



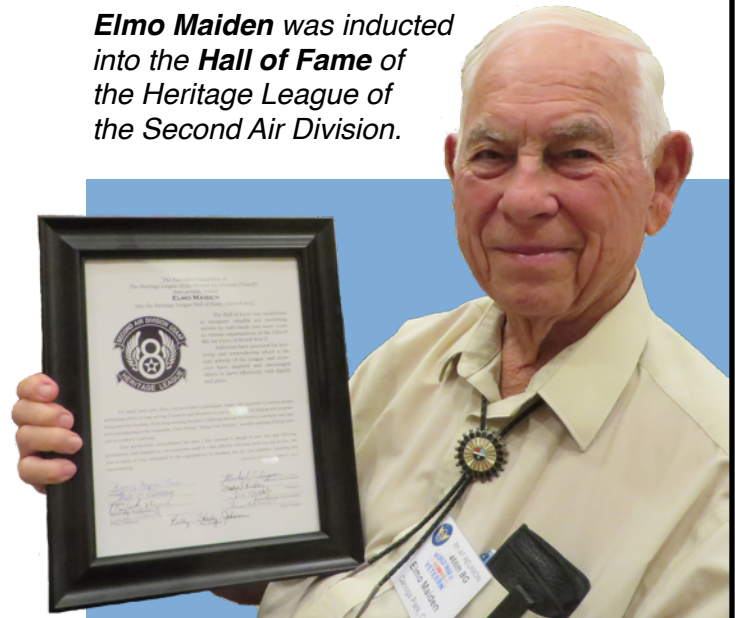
Attlebridge Notes



Winter, 2015-2016



Elmo Maiden was inducted into the **Hall of Fame** of the Heritage League of the Second Air Division.



Omaha, Nebraska, hosted the 41st Annual Reunion of the 8th Air Force Historical Society, attended by many from the 466th Bomb Group Association. Clockwise from above left: at the Strategic Air & Space Museum, Frank Youngquist and David Smith stood in front of the Atlas missile that was part of the Strategic Air Command. Elmo Maiden shows off his plaque, Steve Jordon moderates a panel of Cold War experts at the DoubleTree Hotel, and crowds enjoyed the B-25J "Miss Mitchell" at the Council Bluffs, Iowa, airport.



Official Newsletter of the 466th Bomb Group Association

466th Bomb Group Board Members, January 2016

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The President's Report

Greetings to all. We are now reaching you with the latest Attlebridge Notes. Our thanks go to our new editors, Steve and Helen Jordon. We first met the Jordons last year in Nashville when brother David was along. This year another brother, Brian, also joined us in Omaha. Steve & Helen are also involved in music, with Steve drumming in a seventeen-piece dance band at this year's banquet.

My wife and I found Omaha to be a nice experience. The Old Market District is within walking distance and has an abundance of shops and restaurants. A block from our hotel was a larger than life bronze sculpture of a wagon train with settlers, buffalo and flying geese. It was an unbelievable work of art to see. Several tours were available and my favorite was riding out to the Strategic Air and Space Museum, where one could view a B-52 and B-36 next to each other in the same room.

As I have often said, the 466th BG is rich with many of the leaders who formed the Eighth Air Force Historical Society years ago. At the Reunion in Omaha we were so honored again with **Ralph Lynn** and **Elmo Maiden** being honored at the highest level. Read all about it in this newsletter.

The meetings at the reunion are always informative. In the memorabilia room one could find a collection of authentic uniforms, books to be autographed and aviation prints of all types. Once again our own Bill Curtis had many DVDs, prints and other merchandise available.

When attending a reunion, one can learn so much conversing with friends at breakfast or in a hospitality room. If you have never been to an Eighth Air Force Reunion, give it a try. The next one will be in St. Louis, October 20-24, 2016. The Attlebridge Notes is back to give you the latest news and events. We want to hear from you. Send us any special experiences to be shared with others. And as always, we can always use your financial support.

Respectfully, Frank Youngquist

THE ROGER FREEMAN AWARD

Occasionally the 8th Air Force Historical Society presents its highest award, the Roger Freeman Award, named in honor of a long-time member of the 8th AFHS. Roger Freeman, of Essex, England, wrote 62 books about the 8th Air Force, preserving the history for generations to come. In honor of his years of preserving the records of the 8th AF in photos, this year at the reunion the Roger Freeman award was presented to **466 BGA Veteran Ralph Lynn**. Lt. Ralph Lynn won the Distinguished Flying Cross and survived 32 missions as a B-24 co-pilot over Germany and France during WWII.

Because Ralph was unable to attend this year's reunion, there was a letter from Dave Nowack, President and Treasurer of the 8th AF Historical Society. It reads: "We present you with the Roger Freeman award for 2015. As you know, this award historically identifies someone who helps preserve the legacy and history of the men and women of the 8th Air Force. We could think of no one more deserving of this honor than you... preserving a lifetime of memories, one photo at a time. I am grateful to Darrel (Lowell) for arranging and making this presentation to you in person. Know that we are all there with you in spirit!" Congratulations, Ralph!



Barb & Frank Youngquist with Brian Jordon at the closing banquet in Omaha. Frank recognized Brian by his voice, dating back to the days when Brian was on CBS radio and TV in the Quad Cities. Small world!



The 8th Air Force Historical Society,
With deep appreciation and in recognition
for years of dedicated service and selfless contributions
as the Society's official reunion photographer,
presents the
Roger Freeman award
to
Ralph Lynn, Jr. 466th BG
October 2015

The Executive Committee of
 The Heritage League of the Second Air Division (USAAF)
 does proudly induct
ELMO MAIDEN
 into the Heritage League Hall of Fame, Class of 2015



The Hall of Fame was established to recognize valuable and unstinting service by individuals over many years to veteran organizations of the USAAF 8th Air Force of World War II.

Inductees have practiced the *honoring and remembering* which is the core activity of the League, and moreover have inspired and encouraged others to serve effectively, with dignity and grace.

For many years now, Elmo, you have been a participant, leader and supporter in veteran groups, welcoming others as long-serving Treasurer and Secretary in your own 466th BGA; helping with programming and even funding, of the long-running Southern California Second Air Division Luncheon; and regularly participating in the venerable, if less formal, “Wings Over Wendy’s” monthly meeting of flying veterans in California.

