

EX-POW BULLETIN

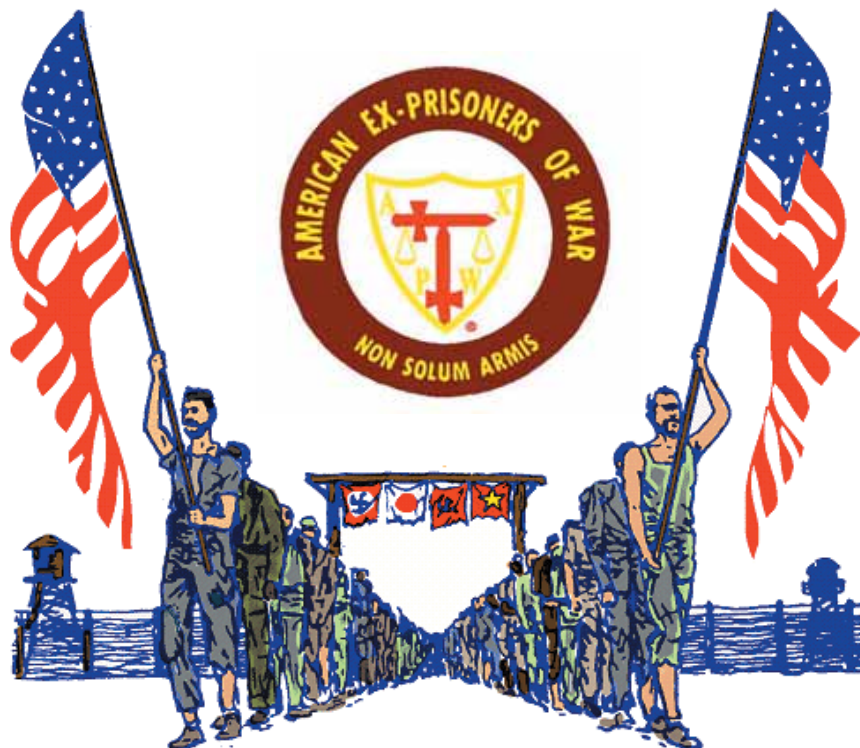
the official voice of the
American Ex-Prisoners of War

Volume 65

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February 2008



We exist to help those who cannot help themselves



**National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans
February 11-16**

**Inside...AXPOW Funding Program...News, Outreach, Events...
NSO success stories...information...and more**

Fourth Annual MIA/POW Recognition Day and Orientation Luncheon

Sponsored by Veterans Administration, Boston Healthcare System was held by Nov. 30, 2007 at the Boston Jamaica Plain Campus. Forty-four former prisoners of war, accompanied by their spouses, family members and caregivers were served lunch by members of the VA administration and their staff. The luncheon was followed by orientation on the proper use and care of prescription medication by members of the pharmacy staff. Then followed a presentation by Emergency Management personnel on what measures should be taken to be prepared for unexpected emergencies whether from manmade or natural causes.

1. (l to r) Roger Hughes, Ex-POW, Gloria Noble, P.C. Cmdr. S.E. Chapter., Kay Arnold, N.S.O, Frank Molinari, Ex-POW. 2. (l to r) Marilyn Canavan, spouse, William Bearisto, P.N.C., Ethel Bearisto, P.C. Cmdr. Mass Chapter 1, Joseph Canavan, Ex-POW. 3. Two views of audience during the orientations. 4. Group photo of the (44) Former Prisoners of War in attendance.



national commander



Warren G. King, Sr.

Where did 2007 go? Look out for that groundhog on February 2nd.

As the difficult 2007 year ends, we are still walking, with not much running. We have lost some good friends and others have become "home bound." We lost a dear friend, June Jackson, on Christmas Day. We will miss her. She enjoyed the "cute, corny" jokes we shared. Les, you and your family have our sympathy and love. You are all in our prayers.

As for the POW organization, it seems that nothing has changed. I am still receiving complaints about something. It would be nice if these people tried to solve complaints as much as they try to find fault with something. I agree, some of the complaints are legitimate. But why not "bury the hatchet?" Some people feel that they must have the last word.



Some of the suggestions I have received are: join some other veteran organization as a co-organization, disband, call it quits. You and I can learn from our mistakes. We have all seen the down side of life. Do we want to go out that way? I don't. Let's try to support each other and our organization — monetary and voluntary.



There are things going on in the organization that I don't like and I am not part of it. I am still helping spouses get their compensations. I have three in the "mill" to be adjudicated now. I hope they get their "Valentine" present early.

We are looking forward to meeting again in Washington, D.C. for our mid-year conference. Mary Rolen has worked very hard to get the best deal for us and will confirm plans in a few days. The conference will be held March 5th - 8th in Washington, D.C. at the same location as before.

Our committees are working on their projects. We will continue to do our best for the organization with what we have to work with.

Warren G. King, Sr.
Warren G. King, Sr.

Pictures: Newly elected National Commander Warren G. King, Sr. represented the American Ex-Prisoners of War in Veterans Day ceremonies held in Washington, D.C. in November, 2007.

A Trade With Uncle Sam

Warren G. King, Sr.
© September 2007

When Uncle Sam was in need of
young soldiers,
I had just graduated from
high school,
I joined the Army right away,
And was soon training in a
medical pool.

I gave my cap and gown, to
Uncle Sam,
He gave me khakis and green
for awhile,
A water bottle and rations,
Ds and Cs,
And shoes for walking
many miles.

I traded my ball cap for a helmet,
I spent some time across that
blue sea,
When I returned we had won
our freedom,
And a wife from sunny
Tennessee.

I traded my boots and saddle,
For the ranks to march for
Uncle Sam,
I'm just a good ole
riding cowboy,
I'll show my colors for
what I am.

I treated the wounded on the
battlefield,
I tried to help them all I could,
For my freedom back in America,
For my family, I thought I should,
Yes, I thought that I should.



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with their columns

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Correction:

PNC Bill Schmidt's birthday fell off the calendar for 2008. Friends can wish him a happy birthday on September 9th.



The National Board of Directors' meeting is scheduled for March 5-8, 2008

The meetings will be at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. The hotel is located at 900 South Orme Street, Arlington, Virginia 22204. This is at Columbia Pike and Washington Boulevard. The hotel has free shuttle service to and from National Airport. To make reservations, please contact the Washington office at 202-530-9220. The room rate is \$159. per night, plus tax and service charge. The organization will pay for three nights for elected Board members. All other attendees will be responsible for their own rooms.

Board/Committee Chairmen who wish to have a report in for the meeting should sent it by Feb. 10, 2008.

Clydie J. Morgan, National Adjutant

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**Deadline for the May issue is
March 25, 2008**

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

On the cover:

National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans...

The purpose of the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Program is to:

- pay tribute and express appreciation to hospitalized veterans;
- increase community awareness of the role of the VA medical center;
- encourage citizens to visit hospitalized veterans and to become involved as volunteers

The week of February 14 each year is your opportunity to say thank you to a special group of men and women, more than 98,000 veterans of the U.S. armed services who are cared for every day in Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers, outpatient clinics, domiciliaries, and nursing homes.

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on capitol hill



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On this January 3rd, it is really cold in Washington and we want to report that the 101st SECOND SESSION of Congress still has not returned to begin working on issues facing the Veterans community! Yes, our two presumptives - Osteoporosis and Diabetes - will remain in S1315 and HR1197 when the Senate and House Veterans Affairs Committees decide to go to the floor for their passage into law. We will continue to work with both Houses and hope that all will pass! We have some meetings set up for the last two weeks of January and hope to have more to report then.

On another subject, which the Board of Directors will be notified by the 10th of January, the Joint Senate and House Veterans Affairs Committees have notified us of our date to have National Commander Warren King testify, along with the Jewish War Veterans and Paralyzed Veterans of America. Yes, we have responded and Commander King authorized us to proceed with the plans for our MidYear meeting.

I personally had been searching for a place for weeks - not so expensive, but here in the DC area that is impossible. We will be returning to the Sheraton National Hotel, Arlington, VA. The rate will be \$159.00 plus tax. Remember, this includes shuttle service to and from Reagan National Airport, which would cost at least \$45.00 from most other hotels in the area. Also, for those driving, the hotel parking is free. This has been approved by the commander. The Board of Direc-

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tors will arrive early on March 5, 2008, attend testimony on March 6th and work the Hill in the afternoon. March 7, 2008 will be a long Board of Directors meeting back at the hotel. They will leave on March 8th.

All reservations must be made through the National Capitol Office at 202-530-9220. The Board of Directors will be mailed a complete package before this Bulletin is received, but it was felt that the membership might be interested. Just remember to call our office or me at my home for more information.

On a very sad note, June Jackson, wife of ED Les Jackson, died on December 25th (her obituary follows). I attended the funeral service on Dec. 29, 2007. I only knew June for about ten years and she was always smiling, and a lady in every respect. The many medical problems that she so bravely battled over the years just finally caught up to her. I know everyone will remember Les, two daughters and grandchildren.

I hope you all will have a happy and healthy New Year!

Mary

JUNE P. JACKSON.

On Tuesday, December 25, 2007 of Fairfax, VA, formerly of Bethesda, MD. Beloved wife of Leslie H. Jackson; loving mother of Lesley Riley and Katie Jackson Rossmann; cherished grandmother of Brian, Sara, Chris, Samantha, Kerry and Kelly; and devoted great-grandmother of Emma, Annie, Kathryn and Julia.

Her wit, her spark and her smile will be remembered by many. Interment private at Arlington National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Capital Hospice or charity of choice.

Editor's note: June was the kindest, gentlest, very best part of Les...I coveted her shoe collection and sweet spirit. She will be missed by all her friends in AXPOW.



CRAWFORD, Texas - President Bush Dec. 28, 2007 used a "pocket veto" to reject the sweeping defense authorization bill. A section in this bill affects some members of AXPOW, providing for modification of amount of back pay for members of Navy and Marine Corps selected for promotion while interned as prisoners of war during World War II to take into account changes in Consumer Price Index (sec. 675).

The President's decision to use a pocket veto, announced while vacationing at his Texas ranch, means the legislation died at midnight Dec. 31st. This tactic for killing a bill can be used only when Congress is not in session.

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

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OUTREACH FACTS: And the work gets done!

Our American Ex-Prisoners of War has accreditation for our National Service Officers largely because of how we turn our motto into action. That's why the Department of Veterans Affairs considers us legitimate advocates to help former POWs, their dependents and widows to present their claims for benefits to the VA in a proper manner.

Our OUTREACH to our members and non-members is essential for our slogan to become acts of service to others. So we do what we say we will do.

This is February 2008, and I represent the way the FACTS of this important, short-changed, 28-day month have been muddled.

Do you know on what day in this month Abraham Lincoln was born? Sure you do. February 12th.

Do you know what day in this month George Washington, father of our country, was born? Sure you do. February 22nd.

