



HERITAGE HERALD

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21 paces. Evoking the highest-number gun salute, 21 recurs in several specifications of the solemn and very precise Guard Change at the Tomb of the Unknown. Photo: Kurt Warning.

Research and Reflection

by Sue Risley

I volunteered to write an article about our convention for *The Herald*. In times like these, I really miss my mom, Fern S. Risley, who was a public relations director and a very talented writer. She'd have this thing whipped out in no time, while I have been stressing for a week. Here goes nothing.

The Heritage League met for our convention starting Wednesday night, September 14th and wrapped up on Sunday, September 18th. Our hotel was in Arlington, Virginia. We packed a lot into those three short days.

Our committee had everything laid out nicely and then the bomb dropped. The National Archives was going to be closed on Thursday, the day we originally planned to visit. So everyone went into reorganization mode. With a little work, we were able to move Thursday to Friday and Friday to Thursday.

On Wednesday night, we met on the patio of the hotel for a cocktail reception. It was really nice to meet lots of new people and reconnect with old friends. The Heritage League President Beverly Tomb welcomed everyone—especially the five veterans who were with us.

Thursday morning we had our annual meeting. It was very nice that Libby Morgan, the librarian at the Memorial Library, was able to join us. There are a lot of interesting things happening at the Library. Check out their website at 2ndair.org.uk. After the meeting, we were off on our bus tour.

First stop was the WWII Memorial. We had a nice boxed lunch (well, really, bagged) to enjoy near the Memorial. I had fun just sitting with a few of our Vets inside the Memorial and watching all the people

(continued on page 3)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,



Happy Veterans' Day to all our veterans, and especially to our 2nd Air Division veterans!

We were delighted to have five WWII 2nd Air Division veterans attending our Heritage League Reunion/Convention in September in Washington, DC. And it was also wonderful to see the many sons, daughters, spouses and relatives of 2AD veterans come together from all over the US. I'm sure you will enjoy the photos and write-ups about the reunion in this issue of the Herald!

By the time you read this, your President will have been to the 8th Air Force Historical Society Reunion in St. Louis, MO. That's where the 466th Bomb Group Association holds its reunion, and I'm also Secretary of that organization.

For the many of you who know 466th BG pilot and 8th AFHS Chaplain Earl Wassom, he is healing after a fall that broke 5 of his ribs, and will not be able to attend the reunion. Please send your prayers and good thoughts his way!

To celebrate Veterans Day and Remembrance Day, husband Doug and I will again be in England for a busy itinerary honoring our 2nd Air Division veterans.

- On Friday, November 11, I will lay a wreath for the 2nd Air Division on the Wall of the Missing at the Cambridge American Cemetery. Last year was the first year the Heritage League did that, and as promised, we are continuing that new tradition!
- The next day, at Hethel, we will celebrate an early Remembrance Day with the friends of the 389th Bomb Group and members of the USAF stationed nearby.
- On Remembrance Sunday, the beautiful ceremonies in Norwich take place. I will lay a wreath for the 2nd Air Division at the ceremony across from the City Hall, then parade to Norwich Cathedral for the beautiful church service there.
- Monday morning will be the Annual General Meeting of the Governors of the 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust, and I will represent the Heritage League as one of the voting Governors. Monday afternoon, the second Charles Walker Memorial Lecture will be held at University of East Anglia.
- Thursday, I'll participate with other Trust Governors in a special Remembrance Service and then Even-song at St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

And in the blink of an eye, it will be December and we will mark the 75th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Please send us your stories of how you celebrate and honor our 2nd Air Division veterans. We would love to share them in the Herald!

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Beverly Baynes Tomb
President, Heritage League and
Governor, 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust



8AFHS in St. Louis. Audrey Carey, Ken Souther, Pauline Souther (466th niece), Beverly Baynes Tomb (466th), Bud Carpenter, Larue Morris Carpenter (453rd) got off the bus to pay respects at burial of an Eighth Air Force veteran, spontaneously augmenting the small funeral party. Photo: Via Beverly Tomb.

(continued from page 1)

thank them for their service. An Honor Flight arrived as we were soaking in the sunny day. We would run into the same Honor Flight later in our adventures.

From the WWII Memorial we went to Arlington Cemetery. First stop was the WIMSA—Women in Military Service for America Memorial. The Memorial honors women who served in the military. We were welcomed by the director. She was very glad that we were able to spend a little time there. It is a relatively new memorial with lots to offer.

Next stop, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers, to watch the changing of the guard. It is a very moving ceremony and what a beautiful view from the Tomb. We then placed flowers at several 2 ADA members' gravesites. It was especially moving to be with Ralph Winter, a gold star son, as he placed a rose at his father's gravesite. We also were with Beverly Tomb and Brian Mahoney, Secretary of the League, to place roses at their fathers' graves.

Our next stop was the United States Air Force Memorial. The Memorial honors the service and sacrifices of the men and women of the US Air Force and its predecessor organizations. It is spectacular, high on a hill, overlooking the Pentagon and adjacent to Arlington Cemetery. An Air Force Sergeant who was with the aforementioned Honor Flight approached us at the Memorial. He wondered if we'd like to have two of his crew play taps for our vets. The Vets lined up in front of the Honor Guard Sculpture and Heritage/Core Value Wall, they were called to attention, and then we were treated to the playing of "Amazing Grace" on the bagpipe, followed by "Taps" on the bugle. I don't think there was a dry eye in the place. Our veterans and a few Air Force service men were at attention the whole time. I was pic-

turing the vets as young men in their crisp uniforms back in England then.

Once again, we boarded the bus, this time to go to the National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial. Our bus had some issues. It died just as we entered the parking lot near the Memorial. Soon 3-4 Pentagon police cars and a very scary looking German shepherd surrounded us. We became an INCIDENT. Finally, we were given the "OK" to exit the bus, leaving all of our belongings on the bus, so that everything could be searched by the dog. I am sure that once our five veterans got off the bus, the policemen realized that they had nothing to worry about with our group. We enjoyed the National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial. It is a moving tribute to those that lost their lives in the Pentagon and on board the crashed plane that fateful day. Soon we were given the "OK" to get back on the bus and leave. It was a wonderful, moving, thrilling day for everyone.

Friday brought two trips. You could go either to the National Archives or to Mount Vernon and Old Town Alexandria. Please find another article in this issue to tell you all about the trip to the Archives.

