

**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**  
From 466th Bomb Group Association  
Beverly Baynes Tomb  
2122 Grayson Place  
Falls Church, VA 22043

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.



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**44<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Air Force Historical Society Reunion**  
**October 10-14, 2018**  
Dayton, Ohio  
Reunion Hotel: Crowne Plaza Dayton

ALL links to online hotel reservations and registration will be activated by Monday, February 12, 2018  
<https://www.8thafhs.org/>



# Attlebridge Notes

January 2018



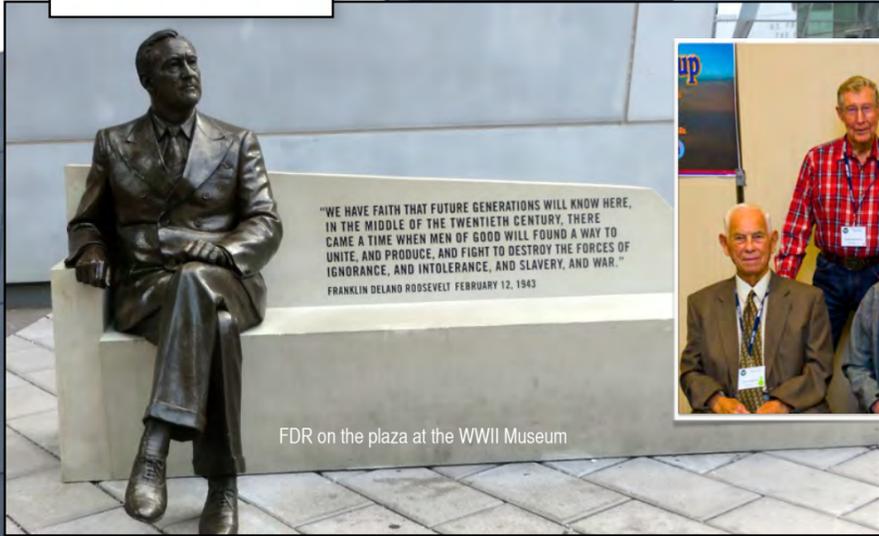
Cockpit of B-24 at the WWII Museum



"Jennie" B-24J784th Bomb Squadron, Revetment 2, Attlebridge

## New Orleans & THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM

...welcomed the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force Historical Society and the 466<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Association in late September 2017.  
The 466<sup>th</sup> BGA was well-represented, with five of our Veterans attending:  
back - Frank Bostwick and Earl Wassom;  
seated - Elmo Maiden, Perry Kerr and John Kraeger. Family members and second generation folks joined in, some for the first time.  
Read all about it inside!



FDR on the plaza at the WWII Museum



Group Photo: 8th AFHS

# The President's Report

2018 has arrived, and the 466<sup>th</sup> BGA will be busy working with projects here and abroad. All these activities, including this fine publication you're reading, require funds. In this newsletter there is a request for financial assistance from you to assist our projects. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Copies of the Attlebridge Arsenal are still available. This fine book of the 466<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group was written by our own Earl Wassom and Chris Brassfield. Contact Bill Curtis if you are interested in a copy. Elsewhere in this newsletter, Bill, our treasurer, discusses the fundraising and wonderful projects underway, and gives his contact information.

There continues to be exciting things happening in England, and we will carry on developing the 466<sup>th</sup> story there. Paul Hindle is doing outstanding work at Attlebridge, and we find others working for our cause that we greatly appreciate.

Our 2018 reunion will be in Dayton, Ohio, the home of the National Air Force Museum, Oct. 10-14. The museum opened a new gallery last year and will unveil the newly restored Memphis Belle this spring. I would advise all of you to reserve rooms now at the Crown Plaza, since rooms there will go fast. We also will have rooms available in overflow hotels, so you can still attend!

Respectfully,

Frank Youngquist, President 466<sup>th</sup> BGA



*This is what Frank's son Major Marcus Youngquist & the C-17 squadrons wear under their flight suits. What the odds are that his Uncle Al Reynolds of the 466<sup>th</sup> B-24 would be on this shirt?*



Frank took this photo of his Jeep on Veteran's Day at the Alexis, Illinois, Cemetery where his brother-in-law, Al Reynolds, is buried. Lt. Reynolds was a pilot in the 466 and a bunk-mate of Earl Wassom. They flew many missions together.

A favorite story of mine describes the brave men of the Mighty Eighth Air Force flying their daylight missions out of England. Here's a quote from "Hap" Chandler of the 491<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group, given when he was president of the 2nd Air Division Association at the group's 52nd reunion dinner:

*"After touring various Civil War battlefields, I began to reflect on what my grandchildren will find when their interest is aroused by my experience. You can't revisit aerial battlefields. There are no hilltops to climb with your children to show where the opposing armies clashed. Battlefields in the air are defined not by terrain but by latitude, longitude, and altitude. The evidence of aerial combat -- black blossoms of flak, phosphorous tracer shells and the smell of cordite, shouts of crewmen on the interphone, the plummet of stricken aircraft, airmen hanging from the parachutes, the noise of engines and guns, streaking chunks of metal penetrating aluminum skin and human flesh -- all of this vanishes with the same suddenness as it appeared. And then the battlefield, the sky, looks as it did before, as if nothing had happened. Images that had been so real and so surreal to those who fought there became instantly etched in their souls forever. What remains of the battle dwells there in the hearts of those who survived."*

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Most of us with the 466<sup>th</sup> are aware of our own B-24, the "Black Cat," is known for being the last bomber shot down over Germany during the war. However, did you know there were B-24s at Hickam Field in Hawaii when the Japanese attacked on Dec. 7? Most people aren't aware of this but are often reminded about the B-17s attempting to land during the attack.

For the record, a B-24A Liberator, Serial No. 40-2371, from the 1st Photo Group was hit and is believed to be the first U.S. aircraft destroyed during World War II. Liberator 40-2371 was one of two B-24s that had flown to Hickam Field for a top-secret mission to photograph the Japanese bases on Jaluit and Truk, two key Pacific islands. They had arrived at Hickam Field on Dec. 5 to have guns installed before continuing on to the Philippines. The Japanese fighter planes shot down several Piper Cubs of the Civilian Pilot Training program. These were the first U.S. civilian planes destroyed. - F.Y.

## 466<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Board Members, January 2018

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## Secretary's Report, 466<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Association 2017 Board Meeting

Hilton New Orleans Airport, Sept. 29, 2017, 8-9:15 a.m. -- Beverly Baynes Tomb, Secretary, January 2018

**Board Member Attendees:** Frank Youngquist, President; Beverly Baynes Tomb, Secretary; Bill Curtis, Treasurer; Martha Curtis, Taps editor; Helen & Steve Jordon, newsletter co-editors; Earl Wassom, veteran; Chris Brassfield, archivist; David Smith. **Other Board Members at reunion:** Elmo Maiden, veteran, Tom Maiden. **Board members absent:** Harold Dietz, veteran; Les Sharrock, David Jordon, Carolyn Stell, Jim Haseman, Ralph Lynn, veteran & member emeritus. **Other attendees:** John Kraeger, veteran, Neill Getty.



