

EX-POW BULLETIN

the official voice of the
American Ex-Prisoners of War

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We exist to help those who cannot help themselves



Homecoming 1973

Veterans Day In Washington, DC

National Commander Milton Moore, Jr. represented AXPOW at the White House and Arlington Cemetery. Vice President Biden was the keynote speaker at Arlington.



In Elk Grove, California

49ers Chapter, Sacramento, AXPOW, in the Elk Grove, CA Veterans Day Parade.

Picture # 1 Left to Right: David McAnlis, Civilian Internee, Santo Tomas Internment Camp, Manila, Philippines and the Los Banos Internment Camp, Philippines. Sadie Moles, Civilian Internee, born in the Santo Tomas Internment Camp, Manila Philippines. Ted Cadwallader, Civilian Internee, Santo Tomas Internment Camp, Manila, Philippines (retired master sergeant, USAF). Eldon Koob, 28th Infantry Division, ETO. Art Bishop, 106th Infantry Division, ETO (retired USAF LTC). Bill Hureau, 35th Infantry Division, ETO.

Picture # 2 Left to Right: David McAnlis, Ted Cadwallader, Sadie Moles, flag bearers, all civilian ex-internees, PTO. The military POWs were riding in the parade in a 1925 Dodge sedan and a 1967 Mustang.



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first call home

Operation Homecoming

Forty-two years ago, on February 12th, a C-141A Starlifter transport jet with a distinctive red cross on its tail lifted off from Hanoi, North Vietnam, and the first flight of 40 U.S. prisoners of war began their journey home through Operation Homecoming. By the day's end, three C-141A aircraft would lift off from Hanoi, as well as a C-9A aircraft from Saigon, South Vietnam. In a steady flow of flights through late March 1973 under terms set through the Paris Peace Accords, 591 POWs returned to American soil.

Photos courtesy of Lee Humiston

National Convention ! It's coming June 24-27, 2015 at the Arlington Hilton, Arlington, TX. There's more information in this Bulletin and every Bulletin until Convention. Bring your kids...your grandkids...Activities abound! Six Flags, Cowboy Stadium, Hurricane Park, The Ballpark at Arlington...and plenty more. You'll have a great time meeting old friends and new. We're also working to ensure the future of AXPOW and different ideas will be presented at the Convention and be voted on. Make your voice heard!

And speaking of conventions, our state departments and chapters are dwindling because of age and health. If you see your dept. convention coming up, make an effort to attend. You'll be glad you did.

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Deadline for the Mar/Apr 2015 issue is Feb. 1, 2015

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

UMB Credit Card

Every time a member – or member's family or friends – signs up for the new UMB credit card (which features our marching men on the face), AXPOW receives \$50.00. That's like making a \$50 donation to the organization when you sign up. We also get a percentage of every dollar spent if you use the card each month. You also get benefits from using the card...there is no annual fee and at the end of the year, you'll receive a statement of your annual charges, broken down by category. Makes filing your taxes easier!

So benefits for us and benefits for you. Won't you take a few minutes and apply for this card today?

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with their columns



**National Commander
Milton M Moore, Jr.**

As I sit by my computer writing my next column, I am reminded that this is the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year time. I hope that everyone had a fantastic Thanksgiving and spent it with family and friends. Remember that there are a lot of people out there that don't have that opportunity. We have a whole lot to be thankful for. I also hope your Christmas and New Year are better than ever. We need to put Christ back into Christmas.

We held our mid winter meeting in Arlington Texas on the 15th of November. It was a good meeting. The weather was really chilly though. It is my honor to let everyone know that we have a new Treasurer. Marsha Coke was selected by the Board of Directors to take over the job from Clydie. Clydie did a very good job. An audit will be done before everything is finalized. Please give Marsha your thanks. I know she will be excellent at her new position. Our By Laws committee came up with some wonderful ideas to get our by laws updated. I would like to thank all the people on that committee for you time and commitment to our great Organization. We are still working on getting our tax exempt status back. We have a few more forms to refile from years back and are working hard with the IRS to get all of this done. All the back fees

have been paid so no money is involved. We are looking at getting a donation to the organization right now. Some legal things have to be worked out but I am confident that we will get it. It will help the organization quite a bit.

It was an honor to represent this organization at the Veterans Day celebration in Washington DC. My fiance and I had a real good time there. We had breakfast at the White House with Vice President Biden and then went to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers for a beautiful ceremony. Paul Galanti and Cheryl Cerbone were there with me. I had the honor of placing an AXPOW Wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers.



My heart was filled with all kinds of emotions when I did that. I felt so proud. I visited the Viet Nam Wall, the Korean War Memorial, the World War II Memorial, and the Iwo Jima Memorial. Those were very well done and again emotional. If you are ever given the chance to go see them please do. It will be something you will never forget.

In closing, I would just like to say, everyone keep a smile on your face and love in your heart.

Milton M. Moore

news from hq



Happy New Year! Where does the time go?

We are gearing up for the 2015 National Convention. It is here in Arlington again. We have new and exciting things for you to do.

We have arranged for you to take a tour of Dealey Plaza, the area where President John F. Kennedy was shot. There is a memorial to him and it is right across from the infamous Grassy Knoll!

Next is a tour of the 6th Floor Museum in the former Texas Schoolbook Depository building where Lee Harvey Oswald hid out. The Museum chronicles the assassination and legacy of President John F. Kennedy; interprets the Dealey Plaza National Historic Landmark District and the John F. Kennedy Memorial Plaza; and presents contemporary culture within the context of presidential history.

We then go Dallas Holocaust Museum across the street. The permanent exhibit gives visitors a view of the Holocaust by focusing on one day during the Holocaust—April 19, 1943. The exhibit also highlights the first European box car brought to the US. This car was likely used to transport Jews to concentration or extermination camps.

So mark your calendar now and plan to attend the National Convention June 24-28. Look for more information in your magazine.

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Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) Information for 2015

Monthly benefits will increase 1.7 percent in 2015.

Congress has passed the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2014, and it will increase veterans disability payments for millions of veterans and their dependents. The bill provides increases in these areas, beginning Dec. 1, 2014: disability compensation additional compensation for dependents clothing allowance dependency and indemnity compensation to surviving spouse, and dependency and indemnity compensation to children.

The 1.7 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin with benefits that beneficiaries receive in January 2015.

The yearly COLA on federal benefits is based on inflation as measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). The COLA reflects changes in average prices for a market basket of goods and services from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014.

VA Implements Second Phase of Choice Card Program

Cards sent to Veterans waiting more than 30 days for care

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that it began mailing Veterans Choice Cards on November 17 to Veterans currently waiting more than 30-days from their preferred date or the date that is medically determined by their physician for an appointment at a VA facility.

"VA continues to focus on implementation of this new temporary benefit so that Veterans receive the timely quality care they need in a way that reduces confusion and inefficiencies," said Secretary Robert A. McDonald, who penned an open letter to Veterans announcing the implementation of the Choice Card program.

The Choice Program is a new, temporary benefit that allows some Veterans to receive health care in their communities rather than waiting for a VA appointment or traveling to a VA facility. The first round of cards along with a letter explaining the program was issued on November 5 to Veterans who are eligible based on their place of residence. VA is now engaging in the next phase of its rollout - eligibility explanation letters are being sent to Veterans waiting more than 30 days from their preferred date to be seen or considered medically necessary by their physician.

To improve service delivery, VA has prioritized efforts to accelerate Veterans off of wait lists and into clinics through the Accelerated Care Initiative begun over the summer. Through this initiative, VA medical centers have increased access to care inside and outside of VA, added more clinic hours and work days, deployed mobile medical units

and shared their best practices from VA's high-performing facilities throughout the organization.

Significant improvements have resulted nationally:

Scheduling more than 1.2 million more appointments in the past four months than in the same period last year. In total, VA medical centers have scheduled over 19 million Veteran appointments from June to October 1, 2014;

Reducing the national new patient Primary Care wait time by 18 percent;

Completing 98 percent of appointments within 30 days of the Veterans' preferred date, or the date determined to be medically necessary by a physician;

Authorizing 1.1 million non-VA care authorizations, a 47-percent increase over the same period last year; and

Increasing the amount of time providers could deliver care to Veterans by increasing the amount of clinic hours in primary and specialty care and through adding weekend and evening clinics at our medical centers.