Off we went to Mount Vernon, the 18th century plantation honoring George Washington. Our group was able to have its own tour of the mansion. It is hard



It's all good. Beverly leads our Annual Membership Meeting, summarizing the past year's activities and looking at our current opportunities and challenges. Photo: Brian Mahoney.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

HH Reunion 2016—Research and Reflection.....	1	Great Day at the Archives.....	18
President's Message	2	Mrs. Balfour	21
Call for Volunteers	4	Stalwart Steward	25
Amazon Smile	4	In Honor of, Folded Wings.....	26
Physically Fit for Flight.....	5	Trust Governors' Meeting Update.....	26
HH Reunion 2016—A Storyboard of Pictures	6	Walker Scholar	27

Call for Volunteers to Power Our Mission

by Chris Clark, VP for Volunteers, and Brian Mahoney, Data Manager-Secretary

In order to honor and remember the services and sacrifices of our 2AD veterans, hundreds have served The League on working committees, on projects, or on the board, have operated reunions, sponsored other entities doing similar work, supported the 2AD Memorial Library, and appropriately marked Memorial, D-Day and Veterans' Day, among countless other activities.

It is a sign of health for a volunteer-based organization—especially one with an important and timeless mission—to generate more good ideas that 'can' be implemented. Such has been the case with The Heritage League from the start, in 1987! At present, some of the significant projects or ongoing activities where we could use 'your' help:

- digitization of the entire run of the 2ADA Journal
- operating the complex annual flower program (overseas US cemeteries)
- producing the Heritage Herald 4 times yearly
- conducting regional get-togethers and helping with the annual reunion
- shadowing various officers, helping in their work, and 'coming on board'

The list could go on and on, and you likely have some additional ideas.

There is so much good work to be done, and your Executive Committee members are always challenged, as your leaders, to prioritize limited volunteer resources to best 'accomplish mission.' We are ramping it up, and trying to 'widen the channel' of good work, by getting better organized in the way we tap the talents and energy of our membership.

We have built a database to store information you can now easily provide us, if interested in offering your time and talent to the cause. Please go to our website to answer questions designed to match you with meaningful work that fulfills our mission: <http://www.heritageleague.org/volunteers.html>.

We have harvested information like this in prior years but been challenged to organize it—and tap you—effectively. Thank you again to all who have answered the call in the past. We think this tool will do the trick, and look forward to you volunteering. We want to afford you a suitable way to 'honor and remember,' while also keeping your volunteer experience manageable and successful, by suiting your abilities and availability. May we hear from you soon?

to believe we were in the same place that our first President ate, wrote, slept and worked the grounds. We had a couple hours to enjoy the Estate, including the tomb of George and Martha, along with other family members, the Slave Memorial and Burial Ground, the Pioneer Farm, which is a working farm on the estate. The gardens were absolutely fabulous on the sunny day we were there. The Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center awaited us at the end. It is a very hands-on history center.

From Mount Vernon, we headed to Old Town Alexandria. We had lunch together at Gadsby's Tavern, which opened in 1770. Our servers had on traditional colonial clothing. It made you feel as though you were back in time. Then we were treated to a tour of Old Town Alexandria from Carolyn Cooper, a very well respected and knowledgeable guide. We learned a lot—like why they have fire marks on the old row houses. Also, who knew that if you had a pineapple on your fence post, that you were home and available for visitors. We were able to go into George Washington's church, Christ Church

Shopping Alert



The Heritage League is participating in the Amazon Smile program. The idea is simple: you shop Amazon Smile and

they donate a portion of the proceeds to the Heritage League of the 2nd Air Division—USAAF.

Here is how it works: visit <http://smile.amazon.com>. Log in with your Amazon account username and password. If you don't have an account, create one.

Select the (charity) Heritage League of the 2nd Air Division—USAAF.

In the future, whenever you shop Amazon, shop smile.amazon.com, the Heritage League (name) will be on the top.

Best part—every eligible purchase is a donation. It's easy and we all win. Thanks for the support.

and see his family's box pew, where they sat for services. The church was completed in 1773. As tradition has it, the President of the United States usually visits. Prime Minister Winston Churchill visited for the World Day of Prayer for Peace during WWII.

Saturday a large group of us went to the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center at Dulles Airport. I don't think I have ever seen so many modes of air transportation and research vehicles in one place. You could take a guided tour, if you wanted, or explore by yourself. The most impressive thing to me at Udvar-Hazy was the Space Shuttle "Discovery" and the very big and bulky space-suits that were worn by the shuttle astronauts. Also housed at Udvar-Hazy is the Donald D. Engen Observation Tower. It gives you a 360-degree view of Dulles airport.

On Saturday evening, we had our banquet. We started with cocktails on the patio again and then dinner in an adjoining room. The candle lighting ceremony was wonderful. Dave and I lit one of the candles, as did our two gold star children, Billy Sheely Johnson and Ralph Winter.

It is always bittersweet to close a convention. We make such great friends and it is hard to say goodbye. I hope everyone enjoyed himself or herself as much as I did. I am sure those who were in the hospitality room every night did!

I must add—GO CUBS! Could this be our year?

(The 108-year old curse is lifted. The rite of passage has surely shifted. If the Cubbies BIG WIN don't make ya grin, you're most likely an Indians fan. -Ed)



Younger vet. Chuck Sullivan flew over 100 combat missions in F-105 Thunderchief in Vietnam, and did his 453rd father, Frank, proud. He is a natural as a researcher, too! Photo: Brian Mahoney.

Physically Fit for Flight

Enlisted in the school of piloting

Are you physically fit for flight?

Amongst your irritating aches and pains

You're a scraggly and sorry sight.

After 30-some hours of flight training

Your instructor demands the best.

You're lookin' quite ill, so take his advice

And get ready for those annoying tests.

Transport to the hospital as a young recruit

Most certainly a cute lookin' lad.

The doc arranged for an analysis

And every test they had.

You were microscoped, turned topsy-turvy

Your wee little parts x-rayed.

While stretched on a cold hard slab of steel

You acted so Bomber Boy brave.

The nurse checked your skin for parasites

A VD 'crotch' inspection.

Drop your trousers and form a queue

You narrowly avoided dissection.

So the medics all checked you out, Fly Boy

No problems were ever found.

To be physically fit for flight, dear sir

They even wired you for sound.

