



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

Wednesday November 11, 2015

Honoring our Veterans



WE ARE THE FAMILY! WE ARE THE CHILDREN OF HEROES



A stylized graphic of the American flag, featuring white stars on a blue field and red and white stripes, positioned on the left side of the page.

According to Public Record...

Veterans Day is a public holiday that is dedicated to honoring anyone who has served in the United States military. The holiday began as a day to remember the end of World War I and was declared a holiday by President Woodrow Wilson in 1919. Originally known as Armistice Day, the holiday became Veterans Day in 1954.

When Woodrow Wilson declared 11 November a holiday, the primary intention was to have a day to reflect on the sacrifices of those who had served in the military during World War I. Observation of the holiday through parades and meetings was envisioned.

Today, many Americans observe the day by attending ceremonies and parades that are dedicated to honoring the troops for their service. These often allow veterans to speak about their time in the service and give Americans the opportunity to personally thank veterans for their sacrifice.

Veterans Day always falls on 11 November, but it may be observed on a different day due to the fact that it is a federal holiday. Federal employees and school children typically have the day off from work and school, so the holiday is observed on the Monday following the actual date of the holiday if it happens to fall on a weekend.

November 11 was chosen as the official date for Veterans Day in reference to the ending of World War I. Germany signed an armistice with the Allies that signaled the end of the war at 11 a.m. on 11 November 1918.

And so, the story goes. People celebrate Veterans Day in a variety of ways.

The Members and Management of the 307th Bombardment Group (HV) Association are a bit different. To the families, friends and children of heroes, every day is Veterans Day. Why? Because a day does not dawn that we don't think about each and every one of our beloved Veterans. They are the husbands, fathers, grandfathers, great-grandfathers, uncles, cousins and dear friends who make up the band of brothers who we call "our boys." This day is especially for them. We salute you and thank you for your service, and for just being you!



To my dear husband, father, grand-father, great-grandfather, brother, uncle and very special friend,

Today is your day. It is with deep love, unequalled gratitude, sincere appreciation and thanks that we set this day aside from ordinary days in our lives. Today our hearts swell with grateful joy that you remain a part of our lives. It's true that no one could ever imagine what you have endured for our country, for your family and for all of us.

We are all here because of your service and all that you have sacrificed for our freedom and safety.

Thank you, and God bless you.

**The members, families, friends and management of the
307th BG Veterans Association**

A large, stylized graphic of the American flag, featuring the stars and stripes, is positioned on the left side of the page, partially overlapping the text area.

Take A Moment

To Thank A Veteran

When you see someone in a uniform,
Someone who serves us all,
Doing military duty,
Answering their country's call,

Take a moment to thank them
For protecting what you hold dear;
Tell them you are proud of them;
Make it very clear.

Just tap them on the shoulder,
Give a smile, and say,
"Thanks for what you're doing
To keep us safe in the USA!"

By Joanna Fuchs



With Praise for Aging Veterans

**A veteran's not a rookie. A vet has paid his dues.
A veteran knows the hell of war just nuanced in the news.**

**A veteran loves his country. With pride he greets its flag.
He stands up straight (still soldier-like) although his shoulders
sag.**

**A veteran knows life's precious. Old memories make him cry.
He wonders why God let him live when he watched others die.**

**A veteran models friendship. His buddies know he cares.
Although they live twelve states away, he'll find a way to
share.**

**In Saving Private Ryan, civilians got to see
the bond this band of brothers feel when one's in jeopardy.**

**I've seen what I'm describing. You see, my dad's a vet.
His brave example makes me proud of who he is. And yet**

**my dad's just one of millions who fought so we'd be free.
Without regard for life or limb they served us selflessly.**

**So how can we repay them? It seems there's just no way,
except perhaps to honor them with thanks on Veterans' Day.**

by Rev. Greg Asimakoupoulos.



It's Veterans Day in the USA and we proudly salute the veterans, both men and women, who have served our nation with honor, dignity, pride and sacrifice.

We remember--and we thank you. Our flag will forever fly and we are forever free, thanks to you and to the blessings and grace of God on our nation. May God bless each veteran whose life we celebrate today. Stand proudly, veterans everywhere - we salute you!

