



THE ATLANTA WORLD WAR II ROUND TABLE

PRESERVING HISTORY

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

VOL. 30 No. 8

298th MEETING

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Contributor(s) To This

Newsletter

* President Franklin D. Roosevelt

* Albert McMahan & Henry Hughey

* Pete Mecca / Pat Buchanan / Jay Lenny

* Deborah Lindsay / Bob Rivers

* Emily Carley / Martin Madert

Elected Officers 2015-2016

Commander – Pete Mecca

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Deputy Commander – Deborah

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Sr. Chaplain – Pat Buchanan

Chaplain Emeritus - Carl Espy, Jr.

Asst. Chaplain - Elaine Rivers

APPOINTMENTS 2015-2016

Hank Frampton - Asst. Commander

Joe Jordan - Aide-to-Commander(s)

Date: APRIL 21st, 2016 (THURSDAY) >>>> Next Meeting MAY 19th

Time: Social Half-Hour: 11:30 AM – 12:00 NOON > MEETING START TIME 12:00 NOON - 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: \$ 20.00 Per Plate ** NO RESERVATION REQUIRED **

Speaker(s): Dr. Hal Raper as President Franklin D. Roosevelt

Subject: “Just How Disabled Was The Commander-In-Chief?”

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 then 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 MARCH 17th, 2016 Meeting: ± 95))

Speaker for APRIL 21st, 2016– - Dr. Hal Raper As President Franklin D. Roosevelt (To Be Introduced By Commander Mecca)

The APRIL 21st, 2016 (THURSDAY) Meeting of the *Atlanta WW II Round Table* will feature Dr. Hal Raper, a impressionist who Impersonates President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Hal Raper Jr., DDS was born in old Piedmont hospital In Atlanta and grew up on the grounds of the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, the polio treatment center started by Franklin D. Roosevelt. His father headed the department of Internal Medicine and his mother was a former physical therapist and they both knew FDR.

Hal attended the local schools and graduated from McCallie High School in Chattanooga. He completed his pre dental courses at Emory College and graduated from Emory Dental School In 1963 after which he reported for active duty as a Dental Officer with the U.S. Navy at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego. After a year he was ordered to the carrier, USS HORNET (CVS12) where he spent 2 years including 3 sea periods at Yankee Station off the coast of Vietnam. After leaving active duty Hal remained in the Reserves retiring with the rank of Captain.

He returned to Atlanta and went into private practice in Buckhead until retiring in 2014. He belongs to American Legion Post 140, The Navy League, The American Dental Association and component societies, the Atlanta History Center and the National Railway Historical Society He is a Fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry and a member of the International College of Dentists.

Hal serves on the State Advisory Board for Roosevelt's Little White House where he gives tours and talks and impersonations to help preserve the memories of FDR and his time in Georgia.

Please welcome Dr. Hal Raper as our APRIL 21st, 2016 speaker (298th Meeting.)

Speaker(s) Review for MARCH 17th, 2016– - WW II Veterans Albert McMahan & Henry Hughey-Assisted By Col. Brent Bracewell (Introduced By Commander Mecca)

The MARCH 17th meeting of the *Atlanta WW II Round Table* featured two WW II Air War veterans, Albert McMahan and Henry Hughey. If you missed the meeting, you missed one of the best presentations in many years and one of the most unusual. After Commander Mecca gave a brief introduction of the speakers, our own Colonel Brent Bracewell (Ret) went on to do a lengthy and thorough introduction of the duo before they spoke to us, and as the Colonel is known for doing, he gave us a somewhat entertaining intro of the two WW II heroes with some history of their Bomb Groups and B-17's.

The two Ball-Turret Gunners, and in the case of Albert, Ball-Turret Gunner and Tail-Gunner, reminded us of the common Air Force saying of the time ‘A Gunner Today, A Goner Tomorrow’, and of the sheer terror they each faced getting underneath their B-17's in the Plexiglas dome they called ‘their office’, flying missions for the 306th Bomb Group, 369th Squadron (Albert - 25 missions) and for 487th Bomb Group, 838th Squadron (32 missions – Henry). These men did what few men could or would volunteer to do and lived to tell-the-tale. Both men were certain they could never have flown as many missions as they did and survived without the devotion and timeless effort of the Ground Crews who maintained

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their aircraft. Both Albert and agreed that the Ground Crews were the unsung heroes of the Air War.

Thank-You Colonel Bracewell for the assisting and for the excellent introduction of these Air War heroes, and Thank-You Albert McMahan and Henry Hughey for your service in WW II, for the wonderful and informative presentation to the Round Table, for preserving history, and for a job well done.

I am pleased to announce that we have two (2) New Members who have joined us since our March 17th, 2016 Meeting WW II Veteran Jack H. Bates – Jack served on General Eisenhower’s HQ Staff in London during the ETO Campaign and later on General Patton’s Staff. He served as a foot soldier - Infantryman in Europe as well.

Rebecca Vaughn - at Patti is interested in WW II history and particularly in the Pacific and European Theaters.