So now 25 missions are all complete

You've come to the end of your page.

To be perfectly honest, in my opine

You're still stunning for your age.

— Lisa Niehoff

Heritage League Convention 2016 ...Research and Reflection



Red shirt day? Sue Risley (back to camera, at left), Tom Johnson (front left) and saluting 445th vet Sam Mastrogiacono all got the memo, but Barb and Harold Coverdale (top center) were no less spirited at our welcoming reception. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



David Long, nephew of 392nds Allen Hallett, talks to 453rds Russell Neatrou and his wife Nona. Photo: Brian Mahoney.

Wednesday: welcoming reception



Barb (daughter of 2AD Hqtrs. vet Dean Moyer) and Harold Coverdale enjoying the fine party with 2AD Memorial Librarian Libby Morgan. Photo: Beverly Tomb.



Martha Pedersen (niece of the 44th BG's Nels Pedersen) chats with 389th Vet Allan Hallett. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Barb Moyer Coverdale and Harold, daughter and son-in-law of the late Dean Moyer—a 2AD Headquarters staffer—catching up with Sue Risley during welcoming reception. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Jeff and Jim Birmingham are rightly proud of their father, Bob, in attendance, and his brother Francis, living in California. This entire clan knows how to have a good time, always! Photo: Brian Mahoney.



What did he say? 458th vet and Swedish Internee Bob Birmingham and Beverly Baynes Tomb at cocktails on our first evening together. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Engaging gent. As wife Nona (at left) listens in, Russell Neatrour (453rd veteran) gets acquainted with Vietnam vet (and 453rd son) Chuck Sullivan, and his wife Sharon. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Very small world! Only moments before this picture was taken, Mary Betz Lord, daughter of Robert E. Betz, discovered that Bob Birmingham was in the same 458th BG, and not only in the same 752nd Bomb Squadron, but also on the same crew, and that they were bunkmates during their internment in Sweden! Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Wendling 'kids.' Geary Keilman, son of Myron Keilman, catching up with Sharon and Bill Marcrander, daughter and son-in-law of Robert E. Lane...all 392nd. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Martha Pedersen and Allan Hallett get Norwich news from Libby Morgan. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Bob Birmingham (458th BG vet) with daughter Shary B. Whalen and son Jim helped light up a wonderful party. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Cheers! Ralph Winter (392nd BG son) chats up Collen Mersman and her father Don O'Reilly, an MP attached to the 491st and 44th BGs. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Book signing. Author and 445th gunner Sam Mastrogiacommo signs a copy of his "For God and Country, in That Order" as wife Joan looks on. Photo: Beverly Tomb.



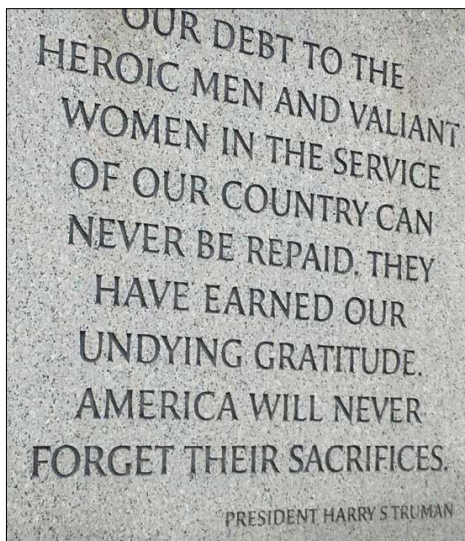
Deserving and surprised. Ralph Winter (392nd BG Gold Star son) lent time and expertise to the reunion committee; President Beverly Tomb (458th BG daughter) speaks for the League in thanking him. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Always on point. Treasurer Sue Risley gives treasurer's report. Her steady and reliable service are a continuing tribute to her late father, Aud Risley (446th BG). Photo: Brian Mahoney.



2AD Memorial Trust Librarian Libby Morgan reported on personnel and program at the unique 'living memorial' in Norwich. Walker Lecture Series, American Scholar program, and Digital Archive were among highlights Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Mission resonance. Truman's apt words (engraved at the WW II Memorial) are not lost on The Heritage League. Photo: Sue Risley.

Thursday: monumental!



View across central fountain from Pacific portico to its mirror Atlantic portico, behind main waterspout. Photo: Beverly Tomb.

Usual suspects. Park Ranger keeps an eye on Allan Hallett (389th) and his nephew David Long at WW II Memorial. Photo: Beverly Tomb.



Dave Hart and Sue Risley enjoying our pleasant and moving visit to the WW II Memorial. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



War mobilization. Kurt Warning views bronze frieze depicting B-24 production on the homefront. Photo: Brian Mahoney.

Centered and symmetric. Tom Johnson has view across midline of National Mall, by looking from 'Atlantic' pavilion, across fountain—on midline of the Mall—toward matching 'Pacific' pavilion. Photo: Brian Mahoney.





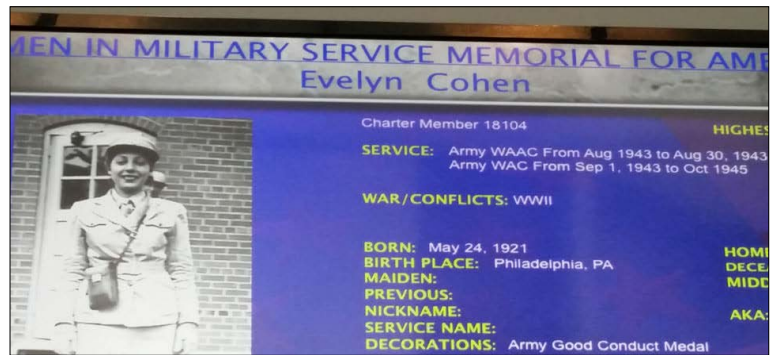
Shining bright, our five WW II veterans at 'their' national memorial. Bob Birmingham (458th), Sam Mastrogiacomo (445th), Russell Neatrou (453rd), Don O'Reilly (491st and 44th) and Allan Hallett (389th). Photo: Brian Mahoney.

Somber reflection. Each of the 4,082 gold stars represents 100 Americans killed during WW II. That is, 408,200 'stars' who paid the full price for freedom, 1941-45. Photo: Brian Mahoney.





