

The Bugle Call Rag

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April 2023

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

I have two things on my mind about what happened at the March Post 134 meeting. First, we had several guests that are currently Post 400 members. Post 400 is a non-active (holding) Post that has no command structure and holds no meetings. The members of Post 400 were contacted in an effort to entice them to transfer to our post and become active and attend our meetings. I am told that most of them made that commitment.

Second, our guest speaker spoke on the topic of electric power generation in our future. He was a strong proponent of continuing to use fossil fuels to provide electric energy for the

foreseeable future to fill the never ending expansion of demand. He played down the use of just about any other method of generating supply, including solar and wind power generation. I have strong feelings that if we do as our speaker suggests, the end of life as we know it on this planet will change dramatically sooner than later. I firmly believe that we should cut our reliance on fossil fuels as soon as possible and replace that with all other alternative means of generating power.

***For God and Country,
James Poulin***



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APRIL GUEST SPEAKER

Thanks to Fred Viele, noted historian Bradley Quinlin will be our April speaker.

With Memorial Day upcoming, it must be noted that Brad, a native of Monmouth, IL, is a master volunteer with the National Park Service. He has contributed more than 10,000 hours, volunteering much of it at the Marietta National Cemetery. He moved to Georgia in 1982.

Brad was lead researcher and advisor for the award-winning Battle of Kennesaw Mountain film, *One Last Mountain*. He also is a registered Civil War tour guide and holds a degree from Temple University.

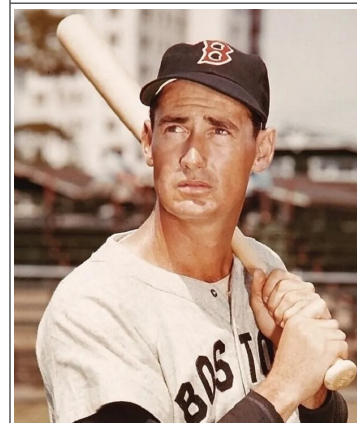
Brad has been a Civil War reenactor 33 years, and worked on 32 movies and television (TV) shows, including the TV documentary *The Untold Story of the Civil War* and the National Geographic show *Diggers*. During filming of the TV show, *Who Do You*

Think You Are, He showed actor Matthew Broderick where Broderick's grandfather is buried at Marietta National Cemetery. Brad researched material for three other "Who Do You" TV programs.

He has written 24 books on the Civil War, including *Duty Well Performed*, a 2021 account of the 21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment. His co-author was Joshua Haugh. In researching this book, he discovered that a captain in the regiment was the great-grandfather of former VP Richard Cheney (left in photo with Brad).



SPEAKER...Continued on Page 3



You know it's April when the Major League Baseball season kicks off. Let's take a look back at a Bugle Call Rag article on baseball legend, Ted Williams.

Go to the post website address at the top right corner of this page. "Click for Directory" under Come Join Us.

Select: 2013-04bcr.pdf

It's that easy, "Play Ball!"

WHAT THE DEVIL, NEVILLE?

NEVILLE...Continued from March 2023 BCR

The reader, and perhaps the world, asks why Neville Chamberlain was so eager to appease Hitler. To misquote Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806-61), let us count the whys.

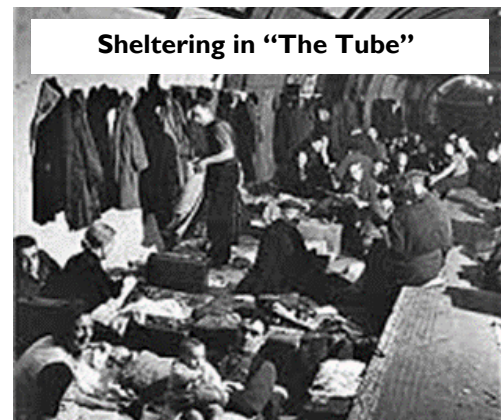


Lancaster Bomber

1. At the outset of WWII, the British had neither planes, sufficiently trained crews, or navigation aids to conduct an offensive bombing campaign. As of August, 1939, 40% of their bomber crews could not find a target in a British city by day. At night the percent was higher. Its first modern four-engine bombers weren't due out until 1941. Later, even when aircrews managed to find Berlin, their bombs were so scattered that the Germans marked it up as a morale destroying mission. In the spring of 1940, British chiefs of staff said Bomber Command was in no position to help win the war. Aircraft were not equipped to work with ground control or troops on the ground. The latter was considered a waste of the RAF's time. There was no airborne radar to help British fighters intercept enemy bombers until 1941. The machine guns on its second-best fighter, the Hawker *Hurricane*, sometimes failed to function above 10,000 feet.
2. The British army staff had drawn up a plan for a modern, combined arms army, but its troops didn't train to the plan. Stationed for the most part at small posts throughout the kingdom, its army had been on large-scale training exercises only twice since WW1.
3. The army had never met its recruiting goals and didn't institute a draft until 26 Apr 39—the first since Oliver Cromwell (1599-1657). By early 1939, the German army had 51 divisions totaling three million men. England had 300,000 soldiers in