Unfortunately, more recent generations of young people have no idea of these facts. George and Abe's birthdays are now celebrated on generic Presidents' Day, near a weekend to make coveted three-day getaways. The birthday facts of these important founders/mold-

ers/creators of our United States of America are lost to our penchant for convenient leisure time. In contrast, do you know on what day in February we celebrate Valentine's Day? Of course you do. Everybody, younger and older, knows that February 14th is Cupid's day of Hearts and Love.

Here are FACTS about OUTREACH:

Not every former POW or POW widow is aware of the VA benefits available to them because of the residual damage to our lives as prisoners of war many decades ago in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and more recently in the Middle East wars.

Fact is, there are documented, disabling problems that plague us over the years, and Congress has provided disability compensation and benefits to help alleviate suffering and hardship caused by these presumptive conditions that damage our health in later years. Important presumptives, such as heart disease, stroke and hypertension have been approved as recently as October 7, 2004. Before that date, many former POWs and their widows were denied such benefits, but now are available. The VA is reaching out to us now.

And it is a fact that AXPOW is reaching out to find those who do not know what VA benefits are available to them. Our Outreach program is working - with great cooperation by POW Coordinators in most of the VA's Regional Offices.

And, another fact: Alert AXPOW members who know of others are encouraging them to contact an AXPOW National Service Officer for help toward receiving VA benefits. Word of mouth contact is important.

And the fact is, the EX-POW Bulletin is a very effective publication that enables Outreach to touch

many former POWs and widows to alert them about VA benefits possible for them.

Another fact: Over sixty NSOs nationwide are now contacting AXPOW widows especially, thanks to lists sent out from our National Headquarters in Arlington, TX by Marsh Coke, to make sure they have VA benefits, DIC and ChampVA. So many were denied in the past, but are now eligible.

And the fact is, the Gold Star Wives of America are sending our NSOs contact information about their members whose husbands were POWs. Another Outreach asset in the mill.

And facts about our National Service Officers Program: Without our NSOs who have been trained to serve as advocates to help our members and others with their VA claims, many would go without VA benefits.

Our NSO program, led by Director Doris Jenks, is in gear and working. It is the essential element that makes our slogan meaningful. Our NSOs are unpaid volunteers. Some receive expense help from their NSO chapters or state departments. But mainly NSO training expenses, and NSO expense reimbursements are covered nationally.

A major fact is that since 2003 the Military Ex-Prisoners of War Foundation (and its predecessor) has paid for all AXPOW NSO training and service officer expenses presented for reimbursement. For example, in year 2006-07 ending August 31, 2007, the Foundation paid out \$27,000 for this program, and since April 2007, such approved reimbursements have been sent direct to the NSOs for their expenses presented to the Foundation. And that's a fact, M'am, ac-

outreach cont...

cording to Foundation President Paul Dallas.

The FACTS are, our slogan is more than words. It's action, with Department of Veterans Affairs approval.

From the Nov/Dec. Ex-POW Bulletin TAPS column: Calls, to make sure widows have VA widow's benefit are in process now, by NSO's in the various states.

SUCCESS

(The rest of the story, continued)...Piney Woods, AXPOW widow, husband died Sept. 1993 with cause of "prostate cancer", nothing else on the death certificate. Dig for other possibilities, find heart problems mentioned in Houston VAMC records in 1983 and 1987; JP O.B. gets an amended death certificate showing congestive heart failure contributing cause of death. Widow gets DIC, first retro check \$15,900...A Merry Christmas, indeed.

From Betty in Colorado: "I can't thank you enough...you went out of your way to make my DIC come true. It is going to make life much easier for me."

We Exist to Help Those Who Cannot Help Themselves".



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What is VAVS?

The Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS)

- founded in 1946 to provide for our nation's veterans while they are cared for by VA health care facilities
- One of the largest centralized volunteer program in the Federal government
- Over 350 organizations support VAVS.
- volunteers have provided over 676 million hours of service since 1946.

Community Assistance

- assist veteran patients by augmenting staff with end of life care programs, foster care, community-based volunteer programs, hospital wards, nursing homes, and
- veteran outreach centers

Contributions

- annual contributions over \$50 million in gifts and donations
- volunteers contributed a more than 13 million hours of service to veterans in FY2005
- VAVS volunteers are a priceless asset to America's veterans and to VA

How do I sign up to be a VAVS Volunteer? You have two convenient ways:

1) Contact Jean Thiede,
Director of VAVS for AXPOW
3230 Roosevelt
Dearborn, MI 48124
313-565-0675

2) Contact the Department of Veterans Affairs facility nearest you. Ask for Voluntary Service. Tell their staff of your interest in becoming a VAVS Volunteer. The staff will take care of everything else including your interview, orientation, and assignment!

nso



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Our National Service Officers - Norm and Melanie Bussel were asked to conduct a Seminar for CHAMPVA employees in Denver, CO. They reported the seminar they conducted could not have been more gratifying. The attendees were employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Administrative Center, which serves the entire country, processing medical benefits for veterans and their widows. They met at a Holiday Inn because a large meeting room was required to accommodate the 700 person staff, divided in half for a morning and an afternoon session. They reported they can only judge their success by the standing ovation that followed, as well as the hugs and kisses from the women and the choked voices of the men who came up to thank them afterward. They learned that the morning group advised the afternoon attendees to bring tissues. The Director of this state-of-the-art facility presented them with a lovely plaque and a letter.

As services officers, they were both able to explain to these VA employees how important CHAMPVA is to the POW wives and widows they serve. They were able to describe the gratefulness of some women who no longer have to decide between food and medications thanks to the program. Since the employees deal with mail and phone calls, they were able to put a face on the veterans's families.

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.

Sleep disorders in the elderly

Definition

Sleep disorders in the elderly involve any disruptive pattern of sleep such as problems with falling or staying asleep, excessive sleep, or abnormal behaviors associated with sleep.

Causes, incidence, and risk factors

Sleeping problems are common in the elderly. In general, older people require less sleep, and their sleep is less deep than that experienced by the young. Some causes of and contributors to sleep disturbances include the following:

Sedentary lifestyle

Depression among the elderly (depression is a common cause of sleep problems among people of all ages.)

Chronic pain caused by diseases such as arthritis

Chronic diseases such as congestive heart failure

A need to urinate frequently at night

Stimulants such as caffeine

Prescription drugs, recreational drugs, or alcohol

Neurological conditions

Alzheimer's disease

Organic brain syndrome

Symptoms

Frequent night awakenings

Difficulty falling asleep

Early morning awakening

Confusion differentiating between day and night

Signs and tests

History of sleep disturbances and history of contributing factors

Physical examination to rule out medical causes

Treatment

The relief of chronic pain and control of underlying medical conditions such as frequent urination may improve sleep in some people. Effective treatment of depression can also improve sleep.

Sleep-promoting interventions such as a quiet sleep environment and a glass of warm milk before bed may improve the symptoms. Other ways to promote sleep include the following:

Have a specific bedtime and awakening time each day.

Do not take naps during the day.

Use the bed only for sleep or sexual activity.

Exercise early in the day.

Avoid large meals shortly before bedtime.

Avoid stimulants such as caffeine.

If you can't fall asleep after 20 minutes, get out of bed and do a quiet activity such as reading or listening to music.

The use of sleeping pills, such as benzodiazepines, to promote sleep is usually not recommended on a long-term basis, as these can produce dependence and lead to worsening sleep problems over time if used inappropriately.

However, other sleeping pills, such as Ambien and Lunesta, are relatively safe if used properly.

(WARNING: The FDA has asked manufacturers of sedative-hypnotic sleep medicines to put stronger warning labels on their products so that consumers are more aware of the potential risks. Possible risks while taking such medicines include severe allergic reactions and dangerous sleep-related behaviors, including sleep-driving. Ask your doctor about these risks.)

To nap or not to nap

For many people, taking a brief nap during the day perks them up to perform fully for the rest of the day. Experiment with napping to see if it helps you. If you don't feel fully alert during the day, a nap may be just what you need.

Take only a brief nap (15 to 30 minutes). Napping longer than this puts you into deeper sleep, and you will feel groggy for a while afterwards. And take your nap in the early afternoon, not the late after-

medsearch continued...

noon - if you nap too late, you won't be able to fall asleep at night.

Prognosis

Most people see improvement in sleep with treatment or interventions. However, others may continue to have persistent sleep disruptions.

Complications

A complication is alcohol use or drug abuse.

Call for an appointment with your health care provider if a lack of sleep or too much sleep is interfering with daily living.

Prevention

Eliminating as many causes of sleep disruption as possible and encouraging regular exercise may help control sleep problems.

Sleep Tips:

Keep a regular sleep schedule - Go to bed and wake up at the same time every day, even on weekends.

Experiment with napping - Although napping too close to bedtime, or long naps, can interfere with nighttime sleeping, some people find that short naps early in the day improve their overall feeling of being rested.

Expose yourself to sunlight - Get at least two hours of bright sunlight each day. Exposure to sunlight increases your body's production of melatonin, which regulates your sleep-wake cycles.

Separate yourself from a snoring sleep partner - If your sleep part-

ner snores, consider ear plugs or a white-noise machine, or sleep in separate bedrooms.

Go to bed early - Adjust your bedtime earlier, to concur with when you feel like going to bed.

Limit smoking - Nicotine is a stimulant and can keep you awake. If you can't quit smoking, avoid smoking within three hours of bedtime.

Develop bedtime rituals - Create soothing bedtime rituals, such as taking a hot bath or playing calm music.

Monitor your medications - Drugs you take for your medical conditions may be interfering with your sleep.

Take care of your psychological health - Stress and anxiety can keep you awake.

Limit your use of sleeping aids and sleeping pills - Some over-the-counter sleep aids and prescription sleeping pills have harmful side-effects, and most are not designed to be used long-term.

The following are suggestions for incorporating physical activity in your life. No matter what form of exercise you choose, include stretching and strengthening as part of your routine - flexibility and strength are a major part of physical health. If you have mobility issues, you can exercise from one position, either standing, sitting, or lying down.

Swim - If your joints are sore and your muscles weak, swimming is a gentle way to build up fitness. Many community and YMCA pools have swim programs just for older adults.

Dance - If you love to move to music, go dancing or take a dance class. Dance classes are also a great way to extend your social network!

Take up lawn bowling, bocce, or pétanque - Variations on throwing a ball on an earthen or grassy court are gentle ways to exercise.

Golf - Golf is a form of exercise that requires precise, strong movement of particular parts of your body, but which doesn't require vigorous locomotion. If you wish, you also can include walking in this sport.

Garden - Gardening is a gentle way to increase your flexibility and range of motion.

Cycle or run - If you are in good enough shape, you can run and bicycle until late in life.

Tips for reducing mental stress:

Keep a journal to record worries and concerns before you retire.

On your to-do list, check off tasks accomplished for the day and list what you need to do tomorrow, then let go!

Listen to calming music.

Read a book that makes you feel relaxed.

Get a massage from a friend or partner.

Use a relaxation technique to prepare your body for sleep.

