



THE ATLANTA WORLD WAR II ROUND TABLE

PRESERVING HISTORY

INTERNET: <http://www.atlantawwiroundtable.org>

VOL. 28 No. 9

279th MEETING

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Newsletter

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Date: MAY 15th, 2014 (THURSDAY) >> *Next Meeting JUNE 19th*

Time: Social Half-Hour: **11:00 AM - 11:30 AM** > **MEETING START TIME 11:30 AM** - Speaker Immediately Following Lunch

** **PETITE AUBERGE RESTAURANT**

2935 N. Druid Hills Road, **Web Site:** www.petiteauberge.com

Atlanta, Georgia 30329 (Restaurant Phone: 404-634-6268)

Price: \$ 15.00 Per Plate ** **NO RESERVATION REQUIRED** **

Speaker: Bruce Gamble

Subject: "Target: Rabaul"

Mission Statement

We, who by our own actions, and by our heritage, know that liberty has not, is not, nor ever will be free, do in association with our friends and comrades, who believe as we do, pledge that we will meet at the call of our Commander no less than ten times a year:

* To hear of the war experiences of our members and invited guests

* To encourage and demonstrate pride in our country and its armed forces

* To pass on to posterity our knowledge of World War II, and of the price - human and material - that was paid by our nation for the preservation of liberty in the United States and the world

((Meeting Attendance For The APRIL 17th Meeting: 106))

Speaker for MAY 15th, 2014– Bruce Gamble (To Be Introduced By Dep. Cdr. Marilyn Pahr)

Many of our members will remember our May 15th speaker, author Bruce Gamble. This is the 2nd time the Round Table has had the good fortune to have this award-winning author speak to us; his last engagement was in April 2013. Bruce has written several books on *World War II* history specializing in highly readable narratives about *World War II* in the Pacific. His book titles include:

The Black Sheep: The Definitive History of Marine Fighting Squadron 214 in World War II (published in 1998); **Black Sheep One: The Life of Gregory "Pappy" Boyington** (published in 2000); **Darkest Hour: The True Story of Lark Force at Rabaul - Australia's Worst Military Disaster of World War II** (published in 2006). On May 15th he will highlight his most recent book *Target: Rabaul*.

Gamble was raised in Central Pennsylvania and served as a Naval Flight Officer from 1980-1988 during the closing years of the Cold War. He was deployed aboard the Aircraft Carrier *Carl Vinson* in the Pacific and Indian Oceans and did a tour as an instructor in *Pensacola Naval Air Station*, Pensacola, FL.

He was diagnosed with a malignant spinal cord tumor, and after undergoing radical surgery, retired in 1989. He began volunteering at the National Museum of Naval Aviation and was soon asked to work part-time for them. He spent several years as a staff historian at the Museum, interviewing several notable aviators and writing articles for *Foundation Magazine*. In 1998 made the leap-of-faith to become a freelance writer, publishing his first book that year.

Bruce has a total of six (6) titles now in print and has gained national recognition as one of the most respected authors on the war in the Pacific. He now does a significant amount of public speaking, is a featured historian in documentaries produced by *The History Channel*, *Fox News Channel*, *PBS* and the *Pritzker Military Library*. He won two literary awards in 2010, is a member of the *Authors Guild*, holds Life Memberships in the *Naval Aviation Museum Foundation* and *Paralyzed Veterans of America*. He has been Cancer-free for 20 years and lives near Panama City, FL.

Please welcome Bruce Gamble as our MAY 15th, 2014 speaker (279th Meeting.)

Review Of APRIL 17th, 2014 Speaker-Sy Goodman (Introduced by Dep. Cdr. Marilyn Pahr)

Professor Sy Goodman, a Professor of International Affairs and Computing at The Sam Nun School and The College of Computing at Georgia Tech did a outstanding job as our April 17th speaker. Sy's focus was on the technological aspects of WW II, particularly Radar (Radio Detection and Ranging.)

Sy pointed out that WW II was, from a technological standpoint, a six-year period of **CONTINUED ON BACK**

very rapid and extensive technological innovation and one in which the victors (principally the U.S. and Britain) ended up with a technological arsenal that was greater than the arsenal they had when the war started and that the other WW II combatants (principally Germany, Japan and Russia) also benefited during and after the war from these technological innovations.

One of the main innovations was Radar. Early versions of radar like RDF (Range Detection and Finding) helped the Royal Air Force defend against attacks during the *Battle of Britain* (1940). In the Pacific, Admirals Nimitz, Spruance and Fletcher would use the early-warning benefit of radar to be victorious in the *Battle of Midway* (1942) and one form of radar, weather radar, became so important that General Eisenhower depended on it to delay and then launch the D-Day landings on June 6th, 1944 in France.

