

5/5/02 sent check for \$50. mail fund

VOL. 21 NO. 1 STATION 145 RACKHEATH APO 558 April 1, 2002

**FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY-SEVENTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HEAVY) ASSOCIATION, LTD.
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Fred Holdrege 790th Home Page: <http://fred790.tripod.com/welcome.html>

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<u>Directors</u>	<u>Term Remaining</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City & State</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
5 year	3 years	Walter J. Mundy	24030 Basin Harbor Ct.	Tehachapi, CA 93561	(661) 821-5101
5 year	3 years	Vincent C. Re	6450 Rapid Run Rd.	Cincinnati, OH 45233	(513) 941-2241
5 year	3 years	Marvin Ralph Davis	1143 Kenora Circle	Beavercreek, OH 45430	(937) 426-2988
3 year	3 years	John W. Upp	201 N Tyler Rd., #416	St. Charles, IL 60174	(630) 513-8421
3 year	2 years	Paul V. Hatten	4209 Ormston Circle	Rock Hill, SC 19732	(803) 980-6529
3 year	1 year	Anthony V. Bell	853 Jordanolo Dr.	Ripon, CA 95366	(209) 599-3066

FROM THE PREZ

COLONEL SHOWER'S MEMORIAL

The response to date has not been what I had expected. However, those who have participated have our sincere thanks. There were several members in England that indicated support, but to date have not participated. We have received donations from 35 individual plus a donation from the 467th treasury. We have around 1,400 members and associates and a response of 35 is only .025 % of the population, a very meager response. In all, we are looking at four areas to have Colonel Shower memorialized. We have decided to donate to (1) the 2nd Air division memorial library, (2) The Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum, and (3) possibly The Collins Foundation (B-24 All-American). To make these areas of memorialization meaningful, we need your support. I believe there are several out there that want to be a part of this effort and I'm sure that I can expect additional contributions from those who, at this time, have not responded. There was only one "Al Shower", lets recognize him, as we should for all he did for us in the 467th.

CONVENTION 2002

The plans have been finalized. The registration forms are in this issue. I have determined that the initial estimate of \$225.00 per person for the convention will meet the needs. The motel has keep their price set at \$60.50 per person, single or double. The only trips planned will be transportation to and from the Heritage Museum on Friday. Friday will also have two memorial services at the 8th AFHM Memorial Chapel. One will be at 11:00am and the second will be at 2:00pm. There will be a sign-up sheet at registration for time selection. It is necessary to do this as the Chapel will only hold around 80 and we do not want to over-crowd the service. There will be trips to the Museum and then to the City Market and River Street and back to Museum and motel on Saturday. City Market is a restored warehouse of a variety of shops, galleries and eating and drinking establishments. The outdoor sidewalk cafes of City Market lend a bit of Old World charm to Savannah. Market Street is your access to the Octoberfest in Savannah with many various stores crafts and eating-places. Representatives will be at the motel Thursday afternoon and Friday morning to schedule special tours

such as: Ghost Tour, Island Tour, Shopping Tour, Book Tour and Dauphine Tour. They may have others, as they become available. Sunday as always is set aside for the business meeting and board meetings, so those not involved could schedule a tour on Sunday. We will have the large three-section hospitality space, which will afford itself to good conversation, reviews of memorabilia, snacks and drinks. A on your own snack lunch of soup, sandwich and drink will be available at the motel for those who wish to eat at the motel.

