



The 307th Bombardment Group (HV) Association, Inc.
The Long Rangers

April, 2015 Newsletter

Our Association grew out of the initial meeting of eight former World War II members who got together in the spirit of fellowship and camaraderie in Reno, Nevada on September 11-12, 1972. Our goal and hope was for continued growth and expanded interest in the Nation's finest heroes.

The members attending the initial meeting were: Carl Whitesell, Dan Cauffiel, George Jaffe, Ed Jurkens, M.P. Nelson, Arthur Downs, and C. Scott.

Since then, our organization has grown and we have expanded to include the children of the 307th and their families and friends. Our mission is to insure that future generations never forget the sacrifices that these men made for them and for our country. Each year we hold a reunion in a different part of the country to celebrate and reminisce, catching up with old friends and making new ones.

WE ARE THE FAMILY! WE ARE THE CHILDREN OF HEROES



307th Bomb Group

*All the news that's fit to print
and a little extra!*



**Well, hello 307th BG Members,
Families and Friends!**

Do you remember him? The boy in the upper corner of this page? It wasn't that long ago that I put my time in as a street corner Newsboy. Looking at this drawing conjures up memories that can only make me feel all good inside. Alex, my dad's best friend's father (oh! that sounds so Italian,) pretty much owned the corner at Rush Street and Grand Ave in Chicago. It was only the hottest and busiest corner of the city in the 50's.



I always thought that I was actually selling papers. I was getting rich as a seven year-old, earning 2 cents per paper. It wasn't until I was much older that I realized that Alex Delulio was just helping us out. The truth is, before I started, Alex just plopped a pile of papers on a wooden crate and people came out of nowhere, grabbed a paper and tossed money in a cup. He didn't need me, but he sure made me feel proud to be part of the work force. Two lessons learned!

Ah, stories! If I had a nickel for every time I learned a lesson or laughed or cried after hearing a good story. Oh Boy, I'd have a lot of nickels!

Where would we be intellectually or socially if we didn't learn to tell or learn from stories. Stories that you remember about a time in your own life; stories you hear from your family and friends, and stories you hear from total strangers, all who seem to fascinate us and fill our minds and our memories.

One of the luckiest things I have ever done personally, was to record a separate four-hour interview with my mother and father, while they were still alive. They are both family story treasures. This month, we will have an opportunity to read a few stories. I hope you enjoy them.

Don Calarco

A few words from our friends at Ancestry.com



A Great Find: The Women's Army Corps

Did you know that Fold3 has a huge number of documents from World War II about the Women's Army Corps (WAC), including hundreds of photos?

If you're not already familiar with the WAC, you might be surprised to find out just how versatile this group was during the war.

The WAC was originally formed as the WAAC (Women's Army Auxiliary Corps) in 1942 as an auxiliary to the Army, but in 1943 it was incorporated into that military branch and renamed the WAC.

The goal of the WAC was to free up men for WWII combat by replacing them with women in noncombatant military jobs. The women of the WAC (called WACs) worked with the Army in over 200 types of positions, including clerks, stenographers, secretaries, teletype operators, mechanics, instructors, weather forecasters, course plotters, photo analysts, telephone operators, parachute riggers, drivers, radio operators, electricians, and cryptographers. However, within this diverse array of jobs, WACs were most often assigned to clerical and communications jobs, which the Army deemed appropriate for women.



Over the course of the war, around 150,000 WACs served at home and abroad, in places like England, France, Italy, New Guinea, the South Pacific, North Africa, China, and India—just to name a few.

Although they sometimes faced discrimination and criticism, WACs were in high demand, and the officers they worked with—including General Eisenhower—often praised them for their hard work and skill. Their admirable qualities were proven by the fact that at the end of the war, 657 WACs received citations and medals.



Today's female US military are battlefield ready!



Jim McCabe

The Story Listener!