The British led the way in many aspects of developing Radar and introduced the American Scientists to the *Cavity Magnetron*, a device which enabled Radar devices to be miniaturized to the extent they could be installed on airplanes and ships, thus being the game-changer which enabled the Allies to continue to make improvements to the technology. President Roosevelt sanctioned MIT, who initiated their Radlab (Radar Lab), and other Government Agencies, private academic institutions and corporations to forge ahead in research and development of Radar technology.

Sy illuminated for the Round Table the many extraordinary electronic devices and systems that were developed in a very short time starting in the 1930's, then continued after the development of the *Cavity Magnetron*. Professor Goodman made it clear that many of today's systems are still using basic techniques developed before and during WW II and the high-technologies developed as a result then ultimately led to today's TV broadcasting, satellite- communications and cell phones.

Thank you Professor Sy Goodman for your enlightening presentation, for your devotion to teaching, research, and preserving history, and for a job well done.



SPECIAL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/OF SPECIAL INTEREST& UPCOMING EVENTS

>>> **(UPDATED) ALL FUTURE MEETINGS** – Effective immediately the side-door entry to the Petite Au Berge Restaurant will be inaccessible as a entry door. Because of Fire-Marshall regulations, the door will always remain available as a exit-door when you are in the Restaurant. Members, guests, and visitors are requested to only use the front-door entrance. The front door to the Petite is handicap and wheelchair friendly and will save our members some steps as well.

>>> **(FINAL) MAY 25th, 2014 (SUNDAY) – Concourse Athletic Club – Memorial-Day Celebration “MEET THE VETERANS - HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED** - On Sunday, 25 May 2014, from the hours of 1PM to 5 PM, the members of the Atlanta World War II Round Table, in cooperation with various veterans groups and supporters of the military, plan to commemorate *Memorial Day at the Concourse Athletic Club* in Atlanta in a *MEET THE VETERANS* event. Time is running short to be able to exhibit at the event and any veteran of any war or conflict who would like to have a **FREE** table for the public to meet him or her needs to contact Commander Weinstein at 404-843-0779 or Finance Officer Lenny at 770-638-7824 asap to obtain an application form. The tables are **FREE** to those that apply. Commander Weinstein also would like veterans of Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Iraq and Afghanistan to attend to help *man-the-tables* and provide fatigue-relief when needed.

Exhibitors at the 5/25 "Meet Our Veterans" event need to be at the *Concourse Athletic Club* at noon to set up their table with their exhibition materials. The *Concourse Athletic Club* is located on Concourse Parkway off of Peachtree-Dunwoody facing north from the I-285 Westbound Exit. There is no exit onto Peachtree-Dunwoody Road from I-285 Eastbound. The club is located near the King and Queen Buildings and facing North from Northside and St. Joseph's hospitals. Free lunch from Slopes BBQ for first 75 Exhibitors but food and drink available from grill at nominal charge for late arrivals. Program starts promptly at 1PM.

>>> **(FINAL) – JULY 31st – AUGUST 3rd, 2014 (THURSDAY-SUNDAY) - The 12th Armored Division Association of WW II** veterans and families will conduct their 68th reunion/convention in Atlanta GA this July 31-August 3rd.2014.The host hotel will be the Westin /Airport. History exhibits staffed by 12th museum historians will include books and shirts. For more information contact Allan Dear dear5@earthlink.net or call 229 630 5682. For information about the museum in Abilene, Texas or the association www.12tharmoredmuseum.com

>>> **(UPDATED) UPCOMING SPEAKERS for - 2014** Program chairman Larry Robert has done a splendid job in lining up a wonderful list of speakers for the Atlanta WW II Round Table for our September through December 2013 meetings. The following speakers will be making a presentation to the Round Table in: January-June 2014: - **May 15th, 2014 – Bruce Gamble (Author of “Target: Rabaul”)**; June 19th, 2014 – Dave Smith (Chairman of *Honor Flights Conyers, GA.*) Please note that the speaker's engagements are subject to change. Thank you Larry Robert for you're continuing efforts to seek-out and engage excellent speakers for our meetings and for a job exceedingly well done.



MONTHLY QUOTES:

“To no man does the earth mean so much as to the soldier. When he presses himself down upon her long and powerfully, when he buries his face and his limbs deep in her from the fear of death by shell-fire, then she is his only friend, his brother, his mother; he stifles his terror and his cries in her silence and her security; she shelters him and releases him for ten seconds to live, to run, ten seconds of life; receives him again and again and often forever.”

From *“All Quiet On The Western Front”* By Erich Maria Remarque (Published 1929)

“Oh no, I haven't failed 5000 times. I've succeeded in finding 5000 different ways that you cannot possibly build a light bulb.”

Thomas A. Edison,
On his progress during his quest for the incandescent electric lamp