CONVENTION 2003

Progress to date is good for the San Antonio Convention in 2003. We have tentatively established a hotel on the trolley line for the price of \$79.00 per night plus tax. This is a very good price for this area. Most were well over \$100 except those so far out that you couldn't hear Davey Crocketts gun fire. Anything on the river was out of sight. Right now our dates have been changed to the last week in September as it would cost us an additional \$13 to get the first week in October. I have the meals set up and also a tour trip of the Missions. One tour in the morning and the other in the afternoon. At present, they plan to drop you off at an area where you can have lunch on your own and then back to the hotel or on to the tour. I'm not sure at this time if there will be a trip to one of the local Air Bases, if possible, I will try. San Antonio for many of us was a part of our introduction into the USAAF. My first stop was at the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center. That sure seems like a long time ago when I woke up every morning with the speakers blasting out "You had plenty money back in '22, you let other women make a fool of you, why don't you do right and get me some money too". My words may not be correct today, but that seems like the song. We will hit the "Alamo" a one sure stop, plus some other missions. I need to know if anyone would like to visit the Sunken Gardens, now called the Japanese Tea Gardens. It was, as I remember, a very pretty place to visit. You will have time to take the trolley to town and do some visiting as you see fit. I will also try to get someone to be on board for Thursday afternoon and Friday morning to sign up members for special trips, especially the river trip. At the present time, I do not have any idea what is available.

CONVENTION 2004

Looking at two places right now. One is the Covington Kentucky area and the other is Las Vegas. Both have very good offers for hotel accommodations. It has been a while since we have had one in the Far West and we can discuss this in Savannah. If any of you have an idea better than Las Vegas to compete with Covington. Kentucky let me know. I would be partial to Kentucky, as it would be close to home. I will have more on this in the next issue.

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

Walt Mundy has received a letter from Representative Thomas and he says that his letter with the proposal is at Randolph Air Force Base and the Action Officer has prepared it as a case review for the council. A second

action, through Representative Hobson was forwarded directly to the White House by his Chief of Staff, Wayne Struble, and is being reviewed by the Congressional and Legislative Affairs Office. My complaint to Representative Hobson was that in all the letters I wrote to either President Clinton or Bush, neither had someone within the White House review the proposal. Unfortunately, bureaucratic actions never change. Wayne advised me last week that the White House had sent our package to the Air Force. He was disturbed about this and said he would get in touch with them to request that an in-house review should be made. Things seem to never change. Whether it is fruitful or not, we will have to wait and see. I still owe Cynthia, Jack Stevens's daughter a copy of the proposal for her to see what she can do. I decided to wait and see how the two actions we now have under way turn out.

DIRECT COMMUNICATION

The use of the toll free number is still not being used as much as it should be. I had about 30 postage forward charges from the last newsletter. The number is **1-877-882-7235**. I have a privacy manager system on my phone, so to avoid going through it, you can dial **467** right after the above number and you should go right through to me. I can't promise it as sometimes things go wrong, but give it a try. You can use this for news, last posts, address changes, etc.

INTERNET - WEB PAGE OF THE 467th

As I told you last newsletter, the 467th now has its own domain name, **467bg.com**. The best-laid plans sometime never work out. Bob ran into problems with his equipment and had a computer virus that messed things up. However, he promises me that he will have it in before the next issue of the newsletter and available at the next convention in Savannah. If we get it changed earlier, we hope to have something on the net that will advise you of the change. However, if you can not reach us with the old, try the new.

2AD GROUP VP - GEOFF GREGORY

Howdy from Texas!

The dust has finally settled after Norwich in November. Generally, the results of the trip were as follows. England still remains the same. The Library is a jewel; worthy of all the support we can muster. The fact that Norwich has no hotel large enough to accommodate all that attended under the same roof, proved a bit of a problem. Except for BASE DAY, it was not possible for our entire group to visit, eat and meet together at any given time or event. But we made up for it on Base Day. Our English friends turned out in large numbers to greet us. The lunch at the renovated Green Man was just right. The Dinner at Salhouse Lodge was exceptional. Time sped by and before we knew it we were on the way home. Terry and I discovered that a taxi from Norwich to Gatwick was just about the same cost as the train, but so much easier and much less hassle handling luggage. Tired travelers, we returned home; and it was probably our last trip there.

The bequest program was responsible for contributing \$100,000 to the Memorial. It must also be noted that one of the 3 founders of the Library included one of our own, Ian Walker of the 467th. The bequest program is an ongoing one, as it has become an integral part of the future of the Library.

