



# Attlebridge Notes



Summer 2016



## Sign of the Times! NEW to Weston Longville!



Paul Hindle, our connection in Norwich, has finished restoring the Weston Longville Village sign, with more than 60 hours of work. It is now looking as it should, thanks to the 466th Bomb Group Association paying the cost of materials. Thanks also to Brian Webb for his help with hedge cutting and laying the shingle path. THANKS to Paul for handling all this on your side of the pond!



# COMING SOON!

**42nd Annual Reunion  
of the 8th Air Force Historical Society!  
October 19-23, 2016, in St. Louis, Missouri  
Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet  
On I-270 between I-70 & I-64**

**See back pages for details!**



## 466th Bomb Group Board Members, July 2016

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# The President's Report

Greetings to all. The year is half over and summertime is definitely here. It won't be long till October arrives and our 2016 Eighth Air Force reunion in St Louis is upon us. Check for information about the reunion in this Attlebridge Notes.

Members of our board have been busy. Our Secretary Beverly Tomb, who also serves as President of the Heritage League of the 2nd Air Division, was back in England with duties involving the Mighty Eighth. Bill Curtis is always active with his video productions, prints and interviews while his wife Martha has worked diligently with our editor to provide updates to our Taps segment. And doing a great job assembling all the information are our editors Helen and Steve Jordon.

Visit our 466th Website and treat yourself to all kinds of information. There are endless pictures, interviews and contributions from 466th members experiences. Bill Curtis has done a magnificent job here and one I find most interesting having spent late hours reading an airman's diary. I can't imagine a website better than our own 466th BG, so take advantage of it.

I'm sending our editors a picture of my WW II Willy's Jeep, which has the markings of the Eighth Air force and the 466th BG. We have to be the only bomber group that has a 466th Jeep in both the U. S. and England.



Enjoy good health and as the song says, "Meet me in St Louie, Louie".....

Respectfully, Frank Youngquist



*Frank Youngquist's Jeep in Rock Island, Illinois, left, and Paul Hindle's Jeep at Attlebridge. The 466th is so lucky!*



Frank has published a book! His novel, "Beyond The Blue," is based in the Midwestern city of Galesburg. It is a love story with adventure and intrigue, as a young woman pilot unknowingly is subject to a stalker while her fiancée, an Air Force pilot, finds himself in the mountains of Afghanistan confronted by al-Qaida. You can order the book online: <http://book-beyondtheblue.com/order-book.html> Maybe Frank will have some copies with him in St. Louis!

*From the Attlebridge Notes Editors, Helen & Steve Jordon*

This is our second edition of "Attlebridge Notes" and we're still getting into the rhythm of gathering information and the production of this important form of communication within the 466th BGA. We hope to see many of you at the reunion in St. Louis, October 19-23. It's great to get to know everyone, and we thank you for your patience and for your contributions to the Notes. This issue is heavy with TAPS, catching up on listings of the past couple of years. Please read them all – Board Member Martha Curtis has gleaned so much information, including interesting stories of our veterans who have passed. Thank you, Martha, for your invaluable assistance. Enjoy this issue, everyone!

You can reach us at:

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hsjordon@aol.com

*Our son, Leland Jordon, retired from the U.S. Marines Drum & Bugle Corps, the Commandant's Own, on January 29. A Staff Sergeant, he finished 15 years with the D&B at 8th & I in D.C., and we are so proud of him!*



# *Congratulations! 70!*



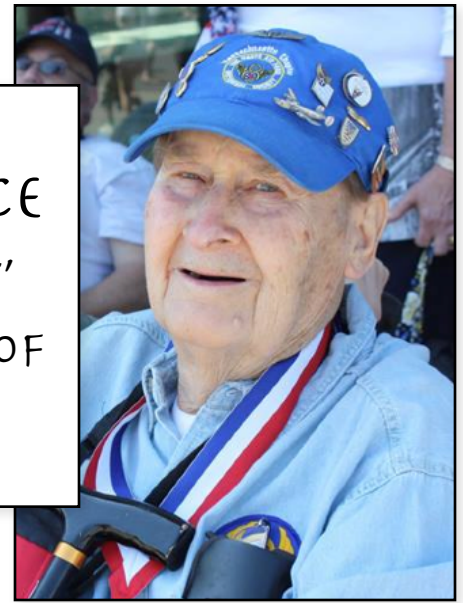
*Earl Wassom and his Bride Cindy celebrated 70 years of marital bliss on April 19. Earl was a 466th Bomb Group Pilot of Crew 554 with the 785th Squadron September 1945-March 1945. His aircraft was named "Bottlebutts Buggy," and he flew 35 missions. He is co-author with Chris Brassfield of the definitive work on 466th BG history, "Attlebridge Arsenal," and author of "Hello Darkee" a reflection of his days of combat. Earl is a past board member of the 8th Air Force Historical Society and serves the society as Chaplain.*



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



REST IN PEACE  
BILL CAMPBELL,  
FORMER  
VICE PRESIDENT OF  
THE 466 BGA



**William A. Campbell**, Clinton, MA, April 8, 2016, Crew #432, Tail gunner. Further back in this issue, in TAPS, is a more complete obituary for Bill. Bill was very involved in the 466th BGA, and will be sorely missed. He was at Attlebridge in 2012, and was able to see many places, including Runway 27, the USAAF Memorial Library in Norwich (left, with Jim Haseman) and much more. Thank you to Paul Hindle for the floral arrangement at the Attlebridge Memorial. Well done, Bill.



***Related notice from Editor Helen Jordan –***

The photo on the left is one that I took inside the B25J “Miss Mitchell” last October during the 8th AFHS reunion here in Omaha. We flew out of the Council Bluffs Airport. The Great Plains Wing of the Commemorative Air Force hosted us, and Miss Mitchell was brought to us by the Minnesota Wing of the CAF.

Joining me on the flight was Peter Paul "Rupy" Ruplenas, a familiar face at the conventions. He was known for his “Two Cameras, Three Wars” slogan, having been a combat photographer for the Air Force in WW II, Korea and Vietnam.

Rupy joined the United States Army Air Corps before Pearl Harbor on June 24, 1941. He completed basic training in Dover, Delaware. After basic training, Peter followed a two-week course in the Photography School at Davis-Monthan Army Air Field. He also served in Miami, Florida, with the 9th Anti-Submarine Squadron. He was then stationed in Sudbury Suffolk, England, with the 486th (Heavy) Bomb Squadron. He was able to fly along on several bombing raids and capture some amazing photos. During his service, the Mighty 8th Air Force, along with British air forces, helped change the tide of the war and weaken Germany through round-the-clock bombings. Rupy flew on many bombing raids and made it back, by the grace of God.