In this issue we are pleased to present two articles steeped in 307th Bombardment Group history. From 1943-1945, from 307th BG airbase to airbase, Joe Origlio was a prolific painter of 307th BG Nose Art. Whether your beloved veteran was a combat crew or ground crew member, they likely flew or serviced a B-24 bomber painted by Joe Origlio. After many years of research, Joe's brother, John Origlio, has published the Nose Art known to have been completed by his brother. If you know the serial number of an aircraft flown into combat or serviced by a 307th BG veteran, you can cross-reference in our website's [ACAssignment/Losses database](#) to confirm the strong likelihood that they flew and/or worked on many B-24 bombers displaying some of the finest Nose Art available. I know you will enjoy John Origlio's article beginning on the next page.

Also in this issue, our member and 2015 Reunion Hostess Ann Williams Warner, has provided us a prelude to her book in progress, *The Rodney Letters*, which is a tribute to her father, John "Rodney" Williams, 307th BG, 424th BS, Nose gunner, KIA 441026 over the Sulu Sea. While Joe Origlio was busy painting, Rodney Williams was a prolific writer. His letters provide a window to the worst weeks the 307th BG would endure in the Fall of 1944. It is not too late to join us in New Orleans, September 16-20th for our 2015 Reunion. I know Ann will be bringing the entirety of her father's letters which span from September 1943 until October 1944. As most of our current membership has loved ones who served during this period, these are a must read.

When you read both these articles, have your Mission Logs, Mission Reports and your own letters sent home available. Your beloved veteran's service will come alive through the art of Joe Origlio and Rodney Williams' letters home. Most of you will see that your father or grandfather flew missions with Rodney Williams and his Russell Sutphin crew and on B-24 Bombers depicting the Nose Art of Joe Origlio. Many thanks to Ann Williams Warner and John Origlio for sharing their work.

Jim

James M. McCabe, Historian
307th BG Association

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PFC. Joseph ORIGLIO

307th Bomb Group New Guinea & Luzon & Morotai

Born in Akron, Ohio, Joe Origlio had an interest in art from the age of nine. As an artist he was mainly self taught. In high school he was often called upon to illustrate posters for school programs. He left high school and went to work for the Firestone Rubber Company, as a machinist making metal parts for the war effort. Joe Origlio was drafted into the army in February 1943 and served as a member of the 871st Airborne Engineers in the in the South Pacific. He was then assigned to be a painter for the 13th Air Force, 307th Bomb Group. His responsibilities included spray painting the numbers and insignias on aircraft. This may have included painting the stenciled emblem of the 307th Long Rangers on the B-24 tail fins -- a large blue circle with the stylized LR logo. He was also responsible for hand painting any signs that were required on the air base.

In his spare time Joe started painting nose art and leather jackets for the flight crews and quickly gained a reputation for his talented art work. He painted and signed nose art on several B-24 bombers including, #132 "Rose Marie," painted from an autographed photo to the flight crew from Rose Marie, of the Dick van Dyke Show fame. She was a night club singer in Las Vegas at the time.



He also painted #133 "This is it," #176 "My Irish Colleen," #354 "Louise Mary," #442 "Indian Thummer," #548 "Polly," #554 aka "Dancing Dolly," the unnamed #946 and probably several others. Joe Origlio recalled having painted nose art on fighters as well, but examples have not been identified at this time.

He also may have been responsible for painting the theatrical stages decorated with unit insignias and pinup girls, for entertaining the troops. This work, however, is undocumented. Any information about art work he may have painted on other aircraft, leather jackets or signage, etc., on the air base would be appreciated. He was an average "GI Joe" doing the best he could, using his natural talents to boost morale and help the war effort. After the war Joe Origlio returned to civilian life and obtained a diploma from The Applied Art Academy in Commercial Art and Design under the GI Bill. Painting, however, remained only a side line, and for the rest of his life, worked full time as a rubber worker for the Firestone Rubber Company in Akron, Ohio, until he retired in 1979. Over the years he painted several murals, landscapes and portraits, as well as signs for his employer and banners for various local organizations. Joe died in November 1983 at age 61. John Origlio, Joe's brother, is a member of the 307th Bombardment Group Association.

Our thanks to John and the [USAAF Nose Art Research Project](#)

Dancing Dolly
B-24L-5-CO 44-41545
307th Bomb Group
Nose art painted by
PFC. Joseph ORIGLIO
307th Bomb Group
New Guinea, Morotai, Luzon



Although the B-24 #545 carried no name, it was known as Dancing Dolly. The original art work was inspiration from the Esquire Magazine calendar for October 1945 painted by Alberto Vargas. It is another example where Joe added a South Pacific theme to the original art work which had a blank background. Here he added a beach, surf and a coconut tree that could be found not far from the tropical air field on Morotai Island.