uniform and hoped its empire could furnish another 130,000.

4. Equipment shortages were rampant. Light tanks, designed primarily for reconnaissance, made up the majority of its armor. One unit's armored cars would go only a few hundred feet before breaking down. Its machine guns were virtually useless because their mounting brackets hadn't been manufactured.
5. The British Expeditionary Force, intended for service in France, was short of trained staff officers.
6. Labor union wrangling slowed industrial mobilization for war. For example, when air raid sirens wailed, it was hard to tell which plant was the target. War factories put spotters on their roofs so that production lines would not be needlessly shut down. The spotters then demanded overtime pay. A *New York Times* reporter asked the manager of a large munitions factory when the country would be ready to fight. He replied, "Give us three years and we'll be ready for them."
7. There was a shortage of skilled workers. Aircraft production was well behind schedule.
8. Inflation was a problem. Political leaders feared that massive defense spending would make it worse.
9. Many Britons initially saw Chamberlain's appeasement efforts as a wily husbanding of the nation's resources.
10. The shortages of air raid shelters and air defense artillery were colossal. There was virtually no air defense radar to aim what guns were available. British fighter planes were virtually blind when it came to intercepting enemy bombers after dark.



Sheltering in "The Tube"

NEVILLE... Continued from Page 2

11. While the Royal Navy had a surface vessel advantage over Germany, its submarine fleet was inferior to Hitler's.
12. In 1939, U. S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1887-1945) was largely focused on running for a third term. His opponent was Republican Thomas Edmund Dewey (1902-71). That, along with prevailing isolationism in America, diverted FDR's attention from Britain's plight.
13. British public opinion initially was against bombing the German homeland lest it provoke raids on English cities and cultural sites.

After war was declared, the first Britons killed by enemy action were among the 1,418 passengers and crew aboard the Donaldson Anchor Line's *SS Athenia* sunk by a German U-boat on 03 Sep 39. The next day, 29 British aircraft attacked German warships in Wilhelmshaven and Brunsbuttel. Only 16 planes found their targets and seven were shot down.

The much-feared German air assault of British cities did not happen immediately. Hitler's planned invasion of Great Britain never did.

On 01 Sep 39, Chamberlain lamented to the House of Commons, "Everything I have worked for has crashed to ruins".

Ultimately, notes historian Daniel Todman, "the strain of constant air raids and sirens marked the end for Chamberlain".

Chamberlain had returned to his office 09 Sep 40 from convalescence from what turned out to be bowel cancer, but was not the same man. That, plus the disastrous British attempt to free Norway from German occupation, resulted in Chamberlain's resigning as prime minister on 10 May 40. Churchill replaced him as prime minister.

On 22 Sep 40, Chamberlain offered to leave his seat on the War Ministry. Churchill initially refused, but accepted it on 29 Sep 40. Chamberlain died of cancer on 09 Nov 40 at the age of 71.

The Imperial War Museum noted that Chamberlain was "not a weak man as often portrayed, but a domineering and often stubborn prime minister who ruled his cabinet and the Conservative Party with an iron hand."

BRITISH ODDITIES AT THE BEGINNING OF WWII

1. Church bells were to be rung only in the event of an invasion and signposts were to be covered so German paratroopers would not know where they were.
2. To save the populace from annihilation by German air raids, England began evacuating children, women, and the elderly from population centers. Between late August and early September 1939, some 3.5 million citizens had been relocated and billeted with willing families in the countryside. Because German air raids didn't commence immediately, or the evacuees couldn't get along with their hosts, most came back home in droves.
3. Criticized in the US, there seemed to be no objection in England when, on 11 Jun 40, all adult Italian men were rounded up and imprisoned without trial. After the Fall of France on 24 Jun 40, all Germans were impounded.

