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Americans, Germans, Austrians, Civilians, Military, Christians, Jews— Tell of Childhoods Lost and Courage Found in WWII

Walnut Creek, Calif.—July 23, 2009— **August 21 is Senior Citizens Day and September 1 is the 70th anniversary of the beginning of WW II**, especially appropriate times for your readers to hear from some remarkable senior authors. Dodging shattering glass during Kristallnacht, dropping bombs on women and children, outwitting Nazi officials, and marching to a Japanese internment camp are among the events that stole childhood from 20 authors featured in newly released *Designated Heroes Remember*. A lifetime later these survivors, some now in their 90's, met in a writing class in Northern California and began sharing their memories.

Many of their voices unexpectedly intertwine. Over 60 years ago author Leo Bach's squadron bombed classmate Steffi Plumb and family in Dresden, seven-year-old Susan Hochschild escaped the Nazis on a kindertrain while Otto Schnepf's grandmother perished in a death camp. Fifteen-year-old Helmet Unbehoven shot down American planes over Germany while Adrienne Wolfert packed bullets in an ammunition plant in Connecticut. Helen Knopp's friend fled Japanese internment in California, while the Japanese interned nine-year-old Sarah Connelly and her family in The Philippines.

Each of these heart-rending stories demonstrates not only the writers' resilience and courage, but a strong will to survive and live productive lives. They went on to achieve in such fields as medicine, chemistry, librarianship, teaching, business, journalism and art.

According to New York City book editor, Casey Fuetsch, *Designated Heroes Remember* offers "unique perspectives on World War II, but the lessons taught and the emotions engendered by these authors are, unfortunately, oh-so-necessary to our current time of war."

To arrange for interviews contact Sheila Jordan, at 925-930-0032 or sjordan1@comcast.net. For review of *Designated Heroes Remember* a complimentary book will be overnight mailed upon request.