In July 1944 this plane left California for the Pacific and assigned to the 307th Bomb Group. On 3rd October, Lt. Owings' crew took the B24 to strike Balikpapan and was hit by flak and attacked by fighters, one of which was claimed as destroyed.

However, the crew sustained six wounded during the battle, including co-pilot Lt. King. By April 1945 the plane was commanded by Capt. Lester B. Briggs. During one mission the plane received combat damage from a Japanese fighter. It sustained some 40 holes during the attack. "Dolly" then suffered a collapse of its main gear upon landing. Fortunately no one was killed during the attack or the crash landing. The only ones injured were the flight engineer on board and the tower operator who jumped from the control tower and broke his leg as the plane skidded towards the tower.

Indian Thummer

B-24L-5-FO 44-49442

307th Bomb Group

Nose art painted by

PFC. Joseph ORIGLIO

307th Bomb Group

New Guinea, Morotai, Luzon



The inspiration Joe used for his nose art painting on this B24 was from the Esquire Magazine calendar illustration for November 1942 painted by Alberto Vargas. The original art work was called Beauts and Saddles and ironically was not of an Indian maiden but a cow girl.



Leaving California in December 1944 for the Pacific, the B-24 returned to the United States in October, 1945 to Kingman Field Arizona, where it was disposed of as surplus and melted down along with thousands of other aircraft that returned from the War.

Louise Mary

B-24J-210-CO 44-41354

307th Bomb Group

Nose art painted by

PFC. Joseph ORIGLIO

307th Bomb Group

New Guinea, Morotai, Luzon



Origlio's painting was created from one of the pin-up girl post cards popular with the GI's during the War. They were called Mutoscope cards and were dispensed from vending machines in places like amusement parks.



They were produced in the 1940's by a company called Mutoscope Reel Company. The card that was the inspiration for this painting was called "Sport Model," and this same image also appeared on many other aircraft during the War.

Assigned to the 13th Air Force in September 1944 after 25 missions, the plane became the regular mount for Lt. Steffy's crew, who completed at least nine of their missions in the Liberator. It eventually sustained severe damage and was scrapped in the South Pacific in April 1945.

My Irish Colleen

B-24J-200-CO 44-41176

307th Bomb Group

Nose art painted by

PFC. Joseph ORIGLIO

307th Bomb Group

New Guinea, Morotai, Luzon



The original art work Joe used as inspiration was Miss December from the 1942 Esquire Magazine calendar painted by Alberto Vargas. The original image was modified from a Christmas theme to an Irish one by the addition of a shamrock.

In August 1944 this B-24 left California for the Pacific Theater of Operation and became part of the 307th Bomb Group.

The plane was assigned to Lt. James M. Line of the 371st Bomb Squadron. Tragically on February 27, 1945 on a mission to Tarakan, Borneo, the plane and crew were reported missing in action and never seen again.



This is It!
B-24J-195-CO 44-41133
307th Bomb Group
Nose art painted by
PFC. Joseph ORIGLIO
307th Bomb Group
New Guinea, Morotai, Luzon



This painting by Joe Origlio was of Miss October 1944 from an Esquire Magazine calendar, painted by the artist Alberto Vargas. This same image was used by several other nose art painters during the War.

The original image in the calendar was drawn on a blank background. As with many of his other nose art paintings Joe Origlio added a South Pacific theme to the setting.



The model is posed here on a beach with a coconut tree, not unlike the beach near the seaside airfield on Morotai Island which was the base for the 307th Bomb Group from October 1944 until September 1945.

The tail fins spray painted with the Long Rangers logo for the 307th Bombardment Group and the squadron colors were probably also painted by squadron painter Joe Origlio.



Last month, I promised
something new and exciting at
the 307th **PX!**

A Note from Lisa Kreder

Hi, it's Lisa. The New PX is up and running, as promised. All the links and buttons on the sites and in our newsletters will take you to it. You won't have to do anything different to get there.