Talk about what is troubling you.

U.S. National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20894

National Institutes of Health

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POW MEDSEARCH PACKETS

Packet 1~VA Claim Information	\$8.00
Packet 2~Stresses of Incarceration & After Effects Extreme Stress- Covers the after effects on the nerves and body organs	\$8.00
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Packet 7~Micro-Film Index: European Theater - Germany	\$3.00
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Map of Japanese POW Camps~ 21" x 32" with camps featured in red	\$4.00

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**Ex-POW Bulletin
February 2008**

andersonville



Andersonville NHS
496 Cemetery Road
Andersonville, GA 31711
(229) 924-0343
Fred Boyles, Superintendent
fred_boyles@nps.gov

Serving on the National Cemetery Advisory Committee

By: Fred Boyles



About 18 months ago I was asked to serve as the National Park Service representative on the Veterans Administration's Advisory Committee on Cemeteries and Memorial Affairs. This committee is made up of 16 members and three Ex-Officio Members. I am one of the three Ex-Officio Members serving along with the Superintendent of Arlington National Cemetery and a representative from the

American Battle Monuments Commission. This group meets twice a year and is charged to provide advice to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the administration of National Cemeteries, selection of cemetery sites, the erection of appropriate memorials and the adequacy of Federal burial benefits.

There are 120 National Cemeteries in 39 states and Puerto Rico which account for 2.6 million veteran grave spaces. Of those cemeteries, 60 are open, meaning they can accommodate new burials. From 1973 to 2004, annual interments in VA National Cemeteries increased from 34,600 to 93,000.

The three busiest cemeteries are Riverside, California, Calverton, New York and Florida in Bushnell. Calverton is the largest cemetery with over 1,000 acres. Over eight million people visit National Cemeteries each year. The National Park Service administers 14 of the 120 National Cemeteries. All but one has a tie to the Civil War (Custer National Cemetery in Montana is the exception). Of the 14, two are open and the rest are closed. Andrew Johnson in Greenville, Tennessee and Andersonville are those that are open.

Our Cemeteries have interest in high places. Last Spring, the House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing looking into the administration of all National Cemeteries. In 1999 and 2003, with the passage of two laws, Congress directed the VA to establish 12 new cemeteries. The VA created a goal to place a cemetery within a 75 mile radius of a veteran population of 170,000 or more.

Many issues are brought before our Advisory Committee. Some are of an operational nature such as planning for new cemeteries. Others can be very controversial. The recent decision that the Wiccan pen-

tacle would be adopted as an emblem of belief (often called the religious symbol) that can be placed on the VA provided headstones was an issue discussed. The VA is always testing new practices to improve on their services. An example of this is the use of xeriscape (which means no grass or desert landscaping) at the National Cemetery of Arizona located near Phoenix.

As the Park Service representative, I have sought input from the 13 other National Cemetery Superintendents on issues that were important to them. Most of them are related to issues of historic preservation. The VA has to balance the needs of historic preservation with those of providing burial benefits and sometimes those interests clash. Our goal is to ensure that the service the veterans are given while keeping true to the historic resources we seek to preserve.

Serving on this Committee has been fascinating. I am impressed by several things. First, the staff of the National Cemetery Administration of the VA is fully committed to improving their services to veterans and their families.

However, one recurring problem they have is general lack of knowledge about National Cemeteries and their services. Their surveys show that many vets are not aware that they are entitled to burial in a National Cemetery or that one is even close by them.

Second, I have been pleased how the VA is anxious to help with issues affecting other agencies like the Park Service. They are open to new ideas and ways for us all to work together. If you have any questions about National Cemeteries, please contact me at fred_boyles@nps.gov or 229/924-0343. You can also learn more at the web site www.cem.va.gov.



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Refuting the myth - one Korean POW's Perspective

Review of *When Hell Froze Over* by
William Shadish, M.D. and Lewis H.
Carlson
iUniverse Publishing, LLC. 157
pages, \$26.95, ©2007

The personal heroics and care by Dr. Bill Shadish for his fellow POWs in the hell of the North Korean prisoner of war camps has been documented elsewhere. His fellow POWs praised his conduct under threats of death and not least of which are the citations for the actions he took under the most difficult of circumstances. The horrendous conditions and bitter cold caused the death of over half of the POWs. Into this hellhole arrived one of the Army's newest physicians who'd only recently completed his residency.

Tributes from his former comrades in the notorious Death Valley and Camp 5 consistently reveal how much the men in those camps thought of him. In addition to documenting the rudimentary medical treatment he was permitted to administer, Dr. Shadish also tracked the deaths of the many who were unable to recover from terrible wounds, disease and star-

vation. His records brought closure to many families after the Korean POWs were eventually repatriated in 1953.

One of Dr. Shadish's major accomplishments made at great personal risk was confronting the Communist political cadres who deliberately starved the POWs in order to render them more susceptible to their incessant propaganda. Shadish continually pressed the camp authorities to keep on top of their efforts to force the POWs to collaborate with them for anti-US propaganda purposes. But Shadish's major accomplishment with this book is to refute the fact that the Korean POWs willingly cooperated with the enemy.

It was just not so. Many of the men suffered the symptoms of dementia caused by their being undernourished - starved - and, while they apparently lost interest in living very few collaborated. It is Dr. Shadish's contention that several individuals - not POWs themselves - created the derogatory fiction of the image of open collaboration that stuck.

Following liberation, Shadish refuted such charges at every opportunity throughout the remainder of his 20 year military medicine career. He kept in touch with many of his fellow POWs and often treated them medically without charge. He served on the Secretary of Veterans Affairs' Advisory Committee on Former POWs and used his medical expertise to cause the agency to change several policies with regard to POWs.

He became a plastic surgeon and practiced in Northern California until recently.

Also in the book are several illustrations and photographs that show the effort Dr. Shadish put into

helping his fellow POWs following repatriation. There are several tributes to his caring and his care by his grateful compatriots.

So why did a Vietnam Ex-POW review a book by a Korean POW? Several reasons. We were trained to resist the type of torture and pressure the Communists foisted first on the Korean POWs. Part of our Navy training had been accomplished by instructors who had been POWs in Korea. Having served with Dr. Shadish on the Secretary's Advisory Committee, I knew him personally and of his drive and determination to overturn the bad rap the Korean POWs received from the Army.

I share the same fond feelings toward Dr. Shadish as do, obviously, his co-author and the several Army Korean POWs who served with him in the hell-holes of North Korea.

There are only a few truly good men in this world. Bill Shadish is one of them. Read his book and you'll know why.



Photo: Dr. Shadish and Paul Galanti at the VA's Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War, circa 1980s.

pow-mia



**PNC John Edwards,
Chairman**

889 Randall Road
Niskayuna, NY 12309-4815
(518) 393-3907 phone & fax

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 or call the national office at 703-465-7432. If no one is available to take your call, please leave a message.

Americans Announced As Accounted For

There are still 1,763 US personnel listed by the Department of Defense as missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War. DPMO Changed the statistical data to reflect the accounting for SSGT Maurice H. Moore, USA, from Maryland, date of loss 5-12-68, South Vietnam. His remains were jointly recovered October 30, 2006, and identified May 22, 2007. DPMO also recently released the names of Major Robert F. Woods, USAF, from Utah, and Gunnery Sergeant Richard W. Fischer, USMC, from Wisconsin, as accounted for. Major Woods was listed as KIA/BNR in North Vietnam on June 26, 1968; his remains were jointly recovered and repatriated on October 19, 2004, identified on May 29, 2007, and recently announced. Gunnery Sergeant

Fischer was listed as MIA in South Vietnam on January 8, 1968; his remains were jointly recovered and repatriated on October 7, 1994, identified on Sept. 4, 2007. Capt. Johnnie C. Cornelius, USAF, KIA/BNR 6/28/68, NVN, AZ. This brings to 820 the number of US personnel returned since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975. 90+% of 1,763 still missing and unaccounted-for were lost in Vietnam or in areas of Laos and Cambodia under Vietnam's control.

Soldier Missing in Action from Korea 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 returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

He is Cpl. Robert S. Ferrell, U.S. Army, of Dallas, Texas. On February 12, 1951, Ferrell was assigned to Battery A, 503rd Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, then occupying a position about 70 miles east of Seoul, South Korea. The 503rd was providing artillery support for friendly units coming under heavy attack by Chinese Communist Forces. In danger of being overrun, the 503rd was forced to withdraw to the south. Records indicate that Ferrell was captured near Hoengsong, South Korea during the fighting. He later died in captivity at the Suan Mining POW camp located about 40 miles south-east of Pyongyang, North Korea.

Between 1990 and 1994, the North Korean government repatriated what they claimed to be 208 sets of remains, including a 1991 turnover of several servicemen recovered near the Suan Mining POW camp. Ferrell's remains, along with cold-weather clothing and uniform buttons worn by U.S. infantry, were included.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used mitochondrial DNA and dental comparisons in the identification of Ferrell's remains.

Air Force Officer Missing In Action From Vietnam War Is Identified

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Vietnam War, have been identified.

He is Maj. Perry H. Jefferson, U.S. Air Force, of Denver, Colo. He will be buried April 3, 2008 in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.

On April 3, 1969, Jefferson was an aerial observer on board an O-1G Bird Dog aircraft on a visual reconnaissance mission over a mountainous region in Ninh Thuan Province, Vietnam. The pilot of the aircraft, then U.S. Army 1st Lt. Arthur G. Ecklund, radioed Phan Rang airbase to report his location, but contact was lost soon after. An extensive, three-day search and rescue effort began, but no evidence of a crash was found. Hostile threats in the area precluded further search efforts.

In 1984, a former member of the Vietnamese Air Force turned over to a U.S. official human remains that he said represented one of two U.S. pilots whose aircraft was shot down. In 2000, the remains turned over in 1984 were identified as Ecklund's.

In 2001, a Vietnamese national living in California turned over to U.S. officials human remains that he said were recovered at a site where two U.S. pilots crashed. These remains were identified in 2007 as Jefferson's.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used mitochondrial DNA and dental comparisons in identifying Jefferson's remains.

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civilians

**Ted Cadwallader -
Chairman
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“Why We Stayed.....”

By Curtis Brooks
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Las Vegas, NV 89138
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curtbrooks@aol.com

My parents first went to the Philippines in 1923 when my dad was hired to help build the electric power plant in Manila for the Manila Electric Company. He stayed on to become superintendent of power plants for the company. They were part of a growing number of Americans, businessmen, engineers, educators, professionals, civil servants who came or were sent to the Islands in the years following the cession of the Philippines to the US by Spain. My brother and I (we were twins) were born in Manila in 1928

On a few occasions, when discussing our Philippine internment experience, I have been asked whether we saw the war coming, and if so, why we did not leave in the face of this threat. I will try to throw some light on that part of our experience. In doing so, I will rely mostly on my memory of the pre-war days, memories now over 65 years in the dusty recesses of my mind. But these are good questions, reasonable ones, and any light, however dim, that can be cast that way is better than none.