So now we turn our thoughts to Savannah. I know Ralph is doing his usual great job of planning for us, but a few thoughts come to mind. Savannah is one of the easiest and most historically interesting cities in our country. Plan to walk if you can - there are lots of benches for resting; and it is a pretty compact area. There are a number of good restaurants and unique interesting shops on Factors Row right on the River. The Crystal Bar and Grill, a short walk from Factors Row, has good and reasonable food. It is a "local", not a tourist place.

Also, if you have access to a car, take time to visit Ft. Pulaski. This Fort marks the end of fortified Forts during the War between the States. The Union siege forces caused the surrender of the Confederates with the use of rifled cannon barrels. Many holes are still visible in the walls. A great place to visit, but it does require some walking.

Looking forward to our convention in the fall of 2003, at the request of Ralph Davis, I recently paid a visit to San Antonio. Being one of the top convention cities in the country, San Antonio has established very high rates for any "downtown" accommodations. As you leave the downtown area, rates of course are less expensive. Ralph is looking very closely at all his options. It is a GREAT convention area, very colorful; "party" atmosphere, with a unique River Walk area. Ethnic foods - both German and Spanish are abundant and delicious. The two cultures also add to the "flavor" of the area.

In Dallas, we are presently looking forward to hosting the Executive Committee at our annual Southwest regional Dinner. This means that our 2nd ADA President will be coming to town with 'First Lady', Ruth! An honor, indeed. Wait, I will be introducing you. I'll make it short if you do. Your "short" speech in Norwich was great.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Savannah, "if the creek don't rise"!

NEWS FROM STATION 145.

At last we have signs of Spring with the trees beginning to bud and our two wild ducks who have adopted our pond and stream for the past 4 years have just flown in. They stay all day until dusk before returning to the river. The new 2nd Air Division Memorial Library is succeeding beyond our wildest dreams with large numbers of visitors each day. In February I took over from Paul King as Chairman of the Memorial Trust and at the meeting we stood for a minutes silence in memory of Colonel Albert Shower - we still cannot really accept that he has gone - but Charlotte has sent us a wonderful letter

This is the 10th Anniversary of that wonderful "Diamond Lil" flight to the UK and the Squadron

Newsletter "FLYER" featured the visit in the last issue. We are still hoping that the Crew will return for a Reunion in Norwich this summer.

The Base has not changed, but a new business estate has been built off Green Lane West with a road named In honour of James Mahoney, One of the firms based there has asked me for photographs of him and "Witchcraft" as they wish to make special feature in their reception area, so your name lives on.

We are looking forward to meeting Frank Baker and his family from Ordnance on March 28th when we are showing them the New Library, lunch at the Green Man, the Base and finally supper with us at Salhouse before we put them back on the London train. Jean and I are still hoping to make the 2nd ADA Convention and hopefully will meet you there.

Best wishes to all the 467th - you are always in our thoughts.

Jean and David

AIRCRAFT NAMES - B-24 NOSE ARTWORK

Veterans and Friends, I am seeking information and details relating to how the Group B-24s acquired the names that appeared along with the nose artwork on many of them. I urgently need this information for a chapter in the book I am currently writing titled "The 1100 Days of the 467th Bombardment Group (Heavy). Postal address:- Perry Watts, 'Savona', 22 Norwich Road, Salhouse, Norwich, Norfolk, NR13 6QF, England - or - e-mail address:- perry@watts1.fsnet.co.uk. Your replies will be greatly appreciated.