VA is America's largest integrated health care system with over 1,700 sites of care, serving approximately 9 million Veterans enrolled in health care services.

The Choice Program is part of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (VACAA), enacted more than three months ago, to enable VA to meet the demand for Veterans' health care in the short-term.

For more information about the Choice Program, call 1-866- 606-8198 or visit <http://www.va.gov/opa/choiceact/>.

Restless Legs Syndrome

What is restless legs syndrome?

Restless legs syndrome (RLS) is a neurological disorder characterized by throbbing, pulling, creeping, or other unpleasant sensations in the legs and an uncontrollable, and sometimes overwhelming, urge to move them. Symptoms occur primarily at night when a person is relaxing or at rest and can increase in severity during the night. Moving the legs relieves the discomfort. Often called paresthesias (abnormal sensations) or dysesthesias (unpleasant abnormal sensations), the sensations range in severity from uncomfortable to irritating to painful.

The most distinctive or unusual aspect of the condition is that lying down and trying to relax activates the symptoms. Most people with RLS have difficulty falling asleep and staying asleep. Left untreated, the condition causes exhaustion and daytime fatigue. Many people with RLS report that their job, personal relations, and activities of daily living are strongly affected as a result of their sleep deprivation. They are often unable to concentrate, have impaired memory, or fail to accomplish daily tasks. It also can make traveling difficult and can cause depression.

As many as 10 percent of the U.S. population may have RLS. Several studies have shown that moderate to severe RLS affects approximately 2-3 percent of adults (more than 5 million individuals). An additional 5 percent appears to be affected by a milder



form. Childhood RLS is estimated to affect almost 1 million school-age children, with one-third having moderate to severe symptoms. Some people with RLS will not seek medical attention, believing that they will not be taken seriously, that their symptoms are too mild, or that their condition is not treatable. Some physicians wrongly attribute the symptoms to nervousness, insomnia, stress, arthritis, muscle cramps, or aging.

RLS occurs in both men and women, although the incidence is about twice as high in women. It may begin at any age. Many individuals who are severely affected are middle-aged or older, and the symptoms typically become more frequent and last longer with age.

RLS is classified as a movement disorder, as individuals are forced to move their legs in order to gain relief from symptoms.

More than 80 percent of people with RLS also experience a more common condition known as periodic limb movement of sleep (PLMS). PLMS is characterized by involuntary leg twitching or jerking movements during sleep that typically occur every 15 to 40 seconds, sometimes throughout the night. The symptoms cause repeated awakening and severely disrupted sleep. Although many individuals with RLS also develop PLMS, most people with PLMS do not experience RLS. People who have PLMS and do not have RLS or another cause for the PLMS may be diagnosed with periodic limb movement disorder (PLMD). PLMD may be a variant of RLS and thus respond to similar treatments.

What are common signs and symptoms of restless legs?

People with RLS feel uncomfortable sensations in their legs, es-

medsearch cont'd...

pecially when sitting or lying down, accompanied by an irresistible urge to move the affected limb. These sensations less commonly affect the arms, trunk, or head. Although the sensations can occur on just one side of the body, they most often affect both sides.

Because moving the legs (or other affected parts of the body) relieves the discomfort, people with RLS often keep their legs in motion to minimize or prevent the sensations. They may pace the floor, constantly move their legs while sitting, and toss and turn in bed.

A classic feature of RLS is that the symptoms are worse at night with a distinct symptom-free period in the early morning, allowing for more refreshing sleep at that time. Other triggering situations are periods of inactivity such as long car trips, sitting in a movie theater, long-distance flights, immobilization in a cast, or relaxation exercises. Many individuals also note a worsening of symptoms if their sleep is further reduced by events or activity.

RLS symptoms may vary from day to day and in severity and frequency from person to person. Individuals with mild RLS may have some disruption of sleep onset and minor interference in daytime activities. In moderately severe cases, symptoms occur only once or twice a week but result in significant delay of sleep onset, with some disruption of daytime function. In severe cases of RLS, the symptoms occur more than twice a week and result in burdensome interruption of sleep

and impairment of daytime function.

Individuals with RLS can sometimes experience remissions—spontaneous improvement over a period of weeks or months before symptoms reappear—usually during the early stages of the disorder. In general, however, symptoms become more severe over time.

People who have both RLS and an associated medical condition tend to develop more severe symptoms rapidly. In contrast, those who have RLS that is not related to any other condition and experience onset at an early age show a very slow progression of the disorder; many years may pass before symptoms occur regularly.

What causes restless legs syndrome?

In most cases, the cause of RLS is unknown. However, it may have a genetic component; RLS is often found in families where the onset of symptoms is before age 40. Specific gene variants have been associated with RLS. Evidence indicates that low levels of iron in the brain also may be responsible for RLS.

Considerable evidence suggests that RLS is related to a dysfunction in the brain's basal ganglia circuits that use the neurotransmitter dopamine, which is needed to produce smooth, purposeful muscle activity and movement. Disruption of these pathways frequently results in involuntary movements. Individuals with Parkinson's disease, another disorder of the basal ganglia's dopamine pathways, often have RLS as well.

RLS also appears to be related to the following factors or conditions, although researchers do not

yet know if these factors actually cause RLS:

Chronic diseases such as kidney failure, diabetes, and peripheral neuropathy. Treating the underlying condition often provides relief from RLS symptoms.

Certain medications that may aggravate symptoms. These medications include anti-nausea drugs (prochlorperazine or metoclopramide), antipsychotic drugs (haloperidol or phenothiazine derivatives), antidepressants that increase serotonin, and some cold and allergy medications that contain sedating antihistamines.

Alcohol and sleep deprivation also may aggravate or trigger symptoms in some individuals. Reducing or completely eliminating these factors may relieve symptoms, but it is unclear if this can prevent RLS symptoms from occurring at all.

How is restless legs syndrome diagnosed?

There is no specific test for RLS. The four basic criteria for diagnosing the disorder are:

Symptoms that are worse at night and are absent or negligible in the morning;

A strong and often overwhelming need or urge to move the affected limb(s), often associated with paresthesias or dysesthesias;

Sensory symptoms that are triggered by rest, relaxation, or sleep; and

Sensory symptoms that are relieved with movement and the relief persists as long as the movement continues.

Physicians should focus largely on the individual's descriptions of symptoms, their triggers and relieving factors, as well as the presence or absence of symp-

medsearch cont'd...

toms throughout the day. A neurological and physical exam, plus information from the individual's medical and family history and list of current medications, may be helpful. Individuals may be asked about frequency, duration, and intensity of symptoms as well as their tendency toward daytime sleep patterns and sleepiness, disturbance of sleep, or daytime function.

Laboratory tests may be performed to rule out other conditions. Blood tests can identify iron and vitamin deficiencies as well as other medical disorders associated with RLS. In some cases, sleep studies such as polysomnography (a test that records the individual's brain waves, heartbeat, breathing, and leg movements during an entire night) may identify the presence of other causes of sleep disruption (e.g., sleep apnea), which may impact management of the disorder.

Diagnosing RLS in children may be especially difficult, since it may be hard for a child to describe where it hurts, when and how often the symptoms occur, and how long symptoms last. Pediatric RLS can sometimes be misdiagnosed as "growing pains" or attention deficit disorder.

How is restless legs syndrome treated?

RLS can be treated, with care directed toward relieving symptoms. Moving the affected limb(s) may provide temporary relief. Sometimes RLS symptoms can be controlled by finding and treating an associated medical condition, such as peripheral neuropathy or diabetes.

Certain lifestyle changes and activities that may reduce symptoms in persons with mild to

moderate symptoms include decreased use of caffeine, alcohol, and tobacco; supplements to correct deficiencies in iron, folate, and magnesium; changing or maintaining a regular sleep pattern; a program of moderate exercise; and massaging the legs, taking a hot bath, or using a heating pad or ice pack. A trial of iron supplements is recommended only for individuals with low iron levels. Although many people find some relief with such measures, rarely do these efforts completely eliminate symptoms.