Rupy, age 97, died at the Martinsburg, WV at the Veterans Hospice on Saturday, April 16, 2016. He was born October 5, 1918, in South Boston, Massachusetts, and also was known as "Southie." Getting to know people like Rupy gives me a purpose in working with the 466th BGA. Rest in peace, dear Rupy. And to Rupy's son, David, blessings!



## ***From The Archives...***

***by Chris Brassfield – 466<sup>th</sup> BGA Archivist/Historian***

It's been quite a while since we've had room for a few historical pages in the newsletter. My thanks to Helen Jordon for making space in this edition! I've got several things I'd like to cover, so let's get to it!

First I want to remind everyone that I keep a 466th BGA Facebook page for archival and historical content. That page is located at: <https://www.facebook.com/466th-Bomb-Group-H-Attlebridge-106061169438975/>

Both Paul Hindle in England and I are administrators of this page, and we each add content and monitor messages and posts that come into the page asking for research help on family members who served with the 466th BG, historical events, etc.

The project that has been taken up most of my 466<sup>th</sup> BGA related time for the last 1 ½ years is uploading our information to the fantastic online database of the American Air Museum in Britain, devoted primarily to the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Air Force units, aircraft, personnel and places. At last count, between the archives and the Roger Freeman collection, there were approximately 900 photographs related to the 466<sup>th</sup> BG uploaded as well as detailed information on thousands of 466<sup>th</sup> BG veterans, hundreds of aircraft and much, much more. Please follow the link below to the 466<sup>th</sup> BG main page and follow the links to the person, aircraft or mission that is of most interest to you. If your relative or person of interest doesn't have a photo up or if you want to add information to his file, you can either do so yourself, or if you would like, send it to me via mail, email or Facebook and I will get it uploaded immediately.

<http://www.americanairmuseum.com/unit/444>

Though we probably have as many crew photos in the archives (and in print in "Attlebridge Arsenal") there are still many crew photos that we don't have. Below is a list of the crew photos that we are still hoping to find from the 784<sup>th</sup> and 785<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadrons. I will do the lists for the other two squadrons in the next issue.



### **784<sup>th</sup> BS**

405 – Mogford  
413 – Sturdevant  
415 – Personen  
418 – Purcell  
420 – Gran  
427 – Wunder  
430 – Englehardt  
439 – Schoeffler/C. Nelson  
440 – Vermeiren  
442 – Homer Harris  
444 – Hathaway (458<sup>th</sup> BG crew assigned to the 466<sup>th</sup> for lead crew training only)  
445 – Hanna  
451 – Sheehan  
454 – Manning (467<sup>th</sup> BG crew assigned to the 466<sup>th</sup> BG for lead crew training only)  
461 – Weiser  
468 – Lindhart  
492 – Beeman  
493 – E.J. Kelley  
499 – Mathay

### **785<sup>th</sup> BS**

501 – Walling/Shanklin  
507 – Greisbach  
508 – Musgrave  
515 – R.L. Garrett  
518 – Thach  
527 – Suto  
534 – Lockhart  
542 – Slaughter  
544 – W.R. Garrett  
550 – Damiani  
556 – Linse  
558 – Ellison/Smith  
560 – Marken  
571 – Boisclair  
572 – Lindhe  
583 – O'Neil  
591 – Ruhl  
595 – Maus  
596 – McFadden  
597 – E. Miller

*From The Archives...*

*by Chris Brassfield – 466<sup>th</sup> BGA Archivist/Historian... cont'd*

***Who is that little girl in the picture?***

We've got lots of great photos in the archives taken during the war of people, both 466<sup>th</sup> BG servicemen and British civilians, who are unidentified. Many others are out there in private collections as well. One of my goals as archivist/historian is to identify as many of these people as possible.

To that end I received a message last year on Facebook through our page mentioned above from a British gentleman named Danny McGarry. Danny was visiting the town of Hemsby in Norfolk last year and wandered into a store wearing his A-2 jacket and WW2 era officer's "50 mission crush" cap. The lady behind the counter took a look at him and remarked "You look like one of my boys." Danny (I assume who already knew this wasn't his mother!) looked at her a little puzzled. She smiled at him and said "Come back in here tomorrow and I will show you what I mean."

When Danny returned the next day he was shown a photo of a cute little girl dressed up and surrounded by U.S. servicemen, most wearing A-2 jackets, and the unmistakable tail of a B-24 in the background. The lady, whose name is Anne Reeve, said, "That's me!" She proceeded to tell Danny that the photo was taken at Attlebridge in 1944. The occasion was the 100<sup>th</sup> mission party. Anne and her 466<sup>th</sup> BG protectors were being entertained by a game of baseball.

I put Danny in touch with Paul Hindle, our stalwart local 466<sup>th</sup> BG champion in England. It took a few months, but Danny was able to take Anne back to Attlebridge. Paul got her on the field and she had her photograph taken on the same spot she sat in the sun taking in that baseball game so many years ago.

Paul is doing this kind of thing all the time for folks who have a connection to Attlebridge. He has graciously shown my wife and me around the last two years. We are lucky to have him (and his sidekick, Peter Woodcock!) in place "over there."

Incidentally the B-24 in the background is B-24J-1-FO #42-95592 "Black Cat" of the 784<sup>th</sup> BS. I think everyone probably knows her tragic fate, which was to be the final 8<sup>th</sup> AF B-24 shot down in combat during WW II.



*Anne Reeve returning to the same spot, 70+ years later.*



*Paul Hindle and Danny McGarry*

# WWII Pilot Still Flying After 72 Years

TETONA DUNLAP [tdunlap@magicvalley.com](mailto:tdunlap@magicvalley.com) Apr 6, 2015



Reprinted from Southern Idaho Local News

**Jack Wendling,**  
**CP for Heath Carriker, #640 & 462**

BUHL • On Jack Wendling's 90th birthday, he flew nine takeoffs and nine landings at Buhl Municipal Airport.

Then he did one more each, just for good measure.

Wendling, of Filer, was born February 10, 1925. He has been flying for 72 years ever since he joined the Air Force at age 17.

His philosophy on flying is this — “Anyone can fly, but not everyone can land. Landing requires numerous decisions and actions in a short amount of time. The solution is practice, to include off-ideal conditions.”

Wendling is a fixture at the Buhl airport. He is there two to three times a week.

“Everybody knows Jack,” said Bart Morrow, office manager and flight instructor at Buhl Municipal Airport.

He is also known as a man with a wealth of flying knowledge. He earned a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering and aircraft propulsion from the University of Michigan in 1949. Wendling recently gave a presentation to the airport advisory board about engine performance and aircraft design.

“He's been there, done that kind of thing,” Morrow said. “He's got experience flying airplanes most people only read about in books. How do you replace that?”

