

# EX-POW BULLETIN

the official voice of the  
**American Ex-Prisoners of War**

Volume 66

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Number 1

January 2009



*We exist to help those who cannot help themselves*



*The Cabanatuan Memorial*

*Inside: 2009 Compensation Rates...One POW's Log Book  
News, Outreach, Events...NSO Success Stories and more*



*The American Former Prisoners of War Advisory Committee Honors Dr. Jo Harbour, POW Coordinator Nancy Mullins~ Commander Jim Clark attends meeting, receives warm welcome (see left)*



*Harry Kelley, Jack Feliz, Jack Bartz, David Flynn, Howard Brooks, Val Poss & Jim Hornfischer (rear) at the Veteran's Day Sunset Service honoring the USS Houston CA-30 & crew aboard the USS Missouri, Honolulu, Hawaii November 11, 2008*



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*Deadline for the Mar/April 2009 issue is Feb 1, 2009*

**Please send all materials to the editor at the above address.**

## January 2009

*Sun nien fai lok Xin nian yu kuaí Godt Nyttår  
Gelukkig nieuwjaar Bonne année Aith-  
bhliain Fe Nhaise Dhuit Gutes Neues Jahr  
Hauoli Makahiki Hou Shanah tovah Nav  
Varsh Ki Badhaai/ Naya Saal Mubarak Ho  
Buon Capo d'Anno Akemashite Omedetou  
Gozaimasu Maligayang Bagong Taon  
Szczesliwego Nowego roku Feliz ano novo S Novym Godom Feliz Año  
Nuevo Gott Nytt Ar Yeni Yiliniz Kutlu Olsun Blwyddyn Newydd Dda*



The Board of Directors will meet on March 5-7, 2009 in Arlington, Texas. Please read the column from National Headquarters on page 5 if you are interested in attending.

### January Dates:

- 1 1942 - Germany retakes Staritz
- 2 1942 - Axis forces surrender Bardia
- 5 1925 - PNC Zack Roberts born
- 1942 - US withdraws to Bataan
- 7 1789 - 1<sup>st</sup> Presidential Election
- 9 1942 - Japanese attack Bataan
- 1945 - US invades Luzon
- 11 1942 - US Carrier *Saratoga* torpedoed by Japanese
- 14 1943 - Churchill and Roosevelt meet in Casablanca
- 15 1973 - US action in Vietnam suspended
- 16 1944 - Gen. Eisenhower named Commander in Chief - Europe
- 1991 - Persian Gulf War begins
- 18 1919 - WWI Peace Congress opens in Versailles
- 20 1942 - Hitler approves "Final Solution"
- 23 1968- USS Pueblo seized by North Korean gunboats
- 26 1942 - 1<sup>st</sup> US troops arrive in British Isles
- 27 1943 - 1<sup>st</sup> all American air raid against Germany
- 1973 - Vietnam peace accords signed in Paris
- 28 1973 - Vietnam war cease-fire officially in effect
- 30 1945 - Cabanatuan liberated
- 31 1968 - Tet Offensive begins

Cover: The Cabanatuan American Memorial was erected by the survivors of the Bataan Death March and the prisoner of war camp at Cabanatuan in the Philippines during World War II. It is located at the site of the camp and honors those Americans and Filipinos who died during their internment. The American Battle Monuments Commission, recognizing the significance of this memorial, accepted responsibility for its operation and maintenance in 1989.

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**January 2009**



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with their columns



**National Commander  
Jim Clark**

#### AULD LANG SYNE

The song, "Auld Lang Syne," is sung at the stroke of midnight in almost every English-speaking country in the world to bring in the new year. At least partly written by Robert Burns in the 1700's, it was first published in 1796 after Burns' death. Early variations of the song were sung prior to 1700 and inspired Burns to produce the modern rendition. "Auld Lang Syne" literally means "old long ago," or simply, "the good old days."

For many of us, New Year's Eve was spent behind barb wire...far away from our loved ones. Certainly not the "good old days". But also for many of us, those times have - with the long passage of time - become less horrific. We were young. Away from home - maybe for the first time in our lives. We felt like if we could get through this day, we could get through anything. Most importantly, we met, lived with, supported and survived with the truest friends we would ever meet in our lives. Our family-away-from-home. We've kept in touch with as many as we could through the years; it's one main reason we attend reunions and conventions - to reconnect with those long-ago feelings of friendship and camaraderie.

I have been taking this time, as one year ends and another begins (and before starting to criss-cross the country attending state meetings), to focus on the future of AXPOW. It has been exciting to read bits and

pieces from our Strategic Planning Committee as they begin to formulate plans for this year and the years to come. There is excitement for the first time in quite a while as people come together with the common goal of our continuation. The November/December issue of the EX-POW Bulletin has the committee members listed. Contact any of the Strategic Planning Committee with YOUR ideas.

We have a new Congress and a new President as we begin 2009 as well. Our long-time friend, Rep. Bob Filner from California, is again heading up the House Veterans Affairs Committee. He has an excellent wrap-up of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress' accomplishments in the area of Veterans Affairs on the next page. Even with reports of a "divided Congress", a lot was done. Osteoporosis became our latest presumptive under this Congress, thanks to a lot of hard work by a lot of people.

As a long-time businessman, I have also been looking at AXPOW's finances. We've cut as far as possible without losing programs, so we need now to be looking at more ways of raising money. Again, the Strategic Planning Committee has ideas - from membership drives for next-of-kin to continuation of JVC Morris Barker's excellent Voluntary Funding Program. We need to explore ALL avenues to ensure we live up to our motto: "We Exist to Help Those Who Cannot Help Themselves".

New Year's Eve has always been a time for looking back to the past, and more importantly, forward to the coming year. It's a time to reflect on the changes we want (or need) to make and resolve to follow through on those changes. What about you? What changes do YOU want to see? What changes do you want from your friends, your family, your organization this year?

Yours in fellowship.

*Jim*

## news from hq

Happy New Year from National Headquarters. Hope your Holidays were merry and bright!

If you are an annual member, this will be your last issue if you haven't paid your 2009 dues. Get them in now.

The National Board of Directors' midyear meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2009 in Arlington, Texas. The room rate is \$95 per night plus tax. To make your reservation, please call the hotel at 817-640-3322 and tell the reservations agent that you are with the AXPOW Mid-year meeting to get the organization's rate.

The Hilton has a free shuttle between the DFW Airport and the hotel. The meeting schedule is:

Thursday, March 5 Arrival  
Thursday, March 5 Tour of National Headquarters  
Friday, March 6 Board meeting 9 AM to 5 PM  
Friday, March 6 Dinner  
Saturday, March 7 Departure

We are having a dinner on Friday, March 6. The cost is \$20 per person. If you wish to attend, please send your check for your reservation to National Headquarters before March 1.

The Hilton is the same hotel in which the 2004 National Convention was held. It is located north of I-30 at Lamar Boulevard and SH-360. You will have a great view of the new football stadium!

Clydie, Sally, Marsha & Donna

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### Filner Re-elected Chair of House Vets Committee

On Nov. 20, 2008, the Democratic Caucus voted to re-elect Congressman Bob Filner as Chair of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Filner will serve his second term as Chairman in the upcoming 111th Congress, which begins on January 6, 2009.

Filner commented: "I am grateful to my Democratic colleagues for supporting me as Chair of the Veterans' Affairs Committee. It is truly an honor and a privilege to serve our nation's veterans and I appreciate the support of the Caucus.

"We made significant progress in caring for our veterans over the past two years, but much remains to be done.

"A new basis of stable funding must be developed. The claims backlog must be attacked in a new way. And the mental health of our veterans - both old and new - must remain a high priority.

"I am looking forward to working with a dynamic new Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the Obama Administration to achieve these aims."

### Keeping the Promise:

#### Accomplishments for Our Nation's Veterans in the 110th Congress

When I became Chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs,

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the VA was strained to its breaking point by years of chronic underfunding and a "business as usual" attitude.

The Committee set out an aggressive agenda to identify the needs of our veterans and to ensure that the promises we made to them were kept. The Committee held 107 hearings, 50 percent more than the previous Congress, and we followed through and passed 75 quality veterans' bills - more than the previous two Congresses combined.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have created hundreds of thousands of veterans. It is simply our duty as a Nation, when we put our men and women in harm's way, to care for them when they return.

Although this Democratic Congress has focused on the issues affecting our returning service members, I vowed, when I became Chairman, to never forget the service and sacrifice of our veterans from previous conflicts - and we have lived up to that promise. Thanks to our efforts, the VA is in a better position today to care for all of our veterans.

Our aggressive agenda culminated in the passage of comprehensive legislation to improve health care and benefits for our veterans. I have attached a list of accomplishments that this Democratic Congress has been able to achieve.

We were not able to do all that we wanted to, but we did a lot, and next Congress, working together, we plan on building upon our successes and making sure that we honor our warriors by taking care of them when they return. We will

keep our promise to our Nation's heroes of the past, present and future:

Sincerely,

**BOB**

**CHAIRMAN**

House Committee on  
Veterans' Affairs

1. A G.I. Bill for the 21st Century
2. Address the Housing Needs of Veterans
3. A Budget Worthy of Our Veterans
4. Addressing Health Care Treatment & Access
5. Increasing Benefits for Veterans
6. Cleaning up the Benefits Backlog
7. Oversight of the Department of Veterans Affairs
8. New Cooperative Approaches - Seamless Transition and Continuum of Care

*"It has never been more important than during this time of war to keep the promises that have been made to our veterans. This... Congress will continue our aggressive approach as we work together to provide our veterans with the benefits that they have earned and deserve."*



# VA Outreach S\*O\*O\*N Before it's too late



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## Outreach at Work Pluses & Minuses

### Outreach: We must keep trying.

St. Louis suburb, former POW in Korea, is murdered in robbery of home. Internet news article shared by NSO Betty Harlan in Sudan, Texas, has comments by deceased good friend and fellow worker. I call the POW Coordinator, Barbara Bundy in St. Louis VARO, who goes the second mile to see if former POW John has a VA file. He does not. I call his friend mentioned in the article. He says so far as he knows, John has never been to their local VA clinic. The sad result is John's widow has no chance to get a VA widow's benefit or free Medicare supplement. Be alert! What former POW or widow do you know who may not have gone to the VA for their benefits? Don't just assume. Ask, to be sure.

Dallas, Texas: Recently we were in the area for grandson's wedding and my wife reads the Dallas Morning News obituary section. And there is "a B-17 Flying Fortress pilot during WWII...shot down and taken prisoner...Stalag Luft I, liberated by Russians." Mr. C had died

of complications of a stroke, which most likely would qualify his widow for the VA widow's benefit. Being not sure of how to approach the son mentioned in the obituary, I called AXPOW member Don Houseman who lives in the same Dallas area. Don made the contact to alert the family of this possible VA benefit. Thanks to Don for extending the AXPOW Outreach to those who may be unaware of VA benefits available.

Gulf Coast Mississippi: Call from widow of former POW who died in 2001, cause of death "Myocardial Infarction, Chronic Hypertension". Put in a call to Nancy Mullins, POW Coordinator in Jackson, MS VARO. She makes the contact and one month later calls to say this widow now has her DIC, the VA widow's benefit. Thanks to Nancy, a caring POW Coordinator.

10-23-08: Call from concerned relative of former POW's widow, thinking she might be eligible for VA widow's benefit. Death certificate showed cause of death to be pneumonia, not a presumptive. Family's village of Buckshot was in a very isolated part of New Mexico, and this former POW had never been to the VA for anything, as it was at least three hundred miles away. He had had heart problems, and I could only suggest asking doctor to amend death certificate.

### MY MESSAGE TO YOU WHO ARE READING THIS:

Let us know about former POWs and their widows who live in especially rural areas far from knowledge of VA facilities and benefits.

Call to POW Coordinator Mary Pearson in Houston VARO, to see why L.D. in Lufkin wasn't getting Aid & Attendance. Answer: Doctor's statement needed more detail on L.D.'s limitations. BUT, Mary then asks for NSO help to get former POW to complete and return claim papers that will raise his rating from 70% to 100%, due to unem-

ployability. I call and with his wife helping, we filled out the form on the phone; then I faxed it to Mary at VA, with just four days to spare for claim continuity. Thanks to VA's Mary Pearson for her caring and networking.

AND MORE GOOD NEWS, from Alabama. Call from daughter of a former POW who died in 1992: "A friend of my mother gave her a copy of the recent EX-POW Bulletin and she read your article about widow's benefits. We wonder if she might be eligible for that VA widow's benefit." Question is, what did death certificate show as cause of death? According to coroner it read "apparent heart attack." Mr. W. had died suddenly at his home, and finally his widow should be receiving her VA widow's benefit - DIC. And she will then be eligible for ChampVA for Life, the free Medicare supplement that pays everything after Medicare pays; that's doctors, hospitals, medicine, etc., and you use your own local people, not the VA facilities. It does include free prescription Meds by Mail, 90-day supply at a time, from the VA. Hard to beat.

