriotism during the school year. However, in an attempt to broaden its impact and to personally connect the next generation, a new

connection to Norwich was recently made. Just outside of Norwich, on the site of the 2nd ADA's hospital during the war, now sits a boarding school, Wymondham. The students at my school in Phoenix have started a pen pal project with the Wymondham students. The first batch of letters was mailed the first week of January 1999. Time will tell what effect this project will have on the children. At the least, I hope they have a fun experience corresponding with someone their age in another country. At best, I wish for them the possibility of lasting friendship and the outside chance they might meet some day.

Fellow Heritage League members, I believe it is up to us, as we hold leadership roles in our community and schools, to keep patriotism and these ideals alive for the next generation. I am certain there is something YOU can do in your own city to make a difference. We must never forget what others have done for us so we might be free.

Tribute on Veterans Day from Second Generation

*reprinted from :The News, 392nd BG Memorial Association
Volume 14, February 1999*

A few days after last November's Veterans Day (some of us still tend to call it Armistice Day) a second generation daughter sent the following clipping to "The News".

Some veterans bear visible signs of their service; a missing limb, a jagged scar, a certain look in the eye. Others may carry the evidence inside them; a pin holding a bone together, piece of shrapnel in the leg - or perhaps another sort of inner steel; the soul's ally forged in the refinery of adversity. Except in parades, however, the men and women who have kept America safe wear no badge or emblem. You can't tell a vet just by looking.

What is a vet?

He is the cop in the beat who spent six months in Saudi Arabia sweating two gallons a day making sure the armored personnel carriers didn't run out of fuel.

He is the barroom loudmouth, dumber than five wooden planks, whose overgrown frat-boy behavior is outweighed a hundred times in the cosmic scales by four hours of exquisite bravery near the 38th parallel.

She or he - is the nurse who fought against futility and went to sleep sobbing every night for two solid years in Da Nang.

He is the POW who went away one person and came back another - or didn't come back at all.

He is the Quantico drill instructor who has never seen combat - but has saved countless lives by turning slouchy, no-account rednecks and gang member into Marines, and teaching them to watch each other's backs.

He is the three anonymous heroes in The Tomb of the Unknowns, who presence in the Arlington National Cemetery must forever preserve the memory of all the anonymous heroes whose valor died unrecognized with them on the battlefield or in the ocean's sunless deep.

He is the old guy bagging groceries at the supermarket - palsied now and aggravatingly slow - who helped liberate a Nazi death camp and who wishes all day long that his wife were still alive to hold him when the nightmares come.

He is an ordinary and yet an extraordinary human being - a person who offered some of his life's most vital years in the service of his country, and who sacrificed his ambitions so others would not have to sacrifice theirs.

He is a soldier and a savior and a sword against the darkness, and he is nothing more than the finest, greatest testimony on behalf of the finest, greatest nation ever known.

So remember, each time you see someone who has served our country, just lean over and say Thank You. That's all most people need, and in most cases it will mean more than any medals they could have been awarded or were awarded.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

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 ☐ RenewalAnnual Dues: **Regular \$6.00**, Associate \$4.00 Signature _____

Send Remittance To: Heritage League of the 2ADA, Kathy Jackson, 1027 Keeler St., Maumee, OH 43537

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.

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*Keep
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Flying*

Thanks to everyone who contributed articles for the *Heritage Herald*. Please continue to send items of interest about members of the League or of a historic nature. We really need everyone's support. The deadline to submit articles for the next issue is July 15, 1999.
Kathy Jackson

Kathy Jackson
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