Wendling had his 1946 Ercoupe out of its hangar Friday afternoon. The orange 20-knot windsock on the runway flapped softly on its pole. The clear blue skies and gentle breeze would make for a good day to fly.

He finds it hard to put into words why he loves flying. “It's kind of infectious,” he finally said.

As a recreational pilot, Wendling likes to fly out to Hagerman and soar near the wind turbines.

During WWII, Wendling flew B-24s and other bombers over Europe. He was stationed in the Norfolk County of Britain. Wendling said he later joined a reconnaissance team because he wanted to fly the de Havilland Mosquito, the fastest propeller airplane during WWII.

He served in the Air Force from 1943 to 1952. He was also in the reserves during the Korean War.

Originally from southern Illinois, Wendling started coming to Idaho to hunt. He decided to move to southern Idaho after retiring as a civilian engineer in the Air Force.

He wore a black cap Friday with the words “Black Cat” on the front. A pin representing the 8th Air Force emblem in Europe was tacked to one side of the hat. A set of pilot's wings was pinned to the other.

Wendling said he flew the B-24 Black Cat on several occasions before it became the last bomber lost over Germany in WWII.

As Wendling climbed on the wing of his Ercoupe Friday, he groaned a bit as his knee stiffened up.

“This plane wasn't made for old guys,” he joked. “I can get in here, but getting out is a problem.”

For him, a day at the airport is not only about flying. It's also a chance to be around people with the same interest.

“You going flying today?” Morrow asked Wendling. “I'll give it a try,” he replied.





*April 29, 2016 from Paul Hindle*

Today two sons and a daughter of Sgt Jay Kooiker gunner/engineer with the James Van Ginkle crew 752, 787th BS visited their dad's war time Airfield. They walked on the main runway 27 and stood on revetment area 18 where Liberator "Hard Luck" once parked. Thanks to everybody who helped to make this a very special day for the Kooiker family.



• Rotating propellers  
• 3 marking options  
• Decals by Cartograf

**MINICRAFT  
MODEL KITS**

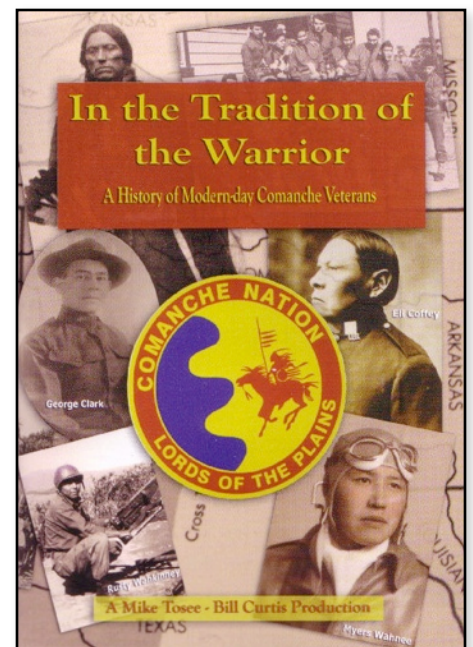
**1:72 B-24D FORMATION SHIP**

Mini-Craft Models is releasing a new model kit this summer that features the **466<sup>th</sup> Formation Ship "Ready & Willing"**. The art work being used for the box is a piece by our 466<sup>th</sup> BGA Treasurer, Bill Curtis. The model kits will be sold at Hobby Lobby and other hobby stores. Photo prints of the original artwork are also available from Bill.

# BILL CURTIS PRESENTS



*For 466th folks planning to attend the 8th Air Force Reunion in St. Louis, I should let you know that I will be doing a seminar on Thursday Morning on "American Indians in WW II." It will feature a special edit of a 90-minute documentary I produced for the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma in 2009, "In the Tradition of the Warrior." The seminar version will include interviews with veterans from other Tribes. With me will be my co-producer, Indian Historian Mike Tosee, PhD, a Kiowa/Comanche Tribal member. We'll have a 30-minute question-answer session.*





**\$\$\$\$\$ 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).

**New Website for the 466<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group by Bill Curtis**

In addition to the existing 466<sup>th</sup> Facebook Sites, I have designed a new website, with Aircraft Photos, Crew Photos, News Stories from Veterans and Members, Q & A Forum for 466<sup>th</sup> related questions, News Items from England and elsewhere in Europe. It is also a place for 466<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.466thbga.com)

**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](mailto:secretary466thbga@gmail.com)

**The 466th BGA on-line**



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

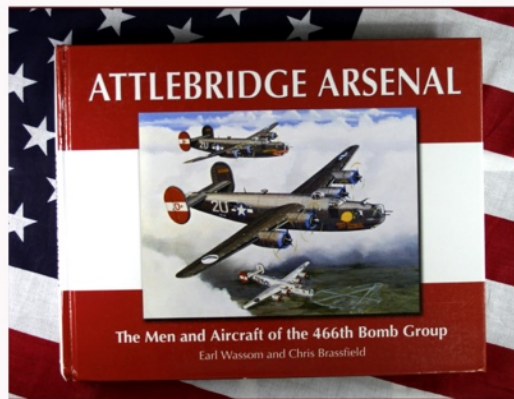
The Facebook Group, **466th**, is a public group, and you request to join. Then you can post photos and comments on the timeline. Administrator of the group is Bill Curtis.

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.

**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](mailto:bcurtis419@juno.com) or phone (785) 766-3351

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# Connections on the Wall of the Missing at Margraten

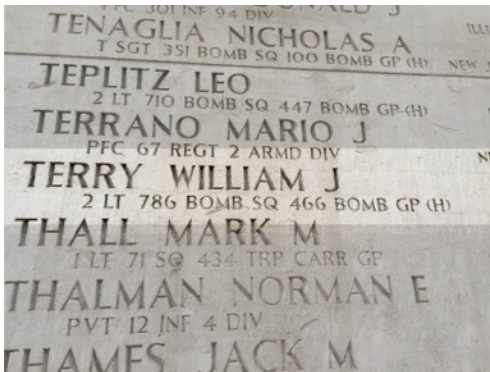
by Beverly Baynes Tomb

There are six men from the 466th BG whose names are on the Wall of the Missing at the Netherlands American Cemetery in Margraten. I was able to photograph all of them while on a river cruise vacation in Belgium and Holland when one of the stops on our tour was at that cemetery.

Thanks to Brian Mahoney, secretary of the Heritage League of the 2nd Air Division (USAAF), for providing the names of the six men very early in the morning U.S. time on the day of our afternoon visit (European time).