**If you know of any former POW who has Lou Gehrig's Disease, or a widow of one who died of ALS, please let us know.**

Repeat from October Bulletin: "September 18, 2008: Mrs B in Portland, OR has claim in to Portland VARO. Husband died with primary cause Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, with mild heart trouble a contributing cause. But it was not enough to get her the VA's DIC. Sad. "Sept. 23, 2008: As above article says, on this date, ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) is made a presumptive for veterans. Now the Portland VARO is reviewing her claim to see if this new presumptive will make her eligible for DIC. Prayer is permitted."

## outreach continued...

A Happy Sequel: November 14, 2008. Comes call from Portland, VA POW Coordinator's rating specialist. "I just want you to know that I am rating Mrs. B for her DIC, based on ALS, Lou Gehrig's Disease, as cause of husband's death on Aug. 1, 1993." After only 15 years!

TAPS Column, Oct. EX-POW Bulletin. New widows listed are being contacted by these NSOs: Doris Jenks, FL; Kay Arnold, MA; Melanie Bussel, CT; Doc Unger, OH; Maurice Sharp, WA; Beth Brooks & George Coker, VA; Betty Harlan & WT Jones, TX; Fred Campbell, CA/KS/OK/MO/ME; Charles Heffron, TN; Bud Hinckley, ID; Les Jackson, MD; Karnig Thomasian, NJ

### NEW DISABILITY COMPENSATION RATES EFFECTIVE 12/1/08

5.8% COLA This will be paid in your January, 2009 check.

	Veteran	Veteran w/spouse
10%	\$123 -	
20%	\$243 -	
30%	\$376	\$421
40%	\$541	\$601
50%	\$770	\$845
60%	\$974	\$1,064
70%	\$1,228	\$1,333
80%	\$1,427	\$1,547
90%	\$1,604	\$1,739
100%	\$2,673	\$2,823

Dependents and Indemnity Compensation: \$1,154.

Add \$246 if veteran was rated disabled 8 continuous years prior to death and surviving spouse was married to veteran those same 8 years.

If surviving spouse is entitled to Aid and Attendance, Add \$286.

If surviving spouse is entitled to Housebound, Add \$135.

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We still have many Former Prisoners of War and/or their widows and wives who believe they are in receipt of VA Pension. This is incorrect. Former Prisoners of War are in receipt of service-connected disability COMPENSATION.

This is important to remember when a widow is completing form 21-534 and applying for Dependency Indemnity COMPENSATION.

A widow called our office wondering why there was a delay in processing her widow's benefits. It turned out she indicated she was applying for pension and her file was sent to Philadelphia for processing of pension. Therefore, when completing Form 21-534, pages 5 and 6 are not required to be completed.

To be eligible for DIC, the following must apply:

- 1) Veteran died from a service related disability (including any of the Former Prisoner of War presumptives).
- 2) A Former Prisoner of War died after Sept. 30, 1999 and was continuously rated totally disabled for a service-connected condition (including individual unemployability) for at least One Year.

**nsO**

3) Veteran died On or Before Sept. 30, 1999 and was continuously rated totally disabled for a service-connected condition (including individual unemployability) for at least 10 years preceding death.

Some Important phone numbers to remember:

Arlington National Cemetery - (703) 607-8000

CHAMPVA - 1-800 733-8387

Direct Deposit VA National Center - 1 -877- 838-2778

Social Security - 1-800-772-1213

Retired Pay Reporting Death - 1-800-321-1080

VA Insurance Center - 1-800-669-8477

TRICARE - 1-800-444-5445

Military Records National Archives - 1-866-272-6272

National Personnel Records (Copy Discharge or DD214) (314) 801-0800

VA Help Line (To report death also) 1-800-827-1000

Headstones and Marker - 1-800-697-6947

Health Care Overseas - 1-877-345-8179

Health Care Eligibility - 1-800-929-8387

DEERS - 1-800-538-9552

*Doris Jenks*

PS. The new VA Disability Compensation Tables are at left. Make sure you are receiving all the benefits to which you are entitled.



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*Packet #5 (What Every POW's Wife Should Know Before She is Your Widow) has been updated again, with much time and effort on the part of Marlene Agnes, to include the most recent laws and benefits published. The packet may be purchased from National Headquarters. Cost of the updated packet is \$15.00~includes S/H.*

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## What Is an Aneurysm?

An aneurysm is an abnormal bulge or "ballooning" in the wall of an artery. Arteries are blood vessels that carry oxygen-rich blood from the heart to other parts of the body. An aneurysm that grows and becomes large enough can burst, causing dangerous, often fatal, bleeding inside the body.

Most aneurysms occur in the aorta. The aorta is the main artery that carries blood from the heart to the rest of the body. The aorta comes out from the left ventricle of the heart and travels through the chest and abdomen. An aneurysm that occurs in the aorta in the chest is called a thoracic aortic aneurysm. An aneurysm that occurs in the aorta in the abdomen is called an abdominal aortic aneurysm.

Aneurysms also can occur in arteries in the brain, heart, intestine, neck, spleen, back of the knees and thighs, and in other parts of the body. If an aneurysm in the brain bursts, it causes a stroke.

About 15,000 Americans die each year from ruptured aortic aneurysms. Ruptured aortic aneurysm is the 10th leading cause of death in men over age 50 in the United States.

Many cases of ruptured aneurysm can be prevented with early diagnosis and medical treatment. Because aneurysms can develop and become large before causing any symptoms, it is important to look for them in people who are at the highest risk. Experts recommend that men who are 65 to 75 years old and have ever smoked (at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime) should be checked for abdominal aortic aneurysms.

When found in time, aneurysms can usually be treated successfully with medicines or surgery. If an aortic aneurysm is found, the doctor may prescribe medicine to reduce the heart rate and blood pressure. This can reduce the risk of rupture.

Large aortic aneurysms, if found in time, can often be repaired with surgery to replace the diseased portion of the aorta. The outlook is usually excellent.

## Types of Aneurysm

Types of aneurysm include aortic aneurysms, cerebral aneurysms, and peripheral aneurysms.

### Aortic Aneurysm

Most aneurysms occur in the aorta. The aorta is the main artery that carries blood from the heart to the rest of the body. The aorta comes out from the left ventricle of the heart and travels through the chest and abdomen. The two types of aortic aneurysm are thoracic aortic aneurysm (TAA) and abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA).

### Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm

An aortic aneurysm that occurs in the part of the aorta running through the thorax is a thoracic aortic aneurysm. One in four aortic aneurysms is a TAA.

Most TAAs do not produce symptoms, even when they are large. Only half of all people with TAAs notice any symptoms. TAAs are identified more often now than in the past because of chest computed tomography (CT) scans performed for other medical problems.

In a common type of TAA, the walls of the aorta become weak and a section nearest to the heart enlarges. Then the valve between the heart and

the aorta cannot close properly and blood leaks backward into the heart. Less commonly, a TAA can develop in the upper back away from the heart. A TAA in this location can result from an injury to the chest such as from an auto crash.

### Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm

An aortic aneurysm that occurs in the part of the aorta running through the abdomen is an abdominal aortic aneurysm. Three in four aortic aneurysms are AAAs.

An AAA can grow very large without producing symptoms. About 1 in 5 AAAs rupture.

### Cerebral Aneurysm

Aneurysms that occur in an artery in the brain are called cerebral aneurysms. They are sometimes called berry aneurysms because they are often the size of a small berry. Most cerebral aneurysms produce no symptoms until they become large, begin to leak blood, or rupture.

A ruptured cerebral aneurysm causes a stroke. Signs and symptoms can include a sudden, extremely severe headache, nausea, vomiting, stiff neck, sudden weakness in an area of the body, sudden difficulty speaking, and even loss of consciousness, coma, or death. The danger of a cerebral aneurysm depends on its size and location in the brain, whether it leaks or ruptures, and the person's age and overall health.

### Peripheral Aneurysm

Aneurysms that occur in arteries other than the aorta (and not in the brain) are called peripheral aneu-

## medsearch continued...

rysms. Common locations for peripheral aneurysms include the artery that runs down the back of the thigh behind the knee (popliteal artery), the main artery in the groin (femoral artery), and the main artery in the neck (carotid artery).

Peripheral aneurysms are not as likely to rupture as aortic aneurysms, but blood clots can form in peripheral aneurysms. If a blood clot breaks away from the aneurysm, it can block blood flow through the artery. If a peripheral aneurysm is large, it can press on a nearby nerve or vein and cause pain, numbness, or swelling.

### What Causes an Aneurysm?

An aneurysm can result from atherosclerosis (hardening and narrowing of the inside of arteries). As atherosclerosis develops, the artery walls become thick and damaged and lose their normal inner lining. This damaged area of artery can stretch or “balloon” from the pressure of blood flow inside the artery, resulting in an aneurysm.

An aneurysm also can develop from constant high blood pressure inside an artery.

A thoracic aortic aneurysm can result from an injury to the chest. Certain medical conditions, that weaken the body’s connective tissues, also can cause aneurysms.

In rare cases, infections can cause aortic aneurysms. Aortic aneurysms also can occur as a result of diseases that cause inflammation of blood vessels, such as vasculitis.

### Who Is At Risk for an Aneurysm?

#### Populations Affected

Men are 5 to 10 times more likely than women to have an abdominal

aortic aneurysm (AAA)-the most common type of aneurysm.

The risk of AAA increases as you get older, and it is more likely to occur in people between the ages of 60 to 80. A peripheral aneurysm also is more likely to affect people ages 60 to 80. Cerebral (brain) aneurysms, though rare, are more likely to occur in people ages 35 to 60.

#### Risk Factors

Factors that increase your risk for aneurysm include:

- Atherosclerosis, a buildup of fatty deposits in the arteries.
- Smoking. You are eight times more likely to develop an aneurysm if you smoke.
- Overweight or obesity.
- A family history of aortic aneurysm, heart disease, or other diseases of the arteries.
- Certain diseases that can weaken the wall of the aorta, such as:
  - Marfan syndrome (an inherited disease in which tissues don’t develop normally)
  - Untreated syphilis (a very rare cause today)
  - Tuberculosis (also a very rare cause today)
- Trauma such as a blow to the chest in a car accident.
- Severe and persistent high blood pressure between the ages of 35 and 60. This increases the risk for a cerebral aneurysm.
- Use of stimulant drugs such as cocaine.

### What Are the Signs and Symptoms of an Aneurysm?

The signs and symptoms of an aneurysm depend on its type, location, and whether it has ruptured or is interfering with other structures in the body. Aneurysms can develop and grow for years without causing any signs or symptoms. It is often not until an aneurysm ruptures or grows large enough to press on nearby parts of the body or block blood flow that it produces any signs or symptoms.

#### Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm

Most abdominal aortic aneurysms (AAAs) develop slowly over years and have no signs or symptoms until (or

if) they rupture. Sometimes, a doctor can feel a pulsating mass while examining a patient’s abdomen. When symptoms are present, they can include:

- Deep penetrating pain in your back or the side of your abdomen
- Steady gnawing pain in your abdomen that lasts for hours or days at a time
- Coldness, numbness, or tingling in your feet due to blocked blood flow in your legs

If an AAA ruptures, symptoms can include sudden, severe pain in your lower abdomen and back; nausea and vomiting; clammy, sweaty skin; lightheadedness; and a rapid heart rate when standing up. Internal bleeding from a ruptured AAA can send you into shock. Shock is a life-threatening condition in which the organs of the body do not get enough blood flow.

#### Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm

A thoracic (chest) aortic aneurysm may have no symptoms until the aneurysm begins to leak or grow. Signs or symptoms may include:

- Pain in your jaw, neck, upper back (or other part of your back), or chest
- Coughing, hoarseness, or trouble breathing

#### Cerebral Aneurysm

If a cerebral (brain) aneurysm presses on nerves in your brain, it can cause signs and symptoms. These can include:

- A droopy eyelid
- Double vision or other changes in vision
- Pain above or behind the eye
- A dilated pupil
- Numbness or weakness on one side of the face or body

If a cerebral aneurysm ruptures, symptoms can include a sudden, severe headache, nausea and vomiting, stiff neck, loss of consciousness, and signs of a stroke. Signs of a stroke are similar to those listed above for cerebral aneurysm, but they usually come on suddenly and are more severe. Any of these symptoms require immediate medical attention.

## medsearch continued...

### Peripheral Aneurysm

Signs and symptoms of peripheral aneurysm may include:

- A pulsating lump that can be felt in your neck, arm, or leg
- Leg or arm pain, or cramping with exercise
- Painful sores on toes or fingers
- Gangrene (tissue death) from severely blocked blood flow in your limbs

An aneurysm in the popliteal artery (behind the knee) can compress nerves and cause pain, weakness, and numbness in your knee and leg.

Blood clots can form in peripheral aneurysms. If a clot breaks loose and travels through the bloodstream, it can lodge in your arm, leg, or brain and block the artery. An aneurysm in your neck can block the artery to the brain and cause a stroke.