466<sup>th</sup> BGA Secretary Beverly Baynes Tomb and her father, the late 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS President LT. Col. Richard (Dick) Baynes, 2005.

### Old Business

**1 - Attlebridge Notes:** The board is very grateful to Helen and Steve Jordon for stepping up as co-editors of "Attlebridge Notes" and publishing two beautiful issues in the past year! Helen Jordon asked all contributors to meet deadlines of Dec. 15, 2017, and June 15, 2018, for the next newsletters. The contact for the printer in Omaha is Katie Klingelhofer at Firespring, which uses the national change-of-address database and NCOALink software, which allows John Cashman to update our membership database.

Martha Horney Curtis researches the un-deliverable addresses to track down members who have moved without a Change of Address form, and to update our TAPS list. Now that we are publishing Attlebridge Notes twice a year the number of changes is more manageable. President Frank Youngquist will send sympathy cards from 466<sup>th</sup> BGA to our veterans' next of kin (if we can find them). **2 - Attlebridge Arsenal:** The 466<sup>th</sup> BGA has reprinted 400 copies a cost of \$13,000, plus shipping, storage and insurance. The book supports the mission of the 466<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Association to educate and promote the history of the 466 BG. Proceeds from book sales go to the 466<sup>th</sup> BGA treasury.

Bill Curtis, treasurer, has arranged for climate-controlled storage and insurance, and is 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. (Update: Bill Curtis still has 270 books plus three special autographed copies in storage.) The board voted to send a free book to each of 20-30 small flight museums on a list from Bob Books, a member of the 8th AF Historical Society Board. The books will be sent via media mail, the least expensive postage cost. Several books have been sold via [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). The 466<sup>th</sup> BGA gets an extra \$20 from the higher Amazon price. Paul Hindle has donated books to supporters Ann Reeve and John Gilbert in the U.K. **Members are encouraged to purchase and also to help sell our book!**

**3 - Annual Donations:** In 2011, the Board approved an ongoing \$500 annual donation to the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force in Savannah, Georgia in memory of John Woolnough, founder of the 8th AFHS and founder of the 466<sup>th</sup> BGA. (The donation was made in person on Sept. 30, 2017, at the 8th AF Historical Society Annual Membership Meeting. President Frank Youngquist handed the check to Dr. Vivian Rogers-Price, Archivist.)

At the Oct 2015 meeting, the board approved an ongoing donation of \$500 to the Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England. (This donation was made in person on Nov. 13, 2017, at the Annual General Meeting of the Memorial Trust Governors. Trust Governor and 466<sup>th</sup> BGA Secretary Beverly Tomb handed the check to Group Capt. Richard Middleton, RAF (ret), Chairman of the Trust Governors during the meeting held in Norfolk.)

A donation of \$500 was approved to support the 466<sup>th</sup> Memorabilia Collection at Hethel, England, where Cathy Thomson donates her time to staff and maintain the collection. (This donation was made in two checks, one delivered by Beverly Tomb on Nov 12, 2017, after the Remembrance Saturday ceremony at Hethel, the second by Martha Curtis in April 2017 at the 466<sup>th</sup> exhibit area.)

**4 - Nominating Committee:** The board voted to serve in perpetuity, so no nominating committee needed.

**5 - Fund videos of Attlebridge sites and stories:** The board voted in 2016 to fund airfare to England for Bill & Martha Curtis in 2017 so they can work with Paul Hindle to capture Attlebridge footage and stories from Brits who remember the 466<sup>th</sup>. The Summer 2017 issue of Attlebridge Notes documented accomplishments of that trip, and Martha set up the snacks for the 466<sup>th</sup> BG Hospitality Room to show a "mini-England," right down to brewing tea one afternoon! The video is scheduled for completion in May 2018.

### New Business

**1 - Our 501(c)(3) status expired.** Earl Wassom moved to have Bill Curtis re-instate that status. The motion carried.

**2 - The Treasurer (1/1/17 - 9/25/17) reported \$1,100 in dues,** which only covers 25% of the newsletter cost. Discussion focused on soliciting for dues via website, Facebook, a Paypal account, in Attlebridge Notes and a postcard. Beverly Tomb moved to approve postcard mailing costs and PayPal set-up. The motion carried, with requests for email addresses for possible electronic newsletters.

**4 - Reunion dates:** The 466<sup>th</sup> BGA will hold our 2019 reunion with the 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS, **Oct. 10-14, 2019 in Dayton, Ohio.**

**5 - Membership update:** Jan. 2017: 654; July 2016: 692; August 2011: 906. -- John Cashman.

## Get "Attlebridge Notes" by e-mail!!!

To ALL Members of the 466<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Association:

The **biggest expense** of the 466<sup>th</sup> BGA is the printing and mailing of our bi-annual newsletter, "Attlebridge Notes." Many organizations are moving from printed mailings to delivery by e-mail. If you would like to help pare down our costs or would not mind having less paper come into your home, please let us know and send us your e-mail address so that we can be sure that you receive the digital file. Contact secretary Beverly Tomb: [Secretary466thBGA@gmail.com](mailto:Secretary466thBGA@gmail.com)



## 466<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Association Treasurer's Report January 1-Nov.30, 2017

**Bank Balance January 1** \$ 27,813.95

### INCOME

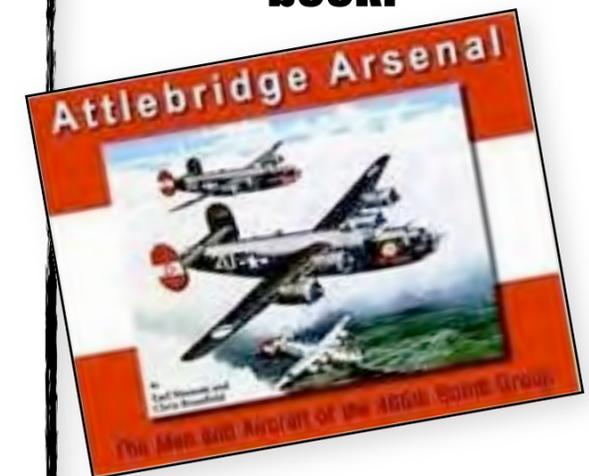
Non Dues \$1135.00  
Book Sales \$880.70  
Memorial Gifts \$250.00  
**Total Income \$ 2291.80**

### EXPENSES

Newsletter \$4625.59  
Book Storage 816.00  
Book Postage 164.84  
Postage 54.81  
Web Page -0-  
Memorial Flowers 216.35  
Office \$78.32  
VIDEO PROJECT \$2795.51  
2016 REUNION (Hospitality) 891.98  
Donations-Libraries 750.00  
**TOTAL Expenses \$11,109.02**

**Bank Balance 11/30/17 - \$18580.10**  
*Submitted by Bill Curtis, 466th BGA Treasurer*

Do you have YOUR  
copy of this vital  
book?



