



## From the Desk of Roundtable President Charles Holt

JANUARY 2022 Newsletter [www.WWIIroundtable.com](http://www.WWIIroundtable.com)

Greetings! I had a great week...I had the honor to meet two WWII vets and look forward to hearing their stories! On a sad note, Lawrence Brooks, New Orleans, died on JAN 5th--he was the oldest WWII vet at 112. His funeral was JAN 15th at the National WWII Museum. Last week I called a 105 year old lady who attended my Missouri church, when I was growing up. She knew my father and his service in Korea during that war and of his brother who served in the Pacific in WWII. This lady has an excellent memory and was a cobbler and made a pair of shoes for the Queen of England! Everyone needs to record interesting stories of their lives, whether a veteran or not and share them widely . . . like our WW II Roundtable.

*Charles Allen Holt, D.O.*

**Jan 24, 2022, 7:00 PM In-Person & Zoom**

### Dinner 6-7:00 at North Side Social!

7:00 "Trivia Report" by Brad Damon & 7:15 Program

Speaker: Eric Grayson

He is a historic film conservationist. He will be talking about and running examples of WWII Private Snafu films

**Meeting Starts 7:00 PM promptly**

Please use Zoom link on website prior to start of meeting

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Northside Social Club

2100 E 71st Street

Indianapolis,

IN 46220

6:00 Dinner served  
\$11 + table tip++

7:00 Program  
In person & Zoom

### DATES FOR 2022

JAN 24	JUL 25
FEB 28	AUG 22
MAR 28	SEP 26
APR 25	OCT 24
MAY 23	NOV 28
JUN 27	DEC 5

### 2022 WWII Round Table Dues are Due Now

Please pay via website or bring exact cash or check to dinner in January. At dinner sign-in, you will also be able to confirm correctness of your membership information. This will help us update our membership list.

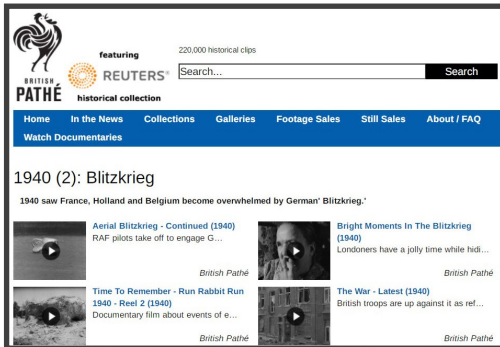
**Veteran Family \$20.00; Non-Veteran Family \$25.00; WWII Veterans FREE Membership**

Join us in person if you are able! Remember, if you are in person and paying for a meal, you help support the Northside Service Club. They need our business. Be sure to send your RSVP to Karl Kleinbub ASAP: [knj1002@myninestar.net](mailto:knj1002@myninestar.net) or phone 317-607-6948. **no later than JAN 20!** A head count for Northside Social is very important. Also, please have CASH in exact change \$11 ++ tip for your meal. You do not want to miss the opportunity either for the book / artifact drawing: \$5.00 per ticket. Alan Andrews always has a great selection of "gems" as does Travis Petrie with WW2 era books and more! Here is a reminder to consider helping as a volunteer—suggestions are at the end of this newsletter. In January we need to have the membership vote on the board for 2022-23 slate—and will accept additional volunteers at this time. Did you know the \$11 meal fee goes totally to cover the cost of the meal (we get the room for free with buying meals), so donations to the WW2RT are always welcome (501c-3)

## UPCOMING PROGRAM

**Eric Grayson is our Monday 24 January 2022 presenter. He is a historic film conservationist and he will talk about and show WWII Private Snafu films—“the ultimate guides to good behavior” and are popular with general audiences.**

During WW2 these newsreels provided updates of the war's progress/training. An animated series of 27 short films made between 1943 and 1945 “Taught Soldiers How to Avoid Certain Death” among other things. Did you know that “in 1943, while the United States was engaged in [World War II](#), the army brass was pulling out all of the stops to buoy the spirits and skills of their soldiers in the battlefield? They needed to find a way to raise the morale of the troops and to educate them about things like the perils of leaking military secrets, how to prevent malaria, and why they should always keep a gas mask at hand. The War Department commissioned the crème de la crème of Hollywood, including Dr. Seuss and Mel Blanc, to create the 'Private Snafu' film franchise.” “Private Snafu was a favorite among the troops. According to the [Prescott Evening Courier](#) in 1944, this series consistently ranked first or second when the army surveyed soldiers on their favorite wartime films.” Be sure to RSVP and join the Round Table for a great program on the 24th of the month!



As a preview to our speaker's program this month, it seemed logical to share with some links to three different web-based films—typical of those shown to the British public and as propaganda films. Movies during WW2 did much to prepare and orient the local population, both civilian and military to the current situation. This included training films as well as weekly newsreels for presentation in the movie theaters. The Saturday matinees especially drew a younger crowd with shorts and sometimes a double feature.

As an example, here is a film representing The Phony War (September 1939 and ending with “real” war in May 1940). Do a search for “Time to Remember—Run Rabbit Run 1940” or paste either link below into your browser, then click on any film of interest. <https://www.britishpathe.com/video/time-to-remember-run-rabbit-run-1940-reel-2> or go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-wazRVjBwI>



**Bastille Day in France is a very big national holiday**—three clips here show two very different celebrations in Paris, one in 1939 and the other in 1940. See 1939: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=csf\\_U-S-zgo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=csf_U-S-zgo) or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOloqGngjiY>

**For 1940, German occupation**—many fewer observers on the sidewalks! Commentary is in French (Vichy propaganda)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DDfg\\_m2M\\_90](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DDfg_m2M_90) and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MH-yDwHf5gU>



# PREVIEW OF FEBRUARY 2022'S PROGRAM

February's program will showcase African Americans in WWII: Valor - Sacrifice- Patriotism



## Black Americans Who Served in WWII Faced Segregation Abroad and at Home

Some 1.2 million Black men served in the U.S. military during the war, but they were often treated as second-class citizens.

**Our featured speaker will be Board Member, Marlene Mendonsa** She has been working intently the last two months researching and creating an excellent program which you will not want to miss! Read the February newsletter for more details.

## The WW2 Round Table Still Needs Your help!

Your help and ideas are needed in the development of the WWII Round Table! Please take a few moments to share your thoughts with our board and consider being an active participant in one of the following areas:

- ◆ I have financial skills, work with Excel and could assist the treasurer:
- ◆ I recommend the following speaker for future events: \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ I can recommend future event(s) that might be of interest to our membership . . .
- ◆ I am available to assist monthly, occasionally, or as often as needed
- ◆ I am willing to help with set-up or take-down at meetings (before 5 pm) or selling dinner or drawing tickets
- ◆ I am willing to take photos of new attending veterans/guests and sending photos via email to the newsletter editor

**"Helpers" often evolve into volunteer assistants or board members . . .**

## March 28, 2022 Program — Francis Gary Powers, Jr.



Gary is the author of *Letters from a Soviet Prison (2017)* and *Spy Pilot (2019)* which both help to dispel the misinformation surrounding the U-2 Incident. He is a Board Member of the Strategic Air Command and Aerospace Museum near Omaha, NE and an Honorary Board Member of the International Spy Museum in Washington, DC. Because of his efforts to honor Cold War veterans the Junior Chamber of Commerce selected him as one of the "Ten Outstanding Young Americans" for 2002. Gary lectures internationally and appears regularly on C-SPAN, the History, Discovery, and A&E Channels. He is married and has one son.