### How Is an Aneurysm Diagnosed?

An aneurysm may be found by chance during a routine physical exam. More often, an aneurysm is found by chance during an x ray, ultrasound, or computed tomography (CT) scan performed for another reason, such as chest or abdominal pain. If you have an abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA), the doctor may feel a pulsating mass in your abdomen. A rapidly growing aneurysm about to rupture can be tender and very painful when pressed. If you are overweight or obese, it may be difficult for your doctor to feel even a large abdominal aneurysm.

If you have an AAA, your doctor may hear rushing blood flow instead of the normal whooshing sound when listening to your abdomen with a stethoscope.

### Specialists Involved

You may be referred to a cardiothoracic surgeon, vascular surgeon, or neurosurgeon for diagnosis and treatment of an aneurysm.

A cardiothoracic surgeon performs surgery on the heart, lungs, and other organs and structures in the chest, including the aorta.

A vascular surgeon performs surgery on the abdominal aorta and on the peripheral arteries.

A neurosurgeon performs surgery on the brain, including the arteries in the head, and on the spine and nerves.

### Diagnostic Tests and Procedures

To diagnose and evaluate an aneurysm, one or more of the following tests or procedures may be performed:

· Chest x ray. A chest x ray provides a picture of the organs and structures inside the chest, including the heart, lungs, and blood vessels.

· Ultrasound. This simple and painless test uses sound waves to create a picture of the inside of the body. It shows the size of an aneurysm, if one is detected. The ultrasound scan may be repeated every few months to see how quickly an aneurysm is growing.

· CT scan. A CT scan provides computer-generated, x-ray images of the internal organs. A CT scan may be performed if the doctor suspects a TAA or AAA. A liquid dye that can be seen on an x ray is injected into an arm vein to outline the aorta or artery on the CT scan. The CT scan images can be used to determine the size and shape of an abdominal aneurysm more accurately than an ultrasound.

· MRI. MRI uses magnets and radio waves to create images of the inside of the body. It is very accurate in detecting aneurysms and determining their size and exact location

· Angiography. Angiography also uses a special dye injected into the blood stream to make the insides of arteries show up on x-ray pictures. An angiogram shows the amount of damage and blockage in blood vessels.

· Aortogram. An aortogram is an angiogram of the aorta. It may show the location and size of an aortic aneurysm, and the arteries of the aorta that are involved.

## How Is an Aneurysm Treated?

### Goals of Treatment

Some aneurysms, mainly small ones that are not causing pain, can be treated with “watchful waiting.” Others need to be treated to prevent growth and complications. The goals of treatment are to prevent the aneurysm from growing, prevent or reverse damage to other body structures, prevent or treat a rupture, and to allow you to continue to participate in normal daily activities.

### Treatment Options

Medicine and surgery are the two types of treatment for an aneurysm. Medicines may be prescribed before surgery or instead of surgery. Medicines are used to reduce pressure, relax blood vessels, and reduce the risk of rupture. Beta blockers and calcium channel blockers are the medicines most commonly used.

Surgery may be recommended if an aneurysm is large and likely to rupture.

### How Can an Aneurysm Be Prevented?

The best way to prevent an aneurysm is to avoid the risk factors that increase the chances of developing one. To do this, you can:

- Quit smoking.
- Eat a low-fat, low-cholesterol diet to reduce the buildup of plaque in the arteries. Plaque is a fatty buildup that narrows the arteries.
- Control [high blood pressure](#) (eating a low-salt diet helps).
- Control [high cholesterol](#).
- Get regular physical activity.

National Heart Lung Blood Institute  
P.O. Box 30105  
Bethesda, MD 20824-0105

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# andersonville



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## 2008 Best Year Ever for Andersonville Trust

With all the economic woes that are besetting financial markets, it is hard to believe that any endowment that is dependent on investments can be doing well.

But - that is the news at the end of what has been a turbulent year. That is not to say that some of the investments made by the Trustees have outpaced a market that has not done well in the last quarter of this year. Combinations of major donations, a shift in investments and record grants to the park have made this the best year ever for the Andersonville Trust.

The Andersonville Trust is an endowment fund administered by the Friends of Andersonville to provide financial support to the park for projects that the government cannot support.

The Trust is administered by seven Trustees who are former POWs, supporters of the Historic Site and leaders in the local community. The Trustees carefully invest the corpus of the fund and make grants yearly to the park based on the earnings of the monies invested.

In 2008 the Trustees made the largest grants ever to the park in one year. At their Spring meeting, twelve grants were made for event support, marketing, interpretive support and for the Traveling Exhibit project totaling \$82,000.

Since its inception in 1996, the Andersonville Trust has given over \$269,000 to the park. These numbers would make 2008 the best year ever - but there is more.

Early in 2008, the Trust received the second installment in its largest single gift from a donor.

The estate of Ruby Lanich of Colorado gave \$284,000 to the Andersonville Trust. Combined with the bequest the year before, Mrs. Lanich gave over \$500,000 to Andersonville. Mrs. Lanich's will noted that her gift was given in memory of her late husband Edward Lanich who was a career Air Force veteran and former POW in World War II - Europe. Although, she left gifts to other charities, their largest donation was to the Andersonville Trust.

Other major gifts were received as well. Lieutenant Colonel Abraham Hankin left a portion of his estate to the Andersonville Trust as well. LTC Hankin lived in California and was a Bataan Death March survivor. His bequest of \$73,000 was received to the Andersonville Trust this summer.

And yet another major gift was also received this year in a donation from the Engstrand estate of \$35,000. Ray Engstrand lived in Naples, Florida and had been a POW in Stalag III-B in World War II. These large grants are on top of the smaller modest gifts that are received throughout the year.

This year's grants have taken the corpus of the Andersonville Trust to \$1.6 million. Market losses have taken their toll on the value of the corpus with a loss of approximately

12%. However, it is anticipated that as the economy improves the value of the fund will come back even stronger.

Four years ago the Trustees had changed the investment strategy to provide more income that can be granted to the park for project support. Through a competitive process, A. G. Edwards was selected as the firm to manage the funds according to the investment strategy adopted by the Trustees. In 2008 Edwards was acquired by Wachovia and then closed the office in Americus. The Trustees asked four investment firms located in Americus to submit proposals for the management of the fund.

At the Trustees fall 2008 meeting, presentations were made and the DGR Group was selected to manage the fund. Despite the problems with the stock market the Andersonville Trust is carefully balanced between securities, bonds and certificates of deposit.

Thanks to this conservative approach, the Trustees are optimistic that the grant level enjoyed by the park in the last three years can be continued. How the stock market will treat the Trust's investments is anyone's guess.

The Andersonville Trust has become a great legacy fund that will continue support for the park and the National POW Museum long into the future. Just as 2008 was a good year for the Andersonville Trust the future looks even brighter.

Anyone who would like to contribute to the Andersonville Trust can do so by sending their tax deductible gift to P. O. Box 186, Andersonville, GA 31711.

# namPOW news



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## Rip - R.I.P.

He wasn't a POW. But, had he not performed what has been called the most heroic act in the history of our American Armed Forces, the Vietnam POWs could easily still be incarcerated in North Vietnam - 35 years after our release.

The war in Vietnam was winding down. Peace talks had been going on in Paris for nearly four years with little to show for the effort. The Communists had used the breaks in the fighting and the withdrawing of American troops to replenish their Soviet and China-supplied ammunition and weapons.

On Easter Sunday, April 2, 1972 three reinforced divisions of the People's Army of North Vietnam were massed north of the demilitarized zone that divided North and South Vietnam. 20,000 troops and 200 tanks were poised to strike quickly across the only bridge strong enough to support the tanks and rush to Saigon, capital of the Republic of Vietnam where they should be able to quickly crush the token resistance and vanquish the South Vietnamese government. They would accomplish their goal with little sacrifice and while retaining the 600+ POWs held, basically, as hostages over the U.S.

Most American and allied combat forces had departed South Vietnam.

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The "peace" talks droned on while American POWs - many of whom had been held longer than six years - languished in cells in Hanoi, North Vietnam's capital.

Capt. John W, Ripley, Force Reconnaissance Marine adviser to a Vietnamese Marine Battalion, realized something dramatic had to be done when he received orders to hold the bridge at Dong Ha at all costs. The actual language said "Hold the bridge at Dong Ha or die." A Vietnamese Marine made "the luckiest shot of the Vietnam War" when, with his very first shot of a Light Anti-Tank Assault Weapon (LAAW), shot all the way across the river and stopped the first tank on the far approach to the bridge. Ripley realized the bridge had to be destroyed to keep the enemy from crossing.

Capt. Ripley and U.S. Army Major Jim Smock, whose South Vietnamese Armor Battalion had fled south, formulated a plan to take down the Dong Ha bridge. But there was one problem. The bridge, built by Navy Seabees, was designed *not* to be blown up and had been constructed with very high-strength I-beams. Ripley estimated that it would take 500 lbs. of explosives to blow it up and twist the I-beams so it couldn't be easily repaired.

Ripley and Smock found a stash of C-4 explosive, divided it into 50 lb. packets and attached straps to the packets. For the next three hours, under fierce fire from the tanks and three divisions' worth of infantry weapons, Ripley swung hand-over-hand under the bridge ten times to get the explosives in place. He carefully wired the explosives and set a backup fuse in case the electrical detonation didn't work. The bridge was destroyed in an earth-shaking blast.



Ripley was wounded and nearly went down with the bridge but he got away and received the Navy Cross for his action. His heroism is on display in a diorama at the Naval Academy's Memorial Hall and he has been an inspiration to generations of U.S. Marines. A building at the Naval Academy Prep School in Rhode Island was named Ripley Hall after him. A Marine march, *Uncommon Valor*, honoring John Ripley was written at the Marine Barracks in Washington, D.C., the first since John Phillip Sousa in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Of more than passing interest to the POWs was the fact that North Vietnam's army didn't get to Saigon in 1972 and the Communists, in late 1972 were forced by very heavy bombing and the mining of its harbors to agree to release the POWs and to uphold the peace thereafter.

John Ripley died in Annapolis at his home on November 1, 2008. The Marine Corps legend who had so much shrapnel in his body he couldn't get through an airport metal detector had died in his sleep. The Commandant of the Marine Corps eulogized him in a packed Naval Academy Chapel. His cortege to the burial at the Naval Academy cemetery was led by the Marine Band, the honor guard from the Marine Barracks in Washington and many Marines, midshipmen who wanted to be Marines and thousands of friends. The honorary pallbearers included several Marine generals who'd served with Ripley, his Vietnam RTO and platoon sergeant, the retired Commandant of the Royal Marines and the Vietnamese battalion commander who supported Ripley at the bridge. And one lone sailor, your humble scribe, who considers being asked one of the biggest honors of his life.

A flight of four Marine Harrier jets made a perfect flyover, unusual at the funeral of an infantry officer. The Marine honor guard fired the three shot volley and a bugler from the Marine band played, "Taps." As the last note faded, some very tough men wiped their eyes.

A warrior had gone home.

## pow-mia



### **PNC John Edwards Chairman**

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POW/MIA car-window decals are available at a cost of \$20 per 100 by sending a check to the League office at 1005 North Glebe Road, Suite 170, Arlington, VA 22201. POW/MIA lapel pins are also available at \$3 each or 2/\$5. For added information please contact the League's web site at [www.pow-miafamilies.org](http://www.pow-miafamilies.org) or call the national office at 703-465-7432. If no one is available to take your call, please leave a message.

### **AMERICANS ACCOUNTED FOR**

There are still 1,746 US personnel listed by the Defense POW/MIA Office (DPMO) as missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War. DPMO recently released an announcement naming four Marines whose remains were either individually identified, or included in the group identification. The four Marines are LCPL Kurt E. LaPlant of KS, LCPL Luis F. Palacios of CA, LCPL Ralph L. Harper of IN and PFC Jose R. Sanchez of NY. All were lost on June 6, 1968, in a CH-46A Sea Knight helicopter incident in South Vietnam in which 12 of the 23 personnel on board were killed. All but these four were subsequently recovered and identified. This brings to 837 the number of US personnel accounted for since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975. 90+% of the 1,746

still missing from the Vietnam War were lost in Vietnam itself or in areas of Laos and Cambodia under Vietnam's wartime control.

### **Soldier Missing in Action from Korean War is Identified**

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Korean War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors. He is Cpl. Librado Luna, U.S. Army, of Taylor, Texas.

In late November 1950, Luna was assigned to the 8th Army Ranger Company, 25th Infantry Division, then attached to B Company, 89th Medium Tank Battalion as part of Task Force Dolvin. On November 25, the Chinese Army struck in force in what would become known as the Battle of the Ch'ongch'on River. Task Force Dolvin, including the 8th Army Ranger Company, was forced to withdraw to the south. Of the 91 men from B Company, 89th Medium Tank Battalion and the 8th Army Ranger Company, only 22 made it to safety. Ten men, including Luna, went missing on November 26 near Hill 205.

### **Pilot Missing In Action From The Vietnam War Is Identified**

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Vietnam War, have been identified and were returned to his family for burial with full military honors. He is Col. David H. Zook, Jr., U.S. Air Force, of West Liberty, Ohio.