With crew photos, names, facts, figures all from Attlebridge Field during WWII, every member of the 466<sup>th</sup> BGA needs a copy of this. Everyone in your family needs one, and your local library needs one!

**\$58 each**

Send to Bill Curtis' address below

## Newsletter and Membership

*Our membership and newsletter depends on annual contributions from members. We suggest that members donate \$20 each year. We mail out more than 650 copies of the newsletter twice a year. Our newsletter printing and mailing costs were \$4,625.00 this year. We received contributions from only 15 donors this past year. Some have been generous in their donations but the total amount raised this year is less than half the cost of the newsletter. Please remember to mail your donations to:*

466<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Association  
Bill Curtis, Treasurer  
515 West Ariel Ave.  
Foley, AL 36535



## LIBRARIES & THE 466 BGA

Your 466th BG Association supports two important libraries that archive 466th, 2nd Air Division, and 8th AAF content.

### *In the U.S. (near Savannah, GA), the John H. Woolnough Library*

As part of the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force, the John H. Woolnough Library serves as the reading room for the Roger A. Freeman Eighth Air Force Research Center. Of special interest is the research center's collection of Eighth Air Force volumes, including all the published group histories. Most of these books are shelved in the John H. Woolnough Library.

Lt Col. John H. Woolnough was the founder of the 466th Bomb Group Association and the author of "Attlebridge Diaries: The History of the 466th Bombardment Group (Heavy)," copyright 1979, and the second edition "...with Supplement," copyright 1995. He also authored "The 8th Air Force Album" which includes 300 photos from the 466th BG, including the nose art. And, in addition to all that, the Eighth Air Force Historical Society was founded in 1975 by 8th Air Force and 466th BG pilot Lt. Col. John Woolnough. Link for more info: <http://www.mightyeighth.org/research-center/>



*During the Reunion in New Orleans, 466<sup>th</sup> BGA President Frank Youngquist presents a check for \$500 to Vivian Rogers-Price, Research Center Director at Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum*



*Beverly Tomb presents 466<sup>th</sup> BGA and Heritage League checks to Memorial Trust Governor Richard Middleton*

### *In the UK, (in Norwich, Norfolk), The 2nd Air Division Memorial Library*

The idea of a Memorial in Norfolk to honor the nearly 7,000 young Americans, members of the 2nd Air Division of the 8th United States Army Air Force, who lost their lives in the line of duty during WW II, was conceived by senior officers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Air Division at the close of the war. All personnel supported their appeal for funds, resulting in a unique "living memorial," not only a tribute to those Americans "who flying from bases in these parts gave their lives defending freedom," but also an educational and friendship bridge between the U.S. and the U.K.

The 2nd Air Division Memorial Library, through the Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division USAAF, has been funded largely by members of the 2nd Air Division Association (now dissolved) and veterans who served with the 2nd Air Division. Your 466th BGA secretary, Beverly Tomb, also serves as a Governor of the Memorial Trust representing the Heritage League of the 2nd Air Division (USAAF), which carries on the mission of the 2nd Air Division. Link for more info: <http://www.2ndair.org.uk>

## Do we have your E-MAIL address?

Our database for the 466th BGA currently has very few 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](mailto:Secretary466thBGA@gmail.com)



## My Memories of Bill Campbell

by Bill Curtis

We lost Bill Campbell, our 466<sup>th</sup> BGA vice president, last year, and I want to share some memories of times and discussions we had over about a six-year period. Bill went to Attlebridge with a group of us in 2012. He'd been back to the airbase a number of times on different tours. This time, he particularly enjoyed the opportunity to meet and speak with Weston-Longville area community members who lived near the airbase as children during the war. They shared their memories of the American "boys" and all the excitement generated by the American B-24s and their base personnel and crews.



I heard Bill tell many stories of his wartime experiences, and he sometimes made short observations that were quite humorous. On our trip Bill was a lot of fun. We'd joke with him about his ability to consume more food than any of the rest of us. At lunch one day, we all had fish and chips. It was an enormous piece of fish, and Earl Wassom was only able to eat about half of his. Bill asked if Earl was going to eat the rest of it and then proceeded to finish it off in no time.

Bernard Mathews hosted us to High Tea at their large manor house and served a wide array of finger food and champagne. I saw Bill seated with a very lovely lady from Bernard Matthews, and he was enjoying conversation with her. I went over to him a short time later and he said, "I don't know what to do! They keep filling my glass with more champagne every time I finish one! I don't know if I'll make it to the bus!" He did, but barely.



Many people didn't recognize the sorrow Bill felt when he shared more somber stories.

Bill arrived at Attlebridge in early July 1944 and was the tail-gunner on the Everette Jones Crew (785<sup>th</sup> #535). After a number of missions, their pilot volunteered them to train as a lead crew. He did this without consulting with any of the crew members, some of whom were not happy about it. This meant that they would be in England for seven months instead of the usual two-three month tour for most B-24 crews, and they would not be able to go home in time for Christmas in 1944.

The Everette crew was transferred to the 44<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group to learn the new radar-based navigation system and to practice as a lead crew. When they returned to Attlebridge, they served as a lead crew for 21 missions. Bill said the experience was horrible. "The lead plane would always carry the 'High Brass' for the mission, and one of my main jobs was to report to the commander over the intercom what was happening behind us. What I saw was terrible. I saw planes falling out of the sky, some exploding behind us. I looked for parachutes and would count them. A lot of the times there were no parachutes opening. I saw a man falling from the sky right outside of my turret. He was close enough that I could have reached out and touched him. I could see his terrified face go by. He had no parachute." In his memory, Bill saw this man's face for the rest of his life.

Bill was severely wounded by a flak burst directly under his turret. The only thing that kept him from bleeding to death was the 30 below temperature in the airplane, which stopped the blood flow. He spent several months at the hospital at Wymondham, recovering from massive wounds. He returned to Attlebridge and flew the rest of his missions before being shipped back to the states. He spent many months in the next two years having surgeries in several hospitals in the U.S. He carried the results of his wounds for the rest of his life.



*Everyone who knew Bill loved him. Even with his physical limitations, he was always up for anything! During his last two years, he would call Martha and me at least once a month to check up on us. He was a dear friend to us as well as an honored veteran and hero.*

*Photos: Upper right, at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Air Division Library in Norwich; Bill with his Bernard Matthews champagne friend; lower right, Earl Wassom, Melvin Demmin and Bill Campbell in 2012 at the Memorial Chapel at Cambridge National Cemetery, lower left, Bill Campbell.*





**Remember this little girl, Ann Reeve, in the photo on the left?**



My mother and I lived with my grandmother in a cottage along Rectory Road near the Attlebridge airfield, from the spring of 1944 until the end of the war. The photo is of me, age 2, surrounded by American airmen. I remember the occasion but didn't know what was going on. Later I was told it was the 100th mission party. We found the photo, somewhat crumpled and damaged, when we were clearing my Mum's house after she died.