491st/44th BG Military Policeman Don O'Reilly admires display of evolving historic female roles serving the military.
Photo: Beverly Tomb.



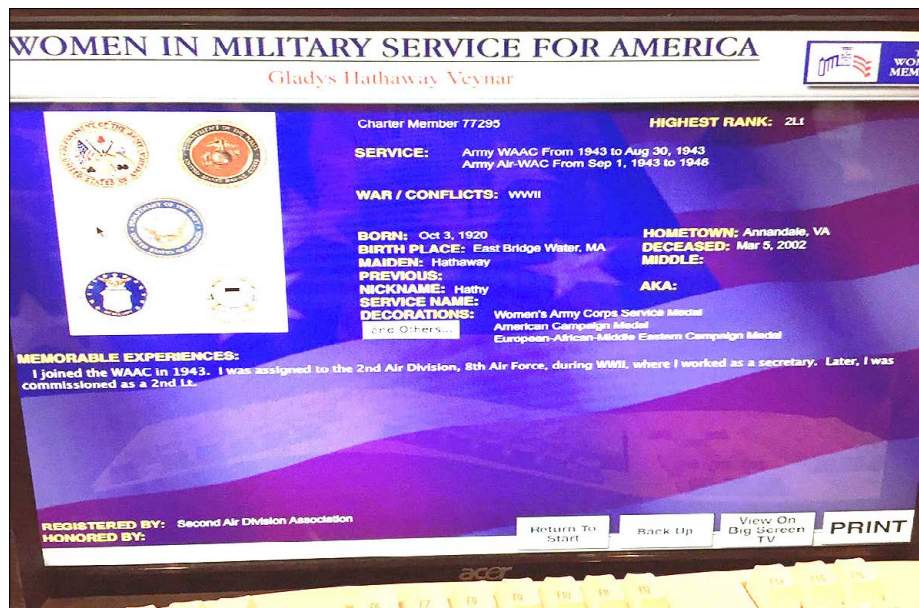
Screenshot at WIMSA. Database record for 'our own' Evelyn Cohen, late and long-serving membership secretary of the Second Air Division Association. The late Jordan Uttal certainly would have supplied her missing post-war nickname: 'Mother Superior.' Photo: Kurt Warning.



Cmdr. Jan Fitzsimmon, USN (ret.) dropped everything to welcome and orient us.
Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Warm reception. Our party was given a special talk on the role of women in WW II—as pioneers for Women In Military Service to America—and the long path to their full recognition as veterans. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



"Hathy" was an early League stalwart, served at Ketteringham Hall (2AD Hqtrs). Husband Milt, who served as a C-46 pilot flying the hazardous "Hump" in the China-Burma-India theatre, provided memorable signage to the 2ADA for conventions. Photo: Beverly Tomb.

Brian Mahoney and Billy Sheely Johnson had fathers in the ill-fated 492nd BG. The Herbert Crew had lain unfound in rural Germany for more than 60 years.
Photo: Via Brian Mahoney.



League pioneers. Milt Veynar, cargo pilot in the CBI theatre, and his wife Gladys "Hathy" Veyer, who served 2AD as a secretary at Ketteringham Hall headquarters, buried together and presented two roses by Viki and Kurt Warning (466th), Beverly Tomb (466th). Veynars were instrumental in the early days of the Heritage League; Milt also provided 2ADA with excellent signage for reunions, such as the poster Chris brings to our reunions to mark our hospitality suite. Both Vicki and Bev have served on the Executive Committee and as HL representatives to the 2AD Memorial Trust Governors. Photo: via Beverly Tomb.



Ralph Winter, Gold Star son of Ralph Lamma, at stone for other 392nd men KIA, and MIA until only a few years ago. Bishop Crew was recovered due to diligence and determination of Enrico Schwartz and Missing Allied Air Crew Research Team (MAACRT). Photo: Brian Mahoney.



In charge. Change ceremony begins with entrance of Relief Commander, every 30 minutes. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



No rank. Relieving guard, right near our vets, has no insignia, so as to not outrank the Unknown. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Strongest of connections. 489th/44th BG nephew, historical researcher, and Heritage League Executive Committee member Chris Clark, leads respectful party to grave of Medal of Honor Recipient, 44th BG and 14th Wing Commander, General Leon Johnson. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



24/7 respect. Beyond veterans Sam Mastrogia-como (445th) and Allan Hallett (389th), Relief Commander will formally inspect finishing and relieving 3rd Infantry guards and their weapons on the half-hour, rain or shine, year round. Tomb of the Unknowns at right, beyond 44th/391st veteran Don O'Reilly. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



'Old Guard' observes Old guard. Bob Birmingham, in left-most wheelchair, is attended by sons Bob and Jeff. Don O'Reilly and Allen Hallett stand. Sam Mastrogia-como seated, next to Nona, wife of veteran Russell Neatrou, at right edge. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Paying Col. Richard C. Baynes (466th) respects. 466th daughter Cathy (Leopold) Aiello, 458th daughter Marybeth (Birmingham) Dyer, Richard's daughter Beverly (Baynes) Tomb, joined by Vicki (Brooks) Warning (466th) and Sue Risley (446th) and Kurt Warning in a poignant rose laying. Photo: Dave Hart.

Gold Star son Ralph Winter placed a rose on the tombstone of his father, Ralph Lamma (392nd BG), KIA November 11, 1943. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Billy Sheely Johnson uses downtime—our disabled bus stalled in an off-limits location, requiring a full security sweep of the coach—to draw moving parallel between December 7th, 1941, and 9/11, as we await clearance to visit the Pentagon 9/11 Memorial. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