On Oct. 4, 1967, Zook was on a psychological warfare operation over Song Be Province, South Vietnam, when his U-10B Super Courier aircraft collided in mid-air with a C-7A Caribou. The C-7 pilot said he saw the other aircraft hit the ground and explode. Several search and rescue attempts failed to locate Zook's remains.

### **20-Year Assessment of US-SRV Talks Held**

Ambassador Charles Ray, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/MIA Affairs, hosted Vietnamese officials in Hawaii on September 17th for a one-day assessment of the last 20 years of POW/MIA accounting cooperation. Chief of the Vietnam Office for Seeking Missing Persons (VNOSMP) Ambassador Nguyen Van Dao led the nine-member Vietnamese delegation, comprised of several long involved officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defense and Public Security. US participants included JPAC Commander RADM Donna Crisp, USN, Detachment Commanders from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, and senior members of the JPAC staff, plus Principle Director of the Defense POW/MIA Office (DPMO) Col David Ellis, USAF, and senior DPMO staff.

The 20-year Assessment followed the twice yearly US-SRV Technical Talks, hosted on September 16th by RADM Crisp to review the recently concluded 92nd Joint Field Activity (JFA) and plans for the 93rd and 94th JFAs. The latter is scheduled to include the first ever use of a US Navy hydrographic survey vessel in accounting efforts, a step agreed to by the Vietnamese Government in October 2006, but still not implemented due to bureaucratic inertia, now possibly complicated by proposed new requirements for implementation that Vietnam is proposing. Though not required for shallow water surveys/investigations that can be conducted using other platforms, the US Navy's ship can help expedite the process of identifying possible shallow-water excavation sites and should be acceptable for use on the humanitarian accounting effort, as it was last year to provide humanitarian medical assistance to the Vietnamese people.

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# civilians



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## **The Happiest Day - Memories of Liberation**

By Angus Lorenzen,  
author of *A Lovely Little War*  
and Commander of BACEPOW  
Chapter  
[www.alovelylittlewar.com](http://www.alovelylittlewar.com) or  
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February 3, 1945 dawned as just another dreary day, my 1,125th as a prisoner in the Santo Tomas Internment Camp. I dragged myself from the wooden pallet that was my bed, and pulled on my ragged shorts without shoes or shirt. Pulling back the mosquito net that provided the only privacy in the dormitory, I stepped into the crowded aisle and headed for the hallway, scratching at the welts caused by the ubiquitous bed bugs that had been gnawing at my flesh during the night.

My only thought was to put some food into my rumbling and complaining stomach as I waited in the food line patiently as a 9 year-old boy could. The serving almost filled my cup, but it was mostly water with a few grains of swollen rice. Eating slowly seemed to allay the pangs of hunger, though it was an illusion because as soon as finished, I was hungry again.

Later in the morning I heard an aircraft approaching, coming from the north at treetop level flying low and slow. The Marine Corps dive-bomber

flew by so close that I could see the pilot and gunner clearly through their open canopies, and I waved frantically, though I would have been severely punished had a Japanese guard seen me. The pilot grinned and waved back, then flew over the Main Building and disappeared.

In only minutes, word spread through the camp that he had dropped a note saying, "Roll out the barrel". We mentally finished the line, "For the gang's all here". We knew that American forces were close, but had no idea when they would arrive to rescue us. Now we saw a gleam of hope and smiles appeared on many faces that had been glum for too long.

Finally the time for our other meal of the day arrived and my mother and sister joined me in the line for our scoops of the weak concoction we called stew. It consisted of a few leaves of greens floating on top of a watery broth with a few beans at the bottom. We slowly spooned up the greens and broth until only the beans remained, then ate each one individually. That afternoon, I had 8 beans.

After roll call, I went outside to enjoy the balmy evening before curfew. The sun had set, but a rosy glow remained in the sky, silhouetting columns of smoke in several places outside the camp. From time-to-time there was an explosion and gunfire, but we were now so accustomed to the constant air attacks that we paid scant attention.

As the sky grew darker it was intermittently lighted by a strange fluctuating glow. A very low frequency rumble also became discernible. It was not so much heard as felt in the chest. Perhaps this was another portent, as was the message this morning, of imminent rescue.

At curfew, I returned to my dormitory and joined my mother and sister, sitting at a card table in the hallway. My mother brought out the precious tin box in which she kept the survival biscuits she had made with the corned beef from our Red Cross package for Christmas of 1943

and from black market soy meal. She opened the box, and took out one of the two remaining biscuits that were all that stood between survival and starvation, carefully breaking it into three pieces. We sat, sucking on the small pieces, savoring every moment as they slowly dissolved and trickled down our throats. Finally everything was gone, and that hollow feeling returned to our stomachs.

Then my mother did something totally uncharacteristic. She opened the box again and took out the last biscuit. As she shared it, she said, "What the heck, this will all be over very soon anyway". Whatever happened in the next day or two, whether we were rescued or massacred, we wouldn't need the survival biscuits any longer.

Indistinctive in the distance, we heard the rumble of voices screaming. Excitement was clear, but no words were recognizable. The sound swelled and became clearer as it flowed up the stairways and along the hallways like a flood as successive groups picked up the scream. The message relayed from person to person, repeated over and over again was, "They're here. They're here!"

I jumped to my feet and started screaming myself as I raced along the hallway towards the main staircase. Reaching it, I almost tumbled in my haste to get to the lobby. But blocked when I reached the mezzanine by the crowd backed up the stairs. I stood looking down into the main lobby and what I saw gave my heart another jolt. I was already running on adrenaline, my breath panting, and the sight almost overwhelmed me.

The large double doors from the lobby to the plaza were pushed open, and the front of a tank stuck through, its main gun pointed in my direction. Around it, jumping and screaming, were fellow prisoners, throwing their arms around a group of soldiers and kissing them, while the GIs stood around with big silly grins on their faces. For us, it was the happiest day of our lives, though we had a few more days of ordeal as the fighting raged around us, and many of our fellows were killed or wounded.

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# looking for



**Charles Patterson**, Stalag XIB. My husband, **Eugene Shabatura**, was shot down in a B24 over Holland on the 18<sup>th</sup> of Sept. 1944 and became a POW. He was taken to English Camps instead of American AAF camps. Somewhere, he and Sgt. Patterson met. For some reason (I don't remember why) they exchanged Orange ID cards. I will be glad to send C Patterson's card to him or to a relative. Please contact: Lois Shabatura, 2833 S Lake Ave, Duluth, MN 55802; 218-727-4839.

I am seeking information about a French doctor who was a fellow prisoner of my father-in-law, then 2nd Lt. **Ralph Norsworthy**. Ralph was a P-38 pilot held at Obermassfeld Hospital during the year Jan. 1944-Jan. 1945, when he was exchanged. This doctor, always called **Dr. Pilót** by my father-in-law, operated on Ralph's shattered leg with an instrument made from a can and was credited by Ralph and a fellow prisoner with saving Ralph's life. Ralph Norsworthy died this past weekend, Nov. 22, 2008 in Dallas, Texas at the age of 88. When he spoke of Dr. Pilót, Ralph always said that he was in the French Foreign Legion. Could this have been an assumed name? Has anyone else heard of Dr. Pilót? Thank you for your help. Becky Norsworthy, 1386 Bennington Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508; [norsworthy@gci.net](mailto:norsworthy@gci.net).

I'm looking for any information pertaining to **Capt. Edward L. Sensor**, who was a POW at Luft Stalag III. He was with the 739<sup>th</sup> BS, 454<sup>th</sup> BG stationed at San Giovanna AFB located near Cerignola, Italy. He has two ( 2 ) MACRs. Numbers 3288 & 4617. Capt. Sensor passed away on Dec. 21, 2001. His widow would like to know any and all information. Before he died, they had new car-

pet installed in their bedroom. Also in the closet was Capt Sensor's important papers stored in a metal box. Like his flying hours, medals, old orders etc. They noticed the box missing soon after the carpet was installed. Mrs. Mary Lou Sensor 1309 Revere Ridge Rockford, IL 61108. ( 815 ) 397 - 1102 If you have any info on the above subject, please send me a copy, if possible. Thank you for your time. Eugene F. Westerman, 895 Mill St., South Elgin, IL. 60177-1774; [westy1931@aol.com](mailto:westy1931@aol.com).

My father was **S/S Carl Potter 306<sup>th</sup> BG 369<sup>th</sup> S Fightin' Bitin' during WWII**. In March, 1944 in Thurleigh, England he became part of the crew for 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt David B. Ramsey in a B-17 #42-30730 named "Dearly Beloved" as one of two waist gunners, the armorer and the unofficial medic providing first aid on flights. They were shot down 24/04/44 on a mission to Oberpfaffenhofen, Germany to bomb the Dornier aircraft factory. All survived the jump & were captured becoming POWs. All repatriated at the end of the war. According to the MACR the crew members were:

David B. Ramsey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt, Pilot  
Edwin W. Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt., Co-Pilot  
Robert I. Krohn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt., Navigator  
Sterling T. Strange, Jr., 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt., Bombardier - Nose Gunner  
James R. Ryan, Staff Sergeant, Aer. Eng. - Top Turret Gunner  
John Gray, Staff Sergeant, Radio Operator  
Paul D. Callahan, Sergeant, Aer. Eng. - Ball Turret Gunner  
Donald W. Miller, Sergeant, Aer. Eng. - Right Waist Gunner  
Carl L. Potter, Sergeant, Armorer - Gun. - Left Waist Gunner  
Paul Walshin Sergeant, Aer. Eng. - Tail Gunner

My father ended up in Stalag XVII B, Barracks 29 and went by the name Root, or spelled Route. If anyone is alive who was in his crew or who knew him in Stalag XVII B, I'd love to hear from them. [jeaniephillips@juno.com](mailto:jeaniephillips@juno.com)

## News Briefs

### VA Increases Travel Reimbursement

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake announced the Department of Veterans Affairs travel reimbursement has increased from \$.28 cents per mile to \$.41cents. While increasing the payment, the current deductible amounts applied to certain mileage reimbursements will remain frozen at \$7.77 for a one way trip, \$15.54 for a round trip, and capped at a maximum of \$46.62 per calendar month. On January 9, 2009, these deductibles will decrease to \$3 for a one way trip, \$6 for a round trip, with a maximum of \$18 per calendar month.

### New Law Authorizes Veterans' Salutes during National Anthem

Veterans and active-duty military not in uniform can now render the military-style hand salute during the playing of the national anthem, thanks to changes in federal law that took effect in October, 2008.

"The military salute is a unique gesture of respect that marks those who have served in our nation's armed forces," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake. "This provision allows the application of that honor in all events involving our nation's flag."

The new provision improves upon a little known change in federal law last year that authorized veterans to render the military-style hand

## news continued...

salute during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag, but it did not address salutes during the national anthem. Last year's provision also applied to members of the armed forces while not in uniform.

Traditionally, members of the nation's veterans service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag while wearing their organization's official head-gear.

The most recent change, authorizing hand-salutes during the national anthem by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel, was sponsored by Sen. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma, an Army veteran. It was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed on Oct. 14.

The earlier provision authorizing hand-salutes for veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag, was contained in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, which took effect Jan. 28, 2008.

## CA State University, Long Beach's New Veterans University Program Proves a Success During its First Semester in Operation

### *Campus to Add 'Troops to Engineering' Component to Veterans University's Curriculum*

With California's economy in decline and jobs becoming scarce, many local veterans are choosing

to take advantage of California State University, Long Beach's (CSULB) Veterans University (VU), a new program designed to increase transitional rehabilitation services for returning veterans.

Earlier this year, CSULB joined forces with CSU Dominguez Hills and the Veterans Administration Healthcare System, Long Beach (CSULB's neighboring hospital) to create VU. The program provides a "one-stop shopping" approach on the CSULB campus for veterans returning from war looking for educational programs, career training, individual and family counseling, clinical services and employment opportunities.

"The youth of our country have always been willing to march into hell for a heavenly cause. They are willing to sacrifice themselves for the safety of a nation, a way of life and their families," said Ron Vogel, dean of the College of Health and Human Services at CSULB. "When these young soldiers return from the fray, society has a moral obligation to ensure they are reintegrated back into society. As such, educational institutions must open their doors and provide its services to these young men and women. This is not happening fast enough and when lives are cast adrift, it is a moral imperative that we must address."

Besides special services, the VU also provides veterans with a virtual classroom setting. Utilizing state-of-the-art distance learning technology, programs may be delivered off campus, regionally, nationally and internationally.

"The genesis of this project came from the minds of Ron Norby, director of the VA Healthcare System, Long Beach and the College of Health and Human Services Dean Ron Vogel, both Vietnam veterans," said Patrick O'Rourke, director of Veterans University. "As military veterans they shared many common experiences, and as adminis-

trators of health care programs they recognized a collaborative approach had to be employed to engage government and non-government resources to maximize our transitional service capabilities for veterans."