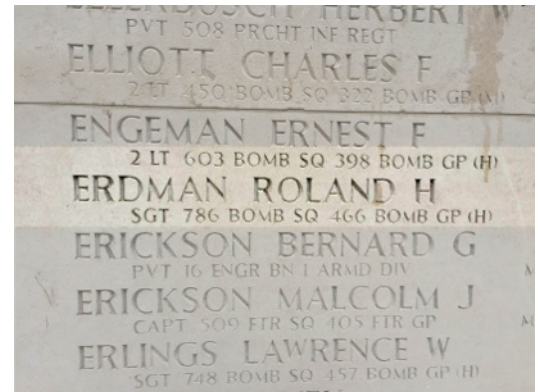
Thanks to Bill Curtis for posting the photos I had sent via email, on Facebook, and adding highlighting so it was easy to tell “our” men. Bill also researched the names and discovered that two of the men were on the same plane, and it was also the plane Lou Loevsky was on!

William Terry was the pilot of Crew #612 and the plane was "Terry and the Pirates." Roland Erdman was the Tail Gunner, and Lou Loevsky was the Navigator. They were shot down on their first combat mission on March 22, 1944. Five Crewmen were KIA and the other five became POWs.



*Members of the 466th  
listed on the Wall of the  
Missing:*

*Cushenberry, Ivan  
Erdman, Roland  
Kerrugan, George  
Slager, Edon  
Terry, William  
Van, Munster R.*



## Attlebridge Anecdotes

### Unwelcome Mission Surprise!



Bombardier on the Dougherty Crew was Ray “Buzz” Edwards, who told this story about one combat mission:

As they were approaching the target, he grabbed his heavy metal flak helmet and strapped it on. Within a few minutes something started to drip down on his bomb site screen and run down his face. “My first reaction was, “I’ve been hit!” he said, but he felt around and there were no wounds — just a more steady drip ... drip ... drip.

He finally realized it was coming from his flak helmet. He quickly pulled it off and discovered that his best buddy and navigator, Bill Horney, had relieved himself into his helmet and, at 30,000 feet where the temperature was 50 below-zero, it had frozen solid! Bill Horney explained that on the B-24 there was a tube you could go into but at high altitude, once it had been used by any crew member, it froze up solid. He said he had to go and the nearest thing was the Buzz Edward's flak helmet.

# TAPS

When we sent out our Winter newsletter, it had been more than two years since the last one. Needless to say, in that time period, there had been many changes on our 466BGA address list.

Many of the newsletters were returned, most of them because of deaths. We discovered as we researched that some of our veterans had been gone for quite a few years. In most cases we were still delivering the newsletter to the spouse, who had also died. Some of these veterans we may have included previously in "Taps" if we had been notified. But we thought it was best to include all we found in obituaries in order to not neglect mentioning someone. So, that is why this list goes back into the early 2000s.

This list of 49 veterans represents 25 states. Included here are men who did every job on a B-24 bomber crew — from the pilot in the flight deck to the gunner in the tail. Every job on the base is also found in this list — the bomber ground crews, mechanics, metalworkers, administrators, intelligence officers, and even movie theatre "crew." Many received medals, some were wounded, some shot down or crash landed in their planes, and some became POWs. Several remained in the service after the war and had careers in the U.S. Air Force. It took all of these men doing their jobs at Station 120 near a little train station at Attlebridge, Norfolk, England, in order to defeat Nazi Germany. We salute them, we extend our sympathy to their families and the veterans who served with them, and we thank them for our freedom.

- By **Martha Curtis, 466BGA Board Member**

## ***NO DATE FOUND:***

**William J. Creeggan**, Sacramento, CA, unknown job

**Joseph J. Hamrock**, Monessen, PA, Mechanic

**Elwood W. Nothstein**, Macedon, NY, Crew #580, Tail gunner

## ***Previous to 2009:***

Col. Lawrence E. Bortness, Phoenix, 1984, Crew #715/ 443, Bombardier, John Woolnaugh Crew.

No Feathered Injun, 30 missions. He retired as a full colonel, with 34 years starting as a buck private at Ft. Snelling, MN. His last assignment was Base Commander at Carswell AFB. He was also Wing Commander at Osan and Kunsan, Korea, and Limestone, ME. He was famously known as the one who shut down Papa Joe Alley in Seoul. There was a lot of racial turmoil there and he was recognized by General John D. Ryan for his dedication to an open Air Force. He flew many combat missions in Vietnam and Korea, though his job was operations officer for quite some time before getting command positions.

**Lt. Col. Burton M. Bush**, Fresno, CA, April 20, 2008, Crew #455, Pilot

Bush remained in the service and had a career in the U.S.F Air Force.

**Arthur P. Childs**, Portland, ME, May 31, 2006, Crew #715/443, Gunner

This crew was piloted by John Woolnough, the founder of the 466 Bomb Group Association and then the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Historical Society. The crew flew 30 missions, 7 of them as lead plane. Childs received the DFC with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters for his service.



**Robert R. Cointepoix**, Oakes, ND, May 5, 2003, Crew #568, Top turret gunner

**Thomas M. Dilworth**, Novi, MI, May 18, 2008, Crew #680, Pilot

**William W. Hurt, Jr.**, Roanoke, VA, Aug. 15, 2007, Crew #726, Co-pilot

This crew flew the first of their 33 missions on D-Day as a new replacement crew. However, they were given an experienced pilot, Frank Walcott. There were a total of 68 sorties that day, with 61 of 63 available crews assigned to at least one of them.

**Col. Harold K. Jordon**, Venice, FL, June 22, 2001, Crew #565/473, Co-pilot

Ken Jordon flew the John C. Welsh crew's 30 missions, including a forced landing in Belgium due to a disabled, windmilling engine. Returning to duty during the Korean War, he taught ROTC at the University of Michigan, completing a 30-year career in the U.S. Air Force while assigned to the Strategic Air Command. He retired at Offutt Air Force Base, where he had been stationed three times during a career that took him around the world, including vice command of a KC 135 tanker wing in Okinawa during the Vietnam War. A recipient of the Legion of Merit, Col. Jordon and his wife, Jane Merrill Jordon, rest in Arlington National Cemetery within sight of the Pentagon, where he was assigned, and the U.S. Air Force Memorial.

**Lt. Col. Charles J. McIntyre**, Aliquippa, PA, 2007, Crew #540, Co-pilot

**Elbert T. Sablotny**, Cleveland, OH, Sept. 24, 2000, Crews #629/465, Navigator

**James E. Walter**, Hot Springs Village, AR, Feb. 19, 2007, Crew #657, Left waist gunner

This crew was shot down by flak on Feb. 6, 1945 with Byron Johnson as pilot. However, Walter was replaced by Raleigh Murray for this mission. Murray and three others were killed and five were POWs.