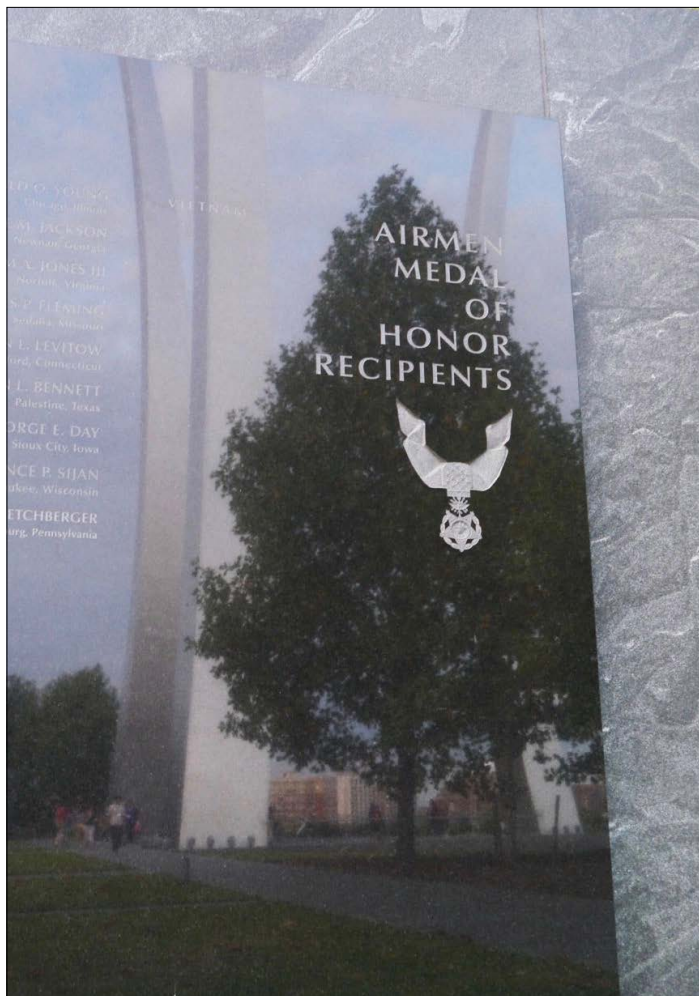
Leader of Little Friends. General Jesse Auton commanded the 65th Fighter Wing, comprising the 5 fighter groups that were assigned to the Second Air Division. Photo: Brian Mahoney.

Past President Billy Sheely Johnson getting better acquainted with current President, and fellow DAR member Beverly Tomb. Photo: Brian Mahoney.





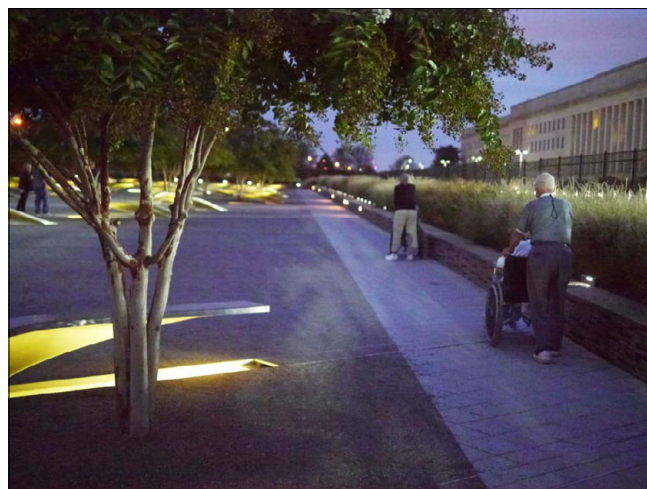
Special serenade. As we arrived at the USAF Memorial, a group of military musicians regathered for 'our' vets and gave stirring renditions of 'Amazing Grace' and 'Taps'. Saluting in return, our USAAF WW II veterans Sam Mastrociacomo (445th), Russell Netrou (453rd), Allan Hallett (389th), Don O'Reilly (44th, 491st), Bob Birmingham (458th), and Chuck Sullivan, Vietnam USAF fighter pilot with over 100 combat missions, son of 453rd BG's Frank Sullivan. Photo: Kurt Warning.



Heroic reflection. Polished granite tablet reflects spires of USAF Memorial and lists airmen of US Army Air Corps, then Army Air Forces, and since 1947, US Air Force. WW II recipients include Jimmy Doolittle, John Kane, Leon Johnson, Frederick Castle, Leon Vance. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



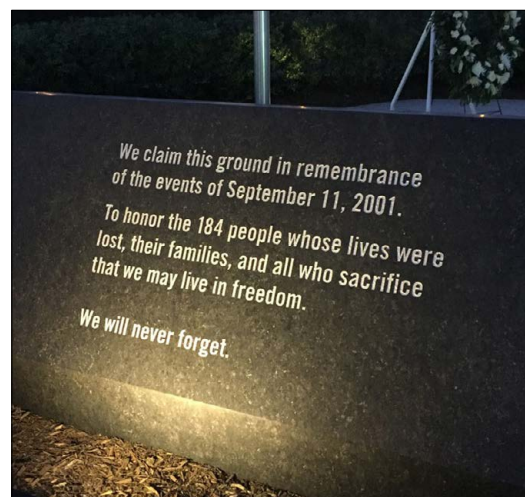
Memorial neighbors. USAF Memorial seen from Pentagon 9/11 Memorial Garden, on blessedly peaceful evening. Photo: Beverly Tomb.



Thoughtful dusk. Illuminated benches, one for each victim of the 9/11 attack at the Pentagon, are breathtaking by night. Benches that point to the building represent those on the Flight 77; benches facing away from the Pentagon held the names of the rest of the 184 victims on the ground. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Irish pub meal was a fine end to a long day, reviewed here by new friends Billy Sheely Johnson (492nd BG) and Cathy Leopold Aiello (466th BG). Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Written in stone; in our hearts and minds. Photo: Beverly Tomb.



Sharon and Bill Marcrander listen to Richard Lord, as Mary Betz Lord (458th daughter) beams on over dinner and drinks at Irish pub near our hotel on Friday evening. Photo: Brian Mahoney.

Of good cheer. Beverly Tomb and Rhoda Leopold opposite Billy Sheely Johnson and Cathy Leopold Aiello reviewing the day's rich tour of memorials and the hallowed ground at Arlington. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



In suite. Don O'Reilly (44th and 491st) talks as Russell Neatrour (453rd) and wife Nona listen. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



NYC roots. Mary Lord (458th daughter) shares a chuckle with Cathy Leopold Aiello (466th daughter) and her mother Rhoda in hospitality suite. Colleen Mersman (491st/44th) in back. Photo: Beverly Tomb.



Richard and Mary Betz Lord (458th son-in-law and daughter), as working librarians and experienced '*finders*,' hit the ground running at the National Archives on Friday. Photo: Brian Mahoney.

Friday: National Archives & Mount Vernon



Just imagine. How many times did George and Martha, and esteemed guests, pass into the Washington box at Alexandria's historic Christ Church? Kurt Warning, Ralph Winter, Tom Johnson, Billy Sheely Johnson, Allan Hallett and his nephew David Long, enjoy their tour day and good company. Photo: Sue Risley.