Some of the airmen used to come to Nanny's house to play cards with my mum and aunts or play records on the wind-up Gramophone in the garden under the apple trees. My Uncle Peter was killed by a sniper in northern Germany just three weeks before the war ended. He had been in the tanks as part of the post-D Day landings in June 1944.

Mum and I moved back to Shotesham, a small village south of Norwich, for when my dad left the Royal Air Force. Just after we moved there, Mum decided to go to Norwich for some shopping. It was about 9:30 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 6, 1944. We walked to the bus stop near the church, got onto the bus and I remember someone shouting, "Get yer heads down!"



Mum pushed me to the floor, and there was one helluva bang. The bus lifted from one side of the road to the other. It was one of those "doodlebug" things -- really, a V-2 "buzz bomb. The motor would cut out, all would be quiet and you knew it was coming down. It blew the windows out of the back of the church, which had been built around 1300, and also the windows of the village school next door where my two cousins were in class. One of the boys reported that he blew his shoes off.

Apart from a big noise and the windows, no one was hurt as it had hit a spring beside a very small river. I can't remember whether we still went to Norwich! That doodlebug had been fired from Battery 444 at Rijsterbos, Netherlands. Seems like the Germans had moved the launch pads further north with the result that they couldn't quite reach London, so we got them. Also, my husband Toni's house just outside Norwich was bombed when he was just a few months old. They also lived just outside Norwich. Bad days.

The children used to watch for the American bombers because the crews would throw chewing gum from the gun positions, and the children would run out into the fields to find it.

All the family have moved away from Weston now and our last connection, my Uncle Alan Smith, who lived in Attlebridge village near the railway station, died aged 95 about 18 months ago.

So exciting, all the work that Paul Hindle is doing. I wish I were younger and fitter and able to wield a shovel to help. But if that was the case I wouldn't have those memories would I?

- Ann Reeve

*Ann Reeve at her shop on the coast at Hemsby, about 7 miles north of Great Yarmouth*



**Special Celebration in the New Orleans 466<sup>th</sup> BG Hospitality Suite**

*By Martha Curtis*



*Martha in her Kitchen*

When Bill and I agreed to handle the hospitality suite in New Orleans, I had planned to serve our usual drinks and snacks. But after our wonderful video trip to England in the spring, I knew we had to do something special. We had traveled with Paul Hindle and his wife, Eileen, and interviewed many British people around the old base who shared stories with us that made us laugh and, sometimes, made us cry. And then there was the day that we all found out for sure that we would be given a piece of ground on the old base, including a WW II building. Via email and Facebook we watched as Paul and a multitude of volunteers worked and donated materials to turn that building and area into a real "Station 120 Visitors Centre," dedicated to keep our 466<sup>th</sup>BG history alive. That was when I began my project to celebrate our new centre with a visual "thank you" to Paul Hindle and his volunteers and a tangible witness of the enduring connection between America and England.

**The best way** was to share that connection at our Reunion hospitality suite. That way, not only the 466<sup>th</sup> BGA members could join in the celebration, but also people from other Bomb Groups and especially British attendees, because of this gift bestowed on us. I put together a couple of posters with pictures of Paul's progress on the project.

**Obviously,** all had to be red, white and blue, which thankfully works for both America and Britain! I found small American and British flags to put in a stand on each table. To focus on the connection with Norwich, we had to have mini-tins of Colman's Mustard, made in Norwich since 1814. I found tea tins from the English Tea Company and mini-jars of orange marmalade. One thing led to another with British food. I did a display of typical English favorites, many of which are a mystery to Americans, like "mushy peas." There was porridge, devon custard, Heinz Beans (beans for breakfast, anyone?), Beetroot chutney, a bottle of ale, elderflower cordial, currant jam, Yorkshire tea, specialty candies like Norfolk Wine Gums and Rhubarb Creams, and even a can of the "pudding" called "Spotted Dick." Then we had lots of English goodies to munch on, like McVite's Digestives Biscuits (cookies!), Hob Nobs, Cream crackers, Crawford's custard creams and a huge wedge of English cheese I found at Fresh Market. To add to the pop and beer, we had Robinson's fruit juices. The Brits in attendance were especially pleased to see that I brought my hot pot, tea, milk, and cube sugar, plus a bone china tea pot, sugar, and creamer. We had to have American chips, because I didn't get the "crisps" ordered in time from the U.K. It was a salute to our great allies "across the Pond." I might add that our 466<sup>th</sup> suite festivities were such a success, that Bomb Groups who had never attended an 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS Reunion before were convinced after visiting our suite, that they needed to join with us every year. I just hope they don't expect to be fed like this in Dayton in 2018!



**At our Bomb Group dinner** I presented the five veterans in attendance with mugs decorated with the 8<sup>th</sup>AF symbol, a B-24, and "WW II Veteran." I also gave mugs to some Board Members who have especially worked hard to keep our newsletter and mailing list going. The final touch was the result of a gift given to Bill and me by the brother of an airman lost with the Caverne crew in the North Sea in 1944. When we were told that the hotel in New Orleans had only one flag, we decided to use the gift to buy our own 466<sup>th</sup> BGA American flag and stand for the Reunion. We plan for the flag to be transported to England for our Visitor's Centre to display permanently. At the 466<sup>th</sup> Rendezvous Dinner, we pledged allegiance to our new John G. O'Brien Memorial American Flag.

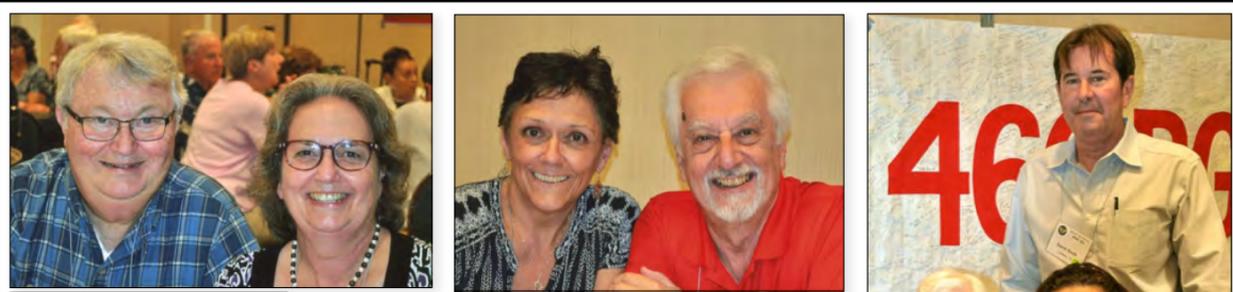


**"Wreaths Across America"**



*Barrancas National Cemetery, Pensacola, Florida: father of Martha Horney Curtis inurned in columbarium.*





Photos by Cynthia Wassom include, clockwise from top left: Bill & Martha Curtis (her father - veteran); Marcia & James Melnyk (his father - veteran); the Smiths - Veteran Edie, son David and daughter Victoria; Louise & Veteran Frank Bostwick; Helen & Steve Jordon (his father - veteran); the Maidens - daughter-in-law Rebecca, son Tom, Veteran Elmo, daughter Nancy and son-in-law Bob Shattuck; Veteran Perry Kerr and wife Joyce, with daughter Pamela (inset); Judi Woodbury & John Sarginson (her father - veteran), Louise & Harry Tanner (Past Pres. of 8th AFHS.)