### **2009-2012:**

**William T. Anderson**, Parkville, MD, June 29, 2011, Crew #685, Navigator

**Verl W. Bell**, Pocatello, ID, July 27, 2012, Crew #788, Ball turret gunner

**Maj. Robert B. Boyd**, Grand Junction, CO, March 18, 2009, Crew #650, Pilot

Boyd remained in the service and had a 20-year career in the U.S. Air Force.



# TAPS

**Richard Henry Bradley, Sr.**, Camden County, MO, Oct. 21, 2012, Crew #787/495, Gunner

In 1943-1945 he served in the U. S. Army Air Corps during World War II in the 466th Bombardment Group, 2nd Air Division, 8th Air Force, stationed in Attlebridge, England. On the crew of a B24 bomber piloted by Irving Waterbury flying runs over Germany, he served as flight engineer, waist gunner, armorer, and was a Staff Sergeant at the time of his discharge after the war ended.

Richard's first bombing assignment was Magnaburg, Germany — the Krupwerks, where heavy artillery was manufactured for use by the Germans. Another target was Kiel's submarine pens. His very last assignment was Tronstein, Germany. He flew combat in both B24Js and B24Hs. On June 10, 1945, Richard left Europe for his return to the United States on a brand new B-24M which had never known combat. They flew first to Valley, Wales; then Meigs Field in Iceland to refuel; then to Goose Bay, Labrador, and on to Bradley Field, Connecticut.

**Daniel Chadbourne**, Hillsborough, CA, May 20, 2011, Crew #551, Flight engineer

**John J. Doskocz**, Port Richey, FL, March 19, 2010, Crew #570, Ground crew chief

SSgt. Doskocz was the crew chief for “Slick Chick.” He was awarded a Bronze Star on March 31, 1945, for the plane flying 100 missions without a turn back for mechanical or personnel reasons. It was flown 117missions total.

**Lt. Col. Charles A. Felts**, Winter Haven, FL, Oct. 11, 2011, Crew #784, Pilot

On Felts' 9<sup>th</sup> mission on Mar. 12, 1945, flying a very war-weary unnamed plane, the crew found themselves with only one engine and were forced to bail out over the Netherlands. The crew was able to get back to Attlebridge via Belgium and flew eight more missions. Felts led quite a varied life. He played minor league baseball before the war, retired from the U.S. Air Force, was a Postmaster, and loved to golf and fish. He and his crew are the subject of a book written by Jim MacMeekin titled “Destination Germany.”

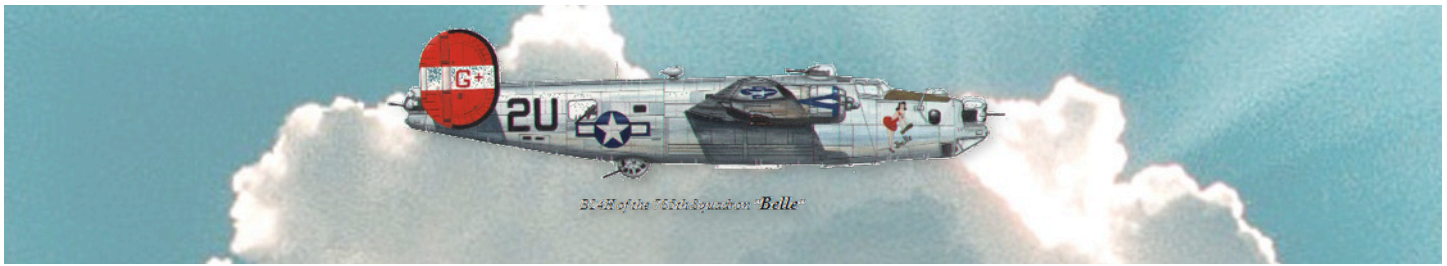
**Earl W. Schilling**, Rushville, IN, Oct. 11, 2012, Crew #671, Waist gunner

**Earl Siders**, Pleasantville, OH, Dec. 1, 2012, Waist gunner

**Le Roy Zach**, Davenport, IA, Jan. 8, 2011, Crew #772, Radio operator and Gunner

**2013**

**William T. Anderson**, Baltimore, MD, March 26, 2013, Crew #685, Navigator with Edward K. Blake.



**Raymond L. Carlson**, Davenport, IA, April 24, 2013, Crew #568, Navigator.

Attlebridge Arsenal includes excerpts from the war time diary that Carlson kept. He recorded the story of one mission when the crew had to land in Belgium because they were out of gas and had mechanical problems. By the time they got back to Attlebridge two days later, they were about to be reported as Missing in Action. He mentions receiving two Oak Leaf Clusters to his Air Medal. On their last and 35th mission they witnessed 12 bombers behind them being shot down. This was March 25, 1945, only about six weeks short of VE Day.

**Stanford Goldberg**, Highland, IN, Oct. 19, 2013, Crew #774, Navigator

**Milton H. Holly**, Vestal, NY, Nov. 18, 2013, Crew #601, Radio operator

**George Kadlec**, Columbus, OH, Dec. 1, 2013, Crew #704, Waist gunner and Flight engineer  
Kadlec received a Purple Heart, the DFC and five Air Medals.

**Thomas M. McNamara**, Beaumont, TX, July 13, 2013, Crew #541, Bombardier

McNamara's plane was shot down on Aug. 9, 1944, over Germany. The pilot managed to get the plane to the Netherlands before it crashed. Both the pilot and co-pilot (Earnest Keyes and Ormond Smith) were killed and the other eight were taken prisoner by German soldiers.

**Carl D. Peterson**, Warren, PA, Jan. 8, 2013, Crew #489, Tail gunner.

**Ralph Pletcher**, Raleigh, NC, Jan. 10, 2013, Technical supply

**Mark W. Solt**, Allentown, PA, Dec. 27, 2013, Crew #597, Radio operator

**Douglas R. Space**, Yarmouth, MA, Feb. 17, 2013, Crew #570, Gunner

**Robert A. Wagner**, Denville, NJ, Aug. 29, 2013, Sub Depot Administrator

The Sub Depot received airplanes which were too battle-damaged for the regular ground crews to repair. See "Attlebridge Arsenal."

**2014- June 2016:**

**Glen H. Alexander**, Chatham, IL, June 18, 2016, Crew #647/460, Pilot and Squadron leader

**Houston S. Bell**, Judsonia, AR, May 10, 2015, Crew #669/460, Tail gunner





# TAPS

**Sidney C. Bower**, Highland Park, IL, March 12, 2014, Crew #702, Navigator

Bower received the DFC and Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters. Born July 26, 1921, in Grand Rapids, MI, he enlisted in the Army in 1942 and served as a navigator on a B-24 Liberator, part of the 466th Bomb Group based in England. Upon completion of his service, he earned an engineering degree from the University of Michigan. He went to work in the steel industry and, while working, earned an MBA degree from the University of Chicago. He is survived by his wife, five children and nine grandchildren.