Almost as far back as my memory goes, I can remember hearing of hostilities in

Asia, of the arrival of refugees, of our family and community being asked to help those fleeing from the war of aggression Japan was waging in China. I can recall, dimly, discussion among my parents and friends of the rape of Nanking, of the bombing of cities, and of the advance of the Japanese forces in China and of the “Panay” incident. Upon returning from leave in 1938, when I was ten years old, I attended Brent School, in Baguio, the Philippine summer capital in the mountains of Northern Luzon for one year. One of my classmates in 5th grade, whose parents lived on Hainan Island, China, became perturbed when hearing the news of the occupation of that Island by the Japanese Army. But pre-teens do not lie awake pondering the affairs of state or geopolitics.

With the outbreak of WWII, the fall of France, the Battle of Britain, our family as with the rest of the community followed these events closely; they were the web and woof of our daily news. The increasing likelihood of America’s involvement in the war was manifest. By the middle of 1941, Japan had joined the Axis Powers, had moved into French Indo-China, most significantly into southern French Indo-China.

We all, I am sure, saw war clouds gathering. Civil defense measures were initiated. I can remember our stockpiling canned food, a hedge against blockade. Would war come? War clouds were one thing, war itself another world. The status quo of routine can almost become a mental and emotional fastness. History in retrospect seems often to have a fatality to it apparently impossible not to see. In looking ahead, though, one is wrapped in

a knowable present that we willingly stretch out to predictable and foreseeable milestones. War? I remember my dad remarking on the likelihood of war. He said that if Japan could not defeat China, how could it expect to defeat both the US and Britain? Taking on those two powers seemed folly. In Sunday school one of our teachers remarked, in connection with a just-passed civil defense exercise, that she was sure no bomb would ever fall on Manila. Japan might bluster, but venture nothing further.

So the hold of job, career, community, friendships, possessions, of a way of life long settled into our Philippine existence, must have weighed heavily in the debate among our parents as to what the future required. Weighed in, but did not blind.

I don’t remember my parents ever discussing leaving Manila because of the threat of war. Hostilities might come, but we would shelter, and possibly evacuate to the provinces. Hostilities, possibly, but occupation, never. The American administration was pervasive and seemingly permanent. The Bay was peopled with American warships. Towards the end of 1941, we could see occasionally in the sky the sight of the mighty four-engined Flying Fortresses which had been sent to the Philippines along with other reinforcements, both air and for the Army. “I can defend these Islands against a million men.” I doubt MacArthur ever made such a boast, but if he had, most of us would have accepted it.

We were due for ‘home’ leave in the summer of 1941. My mother had become pregnant in late 1940 and in February, 1941 delivered a still-born baby girl.

This was a trying and sad time and my mother seemed crushed by the tragedy. Whether my parents did not wish to travel or whether other factors shaped their decisions, I do not know. But from that time forward there was no further talk of home leave, then or later.

In the months before the war, I can vaguely remember a growing sense of isolation, that contacts, almost all by ship, with the US and other areas were exiguous in comparison with earlier times. Did the withdrawal of the military dependents raise doubts in our parents’ minds as to the safety and wisdom of staying? If so, I don’t remember hearing it. The military was always moving people in and out.

Finally, there was a sense of pride in our country, a strong and abiding faith in the principals it stood for, and a confidence in its strength of purpose in face of the cruel aggression taking place in the Far East and elsewhere in the world. The Philippines was our home, the flag flew over us, we and it would be protected, by firmness first, by force if necessary.

I have tried to bring out a little of what lay behind the decisions, tacit or explicit, of the members of the American and Allied community in Manila that meant staying in harm’s way. To describe something from memory of the atmosphere of the pre-war times as it pertained to the questions of staying or leaving of what for many of us was the only home we had ever known.

events and information



March 8, 2008. Mark Your Calendars for the Andersonville Luminary – Saturday from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Volunteers will place over 13,000 luminaries in the historic prison site to commemorate the Union prisoners and Confederate guards who lost their lives during the 14 months that Camp Sumter was open. If you would like to help, contact Angela Clark at 229/924-0343 ext. 203 or angela_clark@nps.gov. It is an incredible sight to see, so please come if you can.

April 2-10, 2008. The POW-MIA week in Hawaii will be held at the Hale Koa Hotel; phone number is 1-800-367-6027. April 3rd is Banquet Night. April 9 is POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony at the Punchbowl starting at 10am. For more info please contact Shorty Estabrook, 16514 Clydesdale Run, Selma TX 78154; marites@satx.rr.com.

June 11-14, 2008. The Dept. of New York Convention will be held in Ellenville, NY. For more information, contact: Wm. Lee Birch, 1990 Bethel Loop, #10H, Brooklyn, NY 11239; 718-642-7647.

July 27-Aug. 3, 2008. The Tiger Survivors Annual Reunion will be held at the Double Tree, 7801 East Orchard Road, Greenwood Village, Colorado 80111. The TIGER CHOP CHOP will be at 5:30 PM on August 1, 2008 at the host hotel. Cost is

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\$38.00 per adult, \$19.00 under 12, payable in advance to Shorty ESTABROOK. DON'T FORGET AN ITEM FOR THE FREE RAFFLE. For more information, email Shorty at: marites@satx.rr.com.

looking for



I am searching for information about my brother, **Guy Russell Marrs**. In WW11 he was a member of the 101st Airborne Division, 501st Parachute Infantry, Company D. He later became a volunteer of Company E, as they had lost so many men in battle. He was killed in Bastogne, Belgium on Christmas Eve, 1944 during the Battle of the Bulge. He was a Corporal at that time and was a machine gunner. He jumped behind enemy lines on D day in Normandy and was wounded. He became 21 years old in June of 1944. Our family received his Silver Star and 2 Purple Hearts. His body was returned and he was buried at Lenapah, Oklahoma in 1947. We would like to hear from anyone who knew him and might have served with him in WWII. Contact Bob Marrs, 6209 Calumet Rd, Amarillo, Texas 79106; 806-383-7711 or bbmarrs@arn.net. Thank You Very much.

We are searching for anyone with information about **Bernard (Berco) Iticovici** or his relatives. Bernard was a French POW, number 29347, at Stalag VIIIA, Gorlitz, Germany in 1941. He was inducted into the French Army in 1940 and in June 1940 was captured during the Battle for France. It is possible that Bernard was present at Messaien's first performance of his "Quartet for the End of Time" at Stalag VIIIA on a cold January day in 1941. With thanks, David Lewin, 156

Totteridge Lane, London N20 8JJ
England; Tel: +44 208 446 0404;
Fax: +44 208 445 8732.

I am just getting started on my research for a biography of a Surgeon **Lieutenant Commander S.E.L. (Sam) Stening**, an Australian naval doctor who was captured after the sinking of the cruiser HMAS Perth, along with USS Houston, off Java in March 1942. Sam spent most of the rest of the war working in POW camps in Japan, not only as a doctor but in charge of at least three. I am anxious to make contact with survivors of those camps and desirably those that have some recollections of Stening. I've been successful in locating Australian and Canadian veterans. Your organization seems to be the appropriate one with which to start the search for US veterans, and I'd be grateful for any advice you may be able to offer on how best to proceed. Going on his post-recovery interrogation report compiled by the Australian War Crimes Unit, Stening came in contact with US prisoners in Japan on the following occasions:

- March-July 1943 at Fukuoka No. 2, Nagasaki. He recorded that the prisoners were 'Army officers and men from Java - Air Corps and Artillery, naval officers and men from USS Pope' and that the senior officer of the camp was Major W.K. Horrigan USAAF. Sam was a member of the 'Emergency Medical Team' established by the Japanese and led by Lieutenant Commander Moe USN

- April 1943 (temporary detachment) Fukuoka No.14, Nagasaki. Although the prisoners were mostly Dutch from Java, Stening commended the two USN Pharmacists Mates First Class who worked with him, G.J. Shaw and A.P. Rowe, for their assistance.

- July-October 1943 at Ichioka, Osaka. This seems to have been a hospice rather than a hos-

looking for continued...

pital, to which the Japanese consigned only 'hopeless' cases of all nationalities, but many did survive. Sam worked alongside Lieutenant (jg) H.B. McInnes USN.

May-September 1945 at 'Takefu' (probably Takebu Machi) Osaka. There were 33 Americans in the camp who had been transferred from Umeda, but Stening provided no details as to service. He was senior officer as well as medical officer, and was assisted in disciplinary matters by Chief Yeoman F. Hookum USN.

These details are somewhat sparse, but they may enable some survivors to be identified. My goal is to arrange interviews of them on conditions in the camps and on what they remember of Stening. You might want to note that I'm interested in all comments, both good and bad; its a biography I'm writing not a hagiography. Stening himself notes that at Takefu there was friction between the Australians in the camp and the Americans, the former upset at being disciplined by a 'Yank' (Hookum) and the latter displeased at having an 'Aussie' as their commanding officer. Thank you. Ian Pfennigwerth;
ipfennigwerth@kooee.com.au.

In high school, my mother was friendly with a young man who was a fighter pilot during WWII. He was forced down, captured by the Germans and held prisoner until the end of the war. He died in 1952 at the age of 28 from cancer. His name was **Captain Duane E. Lund**. This war hero and former POW has no one left to remember him and honor his memory, save me. I am interested in gathering as much information as possible about him and details about his time as a

POW. I would be most grateful for any information or leads you could provide. Without even beginning to be able to comprehend what your organization's members have endured, I am in awe of your collective experiences. Please accept my humble respect, admiration and appreciation. Sincerely, Edward Allan Thomas, Naperville, Illinois; JetEd7@aol.com.

I have questions about my uncle, **George Ray Carson, Jr.** I never knew my Uncle George as he was killed in a car accident (1946) shortly after his release. However, I do know that he served with the 4th Marines in China, transferring to the Philippines in 1941. I was told by my Mother that he had survived the Bataan Death March. Facts as I know them: Served with the 4th Marines in China and the Philippines, Japanese prisoner of war. One camp in Mukden, Manchuria. Repatriated 1945/46. Enlisted Marine Corps 1946 assigned Treasure Island, CA. Killed in car accident Treasure Island, 1946. Any help or information you can send me will be most appreciated. If you have any info, please reply to this email address; johnhoggins@aol.com, or snail mail; John Hoggins, P.O. Box 10748, Ft. Irwin, CA 92310.

I am trying to locate any ex-POW who might have known my uncle, **John Paul Phillips**. He was on the Bataan Death March and was interned in Camps #1, #3 and #5 in the Philippines and in Kyoto, Japan. He was listed as a 1st Sgt., SQ. A, 313 D, Army Air Force Base Unit. Please contact: Z. H. Hoover, 203 W. Dorchester Blvd., Greenville, SC 29605; 864-277-8990.