It will be easier to navigate, faster to process an order and loaded with new items. The internal processing software will be faster and easier to use and all our future orders will be seamless and delivered on time, by the US Postal Service.

You will see a few new items and there will be more coming, like the addition of four new patches and lapel/hat pins.

This is exciting! There are hundreds of Brand Named Apparel items that can be "embroidered" with any of the current patch designs! This is not a "patch." It is direct embroidery on a shirt, a jacket, a blouse, a hoodie or anything that you choose.

By next quarter we'll be adding "Nose Art" and "Dog Tag" art too.

We are open to suggestions, and we'll be adding items up to the start of the New Orleans Reunion. If you have questions or suggestions...don't be shy! Send an email to px@307bg.net and we'll consider every idea!

I just know you'll like the new look. Stop by soon!

[Click NOW](#)

Lisa Kreder

PX Manager

Take a Peek

Hundreds of New Apparel Selections—Available for Embroidery

 <p>Over 20 Brands of Outerwear \$0.00</p>	 <p>US Army Air Force 13th Air Force 307th Bomb Wing</p> <p>My Own Favorite Shirt or Jacket (Embroidered) for only \$12.50 \$12.50</p>	<p>Headwear Brands (28) Adams (9) All-American (9) Air Corp - North (10) Big Accessories (96) American (6) Headbands (2)</p> <p>Adidas Golf (6) Ami (3) Authentic Payment (3) Champion (2) Polo (11) AC Cases (14)</p> <p>Kit Sport (1) Kit City (1) Beverly (9) Sweet & Sweet (2) Hartley (3) Hugoboss (8)</p> <p>100's of Embroidered Hats and Caps - Link \$0.00</p>
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New Patches and 6,000+ Stitch count Embroidery

 <p>P307BW - Official 307th Bomb Wing Patch \$12.50 \$9.50</p>	 <p>PWWII - 1941 -1945 World War II Veteran Patch \$12.50 \$9.50</p>	 <p>PUSFLAG United States Flag with Gold Trim 3 X 5 \$14.50 \$11.50</p>
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Army Air Force Challenge Coin



Back



Front

Come see this
collection of new
items. [Click Here!](#)

The Rodney Letters

Continue to Tell Me About My Dad

October 26, 1944, John Rodney Williams, my father, a nose gunner, was killed in action when his plane, piloted by Lt. Russell Sutphin of West Virginia, went into a spin and plummeted into the ocean after losing its #4 engine; the #3 engine was lost over the target, the Japanese naval fleet. The plane was 1 hour and 10 minutes into its return flight to its New Guinea base.

My dad was in service from September, 1943, until his death, a period of 13 months. I was 9 months old when he was killed. He was 25. Married in 1941 before Pearl Harbor, my mother was expecting me when he was drafted.

Rodney Williams was fortunate to be stationed early along the Mississippi Gulf Coast where he often came home to Franklinton, Louisiana, in these early days of service. He got to come home soon after I was born in McComb, Mississippi.

Rodney was a prolific letter writer. After my birth, the letters were addressed to my mother and me. As a teenager, Mother put the Rodney letters in my care. At first I read them as love letters to us, which they certainly are. I grew up longing for this father tragically gone.

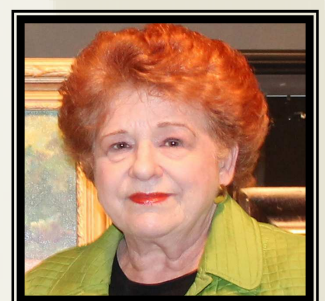
At 71 I am enjoying the letters in a new dimension. I am interested in where he was, his friends, his observances in the letters. I am knowing his personality, and I realize how proud he would be of my son and his family.....also, how much my son inherited in looks and personality from Rodney. Now I am searching for friends and families of friends he mentioned in the letters.

Amazingly, I found Valentine and have contact with his widow! At Walla Walla my dad and Charles Valentine bought a Model T for \$30 and rode around base. Referred to only as Valentine in about 8 letters, I found a Charles Valentine on the Walla Walla troop list! I got the right one, and I now have a picture of him. Dying in 2002, Charles Valentine's obituary says he flew 43 missions! His wife, who said he did mention Model T Annie, said he never talked of the war. He knew of reunions but never attended. She thought losing my dad made it too painful. **Who else remembers Valentine?** The letters say he was in New Guinea with my dad, arriving in September, 1944.