Medications are usually helpful but no single medication effectively manages RLS for all individuals. Trials of different drugs may be necessary. In addition, medications taken regularly may lose their effect over time, making it necessary to change medications periodically.

Common drugs prescribed to treat RLS include:

Dopaminergic agents (drugs that increase dopamine), largely used to treat Parkinson's disease, have been shown to reduce symptoms of RLS and PLMS when they are taken at bedtime and are considered the initial treatment of choice. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved ropinirole, pramipexole, and rotigotine to treat moderate to severe RLS. Both drugs are generally well tolerated but can cause nausea, dizziness, or other side effects. Good short-term results of treatment with levodopa plus carbidopa have been reported.

Although dopamine-related medications are effective in managing RLS, long-term use can lead to worsening of the symptoms in many individuals. This apparent progressive worsening is referred to as "augmentation." With chronic use, a person may begin to experience symptoms earlier

in the evening than in the afternoon until finally the symptoms are present around the clock. The initial evening or bedtime dose becomes less effective, the symptoms at night become more intense, and symptoms begin to affect the arms or trunk. Fortunately, this apparent progression is reversible by removing the person from all dopamine-related medications. Another important adverse effect of dopamine medications that occurs in some people is the development of impulsive or obsessive behaviors such as obsessive gambling or shopping. Should they occur, these behaviors can be reversed by stopping the medication.

The FDA has approved gabapentin enacarbil, which metabolizes in the body to become gabapentin, for the treatment of moderate to severe RLS.

Other medications may be prescribed "off-label" (not specifically designed to treat RLS) to relieve some of the symptoms of the disorder.

Benzodiazepines can help individuals who have mild or intermittent symptoms obtain a more restful sleep. However, even if taken only at bedtime they can sometimes cause daytime sleepiness. Benzodiazepines such as clonazepam and diazepam are generally prescribed to treat anxiety, muscle spasms, and insomnia. Because these drugs also may induce or aggravate sleep apnea in some cases, they should not be used in people with this condition.

Opioids such as codeine, propoxyphene, or oxycodone may be prescribed at night to diminish pain and help to relax in-

medsearch cont'd...

dividuals with more severe symptoms. Side effects include dizziness, nausea, exacerbation of sleep apnea, and the risk of addiction.

Anticonvulsants such as gabapentin and pregabalin can decrease the sensory disturbances such as creeping and crawling sensations and nerve pain. Dizziness, fatigue, and sleepiness are among the possible side effects.

What is the prognosis of people with restless legs?

RLS is generally a lifelong condition for which there is no cure. Nevertheless, current therapies can control the disorder, minimizing symptoms and increasing periods of restful sleep. Symptoms may gradually worsen with age, although the decline may be somewhat faster for individuals who also suffer from an associated medical condition. In addition, some individuals have remissions—periods in which symptoms decrease or disappear for days, weeks, or months—although symptoms usually eventually reappear. A diagnosis of RLS does not indicate the onset of another neurological disease, such as Parkinson's disease.

What research is being done?

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), a component of the National Institutes of Health, is the primary Federal sponsor of research on brain and nervous system disorders. The NINDS seeks to increase scientific understanding of RLS, find improved meth-

ods of diagnosing and treating the syndrome, and discover ways to prevent it.

NINDS-supported researchers are investigating the possible role of dopamine function in RLS. Researchers suspect that impaired transmission of dopamine signals may play a role in the disorder. Additional research should provide new information about how RLS occurs and may help investigators identify more successful treatment options.

Workshops and conferences sponsored by the NINDS as well as nongovernment organizations have emphasized the need for further research on animal models and the complex roles of dopamine interaction with iron levels. For example, serum ferritin, an index of iron deficiency, has been shown to predict the severity of RLS symptoms in older individuals.

In other related research disorders or research programs funded by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, contact therapist, NINDS scientists are conducting studies to better understand the physiological mechanisms of PLMS associated with RLS.

Where can I get more information?

For more information on neurological disorders or research programs funded by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, contact the Institute's Brain Resources and Information Network (BRAIN) at:

BRAIN
P.O. Box 5801
Bethesda, MD 20824
(800) 352-9424
<http://www.ninds.nih.gov>

GETTING DIAGNOSED WITH RESTLESS LEGS SYNDROME

People are diagnosed with restless legs syndroms if they answer yes to the following four questions:

1. Do you have the urge to move your legs because of unpleasant feelings in them?
2. Does the urge to move increase if you are resting or sitting down?
3. Do the unpleasant feelings decrease or go away when you move your legs?
4. Are the unpleasant feelings and the urge to move worse in the evening and at night?

See your primary care physician for help.

POW MEDSEARCH PACKETS

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Map of Japanese POW Camps~ 21" x 32" with camps featured in red	\$4.00

**Check packets you wish to order and send, with payment, to: AXPOW
3201 East Pioneer Parkway #40, Arlington, TX 76010**

Name _____ Phone () _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____ (includes shipping/handling*) **MasterCard and Visa accepted (circle one)** (\$5.00 minimum charge)

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

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legislative



PNC Charles Susino Jr
Chairman

Mid-term elections 2014 resulted in a wave of change. There was a shift in party from a Democratic majority in the Senate (53 Dem - 45 Rep - 2 Ind.) to the Republicans holding 53 seats. In addition, while the total number of veterans serving in Congress will decrease slightly to approximately 100, the Senate has increased in its representation for those with military service from 20 to 21, the first increase since the 1982 election. Tom Cotton of Arkansas and Joni Ernst of Iowa won their races, making them the first two Iraq veterans ever elected to the Senate. You can go to the National Defense PAC website to identify if your members of Congress are veterans and their background.

The Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act required VA to implement the Choice Program by November 5, 2014. Starting this week, veterans who live 40 or more miles away from a VA medical facility will have the opportunity to choose whether to receive their health care at VA or in their community, through non-VA doctors. Veterans who live within 40 miles of a VA medical facility, but are currently waiting longer than 30 days for VA care will begin re-

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ceiving their cards later this month. VA expects that all veterans who were enrolled in the VA health care system on August 1, 2014, will receive their cards by January 2015. However, receiving a Veterans Choice Card does not instantly authorize you to start receiving health care from non-VA doctors. All care received through the Choice Program must be pre-authorized and coordinated by VA.

The Defense POW/MIA Office announced the identification of remains belonging to eight airmen who had been missing-in-action since World War II. Returned home are:

- Army Air Forces 1st Lt. William D. Bernier, 28, of Augusta, Mont.
- 1st Lt. Bryant E. Poulsen, 22, of Salt Lake City, Utah
- 1st Lt. Herbert V. Young Jr., 23, of Clarkdale, Ariz.
- Tech Sgt. Charles L. Johnston, 20, of Pittsburgh, Penn.
- Tech Sgt. Hugh F. Moore, 36, of Elkton, Md.
- Staff Sgt. John E. Copeland, 21, of Dearing, Kan.
- Staff Sgt. Charles J. Jones, 24, of Athens, Ga.
- Sgt. Charles A. Gardner, 32, of San Francisco, Calif.

The crew of the B-24D Liberator was on a mission out of Nazdab Air Field in New Guinea to attack an anti-aircraft site at Hansa Bay on April 10, 1944, when the aircraft was shot down by enemy

anti-aircraft fire. The eight airmen recovered are being returned to their families for burial with full military honors. The initial finding was in 2001 and after exhaustive work, the remains were accurately identified. This is not a one time finding, rather the Defense department has ongoing efforts to locate and identify missing servicemen and do so locating our serviceman as an ongoing basis. Worth noting, there are civilian efforts which assist in this important mission often using their own resources, an example was documented on a recent showing of "60 minutes" TV broadcast.

We need the House and Senate to act on "Putting Veterans Funding First Act". This legislation will provide Advanced Appropriations for all Department of Veterans Affairs discretionary budget accounts. Advanced Appropriations continues to be an important issue so your efforts are needed to contact your members of Congress. The proposed Bills are S. 932 and HR 813.

Signed by the President into law are the cost of living adjustments for veteran's disability compensation and dependency and indemnity compensation for surviving spouses and children. The amount of the increase, which was based off of the Consumer Price Index and determined by the Social Security Administration (SSA) is an increase of 1.7 percent beginning December 2014.

