



THE ATLANTA WORLD WAR II ROUND TABLE

PRESERVING HISTORY

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

VOL. 29 No. 5

285th MEETING

Editor: John E. Kovach

Tel: (770) 928-4579

Contributor(s) To This

Newsletter

* Herb Smith

* Joe Kirby

* Lee Weinstein /Pete Mecca

* Camille Yow/Jay Lenny

* Emily Carley / Martin Madert

Elected Officers 2014-2015

Commander – Lee Weinstein

Tel: 404-843-0779

Deputy Cmdr. - Pete Mecca

Tel: 770-354-9697

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Sgt.-at-Arms - Bill Shepherd

Sgt.-at-Arms – Joe Jordan

Sgt.-at-Arms – Mike Koesters

Sr. Chaplain – Carl Espy

Chaplain Emeritus – Harold A. Dye

Asst. Chaplain – Elaine Rivers

APPOINTMENTS

Deborah Lindsay-Asst. Commander

Pete Mecca – Program Chairman

Joe Jordan – Aide-to-Commander(s)

Date: JANUARY 15th, 2015 (THURSDAY) >> *Next Meeting FEB. 21st (SAT.)*

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: Herb Smith

Subject: “ *Tomb of The Unknown Soldier-Sentinel & Relief Commander*”

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 December 18th Meeting: ±94))

Speaker for JANUARY 15th, 2015– Herb Smith (To Be Introduced By Dep. Cdr. Pete Mecca)

The JANUARY 15th, 2015 (THURSDAY) Meeting of the *Atlanta WWII Round Table* will feature **Herb Smith** as our speaker. Herb served for 13 months at the *Tomb of the Unknown Soldier* as a Sentinel and Relief Commander in Washington D.C.

Herb did his basic training at Fort Benning and Advanced Individual Training at Ft. Lewis , WA. He entered the 3rd Infantry Regiment with the Honor Guard Company, U.S. Army Drill Team. His first duty assignment was for 3 months at the JFK Grave Site while training for duty at the Tomb. The *Tomb of the Unknown Soldier* is guarded 24 hours a day, 365 days a year in any weather by Tom Guard Sentinels. Sentinels are all volunteers and are considered the best of the elite 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) headquartered at Fort Myer, VA.

Most Round Table are familiar with the Tomb and/or have visited Washington D.C. to visit the site. The first unknown soldier was interned at Arlington in November 1921 with President Warren G. Harding officiating. President Eisenhower signed the bill to select a unknown from WW II and Korea in 1956, each of these soldiers was symbolically honored with the *Medal of Honor* by Eisenhower and interned; President Ronald Reagan officiated at the internment of the unknown soldier from the Vietnam War in 1984, symbolically presenting the *Medal of Honor* to this soldier. Herb will fill-in the details for us about the history of the *Memorial Amphitheater* at *Arlington National Cemetery* and the intense rigorous standards and requirements to qualify for Tomb Sentinel and Guard Duty.

Smith is a graduate of Georgia State University with a degree in Marketing. He and his wife Pam, who served with the U.S. Air Force at the Pentagon have one child, Kristin, and one Grand Daughter, 11 year-old Josie.

Please welcome Herb Smith as our JANUARY 15th, 2015 speaker (285th Meeting.)

Review Of December 18th, 2014 Speaker- Joe Kirby (Introduced by Dep. Cdr. Pete Mecca)

Joe Kirby, our December 18th speaker, was recognized by many as being the Editorial Page Editor of the Marietta Daily Journal since 1992 as well as being the winner of the prestigious Freedom of Information Award and the Public Service Award from the Associated Press (Georgia) and the Georgia Press Association numerous times as well as winning awards for Best Columnist, Best Editorial, Best Editorial Pages and Best Feature from those groups.

Joe worked in the late 1980s and early 1990s as a city hall/general assignment reporter for the Marietta Daily Journal (MDJ); prior to that he was a reporter/anchorman for radio stations in northeast Georgia, including CBS affiliate WNGC in Athens, GA.

Kirby has served on the boards of The Marietta Museum of History, the Cobb Library Foundation, The Kennesaw Mountain Historical Association and The Marietta Kiwanis Club. He is a long-time

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Contributing Editor to the Civil War News.

Joe is the author of several books, they are part of his Images of America Series, including “*The Lockheed Plant*” (2011), “*The Bell Bomber Plant*” (2008) (with co-author Damien A. Guarnieri), “*Then & Now: Marietta*” (2007) and “*Then & Now: Marietta Revisited.*” (2009). Joe’s focus for his presentation at the December meeting was a Audio/Visual Presentation of a tour of WW II battlefields including Normandy and others in France.

He has a B.A. from James Madison University in History and Communication Arts and a graduate of T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, VA (“*Remember the Titans!*”). Joe and his wife and two children live in Marietta.

Thank-You Mr. Kirby for Preserving History and for a job well done.



I am pleased to announce that we have one (1) new member who has joined us since the December 18th Meeting + a Complimentary Membership that will be presented at the January 15th meeting:

U.S. Navy Veteran Harold Southard Jr. – Colin served 6 years in the Air National Guard in North Carolina and Georgia.

Martin Madert – A complimentary Membership will be presented to Martin, our newest member of the Video-Recording Team.

Please welcome Howard and Martin as our newest members at the January 15th, 2015 meeting.