Peggie C. Bohanon



I Asked

I asked for strength that I might achieve,
God made me weak that I might obey.
I asked for health that I might do great things,
I was given grace that I might do better things.

I asked for riches that I might be happy,
I was given poverty that I might be wise.

I asked for power that I might have the praise of men,
I was given weakness that I might feel the need for God.
I asked for all things that I might enjoy life,
I was given life that I might enjoy all things.

I received nothing that I asked for,
My prayer was answered.

The Veterans Prayer “I Asked” was written by a Confederate soldier. It was recovered from his body in Devil's Den after the battle of Gettysburg, and is a provocative prayer that many of our Veterans can relate to:

contributed by: Harry Updegraff, Jr

A stylized graphic of the American flag, featuring a blue field with white stars and a red field, separated by a white diagonal line.

A Vet

Some veterans bear visible signs of their service: a missing limb, a jagged scar, a certain look in the eye.

Others may carry the evidence inside them: a pin holding a bone together, a piece of shrapnel in the leg--or perhaps another sort of inner steel: the soul's ally forged in the refinery of adversity.

Except in parades or at reunions, however, the men and women who have kept America safe wear no badge or emblem. You can't tell a vet just by looking.

**Marine Corps chaplain,
Father Denis Edward O'Brian**

A graphic of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes, is positioned on the left side of the page, partially overlapping the text.

Request for your Prayers:

A request from Bill Grisaitis, a 99 yr. young, 307th BG Member with a heart larger than life.

We are asking everyone to say a prayer for the "Dark Horse" 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines and their families.

They are fighting it out in Afghanistan and they have lost 12 marines in four days.

Nothing has been in the media on these guys because no one seems to care much any more.....kind'a like 70 years ago?

They are: Justin Allen, 23
Brett Linley, 29
Matthew Weikert, 29
Justus Bartett, 27
Dave Santos, 21
Chase Stanley, 21
Jesse Reed, 26
Matthew Johnson, 21
Zachary Fisher, 24
Brandon King, 23
Christopher Goeke, 23
Sheldon Tate, 27

All are Marines who gave their lives for YOU this week.

Thanks,

Bill

Milt Potee remembers!



One heck of a story. Worth watching!

To find the film after 65 years is amazing enough, but for the plane to crash right near the sub.... heaven would have to have been looking out for those young men. Read the short note before viewing the clip.

An entire crew of a B-29 (12) was rescued by a US submarine after their plane was shot down in 1945, 70 miles off the coast of Japan. The entire rescue was filmed in color, but sat in a guy's closet until now.

This is a story from a Denver TV station of one of those rescued aviators to whom the video was delivered. It also shows their transfer to another submarine that is likely headed back to port before the one that accomplished the rescue.

Can you imagine, 65 years AFTER your own rescue you get to watch it on film?

<http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid34762914001?bctid=672454611001>

**Someone asked 99 yr. old Bill Grisaitis how he stays so sharp.
His answer..."Laughter! It beats the alternative!"
Here's a sample of some of his favorite wit!**



WORDS AND PHRASES REMIND US OF THE WAY WE WERE.

by Richard Lederer

About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included "Don't touch that dial," "Carbon copy," "You sound like a broken record" and "Hung out to dry." A bevy of readers have asked me to shine light on more faded words and expressions, and I am happy to oblige:

Back in the olden days we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker and straighten up and fly right. Hubba-hubba! We'd cut a rug in some juke joint and then go necking and petting and smooching and spooning and billing and cooing and pitching woo in hot rods and jalopies in some passion pit or lovers' lane. Heavens to Betsy! Gee whillikers! Jumpin' Jehoshaphat! Holy moley! We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley, and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China!

Back in the olden days, life used to be swell, but when's the last time anything was swell? Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D.A.; of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes and pedal pushers.. Oh, my aching back. Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore.

Like Washington Irving's Rip Van Winkle and Kurt Vonnegut's Billy Pilgrim, we have become unstuck in time. We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say, "I'll be a monkey's uncle!" or "This is a fine kettle of fish!" we discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.