As a reminder, you can research the status of any Bill in Congress by accessing the website govtrack.us and search by Bill number or subject. Politicians must hear from us to take the correct action!

andersonville



Andersonville NHS
496 Cemetery Road
Andersonville, GA 31711
(229) 924-0343

Chief of Resource Management Alan Marsh Retires



Alan Marsh, Andersonville's Chief of Resource Management retired in mid-December. Alan has twenty-nine years of service with the federal government. He began his career with the National Park Service at Ocmulgee National Monument as a Park Ranger and later acquired his law enforcement commission. In 1992 he transferred to Andersonville National Historic Site as Supervisory Park Ranger and became the Cultural Resource Specialist for both Andersonville and Jimmy Carter

National Historic Sites in 1998.

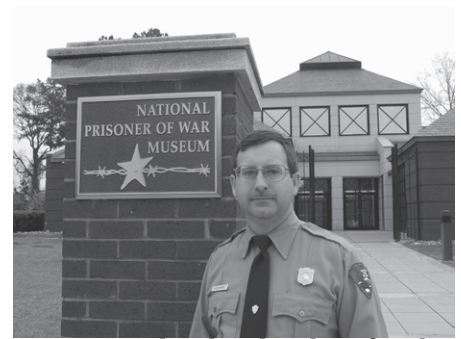
From 2006 to 2009 Alan was employed by the Department of the Air Force where he served as the wing historian for the 116th Air Control Wing (JSTARS). He deployed to southwest Asia with the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing, a diverse wing providing airpower and support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom and the Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa. Alan returned to Andersonville as Chief of Resource Management in 2009.

During his NPS career Alan has also served as Acting Superintendent at Horseshoe Bend National Military Park and Moores Creek National Battlefield. He is also currently a member of the Southeast Cultural Resource Advisory Council (SECRAC).

Alan's many accomplishments include development and planning of the Ocmulgee Indian Festival for which he was nominated by the park for the Freeman Tilden award, development of the Jimmy Carter boyhood farm, and development of the National Prisoner of War Museum (Andersonville). He has also been instrumental in the development and growth of an oral history program at Andersonville that now includes over 1,000 interviews with former prisoners of war.



Alan with longtime AXPOW volunteer Gerry Smith of New Hampshire speaking with students



We not only thank Alan for his years of dedication and commitment to the NPS but we also thank him for his friendship. We wish him and his family the very best in this new chapter of their lives! For anyone wishing to keep in touch with Alan, he can be reached at:alanmarsh@bellsouth.net

Living History

The parks holds several Living History Weekends throughout the year. During these events, living historians, re-enactors, and park rangers will help visitors understand the lives of Union and Confederate soldiers as well as civilians near the end of the Civil War at the actual site of the infamous prison.

Throughout the day, the staff and volunteers at Andersonville National Historic Site will lead visitors through the events which took place every day within the Andersonville prison (Camp Sumter) as well within the Confederate camps and offices.

The living historians will explain the activities and challenges that the soldiers from both sides faced daily:

How did these men endure the many hardships they confronted daily? Were these men any different than the normal soldier in the field? What was the reaction of the young boys and old men assigned to the operation of the overcrowded prison?

March 14-15, 2015

Ex-POW Bulletin
Jan/Feb 2014

namPOWs



Paul E. Galanti
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Homecoming plus 42 - keeping things in perspective

I suppose it's not a milestone as such things go. 42 is just a number. Its anniversary stone is the Amethyst which doesn't slide as easily off the tongue as its more famous anniversary-markers, gold or silver.

But there are 591 former Vietnam War POWs who were released 42 years ago during Operation Homecoming in the winter of 1973 - more than half held for longer than five years. Many were held under truly brutal conditions - among the worst ever suffered in American history. And like the POWs of earlier wars, they were ecstatic about their re-discovered freedom and much more appreciative of things they'd previously taken for granted. A simple hamburger engendered much more pleasure than it did before six, seven or eight years of 700 calories/day's worth of pumpkin soup and rice.

Just walking outside - just being able to walk outside - and seeing vistas unimagined in 7' x 7' black

cells, enjoying fresh air and the freedom to go anywhere and do anything made repatriation a heady, almost giddy experience. Everything - *everything* - seemed to live up to the eagerly anticipated perception we'd created in our minds. Everything seemed possible.

And then reality hit.

Despite a disproportionate number of our band becoming general and flag officers, Senators and Representatives, Mayors and Presidential Candidates, everything wasn't perfect, after all. Having already learned that we weren't invincible - as many 20-somethings think - it still came as a shock to see the changes that had ensued. I'm not going into all the major changes but suffice it to say that our entire country had changed mightily. We were welcomed home but... Our military profession was no longer the most respected profession in the country. The federal government which had consisted of, basically, the State Department, the Defense Department and the U.S. Post Office and a handful of bureaucracies had been transformed into an intractable monolith. When LTJG Everett Alvarez, the first aviator captured in North Vietnam, was shot down during the Gulf of Tonkin crisis in August 1964, the Defense Department's budget was nearly half of the government's total!

I suppose it was television that made it happen. Television helped to dumb down our entire nation creating a flock of useful idiots whose miniscule knowledge about any particular problem was no barrier to their discoursing at length on a solution. Or even campaigning on that issue without fear of informed opposition.

Television was such a great generator of emotion that it helped take our entire system of legis-

lation and laws into an emotional rollercoaster such that a cool, dispassionate, objective look at a controversial issue always came in dead last behind inflamed passions.

Raw emotion, not fact, divided the country about the war in Vietnam so that it was still being fought in the election of 2004. Divisive emotions convinced enough people that they're owed something by the rest of us (for basically doing nothing) that the "Gimme" generation rules in politics.

It turns out that until people are faced with horrible alternatives, they have nothing from which to draw a meaningful comparison. The term "hunger" connotes something different to, say, a New Yorker who missed a meal than it does to a recently released 6' tall, 100 lb. former POW! Similarly, those who fought and sacrificed for this nation see red (as in rage) when those who have done nothing, who haven't served, who haven't actually *done* anything complain about the terrible state of affairs in this country.

Put in perspective, the years have gone by too quickly. Many who came home with us are no longer here. But the ones I know best still get along well with each other. We have a great time at our reunions. And we won't be distracted by those who badmouth our administration or way of doing things without offering a positive course of change.

And, at that reunion for a few brief moments, we will return to those great post-release days, 42 years ago, when there truly is not a bad day when there's a door-knob on the inside of the door.

Paul

pow-mia



PNC John Edwards
Chairman
889 Randall Road
Niskayuna, NY 12309
(518) 393-3907 phone/fax

USS Oklahoma Exhumed Remains

On Nov. 13, 2014, Sen. Chris Murphy of Connecticut prodded Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel for specifics on when and how the exhumed remains of sailors who died on the USS Oklahoma in 1941 would be returned to their families.

Sen. Murphy and 14 other senators had written the Pentagon eight months ago requesting that the remains of 22 sailors from the Oklahoma be returned to their families, who had asked for them. The sailors were among more than 400 who died when the Oklahoma was torpedoed and capsized during the Dec. 7, 1941 surprise attack by Japan.

“Keeping the Promise”, “Fulfill their Trust” and “No one left behind” are several of many mottos that refer to the efforts of the Department of Defense to recover those who became missing while serving our nation. The number of Americans who remain missing from conflicts in this century are: World War II (73,000+), Korean War (7,921) Cold War (126), Vietnam War (1,642), 1991 Gulf War (0), and OEF/OIF (6).

civilians



JVC Alice Gollin, Chair
Christmas Menu Lunch-
STIC - 1944 -

We were allowed to go to early morning mass. We followed the priests to the dimly lit part of the museum which was in the Main building. We carried our tin cans with us so to be ready to go to the chow line after mass. On top of the stuffed water buffalo, the priest layed out the holy water, a cloth and crucifix. He was only dressed in a tattered pair of shorts held up by a frayed rope. His feet - bare. He was emaciated like the rest of us. His short sermon was praying for liberation and compared this Christmas with the stable scene in Bethlehem where animals surrounded the Holy family. WE agreed as we looked at the stuffed animals of buffalo, snakes, wild pigs etc.