The need for Veterans University has never been stronger, according to O'Rourke. In March 2007, the Department of Defense reported that more than 25,000 US troops had been wounded in action while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. When "non-combat wounded" are included, the number soars to between 50,000 and 75,000, depending on the source. The influx of so many veterans, including those with behavioral health problems, O'Rourke believes, has challenged the Veterans Administration Health Care System.

Though they can come from other regions, many veterans and active military personnel who would be eligible to use VU's services come from local units. These include the National Guard's 40<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division based in Los Alamitos and the 63<sup>rd</sup> Regional Readiness Command, the major Army presence in Southern California.

"Service members assigned to these groups live in our community and are enrolled at CSULB or Long Beach City College," said O'Rourke. "These are the same people who carry the brunt of our war on terrorism. It is up to us as a community to reach out to these veterans, the actively serving members, and their families."

### *Troops to Engineering*

CSULB is currently developing another program to be added to VU called Troops to Engineering. The program will help veterans find part-time jobs, internships and apprenticeships with partnering engineering companies so that students can gain real-world experience

## news, continued...

while enrolled in engineering courses at CSULB.

The ultimate goal of Troops to Engineering is to usher each and every veteran toward completion of a four year engineering degree. However, a variety of situations may make that impossible, according to Forouzan Golshani, dean of CSULB's College of Engineering.

Working with local partners, CSULB has proposed three degree models to be offered through the Troops to Engineering program. They include a two-year degree leading to an associate degree in technology or engineering, a two+two-year degree where they receive an associate degree on their way to attaining a baccalaureate degree, and a regular four-year degree leading to B.S. or B.A. in engineering.

"The success of this model is truly dependent on the all partners working together toward the common goal. The key idea is to enable veterans to become knowledgeable on their disciplines of interest, so that they can be engaged by the sponsoring company for part-time work as early as possible," said Golshani.

"A successful apprenticeship program will necessitate return of investment to the sponsoring company. They will provide partial support to the veteran early on, and in return our company partners will receive a highly disciplined, knowledgeable intern who can hit the ground running."

Paul Browning  
Assistant Director, Media Relations  
California State University,  
Long Beach  
1250 Bellflower Blvd.,  
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Long Beach, Ca. 90840-0116  
Office: (562) 985-2703, Mobile:  
(562) 233-6923

## Bataan Death March Survivor Bar Mitzvahed *88-year-old is Commander of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor*

On November 8, 2008, Dr. Lester Tenney, 88, Commander of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor, was called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah at Ohev Sholom Synagogue, 1600 Jonquil Street, NW, (202) 882-7225 (<http://www.ostt.org/>). He is a survivor of the infamous Bataan Death March and 31/2 years as a prisoner of the Japanese.

A Chicago native who enlisted in the Illinois National Guard at 20, he never had an opportunity to become a bar mitzvah.

On November 11, Dr. Tenney was the last representative of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor (ADBC) to attend the annual Veterans Day ceremonies at Arlington Cemetery. The ADBC will disband for lack of members and with it will end its 62-year quest for justice from both the United States and Japan.

The ADBC represents the fallen and the survivors of the battles of the first months of the war with Japan. All ADBC members were held in brutal captivity, and provided slave labor for at least 50 private Japanese companies, including Mitsui, Mitsubishi, Kawasaki, Nippon Steel, and Hitachi. Dr. Tenney worked 12-hour days in a Mitsui coal mine.

Neither the Japanese government nor the companies that used POW slave labor have ever compensated or apologized to these men. Republican and Democratic administrations alike have worked to defeat ADBC attempts to find justice in the U.S. Congress or courts.

Dr. Tenney is Professor Emeritus of Finance and Insurance in the Col-

lege of Business Administration at Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona. He earned his doctorate from the University of Southern California in 1972. He served as a radio operator and later as a tank commander in Company "B" of the 192nd Tank Battalion in the Philippines. His many awards include the Bronze Star, with an oak leaf cluster, Purple Heart with oak leaf cluster, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, three Presidential Unit Citations, and the Prisoner of War Medal. His first-person account of the Bataan Death March, *My Hitch In Hell*, was published by Potomac Books in 1995.

## Tarawa Atoll Marines - Excavation of Mass Burial after 65 years?

A Florida man's quest to find hundreds of U.S. Marines buried anonymously after one of World War II's bloodiest battles could lead to the largest identification of American war dead in history.

Researchers used ground-penetrating radar, tediously reviewed thousands of military documents and interviewed hundreds of others to find 139 graves. There, they say, lie the remains of men who died 65 years ago out in the Pacific Ocean on Tarawa Atoll.

Mark Noah of Marathon, Fla., raised money for the expedition through his nonprofit, History Flight, by selling vintage military aircraft rides at air shows. He hopes the government will investigate further after research is given to the U.S. Defense Department in January and he hopes the remains are identified and eventually returned to the men's families.

## news continued...

“There will have to be convincing evidence before we mount an excavation of any spot that could yield remains,” said Larry Greer, spokesman for the Pentagon’s Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Office. U.S. government archaeologists would likely excavate a small test site first, he said.

The names of many fallen soldiers were lost as U.S. Navy crews rushed to build desperately needed landing strips on the tiny atoll after the Nov. 20, 1943, invasion. Many of the graves were relocated.

The military didn’t focus on identifying the soldiers who died at Tarawa until 1945, when an Army officer was tasked with unraveling the hasty reburials.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Legacy/Scholarship Program

The Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation, Inc. announces its “Legacy Program,” through which donors receive annual recognition, and its plans for 2009 scholarship grant awards. Eligible for scholarship grants are Soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division and their offspring. The deadline for scholarship grant applications to the Foundation is May 1, 2009. “Application and Instruction” forms are available on the Society website at <http://www.3rddiv.org> and on the Foundation website at <http://3idscholarshipfoundation.org>, as well as from the Foundation Chairman Lynn Ball, 2010 Worcester Lane, Garland, TX 75040; 972-495-1704.

Through the Foundation’s “Legacy Program,” donors contributing \$10,000 or more to the Scholarship

Foundation shall be recognized, into perpetuity, when scholarship grants are awarded in their names, annually. The Legacy Program also honors individuals with a photo and approved profile displayed permanently on the Scholarship Foundation’s website.

In 2009, the Foundation will present seven scholarship grants, including the prestigious “Thomas W. Mason, Old China Hand” Legacy award, presented to a top scholar annually.

## VA Health Care Funding

President-elect Barack Obama promised days before the national election that his administration would support the idea of approving veterans’ funding one year in advance in an effort to avoid disruptions in critical programs. His pledge, made in a letter dated Oct. 28, 2008 to the American Federation of Government Employees, puts him on record as supporting what a coalition of veterans organizations sees as the answer to a perennial problem: funding for veterans programs that comes in fits and starts — and, in the process, diminishing the quality of health care. “First and foremost, the way our nation provides funding for VA health care must be reformed,” Obama says in the letter. “My administration will recommend passage of advance appropriation legislation for the [fiscal] 2010 appropriations cycle, instead of yearly continuing resolutions that lead to delays in hiring and facility construction. I will also work to fully fund veterans care.” Nine veterans’ groups, united in what they call the Partnership for Veterans Health Care Budget Reform, have been calling for reform because only twice in the last 14 years — and only three times in the last 20 — has the Veterans Affairs Department budget been approved by the start of the fiscal year on Oct. 1. This has been one of the years when the bud-

get passed on time.

The nine groups proposed that Congress pass a budget for veterans programs a full year ahead of time, which would mean that in 2009 lawmakers would need to pass both a fiscal 2010 budget and a fiscal 2011 budget. Obama’s letter indicates support for that idea. The day after his election, Obama pledged as president to fully fund VA and establish a “world-class VA planning division” so that future budgets were more accurate, according to a transition agenda that was briefly placed on the president-elect’s transition Web site. The transition agenda has since been removed.

## Tomb of the Unknowns

A proposal to replace the cracked and weathered white marble monument that crowns the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery has stirred up a years-long controversy. The always-guarded tomb to the nation’s war dead is a potent symbol of sacrifice and patriotism and the above-ground monument, which has cracks running 48 feet around it, is the most visible part of it. Congress authorized the tomb in 1921 as a memorial to honor the unknown dead of World War I, which had ended three years earlier. On Nov 11 that year — then known as Armistice Day and now Veterans Day — an unidentified American soldier from the war was interred in an underground vault. For years, Army officials have studied the idea of building a replica because of concerns that the damage, which is getting worse despite repairs, is distracting from the monument’s solemn appearance. Moreover, officials say, replacement marble is becoming scarce and should be secured now. An August report said the Army would again repair the monument while a final decision is being made. The repairs would cost about \$65,000, and a replica monument would cost about \$2.2 million.

# Your Stories



## The Canadian YMCA Log Book

*Shown are sample pages from my Log Book. I can't describe what I went through to keep it from German censors. I saw many of these books thrown away in the snow during the forced march to Moosburg. Keeping mine was an obsession. I strapped it on my body. Even after I was shot and wounded trying to escape, I managed to keep it hidden after I was recaptured.*

By PCC Vincent Lisanti  
330 Clinton Ave.  
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522  
lisantiv@bestweb.net



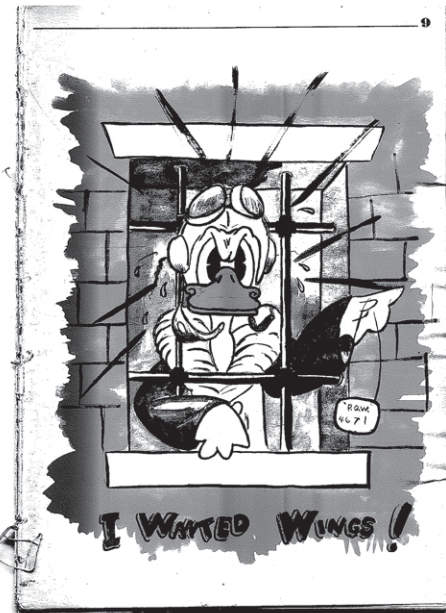
VERIFICATION! With the curator of the POW Museum  
USAF Museum Wright Patterson AF Base Dayton, OH

Prologue: A limited number of these Log Books were distributed among the Allied captives held in the German prison compound, Stalag Luft III. The International Red Cross convinced the Germans that the Log Books would be a visible medium to prove that prisoners of war were treated ac-



Notice - The Stalag serial # on the I-D is the same as the one in the Donald Duck cartoon  
4671

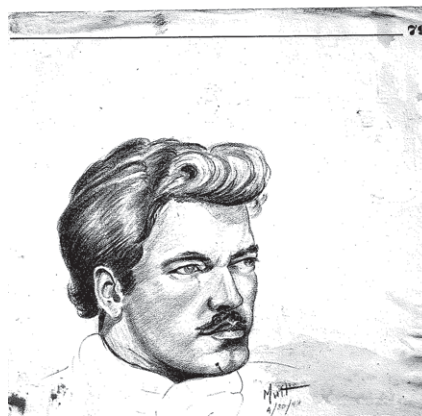
ording to the rules of the Geneva Conventions.



The Log Book proved to justify the Geneva regulations. It also proved to be a prime factor of the most clandestine activities. Each owner of a log book was screened for artistic ability and if talented, was given assignments to draw convincing counterfeits of official documents to be used for escape purposes.

### Emmet Cook (Mutt)

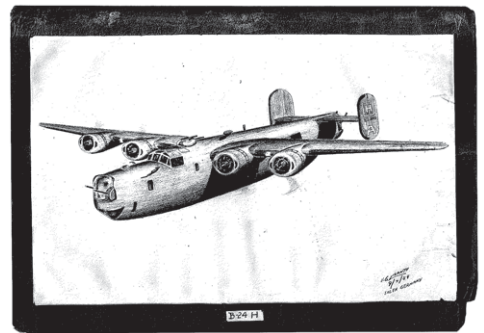
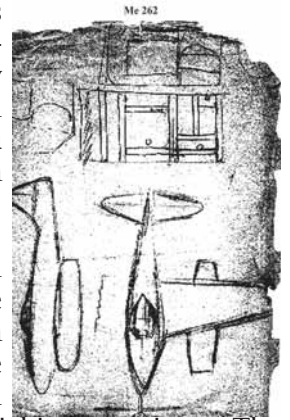
Self portrait. Emmet drew original cartoon in my Log Book



I was evaluated by Emmet Cook after he drew the Donald Duck cartoon. Having taken mechanical drawing in high school may have helped. Without question, Emmet brought out skills I never knew I had. I was assigned to draw secret escape maps. Brushes were fabricated from human hair. Coloring

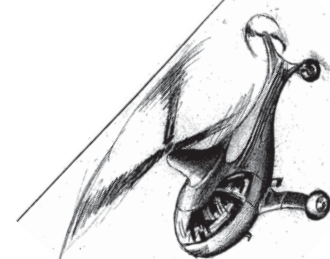
material was secretly procured. My most useful tool was a quill pen point.

Hearing and seeing the ME262 when it buzzed the compound was an astonishing experience. The sketch was made on a separate sheet and giving to the secret "X" committee. I managed to make a



tracing on a sheet of tissue paper for myself. All of the aircraft drawings were from memory. Most of the cartoons are copies. The cartoon on page 115 is an original. The artist formerly drew for a newspaper. The German guards, called Ferrets, grew suspicious and cut out pages from book that were not hidden.