Your gentlemanly comportment has been a fine example to people in your own and following generations, and reminds us – we sometimes need it! – that effective volunteer work can also be *fun*. We join so many of your colleagues in the organizations, in thanking you for your steadfast “honoring and remembering.”

– Executive Committee, October 16, 2015

Beverly Baynes Tomb

 President
Brian H. Maloney

 Secretary
Maureen Flynn

 Membership Vice President
Chris Clark

 VP for Volunteers

Susan K. Kusley

 Executive Vice President
 Treasurer
Jane Turner

 Communications Vice President
 Past President

Billy Sheely Johnson

 Past President

Secretary's Report
466th Bomb Group Association 2015 Board Meeting

Location: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Downtown in Omaha, NE
Date: Friday, October 16, 2015
Time: 9:00am – 10:00am

Board Member Attendees (8):

Frank Youngquist, President	Beverly Baynes Tomb, Secretary
Bill Curtis, Treasurer	Helen Jordon, newsletter co-editor
Steve Jordon, newsletter co-editor	Earl Wassom, veteran
Elmo Maiden, veteran	David Smith

Board members absent (6):

Chris Brassfield, historian	Bill Campbell, Vice-President
Jim Haseman	George King
Les Sharrock	Ralph Lynn, veteran & member Emeritus

Other attendees / new board members (5):

Martha Curtis	David Jordon
Perry Kerr, veteran	Harold Dietz, veteran
Tom Maiden	

Old Business:

1 - Attlebridge Notes Newsletter

The Fall 2014 issue of Attlebridge Notes is still the most recent newsletter.

Jim Haseman has suffered a stroke, and has resigned his role as newsletter editor. Helen and Steve Jordon, new board members as of 2014, agreed to take over the newsletter on a trial basis, and all present agreed to support them by answering questions and providing content on time.

The goal is to publish “Attlebridge Notes” twice a year.

2 - Reprinted Attlebridge Arsenal Book:

- As agreed at prior Board meetings, the 466th BGA has reprinted 400 copies of Attlebridge Arsenal: The Men and Aircraft of the 466th Bomb Group, by Earl Wassom and Chris Brassfield at a cost of \$13,000, plus shipping, storage and insurance.
- The book supports the mission of the 466th Bomb Group Assoc (BGA), which is to educate and promote the history of the 466th.
- Profits from sales of the book go to the 466th BGA treasury.

- Bill Curtis, treasurer, has arranged for climate-controlled storage and insurance, and he is also handling shipping the books as they are sold.
- Donated books include a bookplate with info on how to order a copy from Bill Curtis
- Books are also being sold in England by Paul Hindle.
- **Members are encouraged to purchase and also to help sell our book!**

3 - “Elmo’s PX”

- The PX had been advertised in each Attlebridge Notes newsletter.
- For items like books where payment and shipping are handled by the author, people will order directly from the author.
- For other inventory items, Elmo will continue to sell & ship them
- Once items are sold out, they won’t be re-ordered, and 466th PX will close
- Elmo brought a number of items to give to those at the October 2015 meeting.

4 – Annual Donations

- **Mighty 8th Air Force Heritage Museum in Savannah, GA:**
 - a. In 2011, the Board approved an ongoing \$500 annual donation to the in memory of John Woolnough, founder of the 8thAFHS, and also founder of the 466th BGA.
 - b. That donation was made in person on Oct 17, 2015 at the 8thAF Historical Society Annual Membership Meeting. 466th BGA Treasurer Bill Curtis handed the check to Ed Wexler, 8thAFHS Board Member liaison to the Museum.
- **Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England:**
 - c. At the Oct 2015 meeting, the board also approved an ongoing donation of \$500.
 - d. That donation was made in person on Nov 9, 2015 at the Annual General Meeting of the Memorial Trust Governors. Trust Governor and 466th BGA Secretary Beverly Tomb handed the check to Group Captain Richard Middleton, RAF (ret), Chairman of the Trust Governors during the meeting.

5 - Nominating Committee:

- No nominating committee had been appointed for 2015.
- The board voted to include all those in attendance at the Oct 2015 meeting who wished to be on the board, a seat on the board.

New Business:

1 - The board extended thanks to board members Helen and Steve Jordon, residents of Omaha, for the work they did to help the 8th AFHS with planning for this reunion in their home town.

2 - Reunion dates: The 466th BGA will hold our 2016 reunion in conjunction with the 8th AFHS. **Save the dates for St. Louis, MO on October 19 - 22, 2016.**

3 - Membership update:

As of Oct 2015: 750 members (-22 from July 2013)
Over-stated, since no mailings to catch changes

As of July 2013: 772 members (-56 from Mar 2013)
Incl changes from May A' Notes & June postcard mailing

As of March 2013: 828 members (-78 from Aug 2011)

As of August 2011: 906 members

Thanks to John Cashman for all his work to maintain our membership list!

Submitted by Beverly Baynes Tomb, Secretary, 466th Bomb Group Association on January 4, 2016.

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466th Bomb Group Association
Treasurer's Report
January 1-November 30, 2015

Bank Balance January 1 37,001.16
INCOME

Non Dues	472.00
PX	18.00
Book Sales	705.56
Total Income	1195.56

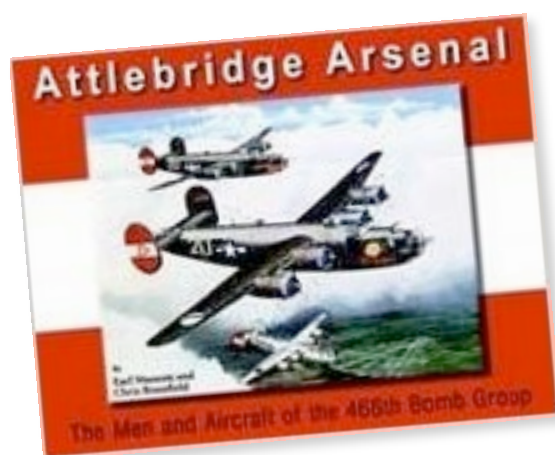
EXPENSES

Book Storage	747.00
Book Postage	161.25
Postage	82.20
Web Page	00.00
Memorial Flowers (MAY)	72.63
Office	\$137.11 (includes Banners & Posters)
Supplies	113.63
2014 REUNION (Hospitality)	374.03
2015 REUNION (Lodging)	638.00
Misc. (Bumper Stickers)	150.00
Mighty Eighth Museum	500.00
Memorial Trust 2 nd Air Division	500.00

TOTAL Expenses \$3,475.85

Remaining Books in Storage 297--- (33 boxes)
Not in storage + 10= 307

Bank Balance 11/30/15 - \$34,716.20



From The Omaha World-Herald

The 41st Annual Convention of the 8th Air Force Historical Society

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2015 1:00 AM

By Steve Liewer / World-Herald staff writer

Two B-24 bombing runs. Two crash landings. Fourteen months in a German prisoner-of-war camp. Two Purple Hearts.