Looking for **Los Banos and Santo Tomas survivors**. Anyone who knew Leonard Curavo, my grandfather. He was a carpenter, transferred from Los Banos to Santo Tomas to help build camp to relieve overcrowding. He was 34 when captured in 1942. I miss him so, want to know more about his time there. Please contact Steve Curavo, 88 King Street, #72, San Francisco, CA 94107; scuravo@yahoo.com; (415) 979-1507.

Members' forum



Dear Cheryl:

Every major veterans' organization has supported our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan over the past several years. I have yet to see a word of support from the National American Ex-Prisoners of War.

The Department of New Jersey, American Ex-Prisoners of War Executive Committee has passed a motion supporting our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan and supporting the cause they are fighting for.

We hope you will print our action in the next issue of the Ex-POW Bulletin and thus other state departments and chapters may also take the action we did.

I remain
Sincerely yours,
Bill Kay - Past State Commander
Department of New Jersey, AXPOW

PS. I get mad at the people in Congress who say they support our troops and yet want them to stop before they finish the job.

News Briefs

Honor Our Fallen Prisoner of War Act

From Shorty Estabrook,
POW Korea, Tiger Survivors

Finally, after some four years of blood, sweat and tears, a bill has been passed that will grant long overdue recognition to our heroes who fell, not on the field of battle, but rather in brutal enemy prisoner of war camps!

Senator Barbara Boxer of California has informed us that the Honor Our Fallen Prisoner of War Act, legislation that was backed by some 36 veteran's group with a membership of over 8 million, 220 United States Congressmen, most (if not all) from the Senate, will soon become the Law of the Land!

Below is the message received from Senator Boxer's office:

DoD has assured this office that they are working to change the regulations now, and that the changes to the regulation should be in place by mid next year. We continue to follow up with DoD on a regular basis. Below is the last correspondence we received from DoD:

The policy change to allow POWs who die in captivity to receive the Purple Heart is being incorporated into the revised version of DoD 1348.33.M, Manual of Military Decorations and Awards. The revised manual is currently being

staffed at the Action Officer level and will be formally staffed for approval early next year. We anticipate publication of the revised manual by mid-2008.

Much praise has to be given to Rick and Brenda Tavares of Campo California who poured their heart and soul into this bill. It would not have happened without them.

New VA Rules Aid Most Seriously Injured

A change in the law that allows certain seriously injured veterans and servicemembers to receive multiple grants for constructing or modifying homes has resulted in many new grants, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced.

Before the change, eligible veterans and servicemembers could receive special adaptive housing grants of \$10,000 or \$50,000 from VA only once. Now they may use the benefit up to three times, so long as the total grants stay within specified limits outlined in the law.

Eligible for the benefit are those with specific service-connected disabilities entitling them to VA compensation for a "permanent and total disability." They may receive a grant to construct an adapted home or to modify an existing one to meet their special needs.

VA has three types of adapted housing grants available. The Specially Adapted Housing grant (SAH), currently limited to \$50,000, is generally used to create a wheelchair-accessible home for those who may require such assistance for activities of daily living. VA's Home Loan Guaranty program and the Native American Direct Loan program may also be used with the SAH benefit to purchase an adaptive home.

The Special Housing Adaptations (SHA) grant, currently limited to \$10,000, is generally used to assist veterans with mobility throughout their homes due to blindness in both eyes, or the anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands or extremities below the elbow.

A third type established by the new law, the Temporary Residence Adaptation (TRA) grant, is available to eligible veterans and seriously injured active duty servicemembers who are temporarily living or intend to temporarily live in a home owned by a family member.

While the SAH and SHA grants require ownership and title to a house, in creating TRA Congress recognized the need to allow veterans and active duty members who may not yet own homes to have access to the adaptive housing grant program.

Under TRA, veterans and servicemembers eligible under the SAH program would be permitted to use up to \$14,000, and those eligible under the SHA program would be allowed to use up to \$2,000 of the maximum grant amounts. Each grant would count as one of the three grants allowed under the new program.

Other VA adaptive housing benefits are currently available through Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service's "Independent Living" program, the Insurance Service's Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance program, and the Veterans Health Administration's Home Improvement and Structural Alterations grant.

Veterans in Office

The 110th session of Congress has the lowest percentage of veterans in the House and Senate since before World War II. And that number is expected to drop even fur-

news briefs continued...

ther with 10 veterans planning to retire or run for other offices. After the Korean War, well over 70% of all members of the House and Senate were veterans. Now the number is 24% - 29 Senators and 100 House members have had some military experience. (In the 109th Congress the total number was 141). Only eight World War II vets are still serving: Sens. Daniel Akaka and Daniel Inouye, both D-Hawaii; Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J.; Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, and John Warner, R-VA.; and Reps John Dingell, D-MI.; Ralph Hall, R-Texas, and Ralph Regula, R-Ohio. Warner and Regula will retire in 2009.

Flag

Legislation Introduced

U.S. Rep. Paul Broun has introduced a resolution to allow families to ask honor guards to give the traditional "13 Fold" flag recitation at burial ceremonies in national cemeteries.

Earlier this year, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, in response to a single complaint, temporarily banned the 13 Fold recitations. The complaint objected to the phrases "God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob" and "God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost" in the recitation. Veterans Affairs later allowed the recitation, but only if a grieving family specifically requested it, said Broun, R-GA.

The legislation, H.R. 4781, would ban honor guards from participating in the funeral of any veteran interred in a national cemetery unless the veteran's family is told about the option of having the honor guard perform the traditional recitation. These meanings, not part of the U.S. Flag Code, have been ascribed to the 13 folds of American flags at veteran's burial services:

1. Symbol of life.
2. Symbol of our belief in the eternal life.
3. In honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks who gave a portion of life for the defense of our country to attain a peace throughout the world.
4. Represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in times of war for His divine guidance.
5. A tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong."
6. Represents where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.
7. A tribute to our armed forces.
8. A tribute to the one who entered in to the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.
9. A tribute to womanhood.
10. A tribute to father.
11. In the eyes of a Hebrew citizen, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon, and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
12. In the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost.
13. When the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, "In God We Trust."

VA Vision Care

U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka (D-HI), Chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, noted with gratitude Senate action approving a House amendment to H.R. 797, the Dr.

James Allen Veteran Vision Equity Act of 2007. Last month, the Senate passed a modified version of H.R. 797, which was introduced by Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin (D-WI). On Dec. 17, 2007, the Senate concurred with the subsequent House amendment, paving the way for the bill to be sent to the President's desk for signature.

"This bill will allow veterans who are legally blind to receive compensation that VA's current strict eligibility requirements preclude them from receiving," said Senator Akaka.

Akaka is the author of S.1163, a companion bill to H.R.797. The House bill as amended would alter the vision impairment standard for two groups of veterans: those with service-connected blindness in one eye who later lose vision in the other eye, and those who receive special compensation for multiple disabilities that include vision impairment.

Tax Information

Veterans' benefits administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs are generally not taxable. Benefits include:

(1) disability compensation and pension payments for disabilities paid to veterans or their families;

(2) grants paid by the Department of Veterans Affairs for homes designed for wheelchair use or for vehicles for veterans who have lost their sight or the use of their limbs;

(3) veterans' insurance proceeds and dividends paid to veterans or their beneficiaries; interest on insurance dividends left on deposit with VA and (4) dependent-care assistance benefits.

Your Stories



Lest we Forget
Frank Russell (Curley) Mace
WWII Veteran and Hero of the Wake
Island Campaign

By Henry Goedde, author, adjutant
470 R.H.Brown, and WWII veteran
who served under George S. Patton,
and is written up in book, *Patton's
Last Battle* and *Siefried*.

We owe a debt of gratitude to men
like Frank Mace who gave so much
for our Freedom.

Thank you, Frank.

The war hero who survived against
all odds as a prisoner of the Impe-
rial Army of Japan – Frank Russell
Mace, born May 27, 1917. Frank was
one of the final defenders of Wake
Island. A situation he was never
trained for, nor had absolutely any
premonition he was going to end up
conscripted into the Marines, when
he had applied to work for a big con-
tractor in Boise, Idaho (Morrison
Knutson) as a contractor.

He had only been on the island a
short time when they heard the news
that the Japanese had attacked Pearl
Harbor. Four hours later, Dec. 8th, the
Japanese attacked Wake Island with
bombers. This was when the Com-
mander conscripted most of the
workers into the Marines to help de-
fend the island from invasion. At the
time of the attack, the US had 449
Marines and 20 sailors on Wake Is-
land. Frank was one of the final de-
fenders of the island, and if he
thought it was Hell defending the is-
land from overwhelming odds, Hell
was yet to come with four years of

internment by the Imperial Army of
Japan. If Audie Murphy was the high-
est decorated serviceman, not to be-
little this hero, but using his heroics
as a yardstick, there were many he-
roes on Wake Island who exceeded
Audie Murphy, including Frank Mace.
I would definitely compare Wake Is-
land to the Alamo. In both cases,
help was promised but never came.
These men defended Wake Island to
the last airplane, the last artillery
shell and to the last bullet. What
more could American ask of such he-
roic men?

Fortunately, that we not forget,
Frank Mace wrote a book of his ex-
ploits on Wake Island and his dura-
tion as a prisoner of war.

To give you some understanding of
their heroic efforts by quoting from
his book:

"We had moved the three inch guns
again and were setting them up when
we sighted three objects moving in
the lagoon. I (Frank) took some hand
grenades and eight men with 30 cali-
ber machine guns an went to inves-
tigate. There were three barges that
the Japanese had pushed over the
coral reefs at high tide. They were
coming in with a landing party. When
they were about 150 feet from shore,
my baseball pitching came in handy.
I threw a hand grenade into each
barge. The barges were all loaded
with explosives and ammunition.
When they blew up, all the Japanese
who were pushing them were either
killed, or were machine-gunned
down as they tried to make it to
shore. We had no casualties."

This is just one of the many incidents
involved by these superheroic men
who defended Wake Island. The fi-
nal tally of casualties, after the last
shot was fired, again I quote from
Frank's book. These losses were ad-
mitted by the Japanese after the
war's end.

American Losses:

Personnel:

Marines – 14

Navy – 13

Contractors – 37

Aviators – 331

Pan Air – 10

Planes:

7 by incendiary bullets Dec. 8

1 crashed on take-off

1 crashed on beach on landing

1 crashed on landing due to injuries
of pilot

1 shot up, not usable

Japanese Losses:

700 men on conquest of Wake

8000-10,000 men aboard ships sunk

2 destroyers sunk

29 planes – all types

1 heavy cruiser

1 transport

The American losses above do not
include the hundreds of men who
were eventually to die in captivity.
Frank Mace was awarded 2 Bronze
Stars (and other medals to be intro-
duced later) for his heroism. This
author's opinion – (what an insult).
These defenders should have re-
ceived the Medal of Honor. As I said,
using Audie Murphy as a yardstick,
these men's heroics were compa-
rable.

Now, after capture, these men (if
they thought it Hell defending the
island) were soon to find out what
Hell was really like during their four
years at the hands of their captors.