This presentation is what was left after my book was found and pages cut out by the Ferrets.



# Members'

## forum



Dear Cheryl:

Senator Jack Reed of Rhode Island informed me that President-elect Barack Obama introduced S1084 (The Homes for Heroes Act) on April 10, 2007, which is presently remaining dormant in the Banking, Housing, & Urban Affairs Committee. Among other things, this bill would exclude any compensation benefits, including service-connected disabilities from means testing. Many AXPOW members like myself as well as many other combat veterans live in subsidized housing and are service-connected disabled. If this bill passed, it would be a great financial help to the service-connected disabled veterans. I am certain that all members would be grateful, if you would give this matter some attention.

**An old life member**  
**Wilfrid E. Hebert**  
1 Flat St., #108  
Cumberland, RI 02864

From PNC Zack Roberts:  
Dear Cheryl,

I have a friend of over 55 years who had a stroke about 12 years ago and was left physically impaired, losing the use of his right arm and leg. His

mind is intact and he is very intelligent. In those 12 years, I have never heard Frank complain. Here is a copy of a letter he sent to the magazine *SC Stroke Connection*. I know many of our members and their families have suffered strokes, and I thought this letter would be of interest and comfort to them.

*"Your Letters to the Editor are very depressing. My stroke was a part of living, not part of dying. Here's what having a stroke in May 1998 has meant to me:*

*Finding new avenues of learning - computers, time to read interesting articles.*

*Helping others - giving helpful advice to others who have had strokes.*

*Keeping mentally busy - I'm so busy, I don't know when I had time to myself.*

*Thinking of others and not myself - doing for others whenever you can.*

*Reading about others who have overcome stroke - in the 10/31/07 issue of the Wall Street Journal, I read about a Japanese concert pianist who had a stroke affecting his right side, so he learned pieces he could play with his left hand and has returned to the concert hall.*

*Never being self-conscious about having a stroke - it could happen to anyone at any age!*

*And last but not least, where there is a will, there is a way.*

**Frank Mangano, Ventnor City, NJ"**

**Dear Editor,**

I am writing to share with you and all members of the American Ex-Prisoners of War. On Nov. 10, 2008, Commander Kenneth G. Castor of the Dayton Area Chapter was awarded the Meritorious Service Award. This special award was presented by Friendship Chapter #245, Royal Arch Masons of Ohio.

This award is for his 27 years of dedicated service to those captives who served in our armed forces and their families. I can vouch for Commander Castor, as I am the son of a WWII POW whose life was made better by the efforts of Commander Castor and the Dayton Area Chapter.

Best wishes to you, your organization and the many chapters.

**Stephen Ford, High Priest**  
**Friend Chapter #245, Royal Arch**  
**Masons of Ohio**

**Dear Commander Clark:**

Thanks for the new 2009 calendar. In looking through it, I know that the POW (June) in Moosburg, Germany is my husband. We've been married 62 years and I know that body! What a pleasant surprise! James A Glasson, Jr., 85 years old is in a nursing home in Corpus Christi. I showed him the picture yesterday. He just cried. He enjoyed the rest of the pictures also. Thanks.

**Maxine Glasson, Taft, TX.**

**To Whom it may concern:**  
Subject: HR23/S961

Merchant Seamen and Congressmen worked long and hard for passage of HR23 and S961, a small pension for Merchant Seamen of WWII...only misinformation and unjustified opposition killed our last chance.

Most of the US Congress agreed with us that the seamen paid the price of war and the remaining Merchant Marines - average age 82 - deserve a pension and HR23/S961 would have covered that compelling obligation. It would have had little or no effect on any other VA programs, VSOs or their membership.

## members forum continued...

Our government needed civilian volunteers to sail those merchant ships all over the world carrying urgently needed supplies for our military...even when we knew that the seamen had a high casualty rate...later shown to be as a group the highest in the war! With one in twenty-six KIA...733 ships sunk...240 Mariners were killed before Pearl Harbor, 604 became POWs. Others died as 54 merchant ships struck mines. The seamen have no battlefields...no tombstones...and no bodies to bury with a bugler sounding TAPS.

It appears to me that ongoing pressure from some VSOs leadership lobbying Congressional legislators was successful...S961 was effectively stopped. That fits with the VSOs 60 year effort to stop any honorarium or compensation for the WWII Merchant Seamen.

Well, it's eight bells and our watch is over...time has run out for the 8000 ancient mariners remaining from WWII. These American seamen with their valiant gun crews and all the Merchant Marines worldwide who sailed the supply ships...challenging the ruthless storm-ripped seas the world over and for years suffered the life and death struggle from the merciless terror of war at sea...all have a courageous heroes' history that will live forever!

**Paul W McIntyre**

PO Box 410224

San Francisco, CA 94141

*(Editor's note: The above letter was cut for length.)*

Dear Cheryl,

This may be of interest to our readers:

Sixty-four years ago, my husband's B-24 bomber was shot down over Austria. The pilot, Al Henning, was trying to urge the crippled aircraft

to a landing in Maribor, Yugoslavia. The partisans were always watching for downed airmen in order to help them back to their own lines. Unfortunately, it wasn't to be. Bail-out was called and the men pretty much landed near each other in Styria, Austria. Two men went down with the plane. All the others got out.

My husband, Tom, often told me of the episode. He came down in a beautiful field on the side of a mountain. Having been seen by the townspeople, he knew he would be their captive. After the gang were stopped from beating him any more, he was taken to a local jail. There he found his other crewmates - his pilot, turret gunner, Jimmy Smith and ball turret gunner, Warren Smith.

From there they were turned over to the Germans to be taken to Frankfurt. They were eventually taken to Luft IV. Today, only one crewmember is still living. He is Robert Otto of Everett, WA. We had kept in touch with each man since the end of the war. Each of the others has passed away, including my husband.

Last January, 2008, Robert got an email from the son of one of the crew. He was contacted by a man in Austria who was looking for any crewmembers. He lives right near the crash site. Bob corresponded for a few months and he received pictures of the wreckage and pieces of the "Texarkana Hussy" which was their plane. This man has had them all these years.

Apparently there is a group called "on foreign fields". Robert was subsequently invited to Austria. He went in October with his three grown children. His ticket was paid for, and quarters were arranged by the Austrians. He was invited to attend a memorial ceremony honoring the American airmen in Graz. He was treated royally during the week, including visiting many interesting sites in town.

I have since been in contact with the Austrian gentleman and I am planning to go also to see the site and meet the good people of the village. My son and I are looking forward to the spring trip.

**Mary Sullivan**

**Adjutant of the Long Island Chapter, AXPOW.**

Dear Commander Clark,

I am writing for my husband who is unable to write legibly. He is almost 94 and has had a stroke, preventing him from writing. He is a USS Houston Survivor, US Marine Corps Detachment. He had to swim to shore when their ship was sunk in Sunda Strait off the coast of Java. He was taken by the Japanese and he was a POW for 3 ½ years.

You can imagine his feeling when he saw the 2009 AXPOW Calendar with the painting for the March page. The story of the USS Houston should be read by more people because so little is known about the ship and her crew.

My husband has written many poems that are historical, accurate and factual about the battle and sinking of their beloved ship and crew. If you would be interested in them in the future in any way, he would be happy to share them .

Our thanks to whoever made it possible for the picture of the USS Houston in the 2009 calendar. Thanks for all you do for the American Ex-Prisoners of War.

Sincerely,

**Dorothy Willey (wife of 62 years)**

**For Lloyd V Willey**

**2010 W San Marcos Blvd #52**

**San Marcos, CA 92078**

*Editor's note: Mrs. Willey, we would love to have any stories and poems you have!*

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**Ex-POW Bulletin**

**January 2009**

**23**

From President-Elect Obama's Transition Team...  
This was received as the Bulletin was going to the printer.

## Gen. Shinseki to Head VA



**General Eric K. Shinseki**  
Retired Chief of Staff  
United States Army

President-elect Barack Obama has chosen retired Gen. Eric K. Shinseki to be the next Veterans Affairs Secretary.

The selection of Shinseki - the first Army four-star general of Japanese-American ancestry - was announced in December. He will be the first Asian-American to hold the post of Veterans Affairs secretary.

"General Shinseki is exactly the right person who is going to be able to make sure that we honor our troops when they come home," Obama said.

Shinseki, 66, will take the helm of the government's second-largest

agency, which has been criticized for underestimating the amount of funding needed to treat thousands of injured veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

He is a recipient of two Purple Hearts for life-threatening injuries in Vietnam.

Upon leaving his post in June 2003, Shinseki in his farewell speech sternly warned against arrogance in leadership.

"You must love those you lead before you can be an effective leader," Shinseki said. "You can certainly command without that sense of commitment, but you cannot lead without it. And without leadership, command is a hollow experience, a vacuum often filled with mistrust and arrogance."



## AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR VOLUNTEER FUNDING PROGRAM



The AXPOW Volunteer Giving Program parallels that of other VSOs, whereby the entire membership, including life members, is given the opportunity to contribute to the operation of our organization, based on ability and willingness to contribute.

All contributions are to be sent directly to the National Treasurer to be used for the operation of the organization. A complete accounting of contributors will appear in the Bulletin each month.

I am enclosing my contribution to support the operation of the American Ex-Prisoners of War.

\$20.00      \$30.00      \$40.00      \$50.00      \$100.00      Other

Please circle one category:

**Individual**

**Chapter**

**State Department**

(If chapter or department, please give name)

Signed

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone #

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# contributions



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## GENERAL FUND

William Claycomb of Campbellsville  
KY

In memory of Betty Jane Thompson,  
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In memory of Bro. Rev. John K  
Jones, by the OKI Chapter

In memory of Delilah Ahrens, by  
Sophie Vitek

In memory of Delilah Ahrens, by  
Jackye Ray

In memory of Delilah Ahrens, by the  
Mid-Iowa Chapter

In memory of Delilah Ahrens, by  
Fred & Laura Robertson

In memory of Doug Robinson, by  
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In memory of John Krupinski, by  
Ann Krupinski

In memory of Lt Col Ret Harold  
Dorschner, by Elizabeth Dorschner

In memory of Martha Parrish, by the  
Mid-Iowa Chapter

In memory of Mary Mathis, by Ri-  
chard & Donna Wade

In memory of Phil Chirico, by Ann  
Krupinski

In memory of Raymond Elias, by  
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In memory of Roscoe Back, by the  
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In memory of Vincent Venegoni, by  
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Nancy Foley

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In memory of Harry Bott, by Lisa &  
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2007 Convention Fund, Illinois

## LEGISLATIVE FUND

In memory of Jean O. Hannon, by  
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## MEDSEARCH FUND

In memory and In honor of mem-  
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Chapter, by the Southeastern Mass.  
Chapter

In memory of Shirley Ponomone, by  
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In memory of Dan Danguilan, by the  
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In memory of Robert Derrington, by  
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Grant & Helen Yager

Robert Haverkos

Rudy Giannoni

Carroll & Barbara Bogard

Bonnie Weatherford

PB Chapter, AXPOW

Kenneth Hanson

Arthur Tilley

Harry Crane

## **From the ByLaws Committee:**

All requested changes to the  
National Bylaws are to be submitted  
as follows:

Resolutions have two major parts:  
a preamble and a resolution. The  
preamble gives the reason for the  
resolution. The resolution gives the  
intent. Each can contain one or  
more paragraphs and the whole is  
read in its entirety, beginning with  
the preamble. Each preamble para-  
graph begins with "Whereas" and  
ends with "and" to connect it to the  
next paragraph. The final paragraph  
is joined to the resolution with a  
semicolon and followed by the  
phrase "Therefore, be it"

Whereas, (ETC); and

Whereas (ETC); therefore, be it

Resolved, that -----

One signature is required on reso-  
lutions and amendments. Members  
are reminded that resolutions must  
be submitted to the committee be-  
fore Feb. 1, 2009. Those request-  
ing changes should include a tele-  
phone number where they can be  
reached if more information is  
needed. Send requested changes to:  
Clydie Morgan, Chairman, 3201 E.  
Pioneer Pkway, Suite 40, Arlington,  
TX 76010.

## **From the Strategic Planning Committee:**

All members are encouraged to  
send in your ideas for the national  
organization. They may be ideas to  
help the organization's finances,  
long-term planning or operations.  
Please send your thoughts to ND Sid  
Hecker, Chairman, 7730 Laie Place,  
Diamondhead, MS 39525.



**Ex-POW Bulletin  
January 2009**



# taps



Please submit taps notices to: Cheryl Cerbone, 23 Cove View Drive, South Yarmouth, MA 02664

**AHRENS, Delilah**, of Boone, IA passed away Nov. 2, 2008. She was a life member of AXPOW, and active member of the Dept. of Iowa and the Mid-Iowa Chapter. Those attending the 1995 Iowa National Convention saw Delilah at the Registration table. Her late husband, Raymond, was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. She is survived by 2 sons, 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**ALVIS, Willa L.**, 89, of San Angelo, TX passed away July 19, 2008. She was a WAC during WWII. Willa is survived by numerous nieces and nephews. She was a member of the Concho Valley Chapter, AXPOW.