Please welcome Jack and Rebecca as our newest members at the April 21st, 2016 Meeting

SPECIAL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS / OF SPECIAL INTEREST & UPCOMING EVENTS

>>> ***(FINAL) APRIL 30th – MAY 1st (Saturday & Sunday) – WORLD WAR II HERITAGE DAYS*** – The WW II Heritage Days Program provides a living history unique to the State of Georgia. The event brings together historic aircraft, vintage military vehicles, antique cars, panel discussions, educational displays and demonstrations, including battles staged by war re-enactors portraying Allied and Axis troops. Another highlight of the weekend is the ‘Keep-em-Flying’, a 1940’s-theme hangar dance featuring a 21-piece swing band where WW II veterans will be hosted as Guests-of-Honor.

A historic restored Douglas C-47 (Dakota), *The Placid Lassie* Skytrain troop Transport aircraft will highlight this year’s event along with veteran paratrooper Jim ‘Pee Wee’ Martin, a member of the 101st Airborne ‘Screaming Eagles’. *The Placid Lassie* flew and participated in the D-Day landings towing Cargo Gliders and dropped more than 24,000 troops on June 6th, 1944. Jim ‘Pee Wee’ Martin, a member of the famed 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment at Camp Toccoa, jumped into Holland in support of *Operation Market Garden* and later participated in the *Battle of The Bulge* and operations in Germany. He is one of the remaining ‘Toccoa Originals’ who is still traveling.

The *Commemorative Air Force (CAF) Dixie Wing’s* fleet of WW II aircraft will be on display that weekend including the Wing’s Corsair, P-51 Mustang, a SBD-Dauntless Dive Bomber and other restored aircraft. Suggested donations for the WW II Heritage Days event are \$17 for adults 17 and older, and \$5 for children 11-17. The event will take place rain-or-shine; please do not bring pets to the event. Tickets for the *Keep-em-Flying* hangar dance are \$55 before April 25th and \$65 at the door. Please visit www.wwiidays.org or call 678-364-1110 for additional info.

>>> ***(NEW) TRIP TO THE NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM IN COLUMBUS, GA – MAY 28 (SATURDAY)***

It is now a done-deal. Commander Mecca has confirmed the date with Samson Trailways: May 28 (Saturday); a charter bus with capacity for 55 people will be at the Petite Auberge at 0730. We leave the Petite at 0800. Arrive at Fort Benning around 1000 to 1015, tour the museum, probably have lunch there, then leave around 1300 for the return trip. We should be back at the Petite around 1500 to 1530, depending on traffic. The capacity for the bus is 55 people max, so we have to put this on a first come, first served basis. **If you haven't sent a email back to Commander Mecca, Jay Lenny, or me. or haven't called Jay Lenny to reserve a spot, please do so immediately. Jay can be reached by email at: jmlrct107@aol.com or by phone at (678) 288-9175. Adjutant Kovach can be reached at 770-928-4579 or via email at jkovach2000@yahoo.com.** The bus is being provided courtesy of the Round Table. Those members and guests that select to have lunch at the Museum Restaurant are at liberty to do so, but as of the Newsletter publication date, will have to pay for their own meals. Further discussion about the trip logistics will take place at the April 21st meeting. Colonel Greg Camp, the Director of the Museum, plans to attend the meeting to announce some new highlights of the Museum and answer any questions from Members.

>>> ***(REMINDER) IMMEDIATE - WITNESS-TO-WAR ORGANIZATION AND ATLANTA WW II ROUND TABLE*** – I am pleased to announce that the *Witness-To-War. Org* 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 now be recording the Round Table meetings. 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.

>>> ***(REMINDER) SENIOR CHAPLAIN NOTICE - ALL FUTURE MEETINGS THROUGH JUNE 2016*** – Pat Buchanan has accepted the position as *Interim Senior Chaplain* until June 2016 at which time the RT will elect a Senior Chaplain for the 2016-2017 campaign. Chaplin Buchanan would like to be informed of any member who is ill or incapacitated and he will also attempt to keep in-touch with the families of seriously ill members. Pat can be reached at 678-772-2494 or via email at lynnbchn@charter.net

>>> ***(UPDATED) UPCOMING SPEAKERS for – APRIL 2016 - JUNE 2016*** – Commander & Program Chairman Pete Mecca, with the assistance of Deputy Commander Deborah Lindsay, have lined-up some impressive speakers for us for our 2016 campaign: **April 21st – President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (Dr. Hal Raper)**; May 19th – Tom Kimmel; June 16th – *Bataan Death March* Survivor (details to be announced.) Please note that the speaker’s engagements are subject to change. Thank-You Pete and Deborah 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 or Deborah relative to a qualified Speaker, please contact Pete at 770-354-9697 or via email at aveteransstory@gmail.com /or Deborah at 770-426-7545 or via email at dgl Dover@comcast.net

Monthly Quote:

“There is a mysterious cycle in human events. To some generations much is given. Of other generations much is expected. This generation of Americans has a rendezvous with destiny.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt