

Friends of the 416th Bomb Group (L)

"Keeping memories alive by perpetuating the accomplishments and Heritage of the 416th Bomb Group for present and future generations"



MAIL CALL



What's New?

Dear Friends,

Historically, we published a newsletter once a year which focused primarily on our keeping in touch and remembering our beloved reunions. However, a number of us opined that we would love to stay in touch, remember our reunions, honor our history, and hear our stories more often and in shorter installments. To that end, here is the first one of what we hope will be a series of quarterly updates, rather than an annual issue, keeping us closer and more tightly bound by our history and by our care for one another. Enjoy!

Kathe Rensner, Liaison

Friends of the 416th Bomb Group

Date	WHAT'S NEW ON 416TH.COM? <small>[to read all monthly updates, click on this link: https://416th.com/416th_website_update_summary.html]</small>
Feb 2022	Updates to: S/Sgt. Robert Lee Miller Memorial, S/Sgt. Vern Edward Molver POW Memorial, MACR 4634, Missions #46 and #241, Cachat Photo Collection - Plane Crashes and Plane Stills and Crews, WWII US Air Force Photos, POW Camps, Wethersfield, Melun-Villaroche, Laon/Athies and Cormeilles-en-Vexin. Added Case History of A-26 Airplane web page.
Jan 2022	Added Individual Deceased Personnel File to S/Sgt. Joseph John Shields Memorial Page. Updated 2022 Friends of the 416th BG Reunion Announcement page. Added published the 2021 Friends of the 416th BG Newsletter. Researched 416th BG NOBALL Targets and added webpage NOBALL Targets summary; added "NOBALL / V1 Flying Bomb" photos saved from Fold3.com, updated Combat Mission pages 13, 17, 22 and 23 with additional information discovered in V1 research. Updated 2021 Friends of the 416th BG Reunion page with Reunion Summary, added 2021 Reunion Photos and 2022 Reunion Announcement.
Dec 2021	Added photos from Roland Dullnig's 100th Birthday Celebration to his Photo and Document Collection page. Added new page on WWII Maps. Researched and added GSGS Military Topographic Map information to 156 416th BG Combat Missions which identified Targets using "Modified British System" (MBS) Grid coordinates. Missions having GSGS maps include: 69, 70, 75, 78, 83, 87-89, 93, 94, 100, 105, 106, 108, 119, 125, 126, 128, 137-139, 140-150, 154, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163-166, 168-177, 179-189, 191-285.

KEEPING IN TOUCH!

The "Keeping in Touch" section was always the primary purpose for our annual newsletter since its inception more than 70 years ago. Throughout the history of 416th Squadron and Group reunions, we've made a concerted effort to provide contact information to those who wish to stay in touch with their extended 416th family. Those historic newsletters also serve as windows into the past for those, like most of us, who are later generations. Reading those newsletters from years gone by offers us insight that no other source can provide. So, thank you to those who have shared their thoughts, feelings and good wishes here — not just for the rest of us, but also for those who will come after us. Let's keep it going! Please send us your latest information; any news items, events, or greetings; and any family pictures, stories, or remembrances. We'll publish them here to share with our greater 416th family keeping us in touch. Thank you!

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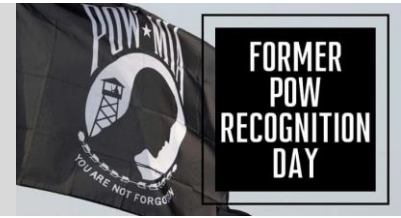
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FORMER POW RECOGNITION DAY

April 9, 2022



Like our beloved 416th, the military men and women who serve our country in war are indeed heroes. The work of our military is dangerous and it happens that our heroes sometimes get captured and go through pro-longed periods of confinement, torture, and hardship. Since the age of the Revolutionary War, there have been so many service members who have been captured, with the number growing even higher when the ones that died and others that were never found are included. During this time, they have to endure the pain that comes from separation from their families, torture and mistreatment at the hands of the captors, and worse, fear. Yet during that time of separation, our POWs demonstrated remarkable faith and endurance, waiting to be rescued.

Their sacrifice calls us to remember them with a special day of recognition and our prayers and thanks.

National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day is a day that, while not as well-known as National POW/MIA Recognition Day (celebrated in September of each year), it is just as important. It is a day to honor captured wartime service members who eventually came home. The word "former" is the key to remembering the major difference between these two events honored every year on their respective days.

The initial day of recognition was created by joint resolution during the 100th Congress, and was signed into law by President Ronald Reagan on April 8, 1987.

In establishing the federal observance with his 1988 Proclamation, President Ronald Reagan wrote, in part:

It is truly fitting that America observe April 9 in recognition of our former prisoners of war; that date is the 46th anniversary of the day in 1942 when

U.S. forces holding out on the Bataan Peninsula in the Philippines were captured. Later, as prisoners of war, these gallant Americans were subjected to the infamous Bataan Death March and to other inhumane treatment that killed thousands of them before they could be liberated. In every conflict, brutality has invariably been meted out to American prisoners of war; on April 9 and every day, we must remember with solemn pride and gratitude that valor and tenacity have ever been our prisoners' response ... To their brave families we offer solace and salute. To our former prisoners of war who endured so much, we say that with your example and with God's help we will seek to meet the standards of devotion you have set; we will never forget your service or your sacrifice.

To the best of our knowledge, the 416th BG had 51 POWs (including two who escaped after their capture). We also know of 8 soldiers who were shot down but evaded capture by the enemy. *This April 9, remember our 416th former POWs!* They are all identified and memorialized on the 416th.com:

http://www.416th.com/POW_EE/416th_POW_EE.html

How can we honor the Former POWs of the 416th?

▪ *Posting on social media*

Post on social media using the "#FormerPOWRecognitionDay" hashtag. This would create aware-ness about this day and ensure that all the POWs and those serving our country feel recognized/appreciated. You can also support others who post messages to help bring awareness to this day.

▪ *Volunteering to help organize public events in your city*

Government officials, veterans, civic and private organizations observe the day with ceremonies and events. Helping them organize events helps us honor our former POWs.

▪ *Talking to people about the remarkable work servicemen and women do*

Take the time to talk to people about the many ways that service members add value to our lives. Among the points to highlight include protecting us from our enemies, and sacrificing their security and time with their families among others.

▪ *Volunteering to help a veteran organization or donate to a POW rehab facility*

Volunteer/donate to help a POW. After returning home, POWs often require medical treatment and long periods of therapy afterwards to deal with PTSD.



**We Remember Our 416th BG Veterans
Who were Former POWs**