For Joseph Reus, that was World War II in a nutshell.

“I only flew two missions and got shot down on both of them,” said Reus, now 92 and living in Titusville, Florida.

Reus served with the storied Eighth Air Force, which bore the brunt of the aerial action — and losses — during World War II and still operates from its headquarters at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana. He is one of about 300 people, including 50 air-combat veterans from the World War II and Cold War eras, attending a national reunion of the Eighth Air Force Historical Society at Omaha’s Doubletree Inn this weekend.

The group was formed in 1975 and has held frequent reunions ever since, said Nancy Toombs, the society’s vice president.

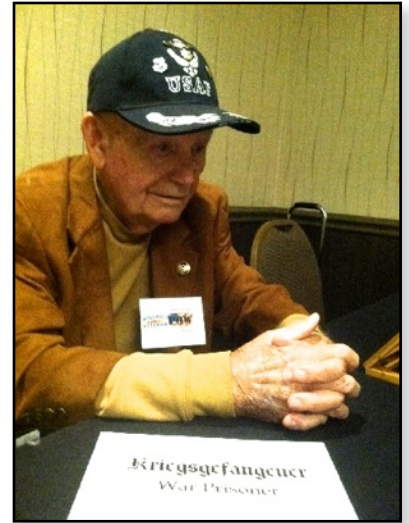
“Our goal is to preserve the legacy and the memory of the men who fought and died in the Eighth Air Force,” said Toombs, of North Little Rock, Arkansas. She attended with her 91-year-old father, Bill Toombs, a flight engineer on B-24 bombers during World War II.

The “Mighty Eighth” was activated in Georgia less than two months after the attack on Pearl Harbor. It moved to England in 1943. At its peak, it could dispatch 2,000 bombers and 1,000 fighters over northern Europe.

Of the 350,000 airmen who served in the Eighth during World War II, 26,000 were killed and 20,000 were wounded or taken prisoner. The Eighth’s personnel also earned 17 Medals of Honor, 220 Distinguished Service Crosses and 7,000 Purple Hearts. The unit produced 261 fighter aces.

“I just worship the ground these guys walk on,” said Steve Haktanir, 62, a self-described World War II aviation buff from Houston who is attending the convention. Nancy Toombs said reunion attendance peaked in the early 1980s, a time when many World War II veterans were just reaching retirement age. “At one time, we’d have 3,000 people,” she said. “It was a huge event.”

Now, though, even the youngest living World War II veterans are around 90. Most have died. A lot of veterans used to attend reunions of their own squadrons or bomb groups, where they were more likely to run into their own buddies. But many of those associations have folded, and many of the remaining veterans who are still able now attend Eighth Air Force Historical Society reunions. *(cont’d)*



(From the World-Herald, cont'd)

Some of the society's state chapters have disbanded, too, including Nebraska's. (An Iowa chapter is based in Montezuma.) But Omaha still was an appealing destination because of the Eighth's long postwar association with the Bellevue-based Strategic Air Command and, later, U.S. Strategic Command. Many Eighth Air Force air crews trained at bases in Nebraska or Sioux City, Iowa. During the convention, the veterans visited the StratCom command bunker at Offutt Air Force Base and on Friday toured some restored World War II aircraft at the Council Bluffs Airport. Today, they'll go to the Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum in Ashland, Nebraska.

Reus, a Baltimore native, enlisted March 17, 1942, and was selected to become a B-24 navigator in the Army Air Forces, as the U.S. Air Force was then known. After nearly 18 months of training, he joined the 703rd Bombardment Squadron of the 445th Bomb Group at the Sioux City Air Base. ...

(When his plane was shot down the second time, Reus was captured and imprisoned in Germany until Soviet soldiers liberated the camp.)

After retiring from the military in 1965, Reus remained active in volunteer organizations, particularly veterans' groups. He had told the stories of his wartime adventures frequently at conventions like this weekend's event. "I was telling all these anecdotes. People said, 'Put it on paper,'" Reus said.

Four years ago, he compiled them into a book with the help of a small publisher in his hometown. It's called "Kriegsgefangener," German for "War Prisoner." (For information, email him at jreus7@cfl.rr.com.)

Nancy Toombs is well aware that World War II airmen like her father and Joseph Reus won't be here to tell their own stories much longer. She and the society's leadership want to reach the children and grandchildren of the Greatest Generation.

"We have a second-generation initiative," she said. "We're constantly writing articles that say, 'Learn about your father's war.'"

Contact the writer: 402-444-1186, steve.liewer@owh.com

<http://www.omaha.com/news/military/at-eighth-air-force-reunion-in-omaha-fighters-share-their/article>,
OR Google: "Eighth Air Force Reunion in Omaha Fighters Share"



Heritage League of the Second Air Division USAF

In Omaha, HL Executive VP Mike Simpson and HL Secretary Brian Mahoney presented a proposal for a large volunteer effort to build a unified database of the operations of all 40 of the bomb groups of the 8th AF in WWII. Calling it the Mighty D⁸ Project, Mike and Brian are looking for volunteers and information that can eventually create a "Big Picture" of the history of the Mighty 8th. They are also seeking funding for this project. Contact: Mike.Simpson@HeritageLeague.org or archivist@brianmahoney.com

The Heritage League

Preserving the Memory and Legacy of the 2nd Air Division of WWII

By Beverly Baynes Tomb

The Second Air Division was one of three Air Divisions in the 8th Army Air Force during WWII. The First and Third Divisions flew the B-17 Flying Fortress, and the Second Air Division flew B-24 Liberators.