Help me. I am looking for family members of pilot Lt. Russell Sutphin, the engineer on this crew (my dad wrote his letter proposing to his girl), a Sgt. Courson, and Sgt. Ferrel, who were at Harlingen, Texas, gunnery school and New Guinea. What he writes about these men needs to be shared with family!

The 307th Bomb Group Association has meant much to me!

Ann Williams Warner
jjwarner@[hughes.net](mailto:jjwarner@hughes.net)



A note about the March Newsletter

Survey

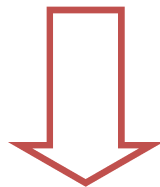
Please allow us to again stress the importance of the information gathered from the 2015 307th Member and Friend's Survey posted in the March, 2015 newsletter.

Planning and building for the future requires a great deal of preparation. Without your help we are at a loss.

Please take the time to log on to the Survey and complete the questionnaire. All recipients of the 307th Newsletters are asked to participate, including members, non-members, family and friends. It would be most appreciated.

Laurie Kendall

Secretary
307th BG



**CLICK HERE TO
OPEN THE SURVEY**



Dear members, family and friends of the 307th BG Association,

If you have gotten this far in the newsletter, you have a sense of the activity level in your Association as we roll into Spring.

Preparations are almost complete for our September 16-20 reunion in New Orleans. Highlights will include a special day at the National World War II Museum, including guided tours, a live musical show and catered lunch; an optional second day for “free range” museum roaming; and a chance to socialize with members of the 13th Air Force Association, whose reunion is in New Orleans at the same time as ours.

If you have been waiting to register for the reunion – now is the time! We have filled our initial block of rooms at the Drury Hotel but obtained an extra allotment to accommodate more of our veterans and families at the preferred rate. Be sure to mention the 307th Bomb Group Reunion when you book your hotel room!

Our Association’s efforts would not be possible without the enthusiasm and hours of selfless work contributed by our members. There never is adequate space to recognize everyone, but this month I invite you to join me in special thanks to the volunteers of our reunion team, led by Ann Williams Warner, Beth Kendall, Jim Walsh and Don Calarco.

Looking forward to seeing you in New Orleans!

John

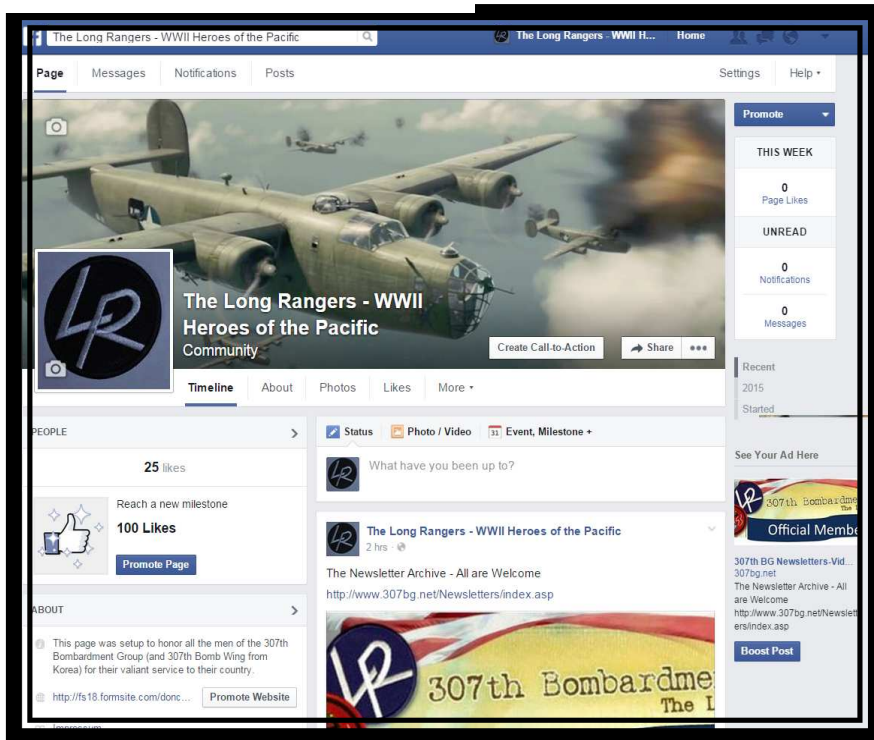
John Poggi
President, 307th Bombardment Group (HV) Association