**ARNEY, Billy**, native of Houston, most recently of Dallas, died Nov. 11, 2008. Billy served in Bataan and Corregidor and was a POW of the Japanese for over four years. He was a past member of the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter and, currently a member of the Dallas Metroplex Chapter.

**BACK, Roscoe**, of Akron, Ohio, died October 30, 2008. His transport ship *USS Thomas Stone* was torpedoed, but limped its way into the Port of Algiers. His unit was captured and held in Camp 69 in Italy. After escaping, he and another soldier were hidden in a cave by an Italian family for five months. He was a member of the North Central Ohio Chapter.

**BALL, Marjorie M.** died in Tacoma, WA on November 23, 2008 at the age of 87. Marjorie was a long time active member of the Tacoma Chapter and the American Ex-Prisoner of War Organization. She is preceded in death by her husband Clyde S. Ball and leaves behind a daughter, two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**BROKAW, Johnny**, 83, member of the Arkansas POW Chapter #1, died Oct. 6, 2008, 23 days shy of his 84<sup>th</sup> birthday. He served with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, flying out of England. He was captured when his plane was shot down over France and he was held in Luft IV for one year. Johnny was predeceased by his wife, Janice.

**BROWN, Robert A.**, of Challenge, CA passed away Oct. 15, 2008. Bob enlisted in the AAC at age 16. He was assigned to the 34<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Sq. on Luzon, survived the Bataan Death March and 3 ½ years captivity, including Mukden, China. He was a life member of AXPOW and ADABC. Bob is survived by his beloved wife, Rosemary, 2 daughters, 2 stepdaughters, 1 stepson, 5 grandchildren and 1 sister.

**BURDETTE, Harry L.** of Aiken, SC died Oct. 17, 2008. During WWII, he was co-pilot on a B-17 with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 379<sup>th</sup> BG. After being shot down and captured, he was held at Luft I, Barth, Germany until liberation. Harry leaves his loving wife, Alice, 3 sons, 7 grandchildren, 4 great-granddaughters, 2 brothers and 1 sister. He was active in the CSRA Chapter, AXPOW.

**BURT, Armand C.**, of Henderson, Nevada, died October 22, 2008. Armand was a waist gunner aboard a B-17 bomber known as the "Spirit of '44". Shot down over Germany, he was one of six survivors, and spent over a year in POW camps. A member of the Las Vegas 7-11 Chapter, he is survived by his wife of over 59 years, Mary.

**CHRISTIE, Martin S.**, member and past commander of San Fernando Valley Chapter, AXPOW, passed away Oct. 11, 2008. He was captured on Corregidor while serving with the 4<sup>th</sup> Marines, E Co., 2<sup>nd</sup> BN and held in Japanese POW Camps in the Philippines and Japan. Martin spent his life after liberation helping others. He leaves his devoted wife, Ngoc "Rosie", 4 daughters, 1 son, 10 grandchildren,

9 great-grandchildren and many, many friends.

**HAMMERS, Harry**, 85, of Loveland, CO died Nov. 2, 2008. He was a member of the Northeast Colorado Chapter, AXPOW. During WWII, he served with the 321<sup>st</sup> BG, 448<sup>th</sup> BS, 12<sup>th</sup> AF. He was shot down over Italy and captured almost immediately. He was imprisoned in Luft 4, then marched across Germany. He is survived by 1 son, 1 daughter, 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**HARTWELL, Leonard**, of Deland, FL, member of the East Central FL Chapter, AXPOW died Oct. 21, 2008. During the Korean War he served with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Div., 2<sup>nd</sup> Engineers. He was captured and held in Camps 5 and 3.

**HERALD, Charlie Floyd**, of Avon, Indiana, died November 2, 2008. A member of the Indiana Hoosier Chapter, he was shot down on his second raid, bailed out and was captured. He was held in Stalag 17B for two years. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Lottie.

**INGEBRITSON, Orville A.**, 89, of Staples, MN passed away Oct. 29, 2008. He was a member of the Lake Region Chapter, AXPOW. Orville was captured at Faid Pass while serving with the 168<sup>th</sup> Inf., Co. K. He was held at 7A, 3B and 2B for 27 months. His wife, Joyce, 2 sons and 4 grandchildren survive him.

**JONES, John K., Sr.**, age 83, of Cincinnati, OH died Oct. 15, 2008. He was captured while serving with the AAC during WWII; captured and held in Lufts 4 & 1. Survivors include his beloved wife, Betty.

**KARTH, Margaret**, of Downers Grove, IL died Oct. 2, 2008. She was a member of the Wolverine Chapter, AXPOW and the widow of ex-POW James. Margaret is survived by her daughter, Diane.

## taps continued...

**KNOX, Ralph M.**, of Williamston, SC, died Nov 23, 2008. An 86-year-old WWII veteran, Ralph was a POW held by the Japanese in 1941, and one of the youngest prisoners of war captured by the Japanese. He also took part in the Bataan Death March.

**KRAUSE, Helen**, widow of ex-POW Frank, passed away Nov. 14, 2008. She was 93 and a member of the Wolverine Chapter, AXPOW. Helen was named volunteer of the year in Cheboygan in 2000. She leaves 3 daughters, 1 son, 9 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

**LERNER, Ruth Lucille**, 83, of Worcester, MA died Nov. 18, 2008. She was a member of AXPOW and the Central MA Chapter. She leaves her husband of 63 years, Irving (WWII POW, held in Luft 1, Barth), 1 daughter and 2 grandchildren. Irving is past department commander for MA and past chapter commander for Central MA Chapter.

**LINDSAY, Naomi**, of Granbury, Texas, passed away November 7, 2008. The wife of Marvin Lindsay, Naomi was active in the Fort Worth Chapter as much as her health would allow. Her sweet, gentle spirit will be missed by many.

**McCONNELL, Carl Gordon**, member of the Barbed Wire Assn of NW PA, passed away Oct. 18, 2008. During WWII, he served in the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, 451<sup>st</sup> BG, 49<sup>th</sup> Wing. He was shot down over Germany and held until liberation. He is survived by 3 daughters, 1 son, 10 grandchildren, 3 stepsons, 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**McCORMICK, John V.**, of Sycamore, IL, passed away November 10, 2008. He was a member of the Fox River Valley Chapter and is survived by wife Phyllis.

**MELVIN, Lloyd J.**, of Edgewater, FL, member of the East Central FL Chapter, AXPOW died Oct. 22, 2008. He served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Div. After capture, he was held in 7A, 3B, 3A.

**MILLER, Robert Landon**, 89, died May 10, 2008. He served his country during WWII, stationed on Bataan. He spent 3 ½ years as a POW in the Philippines and Japan. Robert leaves his wife of 19 years, Carol, 2 sons, 4 stepchildren, 5 grandchildren, 1 sister and many nieces and nephews.

**MOFFITT, John Harold**, 88, of Richmond, VA died Oct. 4, 2008. He was captured while serving on a B-17 bomber and held at Stalag 17B until liberation. After retirement, John became active in AXPOW, serving on both the local and national levels, including National Director. He leaves his wife, Mary, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 2 stepsons, 2 stepdaughters, 14 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

**NELSON, Darwin G.**, 87, a member of AXPOW Fresno CA. Chapter #1 passed away Nov. 7, 2008. Darwin was a B-17 pilot in the 384<sup>th</sup> BG in England. He was shot down and was interned at Stalag Luft 1 in Barth, Germany for 18 months. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Marge, and an extended family.

**NEUHAUSER, Laurence W.**, of Pardeeville, WI died Dec. 12, 2007 at the age of 84. He served with the 306<sup>th</sup> BG, AAF. He was shot down on his first mission, captured and held until liberation. Laurence is survived by 6 children, 18 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, 1 brother and 3 sisters. He was a life member of AXPOW.

**NUGENT, Francis T. "Frank"** passed away Oct. 1, 2008 in Ohio. A member of the Manasota Chapter located in Bradenton, FL, he served in the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, 506<sup>th</sup> Parachute Inf. He jumped in 3 major battles and was wounded in Normandy & in Bastogne. He was imprisoned in Stalag 11A and 2B-4A&B. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Dorothy, 9 children, 26 grandchildren & 17 great-grandchildren.

**PARRISH, Martha**, of Indianola, IA passed away Oct. 21, 2008. She was a life member of AXPOW and long-time member of the Mid-Iowa Chapter. She was also active in other vet-

erans service organizations. Survivors include her husband, ex-POW Ruben, 1 daughter, 6 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, 9 great-great-grandchildren and 1 brother.

**ROBERTS, Harold "Babe"**, of Bedford, MA died Aug. 29, 2008. He was captured while serving with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 390<sup>th</sup> BG; he was held in Lufts IV and VI and marched across Germany. Harold was a member of MA Chapter #1. He leaves his loving wife, Barbara, 2 sons, 5 daughters, 2 brothers, 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

**SEDORY, Charlene**, wife of ex-POW Philip, died Nov. 1, 2008. Charlene and Philip were members of the Agua Fria Chapter, AXPOW. Philip served in the 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry. She is survived by her husband and one daughter.

**SHAW, John E.**, 77, of Farmington, MO, died an untimely death at the hands of an intruder in his home on October 17, 2008. During the Korean War, he served with the 2<sup>nd</sup> BN, 23<sup>rd</sup> Reg., 2<sup>nd</sup> Inf. Div. He was captured, wounded, taken prisoner in April 1951, interred in various villages for 8 months and eventually held in Camp #2 (annex the Yalu River) until liberation on August 28, 1953. He is survived by his wife, Jean, and five children.

**SHERMAN, Alice Marie**, of San Angelo, TX passed away July 19, 2008. She was a member of the Concho Valley Chapter, AXPOW. Alice leaves her loving husband, Tony, 1 daughter, 1 son, 10 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

**STRUHAR, AUGUST "GUB"** died Oct. 18, 2008. He was a radio operator and waist gunner on a B-17 Bomber in the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 327<sup>th</sup> BG, 92<sup>nd</sup> BS; he was shot down on his first mission December 31, 1943. He was a POW in Stalag 17B and was a member of the group who marched across Austria. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Letha May, and one son.

## taps continued...

**SULZER, Robert I.**, member of the Agua Fria Chapter, AXPOW died on November 1, 2008. Bob served in Co. F, 179<sup>th</sup> Reg., 45<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. After capture, he was held in Stalag 12A, Rundorf Labor Camp. Bob and Paul Dallas, Past National Commander were the only two living from this camp, and Paul is the last known survivor. He is survived by Evelyn, and one daughter.

**SWIFT, Dorothy** of Erie, PA passed away Nov. 3, 2008. She was a life member of AXPOW and long-time member of the Barbed Wire Assn. of NW PA, where she served as treasurer for several years. She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Robert, Cmdr. of the Barbed Wire Chapter, 2 sons, 1 daughter and 3 grandchildren.

**TABER, Nelson**, 86, of Milford, MI died Nov. 16, 2008. He was a member of the Wolverine Chapter and active in the Ann Arbor VA POW group for many years. Nelson was captured in North Africa and held until liberation. He leaves 2 children 4 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson.

**TEXLEY, Harvey L.**, 87, member of the Siouxland Chapter, AXPOW passed away Sept. 6, 2008. He was captured while serving in WWII; held in Luckenwalde POW camp until liberated by the Russians in 1945. Harvey is survived by 4 children, 8 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**THOMPSON, Betty Jane**, of Ravenna, Ohio, died October 20, 2008. Betty was the widow of Ralph Thompson, and a member of the North Central Ohio Chapter.

**THOMPSON, Harry Alvin Jr.**, of Pharr, TX died April 21, 2008 at the

age of 86. He served with the 78<sup>th</sup> BG, 82<sup>nd</sup> FS during WWII; he was shot down, captured and held in Stalags VIIA and Luft III. Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Rose, 2 sons, 1 sister and 2 brothers.

**VENABLE, Wilmer**, of Arlington, Texas, died Nov. 14, 2008. He proudly served his country in World War II as a heavy machine gunner and was a POW of the Germans for over ten months. He was a member of the Fort Worth Chapter.

**WEBER, Robert D.**, 86, of Westover, WV passed away Nov. 15, 2008. He was captured while serving with the 106<sup>th</sup> Inf. during WWII. He was a POW in Germany. Bob is a past commander of the W. Virginia Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife of nearly 62 years, Jean, 3 daughters, 10 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren and a number of nieces and nephews.

## national chaplain



James H. Beaver  
22644 Montego Bay Road  
Abingdon, VA 24211  
(276) 623-0875

As we become enmeshed in the Holiday Season, we can become so busy shopping, exchanging gifts and being light-hearted that we almost forget what the Holiday Season is all about. We Christians are celebrating the Birth of Christ, our

eternal hope. Others celebrate in different ways, with different customs, but no matter what your faith is, we wish that your Holidays were safe and happy.