The Second Air Division Association (2ADA) was a veterans-only organization. The Heritage League was established in 1987 by its parent organization, the 2ADA, and its members are composed of descendants, relatives and friends of former Second Air Division personnel.

The Heritage League's purpose is to perpetuate the memory of the Second Air Division of the 8th Air Force, and honor the efforts and sacrifices of its members during World War II in behalf of freedom and peace.

Through the work of its members and other entities it supports, the League promotes educational, social, cultural and commemorative activities which compellingly present this rich history to succeeding generations.

With the dissolution of the 2ADA in 2012, the League takes up the ongoing challenge of educating following generations about the sacrifices of our forbears in WWII, and continues in the honor of commemorating the veterans and presenting their legacy. We do this through informative publications, presentations and a host of other social and educational programs. We actively support related efforts such as the 'living legacy' Second Air Division USAAF Memorial Library, in Norwich, England, The 8th AF Historical Society, and the Mighty Eighty Air Force Heritage Museum near Savannah, GA in the US.

The Heritage League, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit, is the honored steward of the legacy of the Second Air Division, which was earned by the service of nearly 100,000 combat and ground support personnel, 7,000 of whom made the ultimate sacrifice during World War II. Our mission is big, challenging, and exciting, and we welcome all who wish to contribute to this stewardship.

Use this link to join the Heritage League, and to explore more about the organization: <http://heritageleague.org/membership.htm>

Southern California Regional Brunch June 4, 2016



Galpin Ford Motors of Van Nuys, CA and the Heritage League of the Second Air Division (USAAF) will sponsor the 35th Southern California Regional Brunch of the Second Air Division, Eighth Air Force to be held on June 4, 2016 at the 94th Aero Squadron in Van Nuys, CA. The veterans along with their families and friends look forward to this annual event, and 2016, our 35th year, will be really special. All veterans and their supporters are welcome, especially those from World War II. We hope that you will join us as we mark the 72nd anniversary of D-Day and the 71st anniversary of V-E Day.

We are delighted that Bill A. Jones, who has performed the Master of Ceremonies duties and entertained the gathering for a number of years, will join us again in 2016. And we will take a musical journey back in time with The Swing Dolls, a dynamic female vocal trio that has been thrilling audiences nationwide for over 10 years with their stunning close harmonies, dazzling costumes and stylish choreography. The tradition of memorabilia displays will also continue.

Do plan to attend! Bring your veteran, friends and family! Join us in a salute to our heroes!

For more information or to register, please contact Peggy via telephone at (818) 366-6972 or email at whiteplains38@aol.com. More details at this link: <http://www.ddayanniversaryla.com/>

Heritage League 2016 Annual Reunion Sept 14 - 18, 2016

The Annual Reunion of the Heritage League of the Second Air Division (USAAF) will be a stand-alone event held in Washington, DC with an opening reception on Wednesday, Sept 14, and the closing banquet on Saturday evening, Sept 17, 2016.

Our reunion hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn Arlington/ Courthouse Plaza, 1333 N. Courthouse Rd, Arlington, VA 22201. Use Group Name: "The Heritage League of the 2nd Air Division" and Group Code HLT to get our negotiated rate. Or use this link to go directly to the special web page created for the Heritage League rooms: bit.ly/1Qh00fp

We are planning an exciting agenda that will include the Annual Business Meeting of the Heritage League, a trip to the National Archives where Record Group 18 holds the original records of the 2nd Air Division, a visit to the National WWII Memorial, the Air Force Memorial, and a special tour of Arlington National Cemetery, and much more!

Please mark your calendar and book your room! We look forward to seeing you!



The 8th Air Force Historical Society had its 40th Reunion in Nashville, Tennessee in October of 2014. Above, the 466 BGA Veterans at the Rendezvous Dinner, on October 11. From left, Perry Kerr, Earl Wassom, Edith Smith, Bill Campbell, Elmo Maiden and Frank Bostwick.

Nashville, 2014

Nashville hosted a great reunion in 2014! Above are the 466 BGA Veterans, and below are some fun photos. Right and clockwise: Veteran Perry Kerr signs Board Member Steve Jordon's copy of Attlebridge Arsenal. Veteran Earl Wassom and his wife, Cynthia, Veterans Bill Campbell and Elmo Maiden, and the BGA Board: Front: Veterans Earl Wassom, Bill Campbell and Elmo Maiden; 2nd row: Board members Jim Haseman, Bill Curtis, Beverly Baynes Tomb and Helen Jordon; 3rd row: David Smith, Frank Youngquist and Steve Jordon.





EC-135A on display at Offutt AFB south of Omaha.

OMAHA & THE COLD WAR



Offutt Air Force Base, just south of Omaha, was Ground Zero during the Cold War, and attendees of the Mighty 8th Air Force Reunion visited the former headquarters of the Air Force's Strategic Air Command. SAC, the 55th Wing and the U.S Strategic Command, all based at Offutt, trace their heritage to the strategic missions carried out during World War II by 8th Air Force crews. SAC is decommissioned, but the 55th Wing provides the U.S. military with global reconnaissance, real-time intelligence, command and control, information warfare and combat support.



After the Friday afternoon panel of WWII Veterans, luck brought David Jordon together with Harold Dietz, who trained and flew on the Welsh Crew at Attlebridge with co-pilot Harold "Ken" Jordon, late father of the three Jordon sons at the reunion.



Friday evening during the dinner of the 466 BGA and the Heritage League of the Second Air Force Division (USAAF), Veteran Elmo Maiden was inducted into the Heritage League's Hall of Fame. Beverly Tomb, HL President, Elmo with his son Tom Maiden, and Brian Mahoney, HL Secretary.

Dr. Jerry Martin, U.S. Strategic Command Historian, left, and John Bergen, SAC Intelligence Veteran and Cold War scholar, were part of the panel at the hotel that discussed the Strategic Air Command and the 8th Air Force's involvement in the Cold War.



Second Air Division veterans at the Friday Rendezvous dinner in Omaha include, Front L-R: Edith Smith (nurse), Perry Kerr (466), Earl Wassom (466), Bob Birmingham (458), Burton Madison (453), Mo Morris (453), Harold Dietz (466) Back L-R: [unidentified], Joseph Reus (445), Elmo Maiden (466), Russ Neatrou (453), Robert Hall (489), Lewis Huisman (453)

THE COLD WAR

U.S. nuclear forces were commanded from the headquarters of the U.S. Air Force's Strategic Air Command at Offutt Air Force Base.

Thursday, traveling by bus from Omaha's Doubletree Hotel, the Cold War tourists from the 8th Air Force met Offutt's tight security measures to gain entry. They rode past the site of the future \$1 billion-plus U.S. Strategic Command headquarters and were greeted at the former SAC headquarters by Air Force personnel and civilian officials.

Inside, a briefing officer described StratCom's mission and organization, and the group toured a museum of SAC memorabilia and documents. With hostilities still under way around the world, the legendary "SAC Underground" is off-limits to visitors. The building also is the headquarters of the 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, which is the eyes and ears of U.S. military forces around the world. On the way back to Omaha, the bus riders passed historic parts of Offutt, including "General's Row" housing, which is still in use, and the former Martin Bomber Plant where the B-29 "Enola Gay" was assembled before its war-ending mission to Japan. An EC-135A which served SAC's Looking Glass flights was parked just inside Offutt's main gate, a reminder of the roles SAC and the 55th Wing played during the Cold War.

All of the crew of "Miss Mitchell" are volunteers with the Minnesota Wing. Thank you to everyone!



Photo by Helen Jordan, 10-15-2015

"Miss Mitchell" & More!

Friday, October 16 many went to the Council Bluffs, Iowa, Airport, where the Minnesota Wing of the Commemorative Air Force flew in the B-25J "Miss Mitchell" for viewing and for

Revenue Flights. This editor was able to fly in the tail gunner's post and was able to get back OUT of the tail gunner's post! Ret. Brig. Gen. Regis Urschler, of Bellevue, NE, poses with The Gunfighter, the P-51 Mustang that he flew in air shows for 30 years. With him is 466th BGA board member David Smith. THANKS to the CB airport, to Gen. Urschler and to Jeff Hutcheson of the Great Plains Wing of the CAF, to Omaha Steaks for lunch and to all who put this together!



Photo by Helen Jordan, 10-15-2015



Now THAT'S a "Bomber Jacket"!



Saturday, October 17, buses took many reunion attendees down I-80 to the Strategic Air & Space Museum. Road trip! Many planes involved in the Cold War are on display there. From Left: Harold Dietz and his jacket, Harold and his daughter Dee with SAC Man, by Mike Hagel, brother of Chuck Hagel, and a random visitor thanking a random Veteran. Very nice to see!



Saturday night was the annual banquet and dance, with music provided by The Swingtones, part of the Nebraska Wind Symphony. GREAT music, lots of dancing! Frank & Barb Youngquist, left, were charming, of course, and it was good to see David Smith with his mother, Veteran Edith Smith, inset. Such a good finish to the 41st great Reunion of the 8th Air Force Historical Society!



The French Legion of Honor Award thanks WWII Veterans for the liberation of France. Many of our members now proudly display this medal.



Sunday morning brunch found all the Jordons together. Thanks for coming to Omaha! See you in St. Louis!



New Website for the 466th Bomb Group by Bill Curtis

In addition to the existing 466th Facebook Sites, I have designed a new website, with Aircraft Photos, Crew Photos, News Stories from Veterans and Members, Q & A Forum for 466th related questions, News Items from England and elsewhere in Europe. It is also a place for 466th veterans and their families to post photos and stories from their experiences. Eventually we will post copies of the newsletter on the website, too. Take a look and make comments.

www.466thbga.com

Attlebridge Diaries Index

466th BGA Treasurer Bill Curtis has just completed an index for the 1979 book of 466th history by Lt. Col. John H. Woolnough. It is available via e-mail or on a Compact Disc.
Contact Bill at
bcurtis419@juno.com or
phone: (785)766-3351

\$\$\$\$\$ Dues, No Dues? \$\$\$\$\$

We do not require dues to join the 466th BGA and receive our newsletter, but we do suggest a voluntary contribution to help us cover the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter. Costs have gone up, and we do not want to take funds we have built up to preserve and maintain our Memorials to pay for the Attlebridge Notes. Please consider a contribution and send it to our Treasurer, Bill Curtis (address on page 2)

What is Your E-MAIL Address?



Our database for the 466th BGA currently does not have email addresses. If you would like to hear from us via email, either as a way to get the Attlebridge Notes in PDF format or possibly for interim updates from the board, please send your email address to:
secretary466thbga@gmail.com

The 466th BGA on-line

facebook

If you are on Facebook, you'll enjoy participating on our Facebook Group and our Facebook Page.

The Facebook Group, **466th**, is a public group, and you request to join, then you can post photos and comments on the timeline. Administrator of the group is Bill Curtis.

The Facebook Page, **466th Bomb Group (H) - Attlebridge** is like other Pages, in that you click "Like" to follow the timeline entries posted by the administrator(s) of the Page. Those who aren't admins can post on the page and their info will show up on the left side of the page.

Check out this library....

US Ambassador to the United Kingdom hugs his copy of **Earl Wassom's** book "Hello Darkee" while visiting the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library in November 2014. Ambassador Matthew Barzan is shown in the stacks chatting with Trust Governor David Sisson.



One of the regulars at the meetings of the Mighty 8th is Peter Ruplenas, or "Rupy", who had been a photographer for the Air Force in WWII, Korea and Vietnam. Recently he and his son were seen on Korean TV on Veteran's Day in a ceremony called "Turn Toward Busan", as they laid a flower on the grave of a British airman in the UN Memorial Cemetery in Busan. These two rode in "Miss Mitchell" at the Council Bluffs fly-in on October 16. They get around! Learn about the ceremony and watch the video at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cofbKpn6qRc>



ARIRANG News

Wreaths and Remembrance Days in England

By Beverly Baynes Tomb, Daughter of R. C. "Dick" Baynes, 466th BG Veteran

My husband Doug and I spent a wonderful week in Norwich, Hethel, Attlebridge, Weston-Longville and Maddingley celebrating many ceremonies of Remembrance Day and participating, as one of the Trust Governors, in the Annual General Meeting of the Second Air Division Memorial Library Trust Governors.

Arriving in Norwich on Friday, Nov 6, we were delighted to catch amazing Guy Fawkes fireworks from the large windows of Paolo's, a lovely restaurant near Norwich City Hall.

The next morning, Colin Mann, a local friend of the 2nd Air Division, kindly drove us to Hethel for their Remembrance Saturday ceremony. Cathy Thomson, who once lived in the 466th BG Headquarters Building, is still deeply involved with honoring the memory of the 466th veterans. And she was kind enough to share the honor of laying a wreath for the 466th at the stone flagpole with me.

Also at Hethel, Paul Hindle, a stalwart researcher and tour guide around the 466th base, introduced me to Ann Reeve, the darling 2-year-old in this photo from the 100th Mission Party on August 18, 1944.

Ann Reeve is the little 2-year-old watching a baseball game during the 100th Mission Party. Please let us know if you recognize any of the men with her.



Sat 11/7: Remembrance ceremony at Hethel where Cathy Thomson shared the honor of laying a wreath for the 466th BG, and also held the "brolly" to shield Beverly and the USAF Chaplain.





Remembrance Sunday ceremony in Norwich at the War Memorial across from City Hall. Photo taken after all wreaths were laid, and the parade to Norwich Cathedral for the Remembrance Service was starting.

On Sunday, Nov. 8, the city of Norwich held its annual Remembrance Sunday ceremony. Doug and several Governors of the Memorial Library were among the special guests watching from the balcony of City Hall. As the Trust Governor representing the Heritage League of the 2nd Air Division (USAAF), I was deeply honored to join the procession of dignitaries in regalia to lay a wreath for the 2nd Air Division. After the ceremony at the War Memorial, the Governors, with Dede Cassad, widow of Chuck Walker, former president of the 2nd Air Division Association, and several members of the Heritage League followed the parade to Norwich Cathedral and enjoyed the Remembrance Service.

The Annual General Meeting of the Governors of the Memorial Library Trust took place on Monday, Nov. 9 at the Norfolk County Council Chamber. I gave a report for the Heritage League, also delivered the check from the 466th BGA.



The card on our poppy wreath says "In memory of the 6,881 men of the 2nd Air Division who gave their lives in WWII."



Beverly presents the check for \$500 from the 466th BGA to Memorial Trust Chairman Richard Middleton during the Governors Annual Meeting.



The rebuilt SIGNAL BOX: this would have had big levers inside that the station master would operate to move the signal down the line, to say that the gates are open and it's safe for the train to enter the station.

Paul and Eileen Hindle were incredibly generous with their time on Tuesday, Nov. 10, driving us to many wonderful sites around Attlebridge Air Base. We started with a visit to the home now occupying the Attlebridge RR Station. Then had a very special visit to the the 466th BG Memorial at Frans Green where Peter Woodcock and I shared the honor of placing a beautiful wreath. Thank you, treasurer Bill Curtis, for making all the arrangements for the flowers!



The people who have missed the last train (1959) are Paul Hindle, Beverly Baynes Tomb, Eileen Hindle, and Janet Ingram, who is the station owner.

Janet would love a photograph of G.I.'s at the station. A lady who lives near the station can remember G.I.'s marching from the station to the Airfield, about two and a half miles away.



Memories of the past flood over Beverly Baynes Tomb and Peter Woodcock, who lived next to the base as a child, after laying the Remembrance wreath at the 466th Memorial.



The mood lightened as Doug took a picture of the Hindles, Peter, Mel, and me posing on Mel's Jeep.

Later on Tuesday, we stopped at the village of Weston Longville for lunch at Parson Woodforde (formerly Five Ringers) and a chance to look in at the parish church and see the village sign donated by the 466th veterans in 1977. The sign is much more visible now that the hedgerow has been cut back. However, the sign is very much in need of cleaning and re-painting. After seeing these photos, the Board members of the 466th BG Association voted via email, and agreed that we ask Paul Hindle NOT to send the proceeds from sales of Attlebridge Arsenal and the "Return to Norwich" DVDs back to the U.S., but rather to use what is needed of the 200 pounds to find and engage someone to repair the sign.



Recent trimming of the hedgerow makes the village sign easier to see.

The beautiful village sign is now in need of repair, and the Board of the 466th BG Assoc. has authorized and funded the repairs.



Inscription on the plaque says, "PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF WESTON LONGVILLE 27TH AUGUST 1977 BY THE 466TH B.G. U.S. 8TH A.F. IN MEMORY OF THE 324 MEN FROM THIS GROUP KILLED IN ACTION FLYING FROM THE AIRFIELD IN THIS PARISH MARCH 1944 - MAY 1945"

Seated at the lunch table in the Parson Woodforde pub surrounded by 466th memorabilia are Mel Johnson, Beverly and Doug Tomb, Peter Woodcock, Eileen and Paul Hindle