SPEAKER... Continued from Page 1

During the 2005 inaugural parade, Cheney put his hand over his heart when the 21st passed the reviewing stand. Soldiers from the 21st were among those who volunteered for the 1862 Civil War raid which became known as The Great Locomotive Chase.

Amazon Books lists his most popular volume as *For my Grandchildren: the Civil War Journey of Pierre Starr*, a surgeon in the 39th Ohio Infantry Regiment.

Also listed on Amazon by Quinlin are *I am not a Hero*; *I Hope a Good Citizen*; *Valor Above and Beyond* (MOH recipients from Tennessee), and *Yankee Hotel—the Horror of Andersonville*.

Quinlin's research was used in relocating and restoring the Battle of Atlanta cyclorama when it was moved from Grant Park to the Atlanta History Center as well as in two wayside exhibits at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. His work is being used in five museums across the U.S.

Brad has served on the Marietta National Cemetery Memorial Day committee five years and worked on the Wreaths Across America program 17 years.

Married 47 years, Brad and his wife have two sons and seven grandchildren.

BASEBALL LEGEND WAS A WWII MARINE HERO

Hank Bauer was a legendary American League right fielder and manager in Major League Baseball. He played with the New York Yankees (1948–1959) and Kansas City Athletics (1960–1961).

He served as the manager of the A's in both Kansas City, (1961–62) and in Oakland, (1969), as well as of the Orioles (1964–68), guiding the Orioles to the World Series title in 1966, a four-game sweep over the heavily favored Dodgers. This was the first World Series title in the franchise's history.

Before the Orioles' World Series title in 1966, Bauer played in seven World Series: 1949-1953, 1956 and 1958. He also was a three-time All-Star, 1952-1954

Before his baseball fame, Bauer served in the Marine Corps during World War II from 1942 to 1945.

Following basic training at Mare Island, California, he volunteered to join the elite Marine Raiders. After successfully completing the grueling physical and mental entrance requirements, he was assigned to the 4th Raider Battalion, which in August 1942, deployed to Guadalcanal in the southwest Pacific. He was there until the spring of 1943.

After surviving attacks by the Japanese and a bout of malaria, Bauer next participated in the landing on Emirau, in the south eastern portion of the St. Matthias

Islands, in March 1944. That was followed by the New Georgia Campaign in June 1944 and the Battle of Guam in July 1944. In the battle for Guam, Bauer was wounded in the back by enemy shrapnel. During that battle, he received a Bronze Star Medal for valor.

Next came the battle for Okinawa in April 1945. By this time, Bauer, a sergeant, led a platoon in battle. Most of his platoon was killed. Bauer and five others made it out alive, but Bauer was wounded in the thigh by enemy artillery fire. He also received a second Bronze Star during the battle.

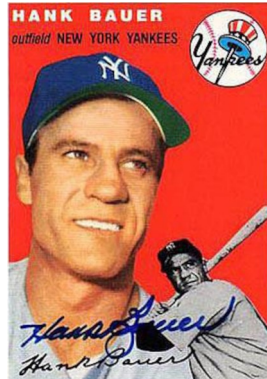
The wounds he received on Okinawa were severe enough for him to be sent back to the United States to recuperate. Bauer, who wanted to play professional baseball, thought the wounds would end his dream.

Bauer was fortunate in his recovery and went on to become a baseball legend.

His brother, Herman, was not so fortunate. Herman Bauer was killed in action in France while with the 3rd Armored Division on July 12, 1944.

Hank Bauer died in 2007 at age 84.

By David Vergun , *Department of Defense News*



Regular Meeting
Atlanta Athletic Club
1930 Bobby Jones Drive
Johns Creek, Georgia

Next Meeting — April 13, 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	EC	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

2022-2023 Post Officers			
<i>Commander</i>	James Poulin *	<i>Finance</i>	Bryant Roland *
<i>Sr. VC</i>	John Ottley, Jr. *	<i>Adjutant</i>	Mike E. Fallaize, Sr. *
<i>Jr. VC</i>	Herman Anderson	<i>Historian</i>	Walter C. Conway *
<i>Chaplain</i>	Rev. J. R. McAliley III	<i>Service Officer</i>	Rev Larry Robert
Executive Committee Members			
John Ottley, Jr. *	(2021-2022)	Dave Mason	(2019-2022)
Al Alberghini *	(2021-2023)	Arnold Wall *	(2018-2023)
Walter Conway *	(2020-2023)	Fred Viele *	(2018-2023)
	Sam Steger * (Ex-Officio Member)		
* Past Commanders			