**William A. Campbell**, Clinton, MA, April 8, 2016, Crew #432, Tail gunner.

Campbell and Crew #432 began their training with the 44th BG at Norwich (now the city's airport) before they transferred to the 466<sup>th</sup>. They often served as lead crew (with pilot Everett Jones) and on two missions as lead crew for the whole Second Air Division. Bill spoke of viewing all these planes from his tail gunner position and sometimes witnessing their terrible fate. He was severely wounded by flak when the plane took a direct hit in the bomb bay on Sept. 11, 1944. However, he returned from the hospital to the base and flew 29 missions. He was very active in many veterans organizations, was past president of the Massachusetts chapter of the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force Historical Society and was vice-president of the 466th Bomb Group. He never missed a reunion, except the year when he had a broken leg. He went back to Attlebridge with a group that traveled there in 2012. He enjoyed himself immensely, especially because he met with so many of the local people around the old base.

**Morgan K. Cox**, Bandera, TX, Sept. 19, 2015, Crew #533, Pilot.

Cox and his crew of their plane "Splash" arrived in Attlebridge just in time to fly the softening up mission the day before D-Day and then one of the three missions flown by the 466th on D-Day. They completed a 32-mission tour with Cox receiving the DFC, the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters and a Purple Heart. Cox continued to fly with the 5th Ferry Group out of Love Field in Dallas, ferrying B-29s all across the U.S., Africa and Brazil to be later delivered for combat operations in Europe and the Pacific. Cox left the Air Corps with the rank of Captain and as a civilian had a cattle and horse ranch in Texas

**Paul N. Etter**, Marietta, OH, Feb. 9, 2014, no details

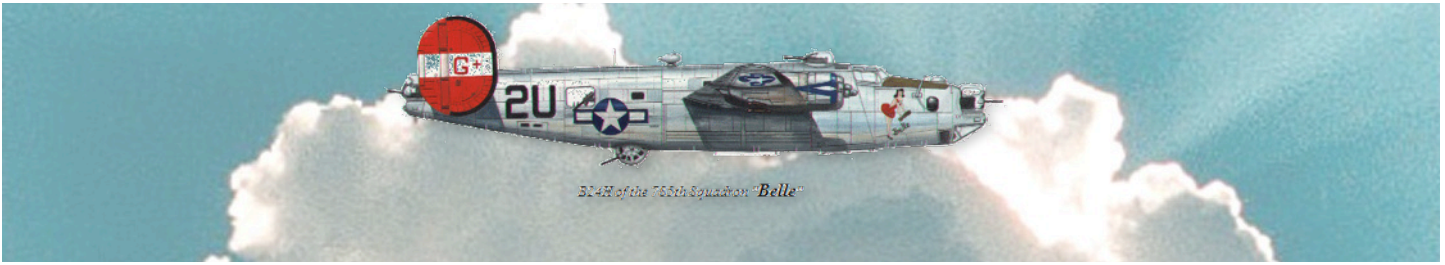
**Edward H. Jones**, Hanford, CA, Aug. 16, 2014, Crew #782/490, Co-pilot

Jones was at Attlebridge at the end of hostilities, so he participated in "Trolley Missions," taking ground crewmen and other base personnel up and down the Rhine so that these men could see the destruction that had been done.

**John R. Mack**, Las Cruces, NM, Dec. 26, 2014, #786 BS, no details

**Martin H. Kern**, El Paso, TX, August 2014, Intelligence officer

**Andrew J. (Jack) Talafuse**, San Angelo, TX, Feb. 6, 2014, Mechanic



**Glenn E. Taylor**, Decatur, AL, Jan. 8, 2014, Crew #423, Gunner

**James Van Ginkle**, Atlantic, IA, Apr. 3, 2016, Crew #752, Pilot.

Crew #752 flew two missions with Paul Dickerman as pilot. He was flying as an observer on Sept. 16, 1944, on Francis Bell's plane (Crew # 754) when it had a mid-air collision with Archibald Williams' plane, (#736). Seventeen of the 21 men were killed, including Dickerman. Van Ginkel took over as pilot of the crew. Col. Woolnough's book, "Attlebridge Diaries," records the psychological stress on the base as a result of these losses. Van Ginkel and his crew went on to fly 35 missions.

**Harry E. Wade, Jr.**, Baldwin, NY, May 6, 2015, Sheet metal worker

**Jerre O. Williams, Sr.**, Rockford, TN, April 23, 2016, Crew #633, Ground crew ("Dirty Gertie")

Williams was multi-talented. Besides keeping a B-24 in perfect order with the two other ground crewmen, he was the Assistant Stage Manager and projectionist at the Opera House, and served the flight crews in the mess hall. He was at Attlebridge for the entire duration of the base operations. He said he felt like the bomber crews were the real heroes, and so didn't feel like he should come to reunions. When he finally did, he was told by the navigator of "Dirty Gertie" that he was wrong — the ground crews were the real heroes because without them working all night to repair the planes and make sure they were safe to fly, the bomber crews never could have flown their missions and arrived safely back to Attlebridge. After the war, he had a career with Eastern and Delta Airlines.

**George T. Zeigler**, Glendale, AZ, Sept. 21, 2014, Crew #614, Pilot

Please notify us of address changes or deaths so that we can include the information in the newsletter and keep our membership list current. I can be contacted at

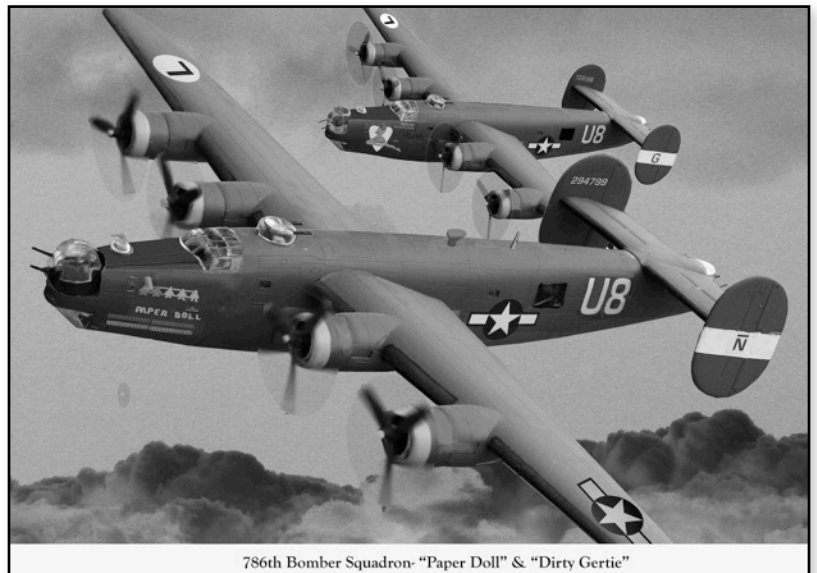
[mcurtis415@yahoo.com](mailto:mcurtis415@yahoo.com) or

515 W. Ariel Ave.

Foley, AL 36535, or

785-331-6177. Thank you.

