



THE ATLANTA WORLD WAR II ROUND TABLE

PRESERVING HISTORY

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

VOL. 30 No. 7

297th MEETING

Editor: John E. Kovach

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Contributor(s) To This

Newsletter

* Albert McMahan & Henry Hughey

* Carol Cain

* Pete Mecca / Pat Buchanan / Jay Lenny

* Deborah Lindsay / Bob Rivers

* Emily Carley / Martin Madert

Elected Officers 2015-2016

Commander – Pete Mecca

Tel: 770-354-9697

Deputy Commander – Deborah

Lindsay; Tel: 770-310-1775

Adjutant – John Kovach

Finance Officer- Jay Lenny

Dep. Finance Ofc: Guy Condra

Sgt.-at-Arms – Bob Rivers (Capt.)

Sgt.-at-Arms - Ralph Lehr

Sgt.-at-Arms – Mike Koesters

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: MARCH 17th, 2016 (THURSDAY) >>>> *Next Meeting APRIL 21st*

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): WW II Veterans Albert McMahan & Henry Hughey

Subject: "A Guy Could Get Hurt Doing This"

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 FEBRUARY 20th, 2016 Meeting: ± 95))

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

The MARCH 17th, 2016 (THURSDAY) Meeting of the *Atlanta WW II Round Table* will feature two (2) World War II combat veterans, Albert McMahan and Henry Hughey. Albert and Henry both were fond buddies with their B-17 Flying Fortress's, with Albert serving as both a Tail Gunner and a Ball-Turret Gunner; Henry serving as a Ball-Turret Gunner. Albert flew 25 missions with the 306th Bomb Group, 369th Squadron; Henry served with the 487th Bomb Group, 838th Squadron., completing 32 missions.

Both of these veterans showed no fear when serving as Ball-Turret Gunners on the B-17's. You will recall this required them to sit underneath the plane in a Plexiglas dome allowing them to swivel 360 degrees and shoot at the enemy. Hughey recalled during one interview after the war that he was always reminded of the well-known Air Force saying of 'A Gunner today, a goner tomorrow'. On one of his first missions, he witnessed nine men die instantly when their plane blew-up in a ball of fire. In mid-air. He said in that same interview that his only thought at the time was that 'A guy could get hurt doing this'.

Albert was the 18th enlisted crewman to complete a 25 mission tour with the 306th Bomb Group. He admitted in a interview later that he endured periods of sheer terror but never doubted that the answer to the question 'Do I have what it takes to fly combat?' was always 'Yes'.

Both of these Combat Air Veterans were certain they could never have flown as many missions as they did without the devotion and timeless effort of the Ground Crews who maintained the aircraft. They both agreed that these were the unsung, behind-the-scenes heroes of the Air War.

You don't want to miss this meeting with these two WW II Air Combat veterans, it promises to inform and inspire everyone that attends. Our own Colonel Brent Bracewell will assist Albert and Henry in their presentation(s). Brent is a former Blackhawk Helicopter Combat Pilot who served in Iraq and Afghanistan and is the Commander of the Mighty Eighth AF Historical Society that meets in Decatur.

Please welcome Albert McMahan & Henry Hughey as our MARCH 17th, 2016 speaker(s) (297th Meeting.)

Speaker Review for FEBRUARY 20th, 2016– - Carol Cain (Introduced By Commander Mecca)

The FEBRUARY 20th, 2016 (SATURDAY) BANQUET Meeting of the *Atlanta WW II Round Table* featured the renowned **Carol Cain** as our speaker. Carol is a native of Hogansville, GA. She is a National Board Certified teacher with 29 years' experience teaching language and theatre arts in the Troup County School System.

For the past 20 years, Carol has performed as *Rosie-The-Riveter* at the *Little White House* in Warm Springs, GA and other locations throughout the Southeast and Nationally. As Rosie, Carol tells the story of women workers on the home-front during WW II. At the February Banquet Carol portrayed *Captain Nancy Morgan* in "*Captain Nancy Morgan and the Nancy Hart Militia: Courage in Hoop Skirts*". She came dressed as *Captain Morgan* and

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told the story of a female militia formed in LaGrange, Georgia during the Civil War. These female militia drilled 3-times a week for three (3) years preparing to defend the city against any possible Union Forces making their way toward LaGrange. Nancy Morgan named the militia the *Nancy Hart's*, after the Revolutionary War hero. Carol's portrayal of Captain Morgan is brilliant and she was invited by Georgia Public Broadcasting to perform and have her performance video-recorded last year as a documentary by GPB.

Titled "*The Nancy Hart Militia: Women of Uncommon Courage*", it aired this past spring and summer. The documentary is a 'must-see' and after viewing it, pack your luggage because you will definitely want to visit the fair city of LaGrange to explore all the history it offers.

Ms. Cain resides in LaGrange, GA with her husband Kevin. Carol is a cum laude graduate of LaGrange College with a double-major in English, Speech and Drama. She and her husband are proud parents of two children, Cory and Katie, both graduates of Georgia College and the State University of Milledgeville.

Thank-You Carol Cain for a most entertaining and educational presentation, 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 our February 20th, 2016 Banquet.

Patti Pruitt – Patti is interested in WW II history and particularly in the Pacific and European Theaters.

Please welcome Patti as our newest member at the March 17th, 2016 Meeting



SPECIAL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS / OF SPECIAL INTEREST & UPCOMING EVENTS

>>> **(NEW) 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.

>>> **(REMINDER) – URGENT DUES NOTICE** – Finance Office Jay Lenny is requesting that all members in arrears of their 2015-2016 Dues to please remit them as soon as possible. If you are unsure whether you are current on your Dues please contact Finance Officer Lenny at 678-288-9175 / email: jmlrct107@aol.com, or Adjutant John Kovach at 770-928-4579 / email: jkovach2000@yahoo.com. Dues payments should be made-out to **The Atlanta WW II Round Table** and mailed to Jay Lenny at **4115 South Lee St., Unit 51, Buford, GA 30518-8009**.

>>> **(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 – FEBRUARY 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: **March 17th – WW II Veterans Albert McMahan (B-17 Tail-Gunner & Ball-Turret Gunner) & Henry Hughey (Ball-Turret Gunner) – Colonel Brent Bracewell to Assist;** April 21st – President Franklin Delano Roosevelt; 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:

"A civilized society is one which tolerates eccentricity in it's leaders to the point of doubtful sanity".

Robert Frost, 1874-1963, American Poet and Pulitzer Prize Winner