Perry Watts

VIDEO PRESENTATION AT DUXFORD

I met with Tod Nichol of the IWM at Duxford. I was contacted by them as they are in the production stage of an interactive touch-screen video presentation that is to be sited next to the B24 currently under restoration at Duxford. They have chosen the 467th as an "example" Group and using interviews conducted by the Dzenowagis family who have contributed interviews with the veterans of the 467th as well as the use of James Mahoney's colour film of Rackheath and the 467th. Roger Freeman narrates the production which takes different themes but also has recent film of Rackheath intercut with the Mahoney film to give a "then & now" effect. Apparently the production has a "few holes" in it and they want some of my photographic archive to fill the gaps. I need to tie up some conditions of use/copyright issues etc. but really it's an excuse to just have a free day out at Duxford once the meeting is over. Am quite excited the 467th will be represented this way and it should be ready by August when the B24 is placed in the American Military Museum and a rededication ceremony is planned. Will let you know more when more details are available.

Andy Wilkinson

PICTURES AT BARSHAM



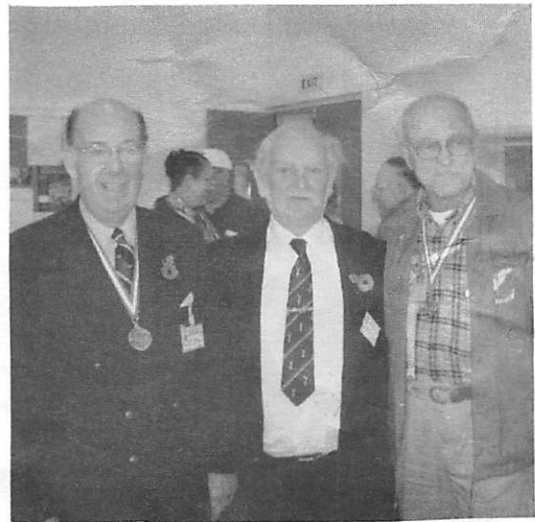
BARSHAM AND SHIPMEADOW CHURCH



JAY SHOWER LAYING A REEF AT THE REID MEMORIAL

The above photos were taken at Barsham. The photographs following were taken during Base Day and include only a few of the ones that will be placed on the Web Page as a part of our convention display we intend to put on the web. Once they are on the Internet, if you have additional pictures, please let us know, send them to us and we will scan them and return to you as soon as possible.

BASE DAY PICTURES



DAVID, PERRY AND JAY AT THE RACKHEATH COMMUNITY CENTER



GEOFF, JAY AND JACK AT MEMORIAL

Continued on Page 7

Convention Registration Form - Pooler GA., Oct 3 -7, 2002

467th Bombardment Group Association (H) Ltd.

(Complete this form and mail along with deposit to Ralph Davis)
(Please fill in all the requested blanks to assist Convention Records)

Name _____
 Last First M.I. Badge - Name

Address _____
 Street City State Zip Code

Telephone No. () _____ - _____ e-mail address _____

First Timer Yes () No ()

Accompanied By:

Name _____
 Last First M.I. Badge - First Name

Name _____
 Last First M.I. Badge - First Name

Name _____
 Last First M.I. Badge - First Name

Date of Arrival and time _____ A.M.- P.M. (Very Important)
 Date Time

Date of Departure and time _____ A.M.- P.M.
 Date Time

Arriving via Car()/ ()Air line _____ Flt # _____

Car arrivals: From I - 95 take exit 102 and the sign is visible from the exit. Address is 301 Governor Treutlen Drive. It is across from the Econo Lodge and the drive is between Burger King and Hardees fast food.

Air arrivals: The motel does not have a courtesy car at this time; however, it is only 2 or so miles from the airport, so a taxicab is recommended.

RV and Motorhome: Parking available in lot at motel. There are NO hookups available.

BADGE INFORMATION

Important - Complete data below for badge ID

Your Squadron/Unit _____ Your Rank and Duty _____

Your Pilot/CO _____ Arrived Rackheath _____ Departed _____

POW Yes () No () If yes, where _____ How Long _____

Cite one memory while at Rackheath that gives you a chuckle and/or of interest to the group:

CONVENTION COSTS

Per Person \$ 225.00
 Times Number of Persons _____ ()
 Total Cost \$ _____
 Deposit Due With Reservations, \$75.00 per person = \$ _____
 Balance Due August 30, 1999, \$ 150.00 per person = \$ _____

Please pay by check or Money Order!