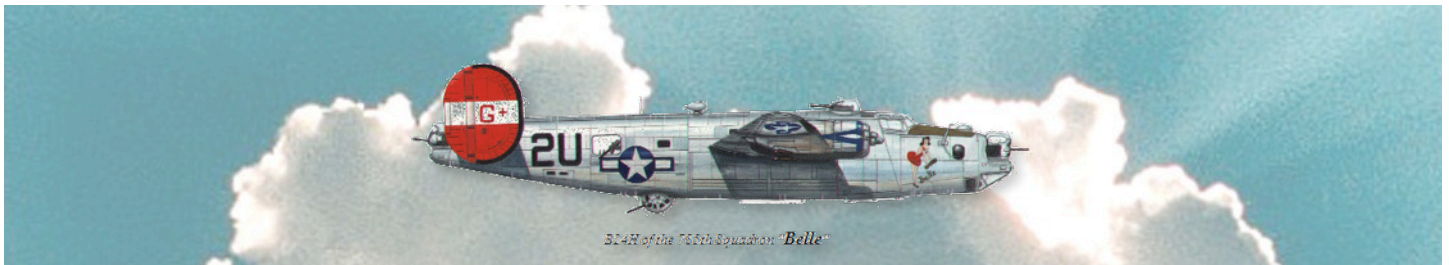
TAPS

William G. Horney, Jr died August 22, 2013. He was born September 12, 1921, in Philadelphia, PA. He grew up in New Jersey and attended Rutgers U. He was the navigator on the Dougherty crew and flew 32 missions from June to November 1944 and received the Air Medal and Distinguished Flying Cross. When he returned from England he married Jane Trimmell in Somerville, N.J. He remained in the AAC and then the Air Force for a total of ten years with many assignments stateside, overseas at Clark Field in the Philippines and in Germany for the Berlin Airlift. After the service he went to work for Owens-Illinois Glass Co. in Toledo, Ohio, and finished his degree in business at the University of Toledo. He retired in 1979 as vice-president of personnel for the company. He and Jane retired first to Hilton Head, S.C., where he enjoyed golfing. In 1988 they moved to Pensacola, FL. to Azalea Trace retirement community for more golfing and enjoying the beach. The Dougherty Crew was known for years as having the best attendance at the 8th AF Reunions, with all 9 crew members who had stayed in touch after the war coming back together there with all of their wives. He was the 2nd to the last survivor of that flying “band of brothers”. He was also one of the veterans to begin bringing the “next generation” to the reunions with him. His daughter and son-in-law are Martha and Bill Curtis (466th treasurer, video person and B-24 photographer). He is also survived by a son, Mike, wife, Jane, 2 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. His family was privileged to have the Patriot Guard escort his remains to Barrancas National Cemetery on the Pensacola Naval Air Station.

Everett Jones, Jr. died November 4, 2013, Dallas, Texas. Pilot crew #432

Fred E. Davis died December 16, 2013. He was born in Dekalb, MO on July 17, 1925. He was a tail gunner with crew #739, first piloted by Robert W. Harrington and then R.C. Greenwood., flying 26 missions. He married Margie Ann Ketchem, who survives him along with a son and daughter and 3 grandchildren. He received degrees from Northwest Missouri State and Wayne State. He was the founding president of State Fair Community College and was the first director of Missouri Community Colleges. He and Margie lived in Sedalia and then Clinton, Missouri. He was president of the Rotary Club and the Chamber of Commerce. Fred and his wife were regular attenders at 8th AF Reunions, along with his fellow crew member, Herb Leopold and his wife, Rhoda.

Dr. Herbert S. Leopold, San Diego, passed away surrounded by his family on October 31, 2014. He and his wife, Rhoda, were faithful attenders of the 8th AF Reunions and were planning to attend right before he died. Herb was the bombardier on the Robert Harrington/ R.C. Greenwood crew # 739 and also with the David I. Bridgers crew # 765. Herb grew up in New York and when he came home after the war he said his father told him he ought to study to be a dentist. So that was what he did. He and Rhoda lived many years in California and were active in the 2nd Air Division of Southern California annual luncheons. They organized the last stand-alone reunion of the 466BGA in San Diego, CA in 2004.



Herbert K. Achterberg died May 9, 2015 in Spokane, WA. He grew up in SW Michigan and married his high school sweetheart, Alice Maier. At Attlebridge Field he performed a variety of administrative jobs, including draftsman duties. After the war he had a career in hydraulic engineering. He is survived by his wife of over 72 years. When he died, Herb was still wearing one of his most prized possessions...a wristwatch with the Mighty 8th Air Force emblem on the dial.

Malcolm O. (Mac) Dike was pilot for crew #504 completing 32 missions between March and July 1944. He lived in Garden Grove, CA, and never missed a reunion until he was no longer able to travel. The only details we have received are from his grandson, John Dike. He said that Mac died in December 2013, shortly before his 94th birthday. His grandson has joined the Air Force and had started pilot training, receiving his slot while his grandfather was still alive. John says: "So years of 'my grandson's going to be a pilot' was finally confirmed."

John J. Horan, a resident of Ingleside, IL, since 1982, passed away on June 8, 2015. He was 92 and was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Irene, in 2012. They were always there at the annual reunions and were sure to ask about any who were not able to attend and express their concern. John was the pilot for crew #676, successfully completing 30 missions. Their time at Attlebridge was from December 23, 1944, until April 16, 1945. So they had the distinction of flying one of the old planes home, back to the states, as the base was being closed. Most crews took a ship home to New York harbor. But John and his crew went via Wales, Iceland, Labrador, and finally Connecticut (as John recounts in Attlebridge Arsenal.) John will always be remembered for his articles in the 466th Newsletter, giving a detailed and fascinating account of the events at the annual reunion. His literary abilities will be greatly missed by all.

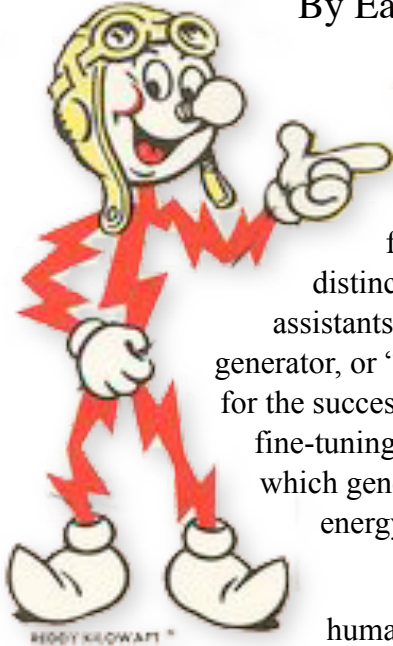
Note to veterans, family and friends of the 466th:

Because of some difficult circumstances, there has been about a 2 year gap in our newsletters. We know we have missed veterans who have died who we would like to honor in the "Taps" section of the newsletter. As we revive our newsletter and print winter and summer issues, please contact us about deaths we have missed and those in the future. Please send them to Bill Curtis at bcurtis419@juno.com.



REDDY KILOWATT : the Electrical Power Generation Systems of a B-24

By Earl Wassom, at the special request of a member years ago



The G.I. truck came to a grinding halt at the hardstand. A B-24 four-engine aircraft sat there waiting in the misty fog-laden English atmosphere, loaded and pregnant with bombs waiting for the delivery crew to take this lethal load to Germany. The flight crew spilled out of the vehicle carrying the flight gear essential for them to carry out their assignment. They heard two distinct but familiar and reassuring sounds: (1) the voices of the crew chief and his two assistants, as well as (2) the “putt-putt” of the gasoline power-driven auxiliary generator, or “APU”. The men and the auxiliary-power unit were both necessary ingredients for the success of the mission. The three-man maintenance crew had been at work all night, fine-tuning and loading the airplane. The “putt-putt” was sending out reassuring sounds which generated kilowatts to keep the batteries charged and serve as an auxiliary source of energy for the main electrical system during flight.