It's so good to see familiar faces, and even better to meet new ones! Beverly Baynes Tomb enjoys seeing Louise Bostwick again. Veteran John Kraeger was accompanied this year by his grandson, Neill Getty. Veteran Elmo Maiden and his son Tom share laughs with Cynthia Wassom, and Rhoda Leopold brought her daughter, Cathy, with her. Readers: if you have not yet attended an 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force Historical Society Reunion, now's the time! Meet us in Dayton, Ohio, the second weekend of October. <https://www.8thafhs.org/> with registration link open on February 12!



466<sup>th</sup> BGA veterans Earl Wassom and Elmo Maiden were part of the Veteran's Panel moderated by Debra Kujawa, above. Top left, Frank Youngquist and Elmo greet each other at arrival. Counterclockwise: Earl's jacket; Earl with Judi Woodbury; Martha, Elmo and Nancy; Tom and Elmo Maiden on the Creole Queen Sunday; Earl and Frank hold court. Top right, Steve Jordon tapes up the 466 banner, filled with signatures.



The 466<sup>th</sup> BGA Rendezvous Dinner, Friday night: Kneeling: David Smith, Neill Getty; Seated: Rhoda Leopold, Elmo Maiden, Perry Kerr, John Kraeger; Standing, front row: Rebecca and Tom Maiden, Nancy Maiden Shattuck, Cathy Leopold, Beverly Baynes Tomb, Marcia Melnyk, Cynthia Wassom, Martha Curtis, Louise Bostwick, John Sarginson, Mary Steadman; Back row; Bob Shattuck, Bill Curtis, Frank Bostwick, Frank Youngquist, Earl Wassom, Helen Jordon, Judi Woodbury, Jim Melnyk, Back back row, Steve Jordon.

Photo: 8th AFHS

# New Orleans

# THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM



The Mighty Eighth Air Force Historical Society met in New Orleans for its 43 Annual Reunion, September 27 - October 1, 2017. Two days were spent at the National World War II Museum, with the Saturday Night Banquet there also. Bus trips from the airport hotel to the Museum downtown showed off much of the city, and Beignets were enjoyed by many!



"We had braved the enemy in his own skies and were alive to tell about it."

—PAUL TIBBETS, PILOT, US ARMY AIR FORCES

Seventy-Five WWII Veterans posed for this photo on Saturday at the hotel before the banquet at the Museum.



# Across the Pond....

Paul Hindle's brilliant news from Attlebridge



Contact: Paul Hindle  
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or on Facebook



The 466th Bomb Group Visitor Centre project is going just great! Most of our work so far has involved clearing what nature has claimed back over the last 70 years. Finding the concrete road at the back of the building was great; we hope to use this like a "Woodland Walk" with benches for people to sit for a while, when on their way to visit the Air-Raid Shelters.

This awesome project would not happen if it weren't for the help and understanding of GREEN LABEL POULTRY Ltd. - its directors, managers and workers on site. Thanks to the family of the late Bernard Matthews, who own the airfield and have preserved the airfield as much like it was in WW II, with all the runways still there and many of the revetments still in place.

The Locker/Drying Rooms were probably one of the most important buildings on the airfield and have great historic value because all aircrews would have used this facility before and after missions. Please look at the photo Beverly Baynes Tomb is holding, also inset below: it shows a crew returning from a mission. Who are these men?

Beverly is standing where her dad, Richard Baynes, and hundreds of men walked in and out of this building. Many flew missions and never returned. This is why we must do our best to restore/rebuild this area in memory of all the men who served at Attlebridge 120.

One of the photos shows the American flag flying again at the airfield. The flag pole was donated by Barry Beck, who is a volunteer and also a founding member of The Norfolk Military Vehicle Group. We held an "Open Day" recently, mainly for the NMVG members and invited guests. Funds raised on this cold, wet day was £290, which was great!

I was retired, but since March 2017 I have been working four days per week on this amazing airfield project and so have some of our volunteer ground-crew: myself, Paul Hindle, Shaun Hindle, Keith Osborne, Lisa & Paul Mansfield, Tony Emmerson, Terry Bates, Barry Beck, Mark Eames, Steve Eames, Jason Osborne.

If you wish to donate/money which will buy building materials for the project, please use Paypal [eileenhindle@talktalk.net](mailto:eileenhindle@talktalk.net) Many thanks to the people who have already donated.

*Yours Sincerely, Paul Hindle, volunteer airfield tour guide and the 466th Bomb Group Visitor Centre project manager.*



# Visiting England with a WWII veteran - NOT my Dad

by Beverly Baynes Tomb

As one of the Governors of the 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust, I've traveled to England each November for the past four years to celebrate Veterans Day and Remembrance Day and to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Trust. This year, I was honored to have Allan Hallett, a 91-year-old top turret gunner from the 389th BG at Hethel, join the trip!

My husband, Doug, Allan and I met Colin Mann and his wife, Alex, at Madingley Hall for an early dinner when we arrived on a Thursday. Friday morning at Cambridge American Cemetery's warm Visitor's Center reception, many dignitaries (Lt. Gen. Richard M. Clark, cemetery superintendent Rich Cobb, and a local mayor in his ceremonial chains of office) wanted photos with Allan, the only World War II veteran in attendance. Then, out into the wind and cold for color guards, speeches and the placing of 47 wreaths, including Allan's for the 389th and mine for the 2nd Air Division.



At Hethel's Remembrance ceremony Saturday, with both U.S. active military and U.K. veterans' units participating. Allan placed a wreath for the 389th and Cathy Thomson and I placed one for the 466th. Paul Hindle brought his jeep, we all explored the 389th and 466th BG memorabilia and enjoyed cakes and tea in the former gym and the new Nissen huts.

Norwich held a huge Remembrance ceremony on Sunday followed by special seating for our AAF contingent at the Norwich Cathedral for the church service. Allan placed the 2nd Air Division wreath at the Norwich War Memorial, and I walked with him. Doug and several Trust Governors watched from the balcony of city hall before riding to the church. On Monday, Doug left to get back to work, and Allan and I attended the annual meeting and a lecture funded by the widow of Chuck Walker, a pilot and past president of the former 2nd Air Division Association. On Tuesday, I spent a day with Paul Hindle, seeing the progress of the Attlebridge Visitors Center and the 466th memorial. Paul and his friends are doing an amazing job!