The above cost is for the entire package as listed in the Schedule of Activities.

There will be a "Freebie" drawing for a one person convention package cost of \$ 225.00. The drawing will be open to all that pay in full by August 1, 2002

Make checks payable to: "467th Bombardment Group Convention 2002".

Fill in the above Convention Costs form and mail with your deposit of \$75.00 per person along with the Convention Registration Form to:

Ralph Davis
 1143 Kenora circle
 Beavercreek, OH 45430-1101
 (937) 426-2988 (e-mail: BJMax@aol.com)
 1-877-882-7235

HOTEL REGISTRATION

MAKE ROOM RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY WITH THE COMFORT INN & SUITES MOTEL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

All rooms must be reserved by September 1, 2002 in order to guarantee space and to assure rates.
 Reservation phone number: 1-888-895-6464. Check-in time: 3:00 PM.

Comfort Inn & Suites Motel
 301 Governor Treutlen Drive
 Pooler, GA 31322
 1-888-895-6464 (Reservation)
 (912) 748-6464 - FAX (912) 748-8163.

Room rates are: Single or Double \$ 60.50 + tax

When making reservations, please refer to the 467th Bomb Group Convention, Oct 3 - 7, 2002. A 48-hour cancellation policy is in effect. These rates will apply for three or four days before and after the convention. All rooms are either a single king bed or two full size beds. In addition to the usual amenities included are a full size ironing board and iron, hair dryer, microwave, refrigerator, coffee maker and public areas are wheelchair accessible. Please let your special requirements be known to the hotel.



COLONEL SHOWER ON HIS CAISSON



CAN YOU GUESS WHO THIS IS A PICTURE OF?



LUNCH AT THE GREEN MAN



DINNER AT THE 2AD BANQUET

A RESPONSE FROM CHARLOTTE SHOWER

It is most pleasing to all the Shower family that the 467th has paid Al this honor. I hope the memorial will be established in both the Second Air Division Memorial Library and the Eighth Air Force heritage Museum. Your coverage of my dear Al's obituary and funeral in the latest "Poop From Group" was outstanding, I shall keep it always. Very best wishes,

Charlotte Shower

LETTERS REGARDING COLONEL SHOWER

ORA HOLTER – AW

My husband, Lt. Col. Arthur Holter thought the world of Col. Shower and spoke of him often. I know he would have wanted to contribute to his memorial, so I'm sending a check for that purpose.

BILL McGOVERN

Ralph, I greatly enjoyed your report on the career accomplishments and the ultimate demise of our Colonel. As a member of the non-flying contingent, we too grew to honor and respect him. He is the perfect

example as to why in the time of peril our nation has learned to rely on the career men of our military academies for guidance and leadership. Thank God that men like him seem to be here and rise to the occasion. He will be missed. (I couldn't have said it better-Ralph)

DOTTY AND KEN CLOSE

We are distressed to learn of the Colonel's death. He always seemed so – indestructible! There is little doubt that he was responsible for many of the 467th "boys" making it home. Our sympathy to his family.

ROBERT KRAFT

I am saddened that Col. Shower died. He was fortunate to have had a long life span. If possible, please offer my condolences to the family. I was a left waist gunner on Lt. Rosborough's crew in the 492nd and 467th Bomb Groups.

ERNEST HAAR

Col. Shower will always be remembered as effective a military commander as served in the Armed Forces. Through his diligence in Europe, many lives were saved by his dedication to preparation of those who served in our combat missions. Through a friend in Madison, Wisconsin, I became to know Al and enjoyed very much the occasion when he visited on his way to Command School and we were able to have lunch together. And what a wonderful surprise it was, upon returning to our hotel room during the 2nd AD convention in Lexington, KY, to find the message light blinking to advise of a message from Al which enabled us to meet in the hotel lobby and become reacquainted. He was a great leader and will be missed by all those who served with him.