466th 'family': two daughters and a wife. Beverly's father Richard Baynes was a pilot. Rhoda Leopold's late husband Herb, was a bombardier, and Vicki Warning's father Bill was an Attlebridge pilot. Photo: Kurt Warning.

Nourishing company. Libby Morgan joins Brian Mahoney (back to camera), Chuck Sullivan, Doug Dovey (392nd, 44th) and Chris Clark as we start another busy day. Photo: Kurt Warning.



Sam Mastorgiacomo, 445th gunner, found documentation crediting his remarkable claim of *three* Luftwaffe fighters on a single mission. Photo: Doug Dovey.



Historic hospitality. Gadsby's Tavern revived General Washington and colleagues, and for Tom Johnson (467th son), Marybeth Dyer (458th daughter) and Steve Dyer, Sue Risley (446th daughter) and Dave Hart, and Vicki Brooks-Warning (466th daughter), the good spirits are still there! Photo: Kurt Warning.

Great Day at the Archives

by Chris Clark and Brian Mahoney

In two productive days at the National Archives, 18 individuals fully experienced the theme of this year's reunion: 'research and reflection.' On the Friday, 14 of the conventioners—including Honorary Life Member and 445th BG aerial 'ace' Sam Mastrogiacono—rode from the hotel to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) facility in Adelphi, MD, and were met there by another League Member driving from two hours away. Chris and Brian had visited the Archives two days before, to pave the way by pre-pulling 21 boxes on specific topics in Record Group 18, the very extensive collection of 8th USAAF operational records from WW II.

Upon arrival, two 'old hands' (Martha and Beverly) renewed their Researcher Registration cards, and the rest took the required instruction on handling original records, and earned this special privilege. With two carts full of records already waiting and held for us, we were able to get right to work. And what work we did!

Doug Dovey dove into three boxes on his father Arnold's 392nd BG, while Chuck Sullivan struck pay dirt in boxes related to his father Frank's 453rd BG.

2AD Memorial Trust Librarian Libby Morgan brought her acumen and honed researcher instincts, and was fascinated to interact with the staff on the issues of accessible finding aids and their improvement over time.

Mary Lord, daughter of 458th veteran Robert E. Betz, with husband Richard found much that they had hoped to, and their experience as librarians certainly helped.

Bill Marcrander, himself a USAF fighter pilot with over 100 missions in Vietnam, son-in-law of the

late Robert E. Lane (392nd BG) proved a very astute researcher.

Beverly, already experienced at NARA, was keen to give 'Ace' Mastrogiacono a great research experience, and together, in the 445th BG mission folder for 24 Feb. '44, they found his three claims for shoot-

ing down German fighters, made and verified in the official original document!

On the Saturday, Rhoda Leopold and daughter Cathy Aiello joined us and not only saw how 466th BG records could answer several questions—and have come up with additional ones—about the fate of his original pilot Robert Harrington, who became

PoW on the one mission he flew for a different crew. Six others of us returned for a second productive day. Martha showed Chris how to use a different record group, comprising weekly and monthly personnel logs of the groups, which allows a more definitive picture than mission loading lists. Chris himself, researching at the level of the entire 8th AF, found a treasure-trove on D-Day, and Chris found information requested by a French researcher on 44th BG Bohnisch crew, being memorialized in a rural church near Tours, where they were shot down, killing 9 of the 10 crewmen.

Together, these now-experienced researchers have seen the challenges and rewards in trying to officially document history, and both the limits and unimaginably rich content of a very substantial collection of records. Implementing our Heritage League mission, at the appropriate level to honor and remember the service and sacrifice of those who served, is never easy. But the occasional moment when it all comes together, like finding a needle in a haystack, is always priceless.



Saturday's researchers. Martha Pedersen, Doug Dovey, Cathy Leopold Aiello, Rhoda Leopold, Chris Clark and Chuck Sullivan after a productive second day at the 'Archives II' NARA facility near College Park, MD. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Estate of first US president is very engaging and worthwhile destination.
Photo: Sue Risley.



Pleasant touring weather. Tours to the Archives and to Mt. Vernon (shown), both enjoyed comfortable seasonal weather. Photo: Kurt Warning.



History excursion. Half the reunion party went south to George Washington's Mount Vernon home and then toured historic Alexandria. Photo: Kurt Warning.



Reunion committee-man Ralph Winter chats with one of the historic re-enactors on Washington's painstakingly restored estate on the Potomac. Photo: Kurt Warning.

Saturday: Air & Space (Udvar-Hazy) Museum , cocktails & banquet



Allied warbirds. A Grumman Bearcat (USN fighter), famous Boeing B-29 Superfortress 'Enola Gay,' and a Lockheed P-38 Lightning fighter dominate center, while a Navy floatplane is seen back left and a Hawker Hurricane, of Battle of Britain fame, is seen at right. Photo: Kurt Warning.

Rich collection. Visitors to the National Air and Space Museum's Udvar-Hazy facility near Dulles Airport, on the Saturday morning, got to see restorations-in-progress. B-26 'Flak Bait' is seen awaiting restoration and reassembly after decades of partial display at the NASM facility on the National Mall in DC. This plane held the record for 207 combat missions in ETO, assigned to the 322nd BG (Medium), a tactical outfit briefly assigned to the 8th USAAF, while its eventual (tactical) 9th USAAF was in formation in same theatre. Photo: Kurt Warning.





Old hands on hand. Former President and Representative to the 2AD Memorial Trust for many years, Vicki Brooks-Warning (466th) and Kurt Warning joined from Chicago. Always a delight to have them with us! Photo: Beverly Tomb.



Dave Hart, partner to Treasurer Sue Risley, and Chris Clark, VP for Volunteers, remembering their fine time in Norwich in 2014. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Tom Johnson, son of the late Dean Johnson, MD, 467th BG, enjoys the lively company of two HL reunion newcomers; Rhoda Leopold's late husband Herb was a bombardier in the 466th, and was father to Cathy L. Aiello. Photo: Brian Mahoney.

Mrs. Balfour

Lady Balfour invited my dad's crew to R & R on her estate in Scotland. He has never forgotten her. She was always Mrs. Balfour to my dad Oliver 'Mo' Morris.