PS

As Laurie Kendall reminds us in the accompanying note, we depend on your input to improve how our Association serves and honors the veterans of the 307th Bomb Group. Please take a couple of minutes to complete the survey!



and The Newsletter / Video Archive



Yes indeed! The 307th BG has a Facebook Page, and everyone is welcome to stop by, upload some photos, post a few stories and start communicating with fellow members, family members and guests.

You can click here:

Or, just search [[The Long Rangers - WWII Heroes of the Pacific](#)] on Facebook.
Oh! And don't forget to **"LIKE"** the page!

OK! When's the last time you stopped by the Newsletter Archive?

<http://www.307bg.net/Newsletters/index.asp>

You now have a calendar list of past newsletters along with the addition of Videos, taken and submitted by members and guests from past 307th Reunions.

A lot of work went in to building these pages (actually, it was more fun than work) and there is a lot to see.

You don't have to miss out on anything! Stop by soon.



What a great effort by our next adult generation. Check this out!

A Nickel for your Story



I can't tell you how proud we should all feel about seeing our next adult generation accepting the honor and responsibility to procure, store and present the historic memories of our Military Veterans.

This is the story of a Kickstarter Project Presented by ParadeRest of Virginia.

[A Nickel for your Story](#) is an effort to record the stories of veterans, starting with those from WWII, to preserve these invaluable and increasingly rare accounts for future generations. Using the funding from their Kickstarter program, student interns will record the stories of veterans and present the veteran with a

silver WWII era Jefferson nickel, the very coins carried in the pockets and purses of these men and women during the 1940s. In addition to recording the veterans' stories, students will transcribe and publish the stories, which will be accessible from the 307th Archive Web Page.

Each recording will be submitted to the Library of Congress as part of the Veterans History Project. Here's an unedited sample: [Kavanaugh # 1](#) [Kavanaugh #2](#)

For your donation to the Nickel for your Story Kickstart Fundraiser, your name will be recognized on the project's webpage. Here's what your donation will help to fund:

[Read More Here.....](#)

Did you really think we'd forget?



A New Orleans Trip Update:

By now the news of the 307th BG trip to New Orleans has reached nearly all corners of the city. With the help received from the New Orleans Tourism Bureau, the Drury Hotel and an assortment of friends of Ann Williams-Warner, we have already made a mark on the city.

New Orleans is such a great “walking city”, we thought we’d share this note sent to Beth Kendall after asking our resources for the best walking tours and guides.

From: tours@noladoubloon.com

Date: March 30, 2015 at 8:27:55 PM MDT

To: Bethkendall0407@gmail.com

Subject: THE BEST walking tours of New Orleans for your upcoming event

Dear Beth,

The 307th Bombardment Group Annual Reunion in New Orleans is coming up in five months and I’m sure your arrangements are mostly set. But just in case you’re still looking for top-notch historical walking tours for your group, I’d like to make sure you know about my company, NOLA Doubloon

www.noladoubloon.com

We offer the best and most riveting historical walking tours in New Orleans, AND we believe in giving back to the community: we donate a portion of all proceeds to our nonprofit preservationist partners. There is no other tour company as committed to preserving and perpetuating the unique cultural heritage of New Orleans.

NOLA Doubloon is also leading the charge toward a greener and more sustainable New Orleans. Think of us as the tour operator with a social conscience.

Please check us out online for details about our values and commitments, as well as our amazing historical tours. With a promotional rate of only \$10/person for your group,. Normally \$25, you can hardly afford NOT to tour with NOLA Doubloon! Please have your guests mention this note when they contact me to set up individual tours.

I look forward to hearing from the 307th.

Best regards,

Michael

NOLA Doubloon

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Find out about all our tours at www.noladoubloon.com