SPECIAL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS / OF SPECIAL INTEREST & UPCOMING EVENTS

>>> **(UPDATED) IMMEDIATE - WITNESS-TO-WAR ORGANIZATION AND ATLANTA WW II ROUND TABLE** –

I am pleased to announce that the *Witness-To-War Organization* and The Atlanta WW II Round Table have agreed to work closely together as our organizations continue to evolve in 2014-2015. *Witness-To-War Foundation* Director Emily Carley was authorized by her CEO, Tom Beaty, to offer their video and audio recording services at each of our meetings. Emily Carley or Video Specialist Martin Madert will be at each of our meetings, and in the event one of them is unable to attend, our own Videographer Ted Murphy has offered to step-in for them. Veterans from all services and all conflicts are asked to sign-up with Emily or Martin and provide them with their oral histories. These interviews can be done at their extensive studios in Norcross. WTW can also arrange to come to a veteran’s home to conduct an interview. You can contact Emily or Martin at our regular meetings or via email: Emily Carley’s email: emily@witnessstowar.org and Martin’s: seb@witnessstowar.org or by calling Emily at 770-481-3018.

>>> **(UPDATED) JANUARY 14th THROUGH FEBRUARY 15th, 2015 – Lecture Series – MARCHING THROUGH 20th CENTURY HISTORY: FROM VERSAILLES TO STALINGRAD.** That is the title of the 48th annual lecture series presented by the *Atlanta Alumnae Club of Sweet Briar College*. The lecturers include Dr. Patrick Allitt and Dr. Matthew Payne from Emory U., Dr. Janek Wasserman from the U. of Alabama, Jonathan W. Jordan, a King & Spalding attorney/historian, and Bruce Gamble, a retired Air Force veteran. The series is designed for those who seek university level education without academic credit. The lectures will be held in McElreath Hall at the Atlanta History Center for seven Wednesdays, January 14—February 15, 2015. The time is 1:00-3:00 PM. The cost for the seven two hour lectures is \$95. The public is invited. For further information contact camilleyow@comcast.net or 404.237.6054.

>>> **(NEW) FEBRUARY 21st, 2015 (SATURDAY) BANQUET RESERVATION FORM** – Enclosed with your December 2014 Newsletter was a ***Reservation Form*** for our Annual February 2015 Banquet. Meals for all members whose dues are current are compliments of the Round Table; otherwise your meal pricing is \$ 28.00. You are also asked to pay \$ 28.00 for any guest(s) you bring. Please remember to check-off your choice of meal(s) and send the ***Reservation Form*** back to Finance Officer Jay Lenny in the pre-addressed envelope enclosed with the December Newsletter. If you did not receive a ***Reservation Form***, please contact Round Table Finance Officer Jay Lenny at 678-288-9175 or Adjutant John Kovach at 770-928-4579

>>> **(REMINDER) ALL FUTURE MEETINGS** – Senior Chaplain Carl Espy requested at the Executive Board Meeting in August to inform the membership that his door is always open to all members, at any time, to be updated on any member who is ill, infirmed at home, hospitalized or unable to attend regular meetings due to health issues. Chaplin Espy would like to be informed of the member’s name and address and telephone number and he will attempt to keep in-touch with the families of seriously ill members. Carl can be reached at 770-698-0027 or via email at cespyjr@comcast.net.

>>> **(UPDATED) UPCOMING SPEAKERS for – JANUARY – MARCH 2015** – Deputy Commander and Program Chairman Pete Mecca has lined-up some impressive speakers for us for our 2015 campaign: **January 15th, 2015 – Herb Smith – Sentinel and Relief Commander- Tomb of The Unknown Soldier – Washington DC**; February 21st – Annual February Banquet (Saturday) – Georgia Veteran Hall of Fame and triple-amputee Tommy Clack; March 19th – Lady Marine Kathleen Eidson – Served with the U.S. Marines - Camp Lejeune, NC during WW II. Please note that the speaker’s engagements are subject to change. Thank you again Larry Robert for the outstanding job you did for the Round Table; Thank-You Pete for taking on this very difficult endeavor and for your continuing efforts to seek-out and engage excellent speakers for our meetings. Should any member have a suggestion or lead for Pete relative to a qualified Speaker, please contact him 770-354-9697 or via email at aveteransstory@gmail.com.

>>> **(NEW) MOVIE REMINDER-From Member Greg McClelland** – Greg is recommending WW I and WW II movies that members might enjoy. These are available to watch on *You Tube (Free)*; you can also purchase the *DVD* at minimal cost from *Amazon.com*. ***The Red Baron*** – WW I Movie starring Matthias Schweighofer, Lena Headey, Til Schweiger and Volker Bruch; ***Decision Before Dawn*** – WW II Movie Starring Richard Basehart, Gary Merrill and Oskar Werner; ***Dresden*** – WW II Movie starring Benjamin Sadler, John Light and Felicitas Woll.



MONTHLY QUOTES:

“This year is to you the beginning of a new year, the old having passed out as it were, from your life, never to return, except possibly in thought, as the memory of its pleasures, its sorrows and cares, and the more engrossing thoughts of family, friends and business come flooding back. Aside from that, it is forgotten, gone; to you a page torn from the yearbook of your life. It is a time to grasp the full meaning of the goal of a life well lived. May you be free from the infestations, diseases and sins of modern life this year and in years to come: The everlasting rush, politics without principles, pleasures without conscience, wealth without work, knowledge without character, industry without morality, science without humanity, worship without sacrifice.”

Life and Teachings of the Masters of the Far East by Baird T. Spalding / Canon Frederick Donaldson