*A name heard all my life,
A name always spoken respectfully,
A person I've never met,
A person I will never meet.*

*I have never heard her voice,
I have never seen her picture,
I don't even know her first name,
But, she is someone who positively influenced my life.*

*A lady in Scotland,
A lady who did what she could to help,
A lady who opened her doors
to young men she has never met,
Young men from a distant land,
Young men fighting to save her way of life, Yanks.*

*Her generosity, comfort, respite, renewed them,
Reminded them of what they were fighting for,
What they were fighting to save,
What they were fighting against.*

*Everyone we meet,
Everything we do,
Every decision we make,
Influences our future.*

*Would these young men have survived,
Would they have returned home to marry,
To have children,
To be the men they became...*

*Yes, a Lady met in Scotland seventy years ago,
A Lady I've never seen,
A Lady I've always heard of,
A Lady I need to thank,
A Lady, with a capital L,
Mrs. Balfour.*

—Larue Morris Carpenter



At last! Billy Sheely Johnson and Beverly Baynes Tomb have tons in common-HL presidency (past and present), DAR membership, and fathers who served in the Second Air Division. They have been corresponding colleagues for three years, but here they finally meet in person. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Then and now. 453rd vet Russell Neatrou and 392nd vet Allan Hallett, both very youthful, remembering when they were quite young and serving in England. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Bill Marcrauder (392nd BG son-in-law) and Martha Pedersen (44th BG niece) during happy hour ahead of banquet. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



From the source. Bob Birmingham (458th BG) shares a war story with 389th BG Allan Hallett's nephew, David Long. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Chris Clark and Ralph Winter chat with Kurt and Vicki Warning (backs to camera) on Saturday evening. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



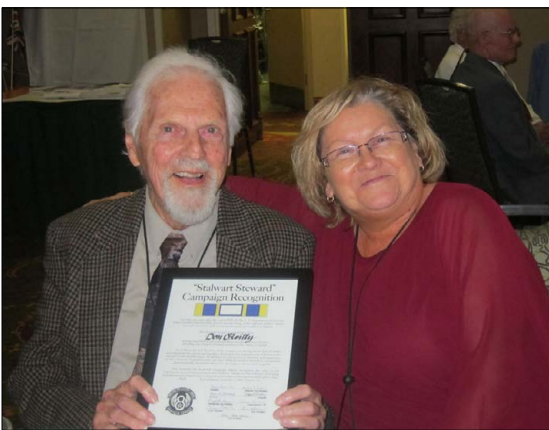
Joviality! Ralph Winter with Beverly and Doug Tomb enjoying cocktails on the fine evening of our banquet. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Frequent fliers. 2AD Trust Librarian Libby Morgan, and Past President and very long serving Representative from Heritage League to the Governors of the Memorial Trust, Vicki Brooks Warning, have been at events on 'both sides of the pond,' longer than any others at our delightful cocktail reception. Photo: Kurt Warning.



Third Candle. Vets Allan Hallett (389th), Bob Birmingham (458th) and Don O'Reilly (491st & 44th) help us reflect on the value that they and others have added to the historical record, by generously sharing their stories at reunions and in a variety of media. Photo: Beverly Tomb.



Stalwart Stewards. Don O'Reilly, an MP with the 44th and 491st BGs, was one of our 5 WW II veterans to be informally awarded a campaign ribbon, for long years of keeping the story of the Second Air Division alive, by personal witness and participation in Heritage League and other groups. His proud daughter Coleen Mersman beams on. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Sentimental signage. Chris Clark brings display panels to our hospitality suites, including this reclaimed old 2AD poster, which has helped find new members for our 'parent organization' over the years. Photo: Brian Mahoney.

Sam (445th) and Joan Mastrogiacomio, and Don O'Reilly (491st & 44th) enjoy after-hours repartee with Libby Morgan in our popular hospitality suite. Photo: Beverly Tomb.



MVPs. Tireless Dave Hart and Sue Risley were acknowledged at the banquet for their outstanding exertions to make this reunion very special and memorable. Driving all the way from Chicago, they delivered our ceremonial items, presentation equipment, and a fully stocked hospitality suite's worth of drinks and snacks. Photo: Kurt Warning.



Special remembrance. Gold Star Daughter Billy Sheely Johnson and Gold Star Son Ralph Winter, commemorate their fathers during our Candle Lighting ceremony. Bill Sheely (492nd BG) was KIA on July 7, 1944; Ralph Lamma (392nd BG) was KIA November 13, 1943. Photo: Kurt Warning.



Hospitable. Chris Clark helped keep the party going each night in the Heritage League hospitality suite. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Vets, front and center: Allan Hallett (389th BG), Sam Mastrogiacomo (445th BG), Bob Birmingham (458th BG), Don O'Reilly (MP attached to 44th and 491st BGs), Russell Neatrou (453rd BG). STANDING in 2nd and 3rd rows, L-R: Chuck Sullivan, Cathy Aiello, David Long, Rhoda Leopold, Joan Mastrogiacomo, Marybeth Dyer, Shary Whalen, Martha Pedersen, Jim Birmingham, Vicki Brooks Warning, Jeff Birmingham, Beverly Tomb, Doug Tomb, Colleen Mersman (leaning on chair backs), Libby Morgan, Nona Neatrou, Barb Coverdale, Billy Sheely Johnson, Sharon Marcander. ALL THE WAY IN BACK, L-R: Ralph Winter, Sue Risley, Tom Johnson, Richard Lord, Steve Dyer, Dave Hart, Geary Keilman, Kurt Warning, Hal Coverdale, Chris Clark, Bill Marcander, Brian Mahoney. Photo: Brian Mahoney.



Mary Lord and Sharon Sullivan just missed the group photo! Photo: Brian Mahoney.

“Stalwart Steward” Campaign Recognition



Seventy-one years after the end of WW II, The U. S. Department of Veterans' Affairs estimates that less than 700,000 remain living, of the eighteen million Americans who served in uniform during the most epic conflict in history.

The Heritage League is ennobled to have

(Named Veteran Here)

among a handful of still-vital and keen 2nd Air Division veterans attending our research-themed reunion in The Nation's Capital.

As an Honorary Life Member of The League, you already know that we honor and remember the service and sacrifice of you and your comrades who fell during the war and in the decades since. In addition to your service to freedom and democracy in their moment of greatest peril, you have selflessly availed yourself to researchers and historically interested citizens for the balance of your rich, long life.