Later that day, our last Christmas meal in Santo Tomas was a colossal hit. Our immediate family of five invited my dad's brother and his family of four. The nine of us were delighted to celebrate together.

We had on hand for nine people:
2 garlic buds
1 can of corned beef (our last Kit one)
1 small can of pineapple (our last Kit one)
1 taro root (from our Elephant Ear plant)
1 scoop Lugao (watery rice gruel which we received one ladle for

breakfast and one for dinner each day. That was it.

We traded a small can of “old” mustard powder for a big bunch of Talinum.(Sort of like a pig weed/spinach which individuals grew if we had some dirt)

My mother cooked and mashed the taro and added the corned beef to make “hamburger patties.” She cooked them on a tin sheet with Mabeline face cream for oil. She made a salad out of the garlic and Talinum.

A small amount of taro was mixed with the lugao and the drained pineapple chunks for dessert” muffins.” Before serving she spooned the juice over the muffins. It was incredible!

Before my mother cooked lunch she made me take Dodie and Bud, my sister and brother, for a walk. They didn't want the kids to see my dad cutting up their crudely made rocking horse for firewood.

That night the kitchen line served us REAL rice mixed with a bunch of camotes. (sweet potato) Two scoops for each. We finally went to bed with full stomachs, which was too good to be true.

MASARAP! Sascha Jansen

BACEPOW

Bay Area Civilian Ex-
Prisoners of War.
Membership is open to all
former prisoners
of the Japanese, their
families, and friends.

There is an active
descendents group.
www.bacepow.net
Commander, Angus
Lorenzen

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Jan. 30 - Feb.11, 2015. **Manila Liberation 1945.** We are on our way again with Philippine Airlines - Rajah Tours International, and yours truly, Sascha Jansen and friends. MABUHAY! See you in Manila! For information, contact Sascha at Mabuhayma@aol.com.

looking for



I am trying to get any info I can on my dad **Bryan D Liverall**. The info we have is he was shot in September 1944, leg amputated in German field hospital, then sent to Allied hospital in Nance, France by Germans then sent to Nurnberg-Langwasser Stalag 13D maybe Oflag 73 area with 15 other US, English, French & Russian officers. He was sent to Switzerland for POW exchange. I have a photo of him & 12 other soldiers & on the back some of them signed the photo & Dad wrote "me & the boys in Germany as a prisoner of war Jan 15, 1945, so I am assuming this was taken in Switzerland before leaving for US on a Swedish ship. Back in states went to Holland general hospital for more amputation & then later to McClosky General Hospital in Temple Texas where fitted with wooden leg & did therapy. He was from a small town in Missouri, Luckey outside of Desoto, MO. He did basic at Ft. Knox, KY & AIT at Pine Camp, NY where he earned tech 5 CPL rank. then shipped to Chippenham, England where trained troops in armored vehicles; told us his halftrack was favorite vehicle to drive. Dec 1943 shipped to Strasbourg, Germany joined with 10th armored Infantry Division in charge of 12 men & their equipment & battles started. He was wounded

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twice & sent back out prior to the last battle where he was captured. We are trying to get info on how he got his Bronze Star; we know he saved 2 of his men from a halftrack right before it exploded. His real name was Bryan Liverar, but all service records were Liverall because initial entry clerk spelled in wrong & that really bugged him. He had his name corrected after the war was over. In the picture, he is the first one on the left in the front row. Any help you can give me with me so appreciated, he didn't start talking about any of this until he was 85 years old & died soon after. My name is Sharon Davis; telephone # 636-586-3447.

Trying to trace anyone who knew my father **Dr Robert Pollock** who treated American POWs on the forced march from Stalag Luft 1V to Stalag X1B from Feb to March 1945. My father was at both Stalag Luft VI and 1V where he was Chief Medical Officer for the British. Unbeknown to any of the family he placed an advertisement in the EX-POW Bulletin of March 1993 asking to hear from POWs he treated during the 602 mile, 87 day forced march. Amongst his papers I found two replies. One from an Ernest L Smith, of Wichita Kansas, who wrote to my father to remind him that he had saved his life by performing an emergency tracheotomy when he had diphtheria at Stalag Luft 1V. I made contact with him recently and we have been corresponding. The other man was a Kenneth H Smith from Kountze, Texas who remembered my father on the march. I did try to make contact with him but heard nothing. Would it be possible for me to place an advertisement asking to hear from anyone who knew my father during the war to get in contact with me. After my father died in 1999 so much has come to light that he never spoke of. Then, before my mother died in 2012, she handed

me all his letters and papers and I have been trying to piece things together. I have recently made contact with Laura Caplan who has sent me a copy of the book she published about her father Dr Leslie Caplan, and I briefly made contact with Joe O'Donnell earlier this summer as I would love to read the parts of 'The Shoe Leather Express' that touch on the places my father would have been. Sadly it's out of print in the UK. My information is: Susan Morley (nee Pollock) The Oast House, Hearts Delight Lane, Wingham, near Canterbury, Kent CT3 1EP, U.K.

My father L. A. Oakes, Jr. was a POW of Japan during WWII. Captured on Philippines. Needless to say he spent almost the entire war as a POW, but came home safe and sound. Before he passed away in 2009 we had many chats about his experiences and he even wrote a small book. But he is not my problem. **SGT. W. A. McArthur or SGT. W. A. McAuthur** is. From what I understood from dad, when they were released to American custody, many prisoners just started laying stuff they had down and leaving it. Well, the only thing dad picked up someone left was a New Testament. The New Testament is from the POCKET TESTAMENT LEAGUE with a membership card stuck on the inside front cover. The name is SGT. W. A. McArthur, or McAuthur. Really hard to tell if the fourth letter is a r or a u. On the address line it looks like: Co. C. 118th M G. Brigade. What I am taking for a "G" might be a "P" or a "Q". Anyway, there is no doubt it came back from Japan. So he must have been a POW at some point.

I know this is little to go on and I might be staring down another blind alley. Anyway, do you have any ideas how I might could find out where he was from and who his family is. I'm sure they would like to have the New Testament back. Thanks for any help or recommendations you could give. Below is my work address and email. My personal is jbo61849@aol.com. Bowden Oakes
L. E. Schwartz & Son, Inc.
279 Reid Street
Macon, Georgia 31208
Ph.: 478-745-6563
Email: boakes@leschwartz.com



American Ex-Prisoners of War
2015 National Convention
June 24 - June 27



Banquet, Saturday evening, June 27

Arlington Hilton

(817) 640-3322

2401 East Lamar • Arlington, Texas

Name _____

Spouse (if attending) _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____ **Cell Phone** _____

Branch of Service _____

POW Camps _____

Please list any special needs _____

Hotel provides free shuttle to/from DFW Airport. Upon arrival, contact hotel at (817) 640-3322

In addition to the customary functions, Registration Fee also includes
breakfast and lunch on Thursday, Friday and Saturday

REGISTRATION FEE (postmarked by June 15) - # of Persons _____ **x \$135 =** _____

LADIES' LUNCHEON (Friday noon) - Number attending _____ **x \$28 =** _____

TOUR - DEALEY PLAZA, SIXTH FLOOR MUSEUM
and DALLAS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM **Number attending** _____ **x \$40 =** _____

↓ LATE REGISTRATION rates below ↓

REGISTRATION FEE (postmarked after June 15) - # of Persons _____ **x \$150 =** _____

LADIES' LUNCHEON (Friday noon) - Number attending _____ **x \$35 =** _____

TOUR - DEALEY PLAZA, SIXTH FLOOR MUSEUM
and DALLAS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM **Number attending** _____ **x \$50 =** _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Send registration and payment, made payable to AXPOW, to

American Ex-Prisoners of War

3201 East Pioneer Parkway #40 • Arlington Texas 76010

(817) 649-2979

Ex-POW Bulletin

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AXPOW Convention 2015
Arlington, Texas
June 24-27, 2015



Our Hotel: Hilton Arlington



2401 East Lamar Boulevard, Arlington, Texas 76006-7503
Tel: 1-817-640-3322, Fax: 1-817-633-1430
Room Rate \$119 night/free airport shuttle/free parking
Hilton Arlington is located 10 miles south of DFW Int'l Airport in the entertainment district of Arlington.