To explain, I again refer to Frank's
book:

"During my time as a prisoner of war,
I suffered many beatings at the
hands of the Japanese, plus having
pneumonia, berri-berri, malnutrition,
dysentery, malaria, surgery for hem-
orrhoids, and having four teeth
pulled with nothing to deaden the
pain. I think that part of my life was
Hell, but now is Heaven. May 15,
1981: I received my discharge from
the Navy, plus the WWII Victory
Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign
Medal, American Campaign Medal
and the Purple Heart, in addition to
the 2 Bronze Stars. All I can say is
they waited thirty-six years to re-
cognize what we did to win WWII."

(Author's Note: It is evident the Japa-
nese did not recognize the Geneva
Convention rules or regulations.)

Frank Mace was accepted as Chap-
lain of the Compound (POW Camp)
and assisted in the cremation of

more than 450 of his comrades who died at the hands of their captors. He was given small boxes, the size of a shoebox and a warehouse to store them in. When you consider their captors would shoot prisoners for small infractions of camp rules, giving these boxes and a place to store them was an overly generous expression on the part of the Imperial Army of Japan.

Christmas Poem

Submitted by National League of Families ~ Ann Mills Griffith (although Christmas has passed, this poem is timeless).

The embers glowed softly, and in their dim light,
I gazed round the room and I cherished the sight.
My wife was asleep, her head on my chest,
My daughter beside me, angelic in rest.

Outside the snow fell, a blanket of white,
Transforming the yard to a winter delight.
The sparkling lights in the tree I believe,
Completed the magic that was Christmas Eve.

My eyelids were heavy, my breathing was deep,
Secure and surrounded by love I would sleep.
In perfect contentment, or so it would seem,
So I slumbered, perhaps I started to dream.

The sound wasn't loud, and it wasn't too near,
But I opened my eyes when it tickled my ear.
Perhaps just a cough, I didn't quite know, Then the
Sure sound of footsteps outside in the snow.

My soul gave a tremble, I struggled to hear,
And I crept to the door just to see who was near.

Standing out in the cold and the dark of the night,
A lone figure stood, his face weary and tight.

A soldier, I puzzled, some twenty years old,
Perhaps a Marine, huddled here in the cold.

Alone in the dark, he looked up and smiled,
Standing watch over me, and my wife and my child.

"What are you doing?" I asked without fear,
"Come in this moment, it's freezing out here!"
Put down your pack, brush the snow from your sleeve,
You should be at home on a cold Christmas Eve!"

For barely a moment I saw his eyes shift,
Away from the cold and the snow blown in drifts..
To the window that danced with a warm fire's light
Then he sighed and he said "It's really all right,

I'm out here by choice. I'm here every night."
"It's my duty to stand at the front of the line,
That separates you from the darkest of times.
No one had to ask or beg or implore me,

I'm proud to stand here like my fathers before me.
My Gramps died at 'Pearl on a day in December,"
Then he sighed, "That's a Christmas 'Gram always remembers."

My dad stood his watch in the jungles of 'Nam',
And now it is my turn and so, here I am.
I've not seen my own son in more than a while,
But my wife sends me pictures, he's sure got her smile.

Then he bent and he carefully pulled from his bag,
The red, white, and blue... An American flag.

I can live through the cold and the being alone,
Away from my family, my house and my home.

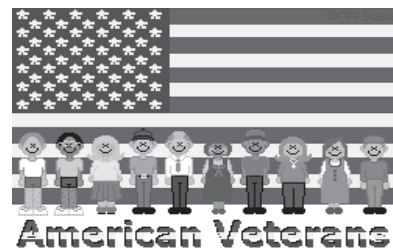
I can stand at my post through the rain and the sleet,
I can sleep in a foxhole with little to eat.
I can carry the weight of killing another,
Or lay down my life with my sister and brother..

Who stand at the front against any and all,
To ensure for all time that this flag will not fall."
"So go back inside," he said, "harbor no fright,
Your family is waiting and I'll be all right"

"But isn't there something I can do, at the least,
"Give you money," I asked, "or prepare you a feast?"
It seems all too little for all that you've done,
For being away from your wife and your son."

Then his eye welled a tear that held no regret,
"Just tell us you love us, and never forget.
To fight for our rights back at home while we're gone,
To stand your own watch, no matter how long.

For when we come home, either standing or dead,
To know you remember we fought and we bled.
Is payment enough, and with that we will trust,
That we mattered to you as you mattered to us."



Ex-POW Bulletin
February 2008



American Ex-Prisoners of War Website Biography

www.axpow.org

If you are not a current member of AXPOW,
you must submit documentation of your POW status.



Name

Nickname

Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone

Email

Conflict and Theater of Operation

Branch of Service

Unit

Where were you captured?

Date captured

POW camps you were held in

How long were you a POW?

Date liberated

Medals received

Job in the military

After the war

Biography (please type or print one or two paragraphs.)

Submit 1 or 2 photographs (color or black and white).

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Please include your check for \$65.

If you have any questions, please contact Clydie Morgan, National Adjutant,
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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

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In memory of my wife, Julia
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In memory of Past Dept
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AXPOW LIFE

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ENDOWMENT FUND

(As outlined in the January
Bulletin by JVC Morris Barker)

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In memory of Lloyd Delahorne, by
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In memory of my husband, John
Novak, by Martha Novak

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These are donations through December 28, 2007. We will publish new donations as they are received.

WWI Camp Dodge ~ Living Statue of Liberty

"On a stifling July day in 1918, 18,000 officers and soldiers posed as Lady Liberty on the parade [drill] grounds at Camp Dodge." [This area was west of Baker St. and is currently the area around building S34 and to the west.] "According to a July 3, 1986, story in the *Fort Dodge Messenger*, many men fainted-they were dressed in woolen uniforms-as the temperature neared 105 degrees Fahrenheit. The photo, taken from the top of a specially constructed tower by a Chicago photography studio, Mole & Thomas, was intended to help promote the sale of war bonds but was never used."



STANDING TALL Titled "Human Statue of Liberty," this image was taken at Camp Dodge in Iowa and used eighteen thousand men.



taps



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

ABAD, Salvador, of San Francisco, CA, died Dec. 12, 2007. A member of the Luzviminda Chapter, "Sal" served with the HQ Co., 26th Cav, and was a POW in Camp O'Donnell in the Philippines. He is survived by his wife of over 50 years, Gloria.

ALDHIZER, Paul M., long-time member of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter and five-time Commander, died November 30, 2007. During WWII he served in the 15th AF, 463rd BG, 775th BS. He was held in Stalag XIIIID and VIIA. He is survived by two sons, one daughter, 3 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

BECKER, Walter H., of Belleville, IL passed away Oct. 19, 2007. He served with the Army during WWII; he was a member of the Okawville Chapter, AXPOW. Surviving are his wife, Alice, 3 daughters, 1 brother, 4 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild, and nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

BERARD, Clive, of Sebring, Florida, passed away October 19, 2007. Captured at Salerno, Italy, he spent 22 months as a POW at Stalag 7A and 2B, and was liberated by the Russians. He was predeceased by his wife, Maxine.

BIGELOW, Leonard, of Lady Lake, FL passed away Dec. 31, 2007. He served with the 351th BG, based at Peterbrook, England. He was shot down over Belle Isle and was interned at first in what is now Poland and later in Stalag Luft III in Bavaria from 1943 until the end of the war. He was a life member of AXPOW. Leonard leaves his wife of 65 years, Rosemary, one son and two grandchildren.

BREWER, Federico Meza, of El Paso, TX died Nov. 19, 2007. He was 93. Fred was captured while serving on Bataan during WWII; he survived 3 ½ years of imprisonment. He leaves his daughter, 2 grandchildren and 1 great-granddaughter.

BROCK, Harry, 87, of Rockport, MA died Sept. 28, 2007. He was captured when his Liberator was shot down over Bulgaria in 1944. He was a prisoner until being liberated by advancing Russian forces. In addition to Natalie, his loving wife of 21 years, Harry is survived by 3 children and 7 grandchildren.

BROWN, Catheryn C., of Camden, TN passed away Dec. 7, 2007. She was the widow of the late John C. Brown (ex-POW/AAC). She leaves friends, family and dear friend Donna Patterson of Waverly, TN.

BROWN, David E., of Richmond, VA passed away Nov. 30, 2007. He was a POW in Germany; held in Stalag 3A. David was a member of the Denny Landrum Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife, Shirley, 2 sons, 4 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

COHRON, Hensil "Pete", 82, a native of Henderson County, Kentucky, passed away on December 2, 2007. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge, where he was captured along with 12 other 99th Div. soldiers after running out of ammunition. He was a life member of AXPOW. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Frances, three daughters, one son, one sister and eight grandchildren.

COFFEY, J. Russell, of North Baltimore, OH, the oldest known surviving U.S. veteran of World War I, passed away Dec. 20, 2007. The

retired teacher, one of only three U.S. veterans left from the "war to end all wars," was 109. More than 4.7 million Americans joined the military from 1917-1918. The two remaining U.S. veterans are Frank Buckles, 106, of Charles Town, W.Va.; and Harry Richard Landis, 108, of Sun City Center, Fla., according to the Veterans Affairs Department. In addition, John Babcock, 107, of Spokane, Wash., served in the Canadian army and is the last known Canadian veteran of the war.

COLLEY, Alfa Toole, of Madison, WI, member of the Wolverine Chapter, AXPOW, died Nov. 1, 2007. Alfa was an avid gardener and member of a number of national farm and gardening associations. She was the loving wife of Bob (ex-POW), mother of two, grandmother of 1 and great-grandmother of 3.

COMEAX, Horace Joseph, of Rayne, LA died Aug. 26, 2007 at the age of 84. He was a serving with the 16th BS, 27th BG when he was captured on Bataan. Horace was a member of the Acadiana Chapter, AXPOW. He will be missed by his loving wife, son, daughter and many friends.

CONGDON, Robert, 83, of Houston, TX passed away Oct. 22, 2007. He was a life member of AXPOW. Bob was shot down over Germany during WWII; he was held prisoner for 13 months in Stalag XVIIIB. His wife of 55 years, DeLores and 1 son survive him.

CROWLEY, Richard Francis, of Agoura Hills, CA passed away Dec. 7, 2007. During WWII, he served with the 15th AF, 463rd BG. He was captured and held in Frankfurt, Wetzler, Nuremburg, and Moosburg until liberation. Dick was Vice Commander and Treasurer of the San Fernando Chapter, AXPOW.

taps continued...

He is survived by his devoted wife of 57 years, Dolores, 3 daughters, 4 grandchildren and many friends.

DAGESSE, Herve, of Sun City West, AZ, member of Agua Fria Chapter, AXPOW died December 8, 2007. He is survived by his wife, Patsy, and one daughter.

DORSCHNER, Harold W. of Tucson, AZ died October 29, 2007. He was two weeks shy of his 87th birthday. He served with Co. C, 134th Inf. Reg., 35th Div. He was captured at the end of the Battle of the Bulge and held in a series of POW camps until liberation. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Betty, family and friends.