This informal but heart-felt 'campaign ribbon' recognizes the value to our ongoing mission, of your journey to this reunion. Thank you for a lifetime of helping us understand and appreciate your generation's almost incomprehensible gift to mankind.
by proclamation, September 11, 2016, Arlington, VA



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Billy Shelly Johnson
Past President

We appreciate the generous gifts from members inspired by an individual to whom we are all connected. We wish to thank members who have given the Heritage League recent contributions as follows:

IN MEMORY OF

Audrey Griffiths Baynes, WAVES (Beverly Tomb)
John Henry Baynes, USAAF flight instructor (Beverly Tomb)
William Campbell, 466th BG (Margaret Calderalo)
Farrish 'Hap' Chandler, 491st BG (Brian Mahoney)
Leonard Rudolph Howell, Jr., 389th BG (Paul Howell)
Robert L. Jones, 458th BG (Jan Jones)

May Trust Governors' Meeting Update

by Beverly Baynes Tomb

For the second year, I participated in the May Trust Governors meeting electronically via Skype. The technology and the process work quite well, and I'm very grateful for that flexibility. I will attend the November 2016 Annual General meeting in person. Here is a re-cap of the May 2016 meeting.

Trust Vice-Chairman Anthony Hawker presided for Chairman Richard Middleton who was absent recovering from scheduled surgery. The nomination of Richard Dannatt and Jonathan Powell as Governors was unanimously approved. The minutes of the Finance sub-committee held on 14 March 2016 were received and the budget duly adopted.

Libby Morgan, Trust Librarian, reported that although the number of visitors to the Library was down, recent months showed improvement. Facebook and Twitter following have grown. Former library staff member Tony North, who died in December 2015, bequeathed his collection of photograph albums to the library.

Tom Fullam now has a permanent post as a part-time library assistant. American Scholars, Linda McCarthy and Julianne Pacheco, will be leaving the Memorial Library this summer, and the new American Scholars are Don Allen and Danielle Prostrullo. A new, updated promotional leaflet about the library has been completed and distributed. The 4th edition of 2ADialogue newsletter was distributed in February 2016. To subscribe via email, contact 2admemorial.lib@norfolk.gov.uk.

The Archive Digitization Project was successfully launched on 19th of May, led by Trust Governor Mike Longe. Lt. Col. Jason Colburn from RAF Lakenheath gave the address on behalf of the USAF. The link

—Folded Wings—

<i>James H. Holben</i>	10/14/14	458 th
<i>George C. Walker</i>	02/29/16	445 th
<i>Bill Campbell</i>	04/08/16	466 th
<i>Joseph Dzenowagis, Sr.</i>	05/29/16	467 th
<i>Willard (Bill) Rodermel</i>	07/04/16	458 th

to the digital archive is embedded in the home page of the Memorial Library website—<http://www.2ndair.org.uk/> and the Library will be working with colleagues at the American Air Museum, Duxford, to establish links to this new digital archive content from the Duxford website.

I gave the Heritage League report, highlights of which include: A membership update (note: numbers are updated each Aug. 1, so no changes reflected from Nov. report). Our treasurer reported a healthy balance, including donations to the Library that will be delivered in November. Reminders of our most recent Herald, and our website and Facebook page and highlighting the Heritage League Convention to be held in September 2016 in Washington, DC were included, and mention made of our plans to digitize the pre-2001 paper copies of the "2ADA Journal."

Eighth in the East reported on their activities in community archaeology and oral history, and successful performances of their play, "Somewhere in England".

Charles Walker Scholarship winner, Kate Feenstra, is finishing her year at Berkeley. (See report from her in this Herald.) The Charles Walker Scholarship for 2016/17 has been awarded to Philip Jones. (See *next article*).

In June, it was announced that Trust Governor Jacqueline Fear-Segal has been made Professor of American History at the UEA, a tremendous achievement!

Also, Professor Alan Taylor, the 2016 Harmsworth Visiting Professor of American Studies at Oxford University, has accepted the invitation to give the annual public lecture in memory of Chuck Walker on 14 November—the day of the Trust AGM.

—Beverly Baynes Tomb, Governor, 2AD Memorial Trust and President, Heritage League of the 2nd Air Division (USAAF)

Walker Scholar

Scholarships Update

2nd Air Division Memorial Library
Remembering the past...
Inspiring the future...

In 2013, five 50th-Anniversary scholarships were awarded by the 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust to students of American Studies at the University of East Anglia (UEA). Celebrating the 50th anniversary of both the original Memorial Library and UEA, the scholarships were awarded to help the students with the costs of their year abroad studying at an American university.

As the WWII veteran and 2nd Air Division Association (2AD) president who was also a Governor of the Memorial Trust, Charles “Chuck” Walker made the presentation of these five one-time scholarships. That experience inspired Chuck to create and fund a new scholarship, the Col. Charles Walker Scholarship, which is awarded annually and designated to go to the best-performing student in the UEA American Studies program just prior to their year abroad. As the young American airmen were influenced by their time in England during WWII, so Chuck wanted to give young British students of similar age, a chance to be influenced by spending time in the US.

The 50th anniversary scholars graduated this year. Four of them are pictured here. Kate Feenstra was the first Walker Scholarship student. The Charles Walker Scholarship for 2016-17 has been awarded to Philip Jones.

Kate studied at the prestigious University of California—Berkeley in the 2015-16 academic year with the aid of the first-ever £2000 grant from the Walker Scholarship. In a note to Trust Chairman Richard Middleton, Kate shared what a stimulating and wonderful academic and cultural experience she was afforded by this award. Congratulations, Kate!

Chuck Walker, a pilot in the 445th BG, became a leader in the 2AD Association, a strong supporter of the 2AD Memorial Library, and a Governor of the 2AD Memorial Trust until he passed on June 16, 2014 at age 95.



Seen with Trust Chair Richard Middleton at The University of East Anglia (UEA), are graduating 50th Anniversary Scholars Jennifer Whitaker, Eleanor Bishop and Joni Dorian Wright; Matt Gallagher missing. Photo: Courtesy of Richard Middleton.



Kelly York is one of 5 UEA graduates who received a 50th Anniversary Scholarship from the Memorial Trust. Photo: Courtesy of Richard Middleton.

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