Martha Curtis (466th BG daughter)



786th Bomber Squadron - "Paper Doll" & "Dirty Gertie"

## Attlebridge Memories

### Elmo Maiden's Introduction to Station 120

Elmo Maiden was pilot of Crew #664 which arrived at Attlebridge on Oct. 5, 1944, and completed 35 combat missions. He recently told the story of his arrival in England.

“They sent us to Ireland for the assignment of our crews to airbases. For two weeks we waited and watched the bulletin boards and finally noticed that we'd been assigned to the 466<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group at Attlebridge, England. I knew nothing about the base at all. They sent a B-24 over to pick us up, and they loaded all our baggage in the bomb bay. Our B-4 bags must have each weighed 40 or 50 pounds, and they had them piled on top of the bomb bay doors. The pilot they had flying us back to Attlebridge, the first thing he did was land us real hard and all the doors broke open and the bags scattered up and down the runway. That was my introduction to my combat group.”

### 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, D.C., 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/1Qh0Ofp](http://bit.ly/1Qh0Ofp)  
Link to the Reunion page:

<http://www.heritageleague.org/2016-reunions.html>

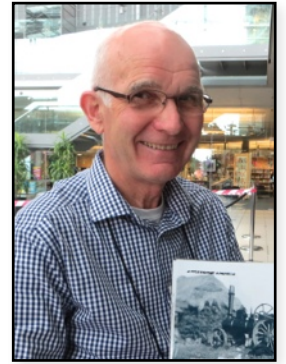
We are planning an exciting agenda that will include the Annual Business Meeting of the Heritage League, a trip to the National Archives where Record Group 18 holds the original records of the 2nd Air Division, a visit to the National WW II Memorial, the Air Force Memorial, and a special tour of Arlington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

Heritage League website:  
<http://www.heritageleague.org>

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

### *Continuing Gratitude to Paul Hindle!*

*Paul Hindle, 466th BGA  
historian & Attlebridge  
guide in Norwich, England,  
and immeasurable  
resource!*



## 466th Memorial Locations

### In England:

- Frans Green: Memorial Stone marker, low stone wall behind with Bomb Squadron emblems embedded, roses and bushes, U.S. and U.K. flags on flagpoles.
- 2nd Air Division Memorial Library, Norwich: Books, 466th banner, assembly ship model, notebook on 466th, map of all 2nd A.D. bases showing Attlebridge
- Weston-Longville Parish Church: framed Roll of Honor, signed copy of Attlebridge Diaries, American Flag.
- Hethel: Nissen hut has 466th memorabilia and items for sale.
- Parson Woodforde pub: 466th BG corner with memorabilia in cases and on the wall.
- Weston-Longville village: Wooden signpost donated by 466th BG has a brass plaque.

### In the U.S.:

- Mighty Eighth A.F. Museum, Savannah, Georgia: Memorial stone in the Honor Garden



# 42nd ANNUAL 8th AFHS REUNION

## Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet, St. Louis, MO

### October 19-23, 2016

## HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

**314-878-1500 or 888-627-7066**

**(Reference 'CHALET' and 8th AFHS)**

### Location

The Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet is located in Westport Plaza, (191 Westport Plaza, St. Louis, MO 63146) which features 18 shops, popular restaurants, and entertainment venues like the Westport Playhouse, The Funny Bone Comedy Club, Jive and Wail Piano Bar, and Backstreet Jazz and Blues. Guests will enjoy convenient access to popular destinations and attractions. We're located just 10 minutes from historic St. Charles, 15 minutes from Forest Park, home of the Saint Louis Zoo, Science Center, Art Museum and the History Museum. We're also close to the world-famous Gateway Arch, the St. Louis Cardinals baseball stadium, Six Flags® and Missouri's Wine County.

### Shuttle Service

For those of you flying into St. Louis, there is complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport to the hotel. Go to Baggage Claim/Hotel Shuttle exits—the shuttle runs every half hour.

### Upscale Amenities

Enjoy complimentary wireless High Speed Internet in all public areas, concierge service, plus signature amenities you'll only find at Sheraton. Wake up energized after a restful night's sleep in a plush Sheraton Sweet Sleeper® Bed. Sheraton Club rooms and suites provide guests with special access to the Sheraton Club Lounge, offering complimentary breakfast, evening hors d'oeuvres, and a variety of beverage options. Stay connected at our lobby's connectivity hub, the Link@Sheraton™ experience with Microsoft®. Stay fit with a visit to our Sheraton Fitness center, programmed by Core Performance™.

### Dining Options Abound

The Terrace Restaurant and Lucerne Restaurant feature a wide variety of menu items served in a friendly, casual atmosphere. There is also a private dining area perfect for intimate gatherings. In the summer, enjoy poolside refreshments every weekend at the Tiki Bar, serving snacks, beer, wine and frozen drinks. We also offer guests the convenience and privacy of in-room dining service. Stroll through the Westport Plaza Complex and visit any one of their many casual and fine-dining options, from seafood restaurants to specialty cafés.

### **RESERVATION INFORMATION**

**Group Name:** 8th Air Force Historical Society

**Reunion Dates:** October 19-23, 2016

**Rate:** \$109 + tax (currently 15.363%) Rates are offered 3 days prior and 3 days post reunion based on availability.

**Cut off Date:** 9/15/2016

**Cancellation Policy:** All reservations have a 48 hour cancellation policy, or attendee will be charged one night room rate plus tax.

### **WHEELCHAIR RENTALS**

**ScotAround:** (888) 441-7575 or ScotAround.com

### **HOSPITALITY SUITES**

This year, the 8th AFHS is pleased to announce that we are offering **HOSPITALITY SUITES** to groups at **NO CHARGE**. The number of suites is limited, so we ask that you reserve your suite as soon as possible. Suites are located in close proximity to one another and most are large enough for two or more groups to share space.