Attractions:

Area attractions include Cowboys Stadium, Ranger Ballpark in Arlington, Six Flags and the Arlington Convention Center. Situated in a suburban business area, the Hilton Arlington is located within walking distance of many area restaurants.



Short Agenda:

<u>JUNE 24</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u> BOARD MEETING
<u>JUNE 25</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u> OPENING CEREMONY DEALY PLAZA 6TH FLOOR MUSEUM (BOOK DEPOSITORY) DALLAS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM
<u>JUNE 26</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u> MEDSEARCH/NSO SEMINAR CONVENTION CALL TO ORDER COMMANDER'S RECEPTION
<u>JUNE 27</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u> CONTINUE BUSINESS MEETINGS NEW BOARD MEETING BANQUET
<u>JUNE 28</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u> CHECK OUT

AD Order Form

Page size is 8 1/2 x 11/due date May 15, 2014

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AXPOW

Mail Form with Ad materials and check to:
National Headquarters, 3201 E. Pioneer Pkway,
Suite 40, Arlington, TX 76010



AXPOW Convention 2015
 Arlington, Texas
 June 24-27, 2015



American Ex-Prisoners of War Candidate for National Office 2015

Candidate for office of:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Member Chapter:

Military Service Organization (Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines or civilian):

Date and Place of Capture:

Places of Internment:

Date and Place of Liberation:

Biography (Please attach, including picture):

To be eligible to run for a national office, a candidate must have been a member for the 3 previous years.

Submit to: David Claypool, Chairman
 PO Box 38
 Hampton MN 55031
 (612) 245-2247
 claypool23@midco.net

Ex-POW Bulletin
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When it Rains it Pours: Camp Morton

by Alice A. Booher

During mid-19th Century, Indianapolis was an important center of commerce mostly due to the railroads. On February 12, 1861, Abraham Lincoln's celebratory train stopped there on his way to his inauguration; a much sadder train would stop there going the opposite direction after his death in April 1865. Between those train trips, in April 1861, Ft. Sumter in Charleston, SC fell, after which many things changed for Indianapolis, including at a small parcel of land dubbed Camp Morton. During the 1861-1865 period, that site would develop a remarkably diverse legend ranging from excellent to atrocious. Some problems were due to the relentless heat of Indiana summers versus the fridity of Indiana winters; other disasters were simply and unequivocally man-made, and there was plenty of blame to go around for that.

According to aggregate recounting of contemporaneous history¹, Samuel Henderson, the first mayor of Indianapolis, owned a 36 acres tract, Otis' Grove, on the then outskirts of town [the area bounded by Talbott and Central Avenues, and 19th and 22nd Streets.]. The "Grove" consisted of elevated lush ground hosting black walnut and oak trees, verdant with four springs, perfect for day-outings. On one corner of the property was a swampy area, very dry in summer, but prone to flooding in the spring-thaw, thanks to a pesky tributary of the larger Fall Creek before it meets the White River. In 1837, the State stepped in - spent money to widen, deepen and dredge the creek, called it "State Ditch" (later dubbed "The Potomac" by Confederate POWs), designated it a "place of universal interest", and in 1859, took possession of the land and christened it "The State Fair Grounds". Construction was initiated to discharge the

legal requirements for "place of universal interest" to include open-ended stables for horses, stalls and sheds for cattle, sheep and hogs, an exhibition hall for machinery, animals and produce, a dining hall and two-story office building.

When war broke out at Ft. Sumter, SC on April 12, 1861, President Lincoln called for 75,000 troops. The State of Indiana's Republican Governor Oliver P. (Hazard Perry Throck) Morton², a strong Union man, cabled his close ally Lincoln on the 15th that he had already raised 10,000 (and later more) troops and was finding a site to train them. Morton asked his newly tapped adjutant general Lew Wallace (lawyer, later author of *Ben Hur*) to survey; he reported the State Fair Grounds was the only suitable site. Union troops arrived immediately, refitting construction was frantic and some new structures relied on green lumber. A Ladies Patriotic Association was formed by Governor Morton's wife, Lucinda Burbank Morton³, who presided with a generous heart and an iron hand, preparing clothing, sheets, pillows, towels, blankets. Appeals to the community yielded warm clothing, and staples to supplement a limited source of supplies and food. The soldiers complained about the food all summer, but with the coming of autumn 1861, the U.S. Government took over subsistence, and soldiers more fondly recalled prior fare.

Circumstances of war brought a POW influx in three general groups: political prisoners whose allegiance was questioned (later spies and sundry others), officers, and enlisted or non-commissioned officers, each of which did better when held separately. The U.S. Government asked Gov. Morton how many POWs he could take; Morton said 3,000 - so they quickly sent him 3,700. With the surrender of some 16,000

Confederate troops at Ft. Donelson, TN, the POW issue became instantly severe; more than half needed emergency medical care which was given at the Camp, annexes, a gym, post office and a few private homes, mostly by civilian volunteers. Less than a year later Camp Morton would have 5,000 POWs, and soon 1,000 from the First Battle of Shiloh, mostly enlisted. By war's end, Indianapolis would have built 24 war installations around the city.

Early on, few POWs were sent to Indianapolis, and while no one knew what to do with them, it was not of great concern since it was not felt the war would last long. POWs would report to HQ daily, but if they had money, they could live in a hotel; if not, they could get jobs to earn funds. Doctors worked together on care while the community gave clothing, bedding, jelly, fresh baked bread. Mrs. Morton's group was as generous with the Confederate POWs as it had been with the Union troops that preceded them. While pro-Union and occasionally violently so, Indiana had many Southern supporters (some areas on the Ohio River voted to join the Confederacy) making some of Mrs. Morton's volunteers nervous lest they be misconstrued as being sympathizers.

Preparations to turn the fledgling fairgrounds-training center into a working POW camp were furious and fast. Early relatively hardy POWs arrived by rail, were greeted and escorted to camp by townspeople. As war progressed, arriving POWs became more famished, exhausted, ill, wounded and hospitality was less chummy. However, if the situation was not all positive, by all accounts, at least for the first two years, Camp Morton was probably better than most other POW camps. The Indiana cold descended hard on the Southern POWs; they were unfamiliar with the food and became ill. Some officers had "colored" servants with them; that raised all sorts of problems, so the Governor told them to leave if they wished, but if they stayed, they would be under military control. Quite a few stayed and became orderlies in hospital facilities. The enlisted POWs were young, pri-



Camp Morton, cont'd...

marily small farmers or squatters; few had uniforms and all had lost extra clothing or coats at surrender.

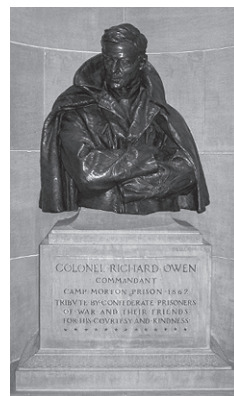
Gov. Morton was having trouble keeping his political act together after 1862, and participated in some creative activities to control dissent, Southern sympathizers and the Democrats (who withdrew their entire ticket and when Union men searched the departing train, dumped their personal weapons in the creek, earning the name The Battle of Pogue's Run). He also had a lot on his POW-plate, from finding guards to rule making and supplementing limited Federal supplies. His best decision may have been appointment of COL Richard Owen⁴ as commandant. Strong, smart, experienced, disciplined, in the early months of the POW camp he was genuinely admired as a skillful leader. Owen was quoted in the *Indianapolis Sentinel* of April 17, 1862, as saying that his aim was to treat the POWs in a way "calculated to make them less restless in their confinement, and likely, when they returned to their homes, to spread among their friends and acquaintances the news that they had been deceived regarding northern men"; he apparently meant what he said. To supplement the new rules for all camps, Owen set up collateral Rules for Camp Morton, which were of sufficient excellence that they were later adopted for all Northern POW camps. During Owen's tenure, only 13 of the 4,200 POWs tried to escape; there was some dysentery, typhoid fever and pneumonia, but otherwise no widespread disease problems.