Back in London, we saw the statue of Dwight Eisenhower outside the U.S. Embassy and then visited the Royal Air Force Bomber Command memorial. We had lunch as guests of Trust Chairman Richard Middleton at the RAF Club and then joined other governors and two members of a London chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution at St. Paul's Cathedral. There we enjoyed a beautiful Remembrance Service in the American Chapel in view of the Roll of Honor, led by The Very Rev. David Ison, Dean of the Cathedral. From the choir section we listened to the Evensong service, finishing the day with a farewell dinner at a nearby restaurant.



Photo by Joe Dzenowagis



Remembrance Day scene in Norwich  
Photo by Joe Dzenowagis



## TEDROWE CREW 786<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron Crew #603

By Ralph Orlando  
466<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Association Member

My uncle, Sgt. Alfred F. Orlando, was killed when he was shot down near Hildesheim, Germany, on 11 April 1944 with the Tedrowe Crew, the 786<sup>th</sup> Squadron of the 466<sup>th</sup> BG. Also killed was Sgt. Irwin Mintz. The remaining crew members became POWs: 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Thaddeus Tedrowe, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Jerome Leve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Donald Brown, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. William Levins, S/Sgt. Edward Daily, T/Sgt. Edward Handy, Sgt. Keith Thompson and Sgt. Florento Saccomanno.

The writer's uncle, Alfred F. Orlando,  
standing, second from right

Being a war baby born in 1940, my early heroes were two uncles who manned 50-caliber machine guns, one in a B-24 in Europe and the other in an Avenger in the Pacific. In 1998, at age 58 and with a family reunion coming up, I decided to dig into the military past of Uncle Alfred. He went off to war when I was only 2, and his loss in 1944 was a big blow to his mother and his four siblings. His family knew only myths about how he died -- whether he bailed out or stayed with the stricken B-24. The casket with his bullet-riddled remains arrived for U.S. burial in 1946. How much was true we may never know.

My fact-finding started with the Department of the Army in Alexandria, Virginia, and the National Archives at College Park, Maryland. They sent 40-plus pages plus micro-fiche negatives. Much is from captured German records.

These documents provided invaluable information, filling in many missing details about Sgt. Orlando. The surviving crew members were interviewed, and all said they did not know why Uncle Alfred and Irwin Mintz did not jump with the rest of the crew. One theory was that the two were close buddies and that since Mintz was Jewish, a capture for him would have been really bad. One idea I read from the reports is the aircraft was shot down by a German fighter aircraft. My uncle in the tail turret could have easily been hit badly and Mintz may have decided to stay with him. That theory would explain the bullet-ridden corpse. The report goes on to say, falsely, that any information passed on to the family should say they had bailed out and were killed later by the local farmers who were mad at them for bombing their towns and farms. I heard this version but also heard that he was killed descending in his chute. It could be that the military wanted to spare families the pain of knowing that their loved ones went down with the ship.

The war reports listed the crew members' names and addresses, so I began making phone calls. They were in their 80s or 90s in 1998, and a few had passed, including Thaddeus Tedrowe, the pilot. I connected with Edward (Ned) Handy, who lives in Connecticut. I had the pleasure of him stopping to visit me in Daytona Beach, Florida. The eight who had bailed were captured and spent their time until the war's end in POW camp Stalag 17, and the officers went to a Luft. Ned was in charge of tunneling an escape route, but they were liberated before actually putting the tunnel to use. His book, called the "Flame Keepers," tells of this endeavor.

So why am I sending this information? Because I bet there many others out there who would like some answers about what happened to their loved ones, whether in World War II or later wars. The two government agencies mentioned above just might have some answers. My cost was \$10, but I do expect the cost could be a little higher today.

Ralph Orlando,  
second from left, standing



In 1964, with Viet Nam gearing up, I got my chance at aviation. I was accepted into Army Helicopter school and became a Warrant Officer Aviator. After returning from my war stint and completing my obligation, I thought there had to be safer way to continue my dream vocation. The airlines got me for another 25 years. How many people get to live their dream job?

On another note, I kept a daily diary and flight log of my year in Viet Nam. After close to 50 years of procrastinating, I finally typed all of my notes, word for word without embellishment. The newsletter editor for the 145<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion Viet Nam, Old Warriors, posted the document on our website. I recognized each of the 50-plus KIA/MIA in detail from my ledger as well as much more from online POW/MIA sites, half a page or a lot more on some of them. I make a point on each Memorial Day to read their obituaries and reflect.

- Ralph Orlando



466th Bomb  
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*From the Archives...*

2017 was an eventful year. April and I had the good fortune to return to England for a fourth year in a row. We were able to visit Attlebridge and see the extraordinary work that Paul Hindle and his crew are doing to make a 466<sup>th</sup> BG/Attlebridge Airfield Visitor's Centre become a reality. I am sure it has been discussed elsewhere in this newsletter, so I won't rehash it here, but I would encourage everyone to pitch in and donate to Visitor's Centre fund. We are still working out the details with Paul to set up a fundraiser on the 466<sup>th</sup> BG Facebook page, but in the meantime you can donate directly through Paul Hindle's PayPal account.

During our visit to England in October we were able to visit several other memorials and visitor's centres in East Anglia and Cambridgeshire. Here are some photos from a few of those visits.



Display of A2 Jackets at the 100<sup>th</sup> BG Visitors  
Lincolnshire Centre and Museum at Thorpe Abbots



We have the opportunity to have a visitor's centre on par with those pictured above. It would be a place to host families looking to see where their airman served as well as educate future generations about the service and sacrifice of our 466<sup>th</sup> BG veterans as well as their RAF counterparts that preceded them at Attlebridge.

388<sup>th</sup> BG  
Visitor's Centre  
and Museum at  
Knettishall



Restored briefing room in a nissen hut at the  
Aviation Heritage Centre at RAF East Kirkby



From the Archives, cont'd.

We hear a lot about pilots,  
gunners and navigators, but  
other men who served in the  
466<sup>th</sup> BG also carried out  
important jobs.