DOUMIS, Gus 'Dike', died November 2, 2007. Doumis was a POW from October 10, 1943, thru May 3, 1945, held in Stalag 17B.

ERICKSON, Harold O. Jr., of Livonia, MI passed away Dec. 12, 2006. He served with the 8th AF during WWII. He was shot down over Germany and held for 21 months until liberation. Survivors include his beloved wife of 61 years, Jane Ann, 2 children, 8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

FAZZONE, Armando, 84, of Red Bank, NJ and Naples, FL died November 23, 2007. He served in the U.S. Air Force during WWII and was a POW in Germany for one year. He was a long-time member of Collier Chapter. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Anna, 2 children and 3 grandchildren.

GATLIN, Austin, age 88, of Daleville, AL died Oct. 25, 2007. Austin served in the Army. He was captured in the Huertgen Forest with the 8th Inf. Div., 121st Infil. HQ Command. He was held in 6G, 12A, 9C, 4F and 4B. He leaves 2 sons and ex-wife and dear friend, Marianne Jackson.

GRANACK, Frank Andrew, of La Habra, CA passed away Oct. 24, 2007. He was 87. Frank was captured while serving with the 100th BG, flying out of England. He was shot down over Germany and held in Stalag VIIA. Frank is survived by 3 daughters, 8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

GUROS, John P., of Henderson, Nevada, passed away Nov. 30, 2007. He served in the Army Air Force in WWII. Shot down on his eighth mission, he spent two months in German hospitals and the next ten months at Stalag 17B. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Frances, a son, a daughter and three grandchildren.

HALL, Dorothy Craven, of Jacksonville, AL passed away Nov. 29, 2007. She was 81. Dorothy was the loving wife of ex-POW Lauton. She was an adoring grandmother of 11 and sister of 3. She will be missed by her many friends.

HANDLEY, William John, of Shelby Township, MI died Nov. 6, 2006. He was a POW during WWII; captured in the Battle of the Bulge. His wife of 62 years, Phyllis, survives him; he also leaves 1 daughter, 1 son, 5 grandchildren and 2 sisters.

IAVELLI, Carl, member of the San Diego Chapter #1, AXPOW, died Dec. 12, 2007. He was flying with the 86th FT, 527 BS when he was shot down over Milan and captured. He was held in Stalag 3. He leaves his wife of 65 years, 2 children and 4 grandchildren.

INGRAHAM, Robert M. of Grand Junction, CO passed away Nov. 21, 2007. He was a member of the 15th AF, 460th BG, 762nd BS, based at Spinazzola, Italy. He became a prisoner of war and held at Stalag Luft 4 until February 1945 when he was on a forced march which ended for him March 29th at Stalag 11B Fallingbomel. He was liberated April 16, 1945 by the British. He was a life member of AXPOW.

He is survived by one son, three grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

JAY, Donald Stewart, 86, of Greensboro, NC died Oct. 21, 2007. He was a member of AXPOW and the Greensboro Chapter. He served with the AAC during WWII. He was shot down and held for one year. Don is survived by 2 sons, 1 daughter, 2 granddaughters and 3 great-grandchildren.

JOHNSON, Harry, of Danville, IL passed away Sept. 14, 2007 at the age of 87. Harry enlisted in the AAC and was stationed in the Philippines with the 17th Pursuit Sq. He was captured on Bataan and held 3 ½ years by Japanese forces. He was a member of the Illiana Chapter, AXPOW and ADBC. Harry leaves four stepchildren, five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

LEIBBRAND, Jane, age 84, wife of ex-POW Edwin Leibbrand of Pickerington, Ohio, died December 18, 2007. She is survived by her husband, 2 daughters and 3 grandchildren.

LeCLAIR, Donat Rene, of Fairfield Glade, TN died Dec. 8, 2007. Don was captured in Romania after being shot down during WWII. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Barbara, 2 sons, 3 daughters, 18 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

LINER, E. Gordon, of Cedar Grove, NC passed away May 21, 2007. He was serving with the 15th AF, 459th BG, 758th BS when he was shot down and captured. He was sent to Luft IV, then marched across Germany. Survivors include 9 brothers and sisters.

LUCCHESI, Frank C., of Greenacres, FL passed away Nov. 25, 2007 at

taps continued...

the age of 86. He served with the 98th BG, 343rd BS, flying out of Italy. He was a POW imprisoned at Luft 1, Barth. Frank was a life member of AXPOW and long-time member of the Suncoast Chapter. He is survived by 2 sons, 2 grandsons and 1 granddaughter.

MARSH, Fred Wilson, of Greensboro, NC died Nov. 30, 2007. He was 88. Fred was captured while serving with the AAC during WWII. He was a past commander of the Greensboro Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his wife, Clemy, 5 children, 3 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

McCULLEN, Dan Milam, of Jackson, Mississippi, died August 26, 2007. Dan was a member of the 84th Inf. Div., Co L, 333rd Inf. Combat, and was held in Stalags 11B and 2A. Dan has been an AXPOW life member since 1973. He is survived by his wife, Beth.

MELVIN, Norma, of Edgewater, Florida, wife of Lloyd Melvin, died Nov. 29, 2007. She was a member of East Central Florida Chapter, AXPOW.

MOORE, Eva James, of Phoenix, AZ passed away Dec. 17, 2007 at the age of 83. Eva was the widow of National Commander Milton M. Moore, Sr. Eva had a strong, independent spirit and an appetite for life. This is how she will be remembered and is the most important lesson she taught us all: her true legacy. De-



voting her life to her family, friends and as an active member of AXPOW, she was loved by all who knew her. She held many positions at chapter level, state level and national level. The one wish she had before she passed away was that the AXPOW organization come back together and quit the internal fighting. That really tore her apart. She lived by the organization's slogan: "Help those who can not help themselves." Eva leaves four children, 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. She also leaves all her "adopted kids" in AXPOW who love and miss her too.

PARKS, Edward W. Jr., 83, of Middleboro, MA died Nov. 17, 2007. He was the husband of the late Christine M. (West) Parks. He served in the Army during WWII, and was a POW in Germany. Ed was past commander of the Dept. of MA and past chapter commander, SE Chapter. **PARKS, Christine M.**, 78, died Nov. 11, 2007. Survivors include 3 sons, 1 daughter, 7 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild, and several nieces and nephews.

RASMUSSEN, Robert 'Bob', of Oak Lawn, IL, passed away August 13, 2007. He was a POW in Stalag Luft III from April, 1944 to May, 1945. A B-17 pilot, he evaded capture for eight days after he was shot down. He was a member of the Greater Chicago Chapter. He leaves his wife, Marie.

REA, Maston L., of Tulsa, OK died July 30, 2007 at the age of 90. During WWII, he served with the 2nd Bn., 131st FA, 36th Div. He was a POW of the Japanese in Burma and Thailand for 3½ years. Maston was a member of the Tulsa Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his loving wife of 65 years, Esther, and many nieces and nephews.

REED, Ruth, of Toms River, New Jersey, beloved wife of ex-POW John F. Reed for 58 years, died September 9, 2007. In addition to her

husband, she leaves one daughter, four sons, fourteen grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and one brother.

RIGGLE, William R., of Riverside, CA died July 21, 2007. He was 84. During WWII, he served with the 8th AF, 492nd BG. He was shot down, captured and held in Stalag Luft IV. Bill was a member of the Inland Empire Chapter, AXPOW. He is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Kathleen, 1 son and 1 granddaughter.

ROGERS, Clayton, 76, of Torrington, CT died Dec. 3, 2007. He was a life member of AXPOW and the CT Chapter. He served in Korea with the SVC Btry, 37th FA, 2nd Div. He was a POW for 32 months, escaping three times before being sent to Camp #5, where he took part in the 450 mile march. His wife, Marilyn, predeceases him. Survivors include 2 daughters, 5 grandchildren, 1 sister and 1 brother.

ROGERS, Novle W., of Abilene, TX died Aug 14, 2006 at age 89. He served with the 131st Field Artillery, 2nd Bn., 36th Div (The Lost Battalion) in the Pacific. He was captured in Java and was a POW for 42 months. He was a member of the West Central Texas Chapter #1, AXPOW. 2 sons, 3 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren survive him.

SARTAIN, Mabel, of Beldon, MS passed away Nov. 24, 2007. She was 80. Mabel was the wife of ex-POW John Sartain. Both were active members of the NE MS Chapter, AXPOW. She is also survived by 3 sons, 1 sister, 2 brothers, 11 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild and numerous extended family.

SMALL, George, 99, of Reno, NV passed away Dec. 15, 2007. He was the oldest former POW in Nevada. In 1941, he volunteered for active duty in the Army; he was sent to the Philippines with the 31st Infan-

taps continued...

try. George was captured on Bataan and held by the Japanese for 3 ½ years. He is survived by two loving daughters and their families, friends and fellow ex-POW Ralph Levenberg.

SUSSMAN, Herman, of Detroit, MI passed away Sept. 27, 2007. He served in the AAC during WWII; he was shot down over Germany and held for 15 months in various POW camps. He leaves 2 daughters, 1 son, 3 grandchildren and 1 sister.

SZOLOSI, Andrew, of Sun City West, AZ and a member of the Agua Fria Chapter, AXPOW died December 7, 2007. He is survived by his wife, Patsy.

TURLEY, Gilbert M. (Gil) passed away November 24, 2007, in Austin, Texas. During WWII, he was attached to the 44th BG, 506th BS out

of Shipton, England. He was shot down over France, captured by the Germans and held in Luft 1, Barth until liberation. Gil was a past National Director of AXPOW, representing the Southwest Region. He also served as Chaplain, Director, Vice Commander and Commander of the Rocky Mountain (Colorado Springs) CO Chapter and the Dept. of Colorado. At the time of his death he was serving as a Director of the Military Ex-Prisoners of War Foundation. Gil is survived by his wife, Eula Mae, two daughters and one son.

VAUGHT, William S., of Chamblee Heights, TN died Nov. 22, 2007. During WWII, he served in the Army with the 106th Inf. Div., 424th Reg., Anti-Tank Co. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. Bill's beloved wife of 67 years, Jeanne, survives him; he also leaves 4 daughters, 6 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

WILLIAMS, Edward Lee, of Biloxi, MS died Dec. 7, 2007. During WWII, Edward served with the 93rd Squadron, 439th Troop Carrier Group. He was captured and held until liberation. Ed was Commander of the South Mississippi Chapter, AXPOW; he was also involved with the South LA Chapter. He leaves his wife of over 40 years, Velma, 1 son, 2 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

WILSON, William Duncan, age 87, of Plano, TX passed away Oct. 17, 2007. Bill flew with the 352nd FG in the Normandy Campaign; he was shot down over France and held in Luft 1, Barth until liberation. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Emajo, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. He will be missed by all who knew him.

chaplain's corner



National Chaplain

John Romine

1609 S. 23rd Street
Rogers, AR 72758
(479) 636-2287

On two recent occasions, we have been shocked by people who went out of their way to criticize and complain instead of at least listening to what most thought were good proposals. When we fail to listen, when we complain and sometimes condemn, we stand the chance of driving away the leaders and the workers who do the most for us, because we fail to use their talents and special abilities produce. By failing to praise or at least

saying thanks, even though we may not agree wholeheartedly, we deprive ourselves of one of the happiest privileges of giving credit where credit is due. It takes so little to offer encouragement and show appreciation for those who are willing to go that extra mile for a cause, sometimes at considerable effort and cost on their part. We often wonder how God views the complainers and the doers and who will get his approval and blessings.