May the God of Glory Bless and Keep You.

### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, as the Season of Peace is upon us, we pray for Peace today. Let your Peace abound. (John 14:27). "Peace I leave with you, my Peace I give unto you, not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

Amen.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. James H. Beaver". Below the signature, the name "REV. JAMES H. BEAVER" is printed in a small, sans-serif font.

## “This Too Shall Pass”

If I can endure for this minute  
Whatever is happening to me,  
No matter how heavy my heart is  
Or how dark the moment may be  
If I can remain calm and quiet  
With all the world crashing  
about me,  
Secure in the knowledge God  
loves me  
When everyone else seems to  
doubt me-  
If I can but keep on believing  
What I know in my heart to be true,  
That darkness will fade with the  
morning  
And that this will pass away, too-  
Then nothing in life can defeat me  
For as long as this knowledge  
remains  
I can suffer whatever is happening  
For I know God will break all of the  
chains  
That are binding me tight in the  
darkness  
And trying to fill me with fear-  
For there is no night without  
dawning  
And I know that my morning is  
near.

...Helen Steiner Rice



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**GIVEN BY:** \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

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**City, state and zip code** \_\_\_\_\_

**To be contributed to the** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fund.**

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Memorial donations should be sent to:  
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**IN MEMORY OF:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**GIVEN BY:** \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

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# new members

National Headquarters  
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Arlington, TX 76010; (817) 649-2979  
Marsha.Coke@axpow.org



<p><b>New Annual Members</b> <b>Welcome Home</b></p> <p>CEBERT W 'CY' HUGHES AGNES LANSING MI 36 DIV 2/13/43. TO 6/45</p> <p><b>New Life Members</b> <b>Welcome Home</b> <b>*new member</b></p> <p>WALTER H SMITH SHIRLEY J 39503 39504 ZILLAH, WA ARMY 12A, 9B</p> <p>JACOB O IHAUSON CORRINE D 39505 39506 ELMHURST, IL 36DIV 141 INF 5B, 7A 12/10/44-4/45</p>	<p>JOHN A HILLER, JR. MIRIAM B 39507 39508 TYRONE, PA 8 AF 398 BG 601 BS DULAG LUFT, LUFT 3, 7A 6/18/44-4/29/45</p> <p>LAWRENCE J BOTT LOIS E 39509 39510 COLUMBUS, OH 3 INF DIV 30 REG 13C, NURNBERG, 7A</p> <p>RUTHERFORD EDWARDS RUTH 39511 39512 LEXINGTON, KY 168 INF REG, AFRICA 3B, 7A</p> <p>THEODORE KHOURY EVELYN 39513 39514 BROOKLYN, NY 114 REG 44 DIV 12A, OTHERS</p> <p>LARRY HERRMAN 39515 PITTSFIELD MA</p>	<p>SON OF ROBERT J HERRMAN</p> <p>KIYOMI YONAMINE 39516</p> <p>MILILANI HI HQ CO 1 BN 32 REGT 7 DIV CAMP 1 &amp; 3 11/28/50 TO 8/ 26/53</p> <p>RICHARD M LAURENCE 39517</p> <p>SAN RAFAEL CA CIVILIAN CEBU CITY SANTO TO- MAS 1942 TO 1945</p> <p>MARY G BURT 39518 HENDERSON NV WIDOW OF ARMAND C BURT</p> <p>EARL W HAUN 39519 SARASOTA FL 8 AF 92 BG 325 BS LUFT 4 DULAG LUFT</p>	<p>PAUL J 'DOC' LOVELL 39520</p> <p>BRIDGEPORT WV 26 INF DIV 12A 12/31/44 TO 3/27/45 RENATE LEX HARPER *39521</p> <p>COLUMBIA OH WIDOW OF CARROLL F HARPER 11B 1/5/45 TO 4/18/45</p> <p>HAROLD 'HAL' POWER RITA 39522 39523 HOUSTON TX 106 INF DIV 422 REG CO C HQ 12A 12/18/44 TO 3/29/45</p> <p>ELI J POLLINGER CATHERINE A 39524 39525 TONAWANDA NY SON OF ANDREW POLLINGER</p>
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Ex-POW Bulletin  
January 2009  
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### Life Membership Rates

Under 35	\$360
36-50	\$300
51-60	\$180
61 & over	\$120

Spouse of life member \$ 40

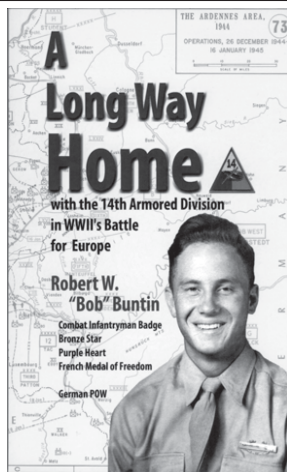
### Annual Membership Rates

Single Membership	\$ 40
Husband & wife	\$ 50

This is a personal account of becoming separated from the remnants of my company and lost in the Vosges Mountains of Southeastern France on New Years Day, 1945. It is a story of survival in the bitter cold of snow-covered mountains, avoiding capture, then suffering that fate after almost a week, all alone, and surviving captivity. It is also my experiences as a member of a rifle squad, of being wounded; and about love and war, and the intertwining of the two.

It is an autobiography about growing up in Southside Virginia on a farm, voluntarily drafted into the Army; and becoming a member of the First Rifle Squad of the Third Platoon of 'C' Company, 62nd Armored Infantry Battalion, 14th Armored Division ("The Liberators").

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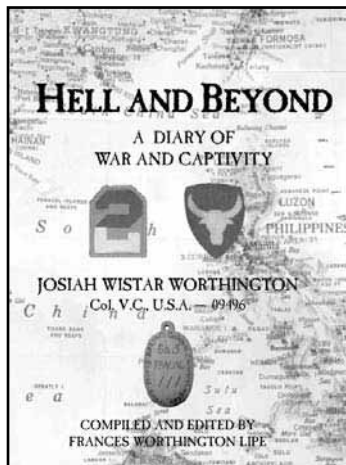
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September 20, 2008  
Kansas City, Missouri

1st Place	Sid Hecker Diamondhead MS	\$995.80
2nd Place	Donald Behney Camphill PA	\$746.85
3rd Place	Marjorie Trimble San Leandro CA	\$497.90
4th Place	Richard Oberlin West Unity OH	\$248.95

These drawings help raise money needed for our operating expenses. They allow our members to participate in a very worthwhile project, while giving them a chance to win. 50% of the donations will be given to the General Fund and the other 50% are awarded as prizes. The amounts are determined after all donations are received. You do not have to be present to win. Please make copies of the tickets on the other side and offer them to your Chapter members, family and friends. We are asking \$5.00 for 6 tickets. These donations are not tax deductible. Fill out the tickets and send them and your donations to:

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Ex-POW Bulletin  
January 2009

**American Ex-Prisoners of War  
50/50 Drawing**

PLEASE PRINT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Here is my donation of \$5.00 for 6 chances to win the drawing.  
Prize amounts are determined by the total amount donated.

**Mail your donation and entry to:**  
**American Ex-Prisoners of War**  
**50/50 Drawing**  
**3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40**  
**Arlington, TX 76010-5396**

You do not have to be present to win. Your donation is not tax deductible. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. Donation not required to enter.  
Thank you for your support.

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### Name Badge Order Form

(for members only)

Actual size of badge is size of a credit card



PLEASE PRINT:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Name Badge with name & chapter and city: **\$6.00**

(includes shipping and handling)

Ship to:

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail orders to:

**AXPOW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**  
**3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40**  
**Arlington, Texas 76010-5396**

### AXPOW Vest Order Form

(For members only)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Size (Men/coat, Women/chest measurement) \_\_\_\_\_

Long, Regular or Short \_\_\_\_\_

Name on front of vest \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Name (back of vest) \_\_\_\_\_

**Price: \$55.00**, includes shipping/handling

Please allow 8-10 weeks for delivery.

Mail orders to:

**AXPOW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**  
**3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40**  
**Arlington, Texas 76010-5396**

Official AXPOW Cap (specify size)	40.00	Jeweled Flag Pin	30.00	12x18 AXPOW Graveside Flag	10.00
Vinyl Cap Bag	3.00	USA Jeweled Pin	15.00	3x5 ft. AXPOW Flag w/3-color logo	
Maroon AXPOW Sport Cap	8.00	Logo Necklace	5.00	with fringe, indoor use	60.00
Black Eagle Sport Cap	9.00	Logo Earrings (pierced or clip)	5.00	with grommets, outdoor use	60.00
Canvas Sport Cap (offwhite or tan)	10.00	2" Medallion (for plaque)	5.00	3x5ft. blackPOW/MIA flag, outdoor use	25.00
Necktie w/logo woven in fabric (specify regular or pre-tied)	25.00	Vest Chainguard w/eagles	8.00	AXPOW Metal License Plate Frame	7.00
AXPOW Logo Bolo Tie	15.00	3" Blazer Patch	4.00	Aluminum License Plate	5.00
U.S. Flag Bolo Tie	19.00	4" Blazer Patch	4.00	3" Vinyl Decal	1.00
Mini POW Medal Bolo Tie	20.00	8" Blazer Patch	10.00	3" Inside Decal	1.00
Goldtone Bolo Bezel with cord	9.00	<b>CLOTH STRIPES</b> (specify which title)	3.00	8" Vinyl Decal	6.00
Barbed Wire pin	3.00	Life Member · Chapter Commander		12" Vinyl Decal	10.00
Life Member pin	5.00	Past Chapter Commander · Chapter Adj/Treas Chapter		Bumper Sticker "Freedom – Ask us"	2.00
Crossed Flags Lapel pin	5.00	Adjutant · Chapter Treasurer		AXPOW Wall Clock (includes battery)	20.00
Brooch pin	5.00	State Department Commander		AXPOW Notecards (pkg of 25)	6.00
EX-POW pin (goldtone)	5.00	Past State Dept. Commander · Department Adjutant		Special Prayer Cards (pkg of 25)	6.00
Logo pin	5.00	Department Treasurer · Sr. Vice Commander		AXPOW Prayer Book	2.00
POW Stamp pin	3.00	Jr. Vice Commander · Chaplain · Historian		Ladies Prayer Book	1.00
Past Chapter Commander pin	5.00	Service Officer · Legislative Officer		AXPOW By-Laws	5.00
Past Department Commander pin	5.00	Past Chapter Officer · Past Department Officer		POW Videotape – ETO or Pacific	11.00
Eagle pin w/Barbed Wire (specify gold, silver or antique gold)	8.00			"Speak Out" Education Packet	6.00
				Canvas Totebag w/4" logo	15.00

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QUANTITY	ITEM	SIZE / COLOR	PRICE

For orders up to 4.00, add \$3.00; For orders 4.01 to 7.99, add \$4.00; For orders 8.00 to 25.00, add \$8.00, For orders 25.01 to 49.99, add \$13.00; For orders 50.00 to 99.99, add \$15.00  
 For orders over 100.00, add \$20.00 Checks/Money Order/Credit Card Accepted.

**Shipping/Handling/Insurance:**

**Total: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**For credit card orders:** Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

(Check one) Master Card \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:**  
**AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR**  
**3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40**  
**Arlington, Texas 76010-5396**  
**817-649-2979**  
**axpowqm@aol.com**

## Tacoma War Memorial Park Memorial honors POWs, MIAs.

AXPOW member Joseph Zelazny spearheaded efforts to complete the black granite-tiled Wall of Honor in time for the Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> POW/MIA ceremonies at the park. The Wall was finished thanks to the efforts of the Washington state VFW, the Christmas Town chapter of AXPOW and Zelazny. If you know anyone who was a former POW or MIA from Pierce County, WA, contact him at 253-752-8266. There is still room for a few more tiles. What a beautiful tribute, Joe!

Clockwise, from top: Tacoma councilman Mike Lonergan accepts the monument on behalf of the city from the VFW and Christmas Town Chapter; a new POW/MIA flag is donated to Tacoma Public Works Superintendent Mike Sleavin; the monument unveiled.



BACEPOW Luncheon at the Elks Club, Alameda, CA, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>. L-R at rear: Steve Laznibat, George Guittard, Irene Guittard, Ted Cadwallader, Dianne Cadwallader, Richard Laurence. In front: Ruth Guittard, Robert Hanson, Mary Jane Laznibat.

POW-MIA Recognition Day ceremonies were held at the Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The Milwaukee Barbed Wire Chapter (Wisconsin) is shown at the flag-raising. Howard Gollner, Art Lange, Lee Krueger, Ray Tolle, Bill Holmes, Fred Broussard.



**Bronze Grave Medallion  
with  
AXPOW LOGO**

The Medallion is 4", Bronze/Brown with Lacquer, weighs approximate 1lb 4oz, containing 84% copper, balance in other metals. The hardware for mounting is included in each packet.

check with your local cemetery before ordering to see if medallions are permitted.

**\$75.00**

**plus \$15.00 shipping/handling/insurance.**

**Shipping costs on two or more is \$20.00.**



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