The anatomy of an aircraft has similarities to that of the human body. The human body requires the flow of life-sustaining blood which is pumped from the heart to organs scattered throughout the body. Life is the result. The operation of an aircraft is totally dependent upon the flow of energy throughout the ship for its life. There are three sources of that energy (electricity); the ship’s batteries, generators and the auxiliary power unit. They are all connected to a common distribution system serving the entire ship. Without this flow of electricity, the aircraft would be hopelessly without life ... totally dead. The P-3 Auxiliary Power Unit delivers kilowatt units for charging the battery while on the ground and as an auxiliary source of energy for the main system while in flight. In addition, there is an additional generator mounted on the rear of each engine assembly which in turn are driven by the four engines.

Engines are numbered sequentially, #1 on the far left, #2 inboard left, #3 inboard right and #4 outboard right. To get Reddy Kilowatt working, the APU is started and energy begins to flow to the battery as well as to the starter on engine #3. These sources begin producing electrical energy. First, inboard engine #3 is engaged, freeing the attending ground crewmen from the proximity of the rotating propeller. Electrical power is generated. Then engine #4 is started, followed by engine #2, then engine #1.

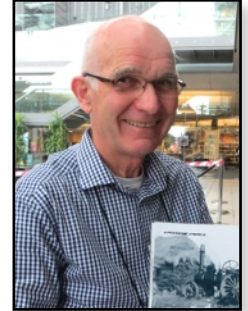
Reddy Kilowatt is under the command of everyone on the crew. Each officer and enlisted man on the aircraft has Reddy at his fingertips. The pilots and flight engineer must have electricity to start the engines as well as to monitor all of the gauges relating to engine performance. The radio operator must have it in order to run his elaborate communication system, the bombardier for the operation of bomb aiming and release system, the gunners to operate their turrets, and the navigator to operate his sophisticated equipment. Reddy is at work all the time the aircraft is on its mission. Back on the ground, with the mission accomplished, the engines and the APU are shut down. Reddy is at rest until he is called upon to be ready for another assignment.



From the Attlebridge Notes Editors...

New to the 8th Air Force Historical Society and the 466 Bomb Group, Steve and I are giving it a go: that is, to assemble a newsletter for the friends and comrades of Steve's father, the late **Col. Harold "Ken" Jordon**. H.K. Jordon was a co-pilot in the 466th out of Attlebridge, England, making 30 bombing missions over Germany between October of 1944 and April of 1945 with the Welsh crew. Ken went on to retire as a full colonel from the USAF in August of 1975 and left Offutt AFB for Venice, Florida, passing away in June of 2001. He and Steve's mother, Jane Merrill Jordon, are buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

A few years ago, Steve's brother, David Jordon, a retired municipal judge in East Lansing, Michigan, had time and resources to investigate their dad's WWII history, and decided that in 2014 we would gather at Attlebridge somehow and find out as much as we could about what Ken did there. The connection to **Paul Hindle** has been absolutely invaluable, and we cannot repay Paul for his help in showing us what Ken's life must have been like. Steve and I, Steve's older brother David and younger brother Brian, from Denver, gathered in Norwich in June of 2014 and Paul gave us the supreme two-day tour.



Paul Hindle, 466 BGA historian & Attlebridge guide in Norwich, England

We went to a "flak house," ate at a roadhouse where Ken probably ate, drove on the runway that he used, stood where he took off, rested on the revetment where the Black Cat rested, went into a bomb shelter, and met some incredible people who remember when the U.S. fliers occupied their little villages. **Peter Woodcock** was a big help for us, showing us his view Attlebridge through the clear blue eyes of a child who lived on the base back then. We fell in love with England. Our understanding of WWII and Great Britain's need for the United States' assistance was clarified and strengthened.

Because of this experience and our gratitude to those who have kept these memories alive after so many years, we became involved with the Mighty 8th and attended the meeting in Nashville in October 2014. Having heard that the 2015 meeting would be in Omaha, my hometown and the hometown of the Strategic Air Command, we felt even more obliged to get involved and help represent our Omaha, the Strategic Air Command and our fathers, who both gave their careers to SAC. My father, Eugene A. Jackson, was a civilian scientist for SAC from 1950 till his untimely passing in 1966. I was named after a WASP, Helen Jo Anderson Severson, who was my mother's best friend in college and who died while in a trainer in a crash in Texas in 1943.

Meeting so many wonderful people through the 8th A.F. and especially the 466th has been life-changing, and we hope we can help perpetuate the memories and honor of those who have gone before. Two highlights of the Omaha meeting were my flight in "Miss Mitchell" on the Friday fly-in at the great Council Bluffs airport, and FINALLY meeting someone who actually flew with Ken Jordon at Attlebridge. Happenstance put us together with Harold "Bull" Dietz, of Palestine, Texas, and we were able to get some good video of our interview with him -- a treasure for our family. Having trained in the U.S. with Ken and spending much of his Attlebridge time in the same Welsh crew, he remembers things about Ken that Ken had never told us about. Uh, oh! We are so grateful for our time with Harold Dietz and thankful that his daughter, Dee, could be with him and take such good care of him.

Please enjoy this issue of Attlebridge Notes. We plan a second edition this summer. We hope to see all of you in St. Louis October 20-24!

HELEN JORDON

You can reach us at:
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402-639-6197 (Helen's cell)

Paul Hindle was determined to re-create an old photo at Ye Olde Honingham Buck Inn near Attlebridge, so we took our picnic table.



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Attlebridge Notes is printed solely for members of the 466th Bomb Group Association and associates thereof, for their information and entertainment. All information is amassed by Attlebridge Notes.



**THANK
YOU**
For coming to Omaha!



To join the 8th Air Force
Historical Society, go to:
<https://8thafhs.org/join.html>
or call (912) 748-8884
or send \$40 and your contact information to:
Debra D. Kujawa, Managing Director
8th Air Force Historical Society
P O Box 60369
Savannah, GA 31420-0369

**See you October 20-24, 2016, in St. Louis, Missouri
for the 42nd Annual Reunion of the 8th Air Force
Historical Society!**

**At the Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet
On I-270 between I-70 & I-64**