*These guys were your best friends and your lifeline if  
you returned from a mission injured.*

*From left to right:*

- Oscar L. Conner – Medical Technician*
  - Robert Heidenreich – Surgical Technician*
  - Louis Rosenheimer – Medical Corpsman*
  - Harry Hilke – Medical Technician*
- All of these men except Rosenheimer were from  
Pennsylvania. Rosenheimer was from Wisconsin and  
became a physician after the war.*



*MSgt. Richard Burdine, left, and TSgt. Floyd Anderson  
of the 472<sup>nd</sup> Sub Depot. Burdine, from Texas, appears to  
have been a line chief while Anderson, from South Dakota,  
was an Inspector/Quality Control Specialist.  
The aircraft is B-24J-140-CO "Parsons Chariot" of the  
78<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron*



*Maj. Josiah Child, Group S-2 Intelligence Officer, was a  
Harvard grad and hailed from Massachusetts.*

# TAPS

## From Martha Horney Curtis -

*As these "TAPS" are being written, it is the week that the organization, "Wreaths Across America" is placing wreaths on the graves of veterans in our National Cemeteries. Last year, each grave at Arlington National Cemetery was decorated with a wreath, including 466<sup>th</sup>BG veterans. One of them is former 8<sup>th</sup>AFHS President LT. Col. Richard (Dick) Baynes, father of the 466<sup>th</sup>BG Secretary and Heritage League President, Beverly Baynes Tomb. On Saturday, December 16, the wreaths are laid at Barrancas National Cemetery on the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, where William G. Horney, Jr.'s remains are. He was my father and although it is a Naval Air Station, I understand this is where most of our military pilots are trained today. These are the men and women who protect us now and will protect future generations. (See photos on page 8, with "Ann Reeve.")*

*But here we remember those of that "Greatest Generation" that gave us, the next generations, the opportunities to live our lives in a free America, to be safe, and educated, have careers and families. Hopefully, we have been able to spend many years with that veteran in our family that sacrificed so much of their youth at a little piece of England, renamed Station 120, Attlebridge. Here we remember a few of these men who came home from Attlebridge to civilian careers and one who remained in the service of his country and the U. S. Air Force. We extend our sympathy to their families and to those of the 466th BG who served with them. One further wreath should be mentioned here too. On Veterans Day, as we have done for many years and will do, hopefully, for many years to come, a wreath was placed at the 466thBG Memorial near Weston Longville. Our local historian, Paul Hindle, placed the wreath in memory of all those of the 466th BG who sacrificed all for our freedom. The wreath was especially beautiful this year. So, we also extend our sympathy to the families of these brave men whose lives ended on one of the 231 missions that the crews of Station 120 flew in 1944 and 1945.*

## TAPS - January 2018

### Melvin W. Demmin, Bartonville, IL, November 7, 2017, Crew #738, Radio Operator

Melvin joined the Army Air Corps immediately after he finished high school, in April 1943. He was the radio operator on the Roy E. Guy crew. On their 14<sup>th</sup> mission, on September 8, 1944, their plane, "Silent Yokum", was severely damaged by flak and they were forced to crash land over German occupied territory. All survived the crash and were taken prisoner and made POW's at Stalag Luft I at Barth, Germany. They survived interrogations, solitary confinement, threats by German civilians and American air attacks. (For an interesting account of their time as POW's, read their pilot's story in Attlebridge Arsenal, p. 118) Demmin and the rest of the crew were liberated after 9 months.

Melvin went home to Peoria, IL, graduated from Bradley University, and was a design engineer for 35 years for Caterpillar, Inc. He and his wife, Barbara, had 5 daughters. All of their names are adapted from his brother Dale's name, who was killed in the war: Dana, Dalene, Danette, Darla, and Darcy. Despite his difficult war experience, flying remained in Melvin's blood. He was a member, former director, and flight instructor for 45 years at the Bradley Flying Association. Melvin is buried at Camp Butler National Cemetery in Springfield, IL.

Martha Curtis recounts: Melvin Demmin was also a part of our 2012 "Return to Attlebridge" trip with veterans Bill Campbell and Earl Wassom. Our trip was all arranged and an article about the plans for it was in the Attlebridge Notes in the Spring of 2012. Melvin's wife had just died and his daughters were there in his home to help him. He had seen the article in our newsletter and when they asked what else they could do to help their father, his reply was: "Take me to England!" Dalene was on the phone quickly, the arrangements were made, and Melvin, Dalene and Dana made that trip with us. As the rest of us 466<sup>th</sup> BG descendants on the trip visited with them, we had quite a varied picture of what it was like to be on an aircrew with the Mighty Eighth: a pilot who could explain the difficulty of handling a B-24 on take off, in combat and in landing, a tailgunner who watched the war backwards (as Bill often said) and was severely wounded by flak, and a radio operator who had crash landed and had been a POW over the terrible winter of 1944-45. One little story stands out in my mind about Melvin. We were sitting in the pub in Weston Longville ordering lunch. We had been touring the base that day and it was exceptionally hot (for England). Throughout the trip we had been joking, as Americans often do, about how hard it was to get a drink with an ice cube in it. As the waitress got to Melvin, he said (more to me and his daughter that he was sitting in between) than to the waitress: "I'd love an ice tea." I responded to him: "I'd love one, too, Melvin. But we're not going to get one!"

**If you know 466<sup>th</sup> veterans or their family members who should receive the Attlebridge Notes, or know about one of our veterans who has died, please contact Beverly Baynes Tomb or Martha Curtis to update our mailing list and our TAPS record. See Page 3 for their contact information.**

# TAPS



### Robert G. Ellison, Grafton, MA, August 13, 2017, crew #556, Gunner

Robert was born in Worcester, MA. He was a gunner on Lavonne A. Linse's crew. They flew 33 missions, beginning on August 30, 1944 until March 12, 1945. He was awarded three medals during that time and was a Staff Sergeant. This crew was one of many that suffered through one of the worst winters in England's history, with many missions having to be called off, especially in January when both England and any target on the Continent was socked in. When Sgt Ellison came home he began his career as a toolmaker, first in Worcester and then for many years with Lincoln Precision Machining in North Grafton, MA. He didn't retire until 2009. Robert developed a brain tumor but was able to die peacefully at home. He is survived by his wife, Doris.

### LT COL Dovre (Bill) Gottschalk, Austin, TX, May 28, 2017, crew # 588, Co-pilot

Dovre went by his nickname, Bill, as did his pilot, William(Bill) D. Proppe. They flew six different airplanes on their 18 missions, seven of them on their favorite, "Lady Jake". Their first mission was March 10, 1945 to Amsburg, Germany and the last to the railroad bridge at Salzburg on April 21, 1945. This was the second to the last mission to be flown from Station 120. "Attlebridge Diaries" records that on that April 21<sup>st</sup> mission the weather was terrible and the mission was finally recalled at Regensburg. As their Group was turning around over the town, the Farrington plane took a direct hit which folded a wing, turned the plane on its back and it exploded. Originally it was reported all on board were lost but later it was discovered two had survived. Seven days later, Hitler committed suicide in his bunker.

Bill Gottschalk decided to remain in the Air Corps after the war and served a career in the U.S. Air Force. According to his son, Don, "until his death he felt he needed to offer his service. He was such a great example".

Don also shared a story which he thought all would appreciate. When "Bill" Gottschalk was coming back from the Pacific Theater, he went through Alaska. Another airman requested his seat because of a family emergency. Bill gladly gave it up, but the plane went down and all were lost. Twenty five or so years later, Bill and his wife stopped at an out of the way restaurant in Iowa, near Omaha. Bill heard voices he recognized. When he went over to a table nearby, he found it was his Attlebridge crew annual reunion. They had thought all those years that he was dead. He attended every year with them since that "chance" meeting!

LT COL Gottschalk is interred at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio, TX.