Let us pray: Almighty God, forgive our misdoings and our thoughtless attitude. Lead us into a true understanding of your ways and will for us. May we love, encourage and offer a helping hand in hopes of a better world to live in. Grant an accounting of the MIAs as we ask a blessing on their loved ones and may we all be lead into thy Holy Kingdom. AMEN.

Thought for the month: Those who do the most for good causes are the ones who receive the greatest blessings. Try it. It works!

This month's humor:

A woman from New York was getting her affairs in order. She prepared her will and made her final arraignments. As part of these arraignments she met with her pastor to talk about what type of funeral service she wanted, etc.

She told her pastor she had two final requests. First, she wanted to be cremated, and second, she wanted her ashes scattered over Bloomingdales.

"Bloomingdales!" the pastor said. "Why Bloomingdales?"

"That way, I know my daughters will visit me twice a week."



Ex-POW Bulletin
February 2008



**American Ex-Prisoners of War
MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTION**
to honor a loved one or a former colleague
Donations are not tax-deductible.

Please feel free to make copies of this form and use when making donations.

IN MEMORY OF:

GIVEN BY: _____ Date of Death _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, state and zip code _____

To be contributed to the _____ Fund.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO BE SENT TO:

Name _____

Address _____

City, state and zip code _____

Memorial donations should be sent to:
American Ex-Prisoners of War
3201 East Pioneer Parkway #40
Arlington, Texas 76010-5396
(rev. 02/07)



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IN MEMORY OF:

GIVEN BY: _____ Date of Death _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, state and zip code _____

To be contributed to the _____ Fund.

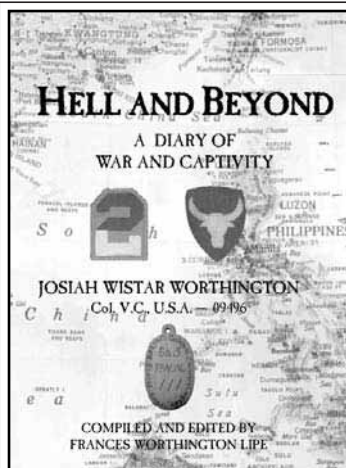
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO BE SENT TO:

Name _____

Address _____

City, state and zip code _____

Memorial donations should be sent to:
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**HELL & BEYOND,
A DIARY OF WAR AND
CAPTIVITY**

by Josiah Wistar Worthington, Col. V.C., U.S.A
Compiled & edited by Frances Worthington Lipe
(Full map of all Japanese POW Camps included)

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\$50.00 per book
(plus \$4.13 tax [if applicable] & \$5.50 s&h), Total \$59.14

"The most engrossing and scholarly epic I have ever seen . . . This is the most unique account ever written about the wartime ordeal of a Bataan Survivor.

You may have read other journals and diaries, but never one like this."

RAdm. Charles D. Grojean
USN (Ret.) Exec. Director,
Admiral Nimitz Foundation

50/50 drawing 50/50 drawing

Latest winners drawn in Springfield, IL

Next drawing, midyear 2008

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1st Place | \$1,012.20 |
| Paul Vara, Mosinee WI | |
| 2nd Place | \$759.15 |
| Paul Andersen , Austin TX | |
| 3rd Place | \$506.10 |
| Richard Knoblock , Bartlesville OK | |
| 4th Place | \$253.05 |
| Donald Durant, Sun City Center FL | |

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: **National Headquarters ~ 50/50 Drawing**
3201 E. Pioneer Pkway, #40
Arlington, TX 76010-5396



The 106th Infantry Division Association

Organized at
Camp Lucky Strike 1945 active
since 1946

If you are a former 106th Infantry Division vet, were attached to the 106th, a relative of a 106th veteran, you are eligible for membership in the Association.

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Annual Reunions held yearly since 1947.

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Or contact John Kline, Membership Chairman
Past President '97-'98; Editor, The CUB since 1987
M Co., 423rd Inf Regiment
11 Harold Drive
Burnsville, MN 55337-2786
Phone: 952-890-3155
Email: jpk@mm.com
106th Home Page: <http://www.mm.com/user/jpk>

If you don't have 100% Disability Compensation

You can't afford to miss this convention!
And your widow needs to find out
what her entitlements are!

The Department of New York is holding claims seminars in conjunction with a trip to Monticello Race Track and a sightseeing excursion to West Point. There'll be nightly vaudeville...shows...3 meals a day...beautiful accommodations...we're mixing business meetings and entertainment – all for your enjoyment! Cathy Crosby (Bing's widow) will be our entertainment for Friday night! Meet and greet National and NY State Officers. Call early! We've only got 75 rooms blocked.

June 11-14, 2008
Ellenville, NY

Contact: Wm. Lee Birch
190 Bethel Loop #10H
Brooklyn, NY 11239
718-642-7647

Ex-POW Bulletin
February 2008

<p style="text-align: center;">American Ex-Prisoners of War 50/50 Drawing</p> <p>PLEASE PRINT Name: _____ Telephone: () _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip: _____</p> <p>Here is my donation of \$5.00 for 6 chances to win the drawing. Prize amounts are determined by the total amount donated.</p> <p>Mail your donation and entry to: American Ex-Prisoners of War 50/50 Drawing 3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40 Arlington, TX 76010-5396</p> <p>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.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">American Ex-Prisoners of War 50/50 Drawing</p> <p>PLEASE PRINT Name: _____ Telephone: () _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip: _____</p> <p>Here is my donation of \$5.00 for 6 chances to win the drawing. Prize amounts are determined by the total amount donated.</p> <p>Mail your donation and entry to: American Ex-Prisoners of War 50/50 Drawing 3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40 Arlington, TX 76010-5396</p> <p>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.</p>
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new members

National Headquarters
3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40
Arlington, TX 76010; (817) 649-2979
Marsha.Coke@axpow.org



New Life Members "Welcome Home"



Edward L. Drury 39407 Orlando, FL NOK to George Earl Swink, ETO	L "Art" Arhutick 39409 Yuma, AZ 17 Pursuit SQ Cabanatuan, Yokohama, Nichols Field, Niigata, Manila	Loraine K Marthaler 39412 Muscatine, IA Widow of John J Marthaler Luft 4	Raymond K Novitski 39415 Duluth, MN Co M 5 Cav Rgt Escaped in Transit
Patrick F Morris 39408 Bethesda, MD 99 Div 394 Inf Co L 4B 12/19/44-4/23/45	Julio F Gonzalez 39410 Silver Spring, MD 3 Bn 141 Reg 36 Inf Div 4B	Raymond E Reitze, Sr. 39413 Buxton, ME Btty B 1 FA Obs 13 FA Obs 5B 13 2B Italy	Robert J Clark Rheba 39416 39417 Cincinnati, OH Co A 423 Inf 106 Div 9B Bad Orb Gerolstein
	Harold D Jefferson 39411 Arlington, VA 15 AF 451 BG 47 Wing 3, 7A, 13D	Thomas N Carter 39414 Winston-Salem, NC 34 BS 315 Troop Carr Dulag Luft 1 4	Arthur R "Bud" Estes Bonelva 39418 39419 Madison, WV 101 AB 506 Prcht 12A, 7A, Marched

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Ex-POW Bulletin
February 2008

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:

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Official AXPOW Cap (specify size)	25.00	Vest Chainguard w/eagles	7.00	AXPOW Metal License Plate Frame	7.00
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Barbed Wire pin	2.50	4" Blazer Patch	3.50	8" Vinyl Decal	5.00
Life Member pin	4.00	8" Blazer Patch	10.00	12" Vinyl Decal	10.00
Crossed Flags Lapel pin	4.00	CLOTH STRIPES (specify which title)	2.00	Bumper Sticker "Freedom Is Happiness"	2.00
Brooch pin	4.00	Life Member · Chapter Commander		Bumper Sticker "Freedom – Ask us"	2.00
EX-POW pin (goldtone)	4.00	Past Chapter Commander · Chapter Adj/Treas Chapter		Magnetic Ribbons	5.00
Logo pin	4.00	Adjutant · Chapter Treasurer		Memorial Seals	
POW Stamp pin	2.50	State Department Commander		3 sheets, \$1.00; 10 sheets, \$3.00; 20 sheets, 5.00	
Past Chapter Commander pin	4.00	Past State Dept. Commander · Department Adjutant		AXPOW Daisies (dozen)	1.50
Past Department Commander pin	4.00	Department Treasurer · Sr. Vice Commander		In lots of 12, (ie , 24, 36, 48, etc.-per dozen)	1.25
Eagle pin w/Barbed Wire	7.00	Jr. Vice Commander · Chaplain · Historian		Wall Clock (battery included)	20.00
(specify gold, silver or antique gold)		Service Officer · Legislative Officer		AXPOW Notecards (pkg of 25)	5.00
Necktie w/logo woven in fabric	20.00	Past Chapter Officer · Past Department Officer		Special Prayer Cards (pkg of 25)	5.00
(specify regular or pre-tied)				AXPOW Prayer Book	2.00
AXPOW Logo Bolo Tie	15.00	12x18 inch American Flag	5.00	Ladies Prayer Book	1.00
U.S. Flag Bolo Tie	18.50	12x18 AXPOW Graveside Flag	10.00	POW Medal Poster Print	5.00
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Name on front of vest _____

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For orders 25.00 to 49.99, add \$10.00; For orders 50.00 to 99.99, add \$13.00

For orders over 100.00, add \$18.00 Checks/Money Order/Credit Card Accepted.

Shipping/Handling/Insurance:**Total: \$****For credit card orders:** Card # _____ Expiration: _____

(Check one) Master Card _____ Visa _____

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Arlington, Texas 76010-5396
817-649-2979
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Wreath-laying at St. Vith

From Hans J. Wijers: Here are some of the best photos of the wreath-laying in St Vith on December 16, 2007. Full Honor Guard of the US Army Garrison of Mons under the leadership of Major Sonja Granger - Dyer. The Mayor of St Vith, Mr. Cristian Krings, welcomed us, and words written by the son of Major Bill Garlow (Col. of the 2nd Bn of the 423rd Inf Reg.). Cody who was the grandson of 'Buffalo Bill' sent me words to read during the wreath-laying. From the Dutch Ministry of Defense, we had a Bugler; we were also supported by Warrant Officer Lion van der Most of the Dutch Air Mobile Brigade.



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