With POW complaints about food and expense being considerable, Camp



Morton undertook some interesting initiatives including baking their own bread and selling what remained, setting aside the money in a Fund to buy things from sutlers like blankets and bacon. Other resources were generated for that Fund for odd item purchases. Camp Morton had its share of serious problems ranging from mail to discipline but Owen tempered the harshness and isolation by introduction of books, recreational opportunities, music; Mrs. Morton's volunteers were able to supply many staples that could not be obtained elsewhere.

In May 1862, war was raging and taking an inordinate toll and Gov. Morton needed Owen to return to active Yankee soldierly field duties along with his men. The Confederate POWs were so apprehensive at Owen's departure that they did something quite remarkable: they petitioned the Governor to keep the regiment at command at the camp, and Owen in charge, in exchange for which they effectively promised to be "good" (e.g., follow rules, etc.) for the duration. Morton had no choice to decline but their petition was duly noted. Ironically, Owen and his men went into KY where at Munfordville, he was captured along with part of his regiment. Owen's earlier generosity to the Ft. Donelson POWs was repaid by former POW General Buckner, himself also now back in service, who thanked Owen and returned his sidearms; Owen and his men were greeted with friendliness by their former prisoners, now their captors.⁵



They say bad things come in threes, and if so, June 1862 must have been a nightmare for Gov. Morton; he had a new batch of

guards, new raw field troops to find and train, had to get a new commandant in place, and then the U.S. Government issued a new set of POW rules. He obtained new, young, untrained, undisciplined, and unskilled troops, and was given no choice but to enforce the new rules. As Commandant, Morton picked David Garland Rose, U.S. Marshall for Indiana for a year. Rigid and colder in temperament, it would be said of Rose that he certainly was "no Owen". Thereafter, POWs (and often others) blamed Rose as the source, real or imagined, of much that went wrong at Camp Morton including rumors, unrest, incidents, attempted escapes and Fund mismanagement.

Morton would have liked to (and might have been permitted to) redistribute some of his POWs to other Midwestern camps had not the specter of prisoner exchanges raised its many heads. On one hand, morale problems within the POWs were minimized by the rumors of exchanges, but even after signing the documents on July 22, 1862, for myriad reasons, things did not go smoothly. One unique circumstance that had to be addressed was what happened if a POW did not want to be exchanged. Commandant Owen had earlier written via channels to Secretary of War Stanton that at least 2/3^{rds} of the men taken in TN "would regret any circumstances which induced or compelled them again to take up arms against the Union". Discussions began as to how to administer the oath of allegiance to those POWs at Camp Morton. In the meantime, most of TN was in the hands of the Union anyway under Andrew Johnson as military governor. Johnson's plan to interview all TN POWs in Northern camps, who asked to swear allegiance to the Union, was greeted with turmoil and some violence on both sides in Camp Morton. Within a short time, some 300 had taken the oath and left Indianapolis for Nashville, 6 months after their arrival. All sorts

Camp Morton, cont'd...

of scenarios were instituted for the Camp Morton exchanges to include rosters (and charts showing tables of equivalents for numbers of officers to be exchanged for privates or common seamen), organizing transport, return of monies and weapons, etc.



By September 1, 1862, a damaged, filthy Camp Morton was cleared of Rebel POWs and clean-up commenced, but before much could be accomplished, Indiana troops again required training spots and Indiana volunteers, captured at Richmond and then sent home on parole, needed accommodations. Paroled Northern POWs were supposed to be housed at Annapolis and Camp Chase but Governor Morton intervened to try to help their circumstances and get his own men back. This proved the adage that one must be careful what one wishes for, because by the end of September, 3,000 troops were back at Camp Morton, albeit the place was still much of a used-up mess with few provisions available through the U.S. Government for parolees. Within the basic premise that they render no duty which would free troops for active service, nonetheless they guarded, policed, repair barracks, drilled and morale slightly improved in Indianapolis.

By 1863, COL James Biddle became Commandant. His own regiment had been captured at Muldraugh Hill, KY, paroled in the field, and had been living at Camp Morton awaiting POW exchange. New POWs arrived and soon left, and others arrived. Confed-

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erate General John Hunt Morgan's horsemen raided Southern Indiana and supposedly planned to burn Indianapolis and release the POWs at Camp Morton, but he never made it that far. However 1,100 of his captured men were brought to Camp Morton, and more arrived shortly thereafter, raising the POW level to 3,000 by August 1863 when fortunately for the camp, more than 1,000 were transferred to Camp Douglas. This period was filled with escapes and widespread unrest, made toxic by rewards to informers and several changes of commandants as troops and their leaders were needed in the field.

On October 22, 1863, COL Ambrose Stevens became commandant, when the Camp had 2,362 POWs and a mortality rate of more than 12.45%. Supplies such as food and clothing were relatively ample, but buildings were falling down, discipline was poor, and the creek exhibited its old habit of bad drainage. The 1863-4 Indiana Winter went to 20 degrees below zero and the place became "a death trap", averaging three deaths a day. As year ended, more Confederate POWs arrived from Chattanooga, a military prison was finished, and escape attempts continued. By July 1864, POWs numbered 4,999 and the summer heat precipitated more illness. The ever-present water problems, including Fall Creek, which exuded limestone, exacerbated malaria and diarrhea. The hospital added a ward but barracks were decrepit. In the couple of months prior to war's end in April 1865, 2,600 POWs left as part of a prisoner exchange. By June 1st, the last 308 POWs were set free along with 7 Union "deserters" (captured by the Confederates, took the oath of Southern allegiance as POWs, were recaptured and re-incarcerated a Camp Morton as traitors) ⁶and 40 assorted other prisoners. ⁷

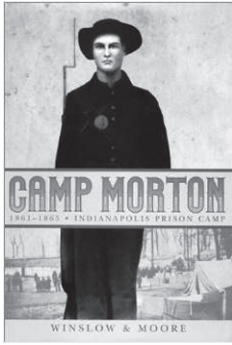
Two months after the war ended, property that remained was sold at public auction. Buildings were cleared by August, Indianapolis allocated rehabilitation money, and the State Board of Agriculture received some money from the U.S. Government for property damages.

The State Fair returned to the site by 1868 (and remained there until 1891) when businessmen bought the site. A new state fairgrounds was situated on Fall Creek Parkway where it remains today. In the meantime, developers built streets and did major work on the drainage situation, turning it into an upscale residential district called Morton Place. After 1890, Herron-Morton place became more famous as President Benjamin Harrison's home neighborhood. In 1962, the Indiana Civil War Centennial Comm. placed a state historical Camp Morton marker at 19th and N. Alabama.

The estimated 1,700 POWs who died at Camp Morton (1862-1865) were buried in wooden coffins in trenches on lots purchased at Indianapolis' City Cemetery, later expanded and renamed Greenlawn. Original gravesites had wooden headboards with painted ID numbers. Some POWs were exhumed and returned to their families, but 1,616 Confederate POWs remained at Greenlawn, where a fire in 1866 destroyed remaining records. Remarkably, this was not the end of it.

In the 1870's, urban development led to reburial of the POWs remains to an unmarked mass grave at Greenlawn. According to the National Park Service, until the 20th Century, national cemeteries were built only for Union soldiers and thus not available for these POWs. ⁸ The exact site was later located for the U.S. government by COL William Elliott in 1906. A monument, erected in 1918 to honor those 1,616 POWs, many of whom died at City Hospital, was moved to Garfield Park in 1928. ⁹ Camp Morton itself blended into history; PS 45 students and teachers erected ¹⁰ a stone marker at the site. The remains in the mass grave were incrementally moved to Crown Hill by 1933. Later, a 2-year project to identify these veterans was led by two Indianapolis police officers Steve Staletovich, Wayne Sharp and the Crown Hill Society, a result of which, 10 bronze plaques mounted on granite bases were placed at the site. The area was rededicated in 1993 in a ceremony that included

Camp Morton, cont'd...



representatives (and Rebel dirt which was comingled with Hoosier soil) from 14 former Confederate states and territories. Each year, Civil War reenactors still honor these veterans with a ceremony held in front of the "Confederate Mound".¹¹

These veterans now share an adjacent resting place with many other Civil War participants: numerous generals; Dr. Samuel Fahnestock, a Christian Commission volunteer who went to Louisiana during the Civil War to treat liberated slaves and was killed there; Medal of Honor winner (Missionary Ridge, TN), Charles W. Brouse; Catherine Merrill, a nurse who treated Confederate POWs; Dr. William Wishard, Supt. of City Hospital, responsible for untold Union soldiers sent home for care from field hospitals; Edward Black, a drummer boy at about age 10; Richard Gatling, inventor of the gun; Daniel Prunk, embalmer and later doctor.