In order to guarantee your suite,  
please call or email ASAP:

**Debra Kujawa**

**Managing Director**

**912-748-8884**

**ManagingDirector@8thAFHS.org**



## 42nd ANNUAL 8th AFHS REUNION

### Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet, St. Louis, MO

### October 19-23, 2016

#### Wednesday, October 19

1:00pm — 6:00pm	Reunion registration open
1:00pm — until	Memorabilia/Gathering room open throughout reunion
1:00pm — 4:00pm	8th AFHS Board Meeting
6:00pm — 7:00pm	Welcome Reception, followed by dinner on your own

#### Thursday, October 20

7:30am — 8:30am	Continental Breakfast for Package #1 participants
8:00am — 12:00pm	Reunion registration open
8:30am — 9:45am	Individual Group Meetings
10:00am — 11:30am	<b>American Indians in WWII</b>
11:45am — 4:00pm	<b>Our Military Heritage Tour*</b>
1:00pm — 6:00pm	Reunion registration open
6:00pm — 9:00pm	Cash Bar Open
7:00pm — 9:00pm	Rendezvous Dinners

#### Friday, October 21

7:30am — 8:30am	Full Breakfast for Meal Package participants
8:00am — 12:00pm	Reunion registration open
9:00am — 1:00pm	<b>Gateway to St. Louis City Tour*</b>
1:00pm — 6:00pm	Reunion registration open
2:00pm — 3:30pm	<b>Presentation on AAM Duxford</b>
3:45pm — 5:00pm	<b>Q &amp; A WWII Vets</b>
6:00pm — 9:00pm	Cash Bar Open
7:00pm — 9:00pm	<b>Dinner Buffet—Donald Miller Presentation</b>

#### Saturday, October 22

7:30am — 8:30am	Continental Breakfast for Meal Package participants
8:00am — 12:00pm	Reunion registration open
8:45am — 10:15am	General Membership Meeting
10:30am — 11:30am	Researchers/Webmasters Meeting
11:30pm — 4:30pm	<b>Anheuser-Busch Brewery/Grant's Farm Tour*</b>
12:00pm — 4:00pm	8th AFHS Board Meeting
1:00pm — 6:00pm	Reunion registration open
6:00pm — 9:00pm	Cash Bar Open
7:00pm — 10:00pm	Gala Dinner and Program

#### Sunday, October 23

7:30am — 8:30am	Full Breakfast for Meal Package participants
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\*It is important that you be in the bus boarding area at least ten [10] minutes prior to the scheduled departure times. All tours require a minimum of 40 participants, unless otherwise stated. Driver and Staff gratuities **ARE** included in the tour prices.



**42nd ANNUAL 8th AFHS REUNION**  
**Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet, St. Louis, MO**  
**October 19-23, 2016**

**REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS**

**STOP!**

◇ **RESERVE YOUR HOTEL ROOM FIRST!**

The reunion hotel has a liberal cancellation policy—in the event you are unable to attend the reunion, you will be able to cancel your reservation without penalty within 48 hours of your scheduled check-in time. However, if you wait until the last minute to book your room reservation, you may not receive the reunion rate or rooms may no longer be available at the reunion hotel. Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that our vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less a \$5 processing fee.

*Canceling your hotel reservation does NOT cancel your reunion activities.*

◇ **COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION FORM**

Please fill out the registration form completely.

- ⇒ Fill out your name as you wish it to be on your name tag—and for any others registering with you. If you are a WWII veteran, and/or affiliated with a bomb or fighter group, please indicate which group.
- ⇒ Meal packages include either seven [7] hotel meals [package #1] or five [5] hotel meals [package #2]. If you purchase a meal package, do NOT select separately priced meals. If you plan to attend some or all of the dinner functions, but do NOT wish to include breakfast, simply select the dinners you wish to attend in the area indicating “Separately Priced Meals.” Be sure and select your entrée if you plan on attending the Saturday evening gala.
- ⇒ There are three [3] tour options available during the reunion. Please read the information [here in this issue] on each tour and then make your selection on the form. **The Military Heritage Tour INCLUDES** a box lunch.

◇ **MAIL IN YOUR REGISTRATION FORM**

Once you have completed your registration form, please total up the amount owed and include a check, money order, or complete the credit card information on the form, payable to the **8th AFHS** and mail to:

**8th AFHS**  
**P O Box 60369**  
**Savannah, GA 31420-0369**

ALL registration forms MUST be received by September 15, 2016 in order to guarantee your place. If you have any questions or problems in completing your registration, please contact:

**Debra Kujawa**  
**Managing Director**  
**8th AFHS**  
**912-748-8884**  
**ManagingDirector@8thAFHS.org**

**ALL reunion information and forms are available on our website: [8thAFHS.org](http://8thAFHS.org)**



**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**42nd ANNUAL 8th AFHS REUNION**  
 Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet, St. Louis, MO  
 October 19-23, 2016

CUT-OFF DATE IS September 15, 2016	Price Per	# of People	TOTAL
<b>REGISTRATION FEE</b>	\$ 40	#	\$
Registration fee for children ages 8-16	\$ 25	#	\$
<b>MEAL PACKAGES</b>			
#1 Includes 7 hotel meals beginning with breakfast Thursday, Oct 20	\$ 212	#	\$
#2 Includes 5 hotel meals beginning with breakfast Friday, Oct 21	\$ 148	#	\$
<b>Please select your entrée choice for the Gala banquet Saturday, Oct 22:</b>			
Sliced London Broil with Bordelaise Sauce		#	
Pan Seared Salmon w/Balsamic Reduction		#	
<b>SEPARATELY PRICED MEALS (If not purchasing a meal package)</b>			
Thursday, Oct 20 — RENDEZVOUS DINNER Chicken Marsala	\$ 46	#	\$
Friday, Oct 21—EVENING DINNER BUFFET Roasted Pork Loin & Grilled Chicken Breast	\$ 46	#	\$
Saturday, Oct 22—GALA BANQUET (Please select entrée)			
Sliced London Broil with Bordelaise Sauce	\$ 46	#	\$
Pan Seared Salmon with Balsamic Reduction	\$ 46	#	\$
<b>TOUR OPTIONS:</b>			
Thursday, Oct 20: Military Heritage Tour— <b>INCLUDES BOX LUNCH</b>	\$ 45	#	\$
Friday, Oct 21: Gateway to St. Louis City Tour—Lunch on your own	\$ 25	#	\$
Saturday, Oct 22: Anheuser-Busch Brewery/Grant's Farm Tour	\$ 37	#	\$
<b>Total amount payable to: 8th AFHS</b>			\$

MEMBER NAME (for name tag): \_\_\_\_\_

WWII Veteran \_\_\_\_\_ BG or FG Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_ POW: \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd Gen \_\_\_\_\_ Gold Star Family Member \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE or PERSON attending: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL GUESTS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PH #: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_ PH #: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE INDICATE ANY PHYSICAL OR DIETARY RESTRICTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

IF PAYING BY CREDIT CARD:

CARD #: \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ *Your contact information will only be shared with attendees.*

**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

From 466th Bomb Group Association

Beverly Baynes Tomb

2122 Grayson Place

Falls Church, VA 22043

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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.



# SEE YOU IN ST. LOUIS!

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 19-23, 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**