### Lt Col. Russell K. Woinowsk, Ann Arbor, MI, October 1, 2017, Crew # 509 & #452, Group Bombardier

Lt. Col. (ret.) Russell Kenneth Woinowsk, a bombardier with the 466<sup>th</sup> in 1944, died Oct. 1, 2017, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, at the age of 102. A grandfather of four and great-grandfather of 10, Woinowsk was a member of the Tikey crew, #509 and #452, in the 785th and 784th Squadrons, completing 30 missions.

A native of Dubuque, Iowa, he graduated from North Dallas High School in 1932 and spent two years at the University of Texas, then earning a bachelor's degree in Public Administration from Sacramento State College. He served in the Air Force from June 1941 to June 1963, commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant and advancing to Lieutenant Colonel. He also served as a Radar Systems Operator and as a Master Navigator, receiving decorations including the Distinguished Flying Cross. He served as a staff officer in Korea with a B-29 bomb group, flying missions from Japan as navigator and bombardier. After retiring, Russell earned a master's degree in education and taught mathematics at Romulus High School for 20 years. He obtained a private pilot's license with multi-engine and instrument ratings, and was a rifle and pistol marksman.

He was a 50-year member of the Kiwanis, a member of the WWII Bombardiers, the VFW, and the American Legion, the Boy Scouts of America, the NRA and the Tri-County Sportsman's Club.

Russell married Cecil L. McFerran in Galveston, Texas, in 1941. Their marriage lasted 54 years until her death in 1995. Their children are Stephanie, of Grand Ledge, Michigan, and Russell Jr. of Ann Arbor.



## London's St. Paul's Cathedral Choristers Tour the United States in April

by Beverly Tomb



The Choristers (boys age 6-13) of St. Paul's Cathedral in London, England, will tour the United States during April. With many thanks to Peter Chapman, former Chorister and Lay Canon at St. Paul's, and to Angela Palotai, Music Department Administrator & PA to the Director of Music, we have the schedule to share. You can make plans to hear them when they sing near you!

**Why is St. Paul's Cathedral so special?** As many of you know, it includes the American Memorial Chapel beyond the High Altar at the very east end of the Cathedral. The space was rebuilt after being destroyed in the Blitz and is dedicated in its entirety to the American dead of WWII, as a gift from the people of Britain. At the heart of the chapel sits a huge, 500-page, leather-bound book. A roll of honor lists the names of the 28,000 Americans stationed in the United Kingdom who gave their lives during the War. For many years, Peter Chapman has organized a special November Remembrance Service in the American Chapel for the Governors of the 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust and friends. See a photo of the Roll of Honor in the American Chapel at St Paul's in the article about Beverly's trip to England with veteran Allan Hallett. **Let's welcome the Choristers when they come to a U.S. city near you!**

All in  
APRIL  
2018



- Thursday - 12 Evensong, Christ Church Cathedral, Cincinnati
- Friday - 13 Concert, Christ Church Cathedral, Cincinnati
- Saturday - 14 Concert, Cathedral of St. Philip, Atlanta
- Monday - 16 Concert, World War II Museum, New Orleans
- Tuesday - 17 Concert, Park Cities Presbyterian Church, Dallas
- Thursday - 19 Concert, St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Houston
- Saturday - 21 Concert, St. James' Cathedral, Chicago
- Sunday - 22 Morning service, St James' Cathedral, Chicago
- Monday - 23 Concert, Calvary Episcopal Church, Memphis
- Thursday - 26 Concert, St. Thomas Church, Whitmarsh, Philadelphia



## Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial



While on a vacation river cruise in October, 466<sup>th</sup> BGA Secretary Beverly Baynes Tomb visited the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial in Colleville-sur-Mer, France. She participated with two WWII Veterans in a ceremony at the Memorial, placing flowers at the foot of the statue "Spirit of American Youth Rising from the Waves."

The U.S. National Anthem was played on a carillon while visitors stood facing the American flag and the expanse of white grave markers and beautifully manicured grounds. Then, the participants turned and picked up the flowers provided by the river cruise line, and walked to the base of the statue to place them. The sounds of a bugle playing taps closed the very emotional and fitting tribute to the service and sacrifice of those commemorated at the Normandy Cemetery.

Beverly checked with the Heritage League before her visit and got a list of 2<sup>nd</sup> Air Division men buried at Normandy. None are from the 466<sup>th</sup>. Please know that this 466<sup>th</sup> BG officer is actively honoring our WWII Veterans when the chance arises!

This was the fourth overseas American Cemetery Beverly has visited: Cambridge, Ardennes, Netherlands, and Normandy.

## Lost AND Found? What were the odds?

by Jim Melnyk



Jim Melnyk and his recovered hat!

I have a story of highly improbable odds.

Last June, Marcia and I were in Norwich, England. On our last day there, we took a cab to the airport so we could fly to Glasgow. When we got into the cab, I was wearing a "B-24 Liberator" hat that Marcia had gotten for me as a Christmas gift. It was warm in the cab, I took the hat off, and set it on the seat. When we got into the security line in the airport terminal, I realized I had left the hat in the cab.

In November Beverly Tomb was in Norwich, England. She took a cab ride with a veteran of WW II, Allen Hallett. He was stationed near Norwich and had been a top turret gunner with the 389th BG out of Hethel.

They were discussing his experiences, and the cab driver told them that back in June an American couple were in his cab and that a hat was left behind. Beverly asked if he still had the hat. He said that he did and that it was in the trunk of his car. She told the driver that she knew of three guys with interest in B-24s that were in Norwich around the June time frame.

Beverly reached out to the three of us to see if anyone was missing a hat. I got my hat back on January 8!



Congratulations!  
to 466<sup>th</sup> BGA member

Jim Haseman and Cindy Sharpe,  
who were married on October 31.  
Cindy was with Jim at our 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS  
Reunion in St. Louis in 2016.  
So happy for you both!



### READERS, HELP!

Can anybody in the U.S. connected to the 466<sup>th</sup> BGA identify the two people with Mrs. Woodcock, in blue? Mrs. Woodcock was the mother of Peter Woodcock, who is a dear friend of the 466<sup>th</sup> BGA. Peter grew up on the base at Attlebridge and has wonderful stories of being a youngster around our Veterans. The photo was taken in 1981 at Peter's brother's home at Horsford, about six miles from Weston Longville, adjoining Norwich.

## FROM THE EDITORS

Thanksgiving Day, November 23, marked our 50th Wedding Anniversary, and we celebrated by playing a holiday concert with the Nebraska Wind Symphony that night in Downtown Omaha. Doesn't everyone? Our family all came to town and a good time was had by all! Since visiting Norwich and Attlebridge in June of 2014, we have also enjoyed being part of the Family of the 466th Bomb Group Association! We love keeping in touch with all of you, helping us understand how life was for Steve's dad when he was a co-pilot at Attlebridge. PLEASE keep us posted on news of the 466th and Attlebridge and your lives, and we'll share with the Family through "Attlebridge Notes!"

Helen & Steve Jordan  
hsjordan@aol.com