KEN MICKO

He was a great leader, however, at times to a 22 year old, he seemed too persistent in close formation when he was flying around in that P-47 of his. To me, as a low-life co-pilot, things were sometime not understandable. We were very fortunate to have him as our leader. His persistence to close formation made the 467th Bomb Group the very best of the best. I did correspond with him once after the war telling him about our 20th mission in which we were shot down over Berlin on March 18, 1945. He answered most graciously and even told me about his younger days before the war when he was visiting Brainerd, MN.

REDEDICATION COMMEMORATIVE POSTER

If you were unable to attend the 2nd Air Division USAAF Memorial Library rededication you missed the experience of a great event. A Commemorative Poster with explanatory Narrative is available to bring the rededication closer allowing a realization of "being there", a lifetime memory! The cost is only a \$6.00 donation, including postage. The net proceeds go to the Memorial Trust. Checks should be made out to:

Alan Senior
610 Salerno St.
Sugar Land, TX 77478

2ADA CONVENTION

The 2002 2ADA Convention has been moved from Cambridge, MA to Hyatt Harbor Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland. Problems in hotel development completion date required the change.

MAIL MEMORIAL FUND

MAIL MEMORIAL FUND

There were 30 contributions to the mail fund this period that gave \$1,231.75, approximately \$41.06 per donation. Your generosity, as always, is deeply appreciated. The cost of preparation and mailing the newsletter averages around \$1,450 per issue. We have used 1st class mail as it gets there much earlier for most; however, if donations continue to be reduced, I will have to resort to the non-profit mailings to cut costs. If you enjoy the newsletter, please help support it. Donations for Colonel Shower's Memorial Fund are indicated by a (*) and Bob McGovern by a (**). Thomas Held made a donation to the Mail Fund in the name of Robert L. Held, Jr. Contributors this period were:

Anderson, Ralph	McEwen, Betty (**)
Barnes, Milton	McEwen, Eugene (**)
Bednarik, Chuck (*)	McGovern, Bill (*) (MF)
Close, Ken (*) (MF)	Morris Jr., Clarence
Davis, Ralph (*) (**) (MF)	Moulton, Robert
DeKerf, Bob (**)	Mountford, Wayne (*)
Dettinger, Roy	Mundy, Walter (*) (**) (MF)
Deutsch, Morton	Prichard, Lyle (*) (MF)
Edwards, Bob	Rainwater, Ray (Lynn)
Fagan, Catherine	Re, Vince (*) (MF)
Fletcher, Richard (*)	Scherer, Roger
Gregory, Geoff (*)	Scott, Bill
Gummelt, Jim (*)	Shepherd, Max
Hartney, Charles (*)	Shower, Charlotte (*)
Hatten, Paul (*) (MF)	Shower, Margaret (*)
Held, Thomas (R. Held, Jr)	Spivey, Bob (*)
Hoffbauer, Max (*)	Stafford, Jr, Kirby
Holdrege, Fred (*) (MF)	Steranko, Tom
Holter, Ora - AW (*)	Tauchen, Esther (*)
Isaacson, Janet (*)	Thompson, John (*)
Jackson, Janice (TH)	Tripold, Ed (*)
Johnson, James	Veverka, Eugene (*)
Kodish, Ed (*)	Wagner, Sam
Kraft, Robert	Watts, Perry (*) (**) (MF)
Lemmen, Henry	Weeks, Jean - AW (*)
Lindermuth (*)	Wicks, Arthur (*)
Logan, John	Winge, Johanna (**)
Maris, Tony	

LAST POST

Marvin R. Berman
Cynthia Bigelows - AF
George W. Condry
Kenneth Deagman
Roy L. Hays
David W. Johnson
Carolyn Lees - AF
Leo A. Rodell

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Vero Beach, FL
Rehobath, MA
Clearwater, FL
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Raleigh, NC
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