Poof, poof, poof go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they're gone, evanesced from the landscape and wordscape of our perception, like Mickey Mouse wristwatches, hula hoops, skate keys, candy cigarettes, little wax bottles of colored sugar water and an organ grinder's monkey.

Where have all those phrases gone? Long time passing. Where have all those phrases gone? Long time ago: Pshaw. The milkman did it. Think about the starving Armenians. Bigger than a bread box. Banned in Boston . The very idea! It's your nickel. Don't forget to pull the chain. Knee high to a grasshopper. Turn-of-the-century. Iron curtain. Domino theory. Fail safe. Civil defense. Fiddlesticks! You look like the wreck of the Hesperus. Cooties. Going like sixty. I'll see you in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden nickels. Heavens to Murgatroyd! And awa-a-ay we go!

Oh, my stars and garters! It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter had liver pills. This can be disturbing stuff, this winking out of the words of our youth, these words that lodge in our heart's deep core. But just as one never steps into the same river twice, one cannot step into the same language twice. Even as one enters, words are swept downstream into the past, forever making a different river.

We of a certain age have been blessed to live in changeful times. For a child each new word is like a shiny toy, a toy that has no age. We at the other end of the chronological arc have the advantage of remembering there are words that once did not exist and there were words that once strutted their hour upon the earthly stage and now are heard no more, except in our collective memory. It's one of the greatest advantages of aging.. We can have archaic and eat it, too.

See 'ya later, alligator!

Keep laughing! It works for me.

Bill

And now, for a little news!

As directed by the members in attendance at the New Orleans special meeting, the Reunion Committee has solicited and received over two dozen proposals from hotels from Dayton, Nashville, Tulsa, Reston, Colorado Springs and Portland. Over the next few weeks, we will recap all the data and announce our 2016 Reunion Destination based on a list of qualifiers. The announcement will arrive in the next newsletter.

Speaking of reunions!

This just in....2017 is already being planned!

We were all so happy to have representation by the newly re-activated 307th Bomb Wing during our New Orleans reunion. So much so, that they were all welcomed and treated as family by all in attendance. Well the Bomb Wing came up with a great idea, but didn't want to interfere with our 2016 reunion plans. So, they planned ahead and have invited the entire 13th Air Force and 307th BG membership to a 75th anniversary celebration of their own in...April, 2017!

That's right! We have all been invited to join the 307th Bomb Wing to celebrate the 75th reunion anniversary celebration of their re-activation in...April, 2017! Details to follow!

The 307th BW has adopted the "Long Rangers" logo and have already created a commemorative Challenge Coin to mark the celebration. Here's a peek at the coin bearing the LR logo.

"The Long Rangers Ride Again"



Now let's get serious

A few words from Captain Jack Palmer



Waiting a whole year for the next reunion, to see our Army Air Corps buddies is getting tougher and tougher for most of us veterans. Let's face it, it won't be long before a few of us won't be able to travel. Just ask John Wright and Bob Robinson what a thrill it was to meet face to face with miles of space between them. A lot of hard work has gone in to preparing the 307th BG Video Chat Room so we can visit as often as we want, face to face, in the comfort of our own home.

Now listen up, gang! We need to assure that all WWII Veteran Members of the 307th BG, 13th Air Force and 307th BW are enrolled in this new program and it may take a family member to assist them with the activation. **And it's FREE!**

This is an appeal that means a lot to the handful of remaining veteran members of the 307th, but they need your help. We know it will boost their spirit, give them a few laughs and allow them to be "actively communicating" with fellow WWII vets, members, family and friends.

I'm asking Please! Don't wait!

Go to www.307bg.net/chat and get started ASAP!

You'll be so glad you did!

Thanks,

Jack



and The Newsletter / Video Archive

This News Bears Repeating.



Yes indeed! The 307th BGA 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.

Click [HERE](https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Long-Rangers-WWII-Heroes-of-the-Pacific/1400775130222179?ref=hl) to open Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Long-Rangers-WWII-Heroes-of-the-Pacific/1400775130222179?ref=hl>

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.**



GOD BLESS AMERICA

FREEDOM ISN'T FREE,
SOMEONE HAD TO PAY FOR IT

If you can read this...
thank a teacher.

If you can read this in English,
Thank a Veteran!