A special area was dedicated for all veterans on Memorial Day 1988 and has expanded since then, with veterans of all periods of service buried (e.g., Hezekiah Smith and Elder John Morrow from the American Revolution; some from Indian Wars; and Henry Clay Conner, USAAF in WWII, defender of Bataan, evaded capture and organized guerilla force in the west of Clark Field; and many from Korea, Vietnam and recent conflicts). Crown Hill Cemetery including the Confederate Plot and the nearby Crown Hill National Cemetery that was established for Union dead, was listed on the National Register for Historic Places in February 1973.¹²

Crown Hill Cemetery, one of the largest in the country at 555 acres, and incorporated in September 1863 as a nondenominational facility, also

holds some other remarkable Yankee POW remains. John H. King, a PVT in the 9th IND Vol. Cavalry, was captured during his first encounter with the enemy, sent to Andersonville POW Prison where he nearly died; then sent home on the steamboat Sultana following release (a ship which exploded and killed and scalded 1,200 soldiers); Ivan Walker, who escaped Libby Prison (Richmond, VA); Abel Streight, who planned and executed the Libby Prison escape for 100 POWs.



Indiana lost about 700 men during the war. Indianapolis' most historic landmark, the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in the center of town, was erected primarily in honor of Civil War (and later other) veterans; it was debated from 1888 and finally dedicated in 1901. One final irony perhaps is that with all the gravesite moving over the years, the now phantom site of Camp Morton, through which an estimated 9,000 POWs would pass during the Civil War, is only about a mile from the eternal final resting place for the 1,616 POWs at the serene lush Crown Hill Cemetery which is close enough to Fall Creek to perhaps hear the water whisper on a quiet day.

(Endnotes)

¹ A book used extensively herein originated with a high school student paper in 1932. The Manual Training HS social studies chair, Dr. Joseph Moore and Mrs. Hattie Lou Winslow of the Shortridge HS social studies department and Butler University, extended the study and published it in

1940 as Vol. 13, #3 of the Indiana Historical Society (IHS) Publications, under the name Camp Morton 1861-1865: Indianapolis Prison Camp. IHS reprinted it in a hardback edition in 1995.

² Morton is one of the fascinating men of his era. Born in 1823, he was a hatter's apprentice, attended Miami Univ., studied law and sat on the bench. A Democrat who switched to Republican in 1854, as Lt. Gov. he assumed the gubernatorial spot in 1861 and was elected thereto in 1864. According to the National Governors Association, when Pres. Lincoln asked for troops in April 1861, the Indiana legislature was sluggish to fully respond, and Morton raised the money himself to equip and pay some 6,000 soldiers. See http://www.nga.org/cms/home/governors/past-governors-bios/page_indiana. He apparently was a man who generated strong opinions; his purported idiosyncratic political and personal behavior is well documented.

³ Lucinda, daughter of Isaac and Mary B. Tozel Burbank, married Oliver P. Morton May 15, 1845; they would have at least three children. By all accounts, she was caring, smart, forgiving, tenacious, intuitive and intense; her brother John A. Burbank, a mercantile businessman, after the Civil War moved to NE, became 4th Territorial Governor of the Dakota and later Governor of WY after which he returned to Indiana. See <http://dantate.featuredblog.com> on The Isaac Burbank Family of Centerville, IN. Lucinda is also buried at Crown Hill Cemetery.

⁴ Born in Scotland in 1810, Owen was well (European) educated and moved to IN in 1827 at age 17. He fought in the Mexican War and with his brother, surveyed the NW Territory, and became Chair of the Natural Science Dept., U.S. Military Academy at West Point for 9 years, then returned as IN State Geologist. After the War, Owen became a professor at Indiana Univ. for 15 years and did a number of surveys (NC, AZ, and NM); Owen Hall at IU is named for him. In 1872, he became the first President of Purdue Univ. then returned to IU. He died of accidental poisoning in March 1890, and is buried in Crown Hill Cemetery. See www.in.gov/idoa/1783.htm

⁵ In a final tribute from the Confederate POWs, a bust to Col Owen sits on a marble pedestal, main floor, State House. The tribute was to be a plaque, but donations were so generous that a bronze bust was substituted. Designed by the daughter of a Confederate soldier, the inscription is: "*Colonel Richard Owen, Commandant, Camp Morton 1862, Tribute*"

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by Confederate prisoners of war and their friends for his courtesy and kindness”.

⁶ See the 150th Anniversary history by Wissing et al, *Crown Hill: History, Spirit, Sanctuary*, a beautiful coffee table book by the Indiana Historical Society Press (Indianapolis, 2013), available through the Crown Hill Cemetery Heritage Foundation. (e.g., PVT Robert Gay, a 27-year-old schoolteacher, had taken the Confederate oath as a POW, was returned to Indiana, convicted of treason and shot beside his newly dug grave at Burnside Barracks just south of Camp Morton. It was the “first and only military execution in the West during the war; many other soldiers with similar stories were pardoned for the same offense”. Three bounty jumpers were executed the following year at Burnside Barracks. There was also a large number of Union dead buried including at the national cemetery portion of Crown Hill, making “rest in peace” a “fluid concept”; in the first public notice of the cemetery in the *Indiana State Sentinel*, Oct. 22, 1863, Crown Hill used permanence as a sales tool.

⁷ The details of specific events are found in W&M and in a few contemporary books and newspaper articles by former POWs and others. e.g., Vol. VI, #12, Nashville,

TN, *Confederate Veteran* (1898); *Den of Misery* by James R. Hall. W&M is probably the best for most including arguments between Dr. John S. Wyeth and the Indiana GAR re: conditions and POW treatment (1863-5). Many of the arguments are directed at a few overly enthusiastic guards.

⁸http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/national_cemeteries/Indiana/Crown_Hill_Confederate_Plot.html

⁹ The weathered and worn white granite memorial remains at GarfieldPark. With the help of historians, the local chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, led by African American Army veteran Brian Blevins, with relatives on both sides of the Civil War, has a project to focus on the POW camp and restore the 102 year old monument according to *The Indianapolis Star*

¹⁰ July 12, 2014, which reports that the names on the plaques include 24 black soldiers, and others such as the name of William Blythe, a great-great grandfather of Pres. William J. Clinton.

¹¹ This was at Alabama and 19th Sts. Someone also laid small rectangular low brass “Site of Camp Morton” markers in the grassy strip between the sides of the north-south streets in the area where it

had been located. Ignored in the neighborhood, I remember them in mid 1940-50's in front of a family home in the 2100 block of N. New Jersey

¹¹ See Book I *Confederate Burials in Crown Hill Cemetery, Marion County, Indiana* (1998), and Book II, *Crown Hill National Cemetery*, (2002) by the Genealogical Society of Marion County, available from the Crown Hill Main office. The books includes a history of the cemetery including reprints of numerous news articles, and the first and last name of each soldier, their rank, military unit/date of death and origin state. See also Wayne L. Sanford's *Memories of the Past: A Tour of Crown Hill Cemetery, Recalling nearly 200 Years of Indianapolis and Marion County History*, (1996) published by Crown Hill Cemetery

Thanks also for onsite cooperation from Marianne Randjelovic, Vice President of Development, Crown Hill Heritage Foundation, a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization.

¹² Similar special areas exist for veterans' burial in many public and private cemeteries nationwide; these are overseen by the National Cemetery Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Re: Sec. 32, Lot 285 of Crown Hill, See also <http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/lots/crownhill.asp>

National Convention 2014 TOURS

1. Dealey Plaza , the area where President John F. Kennedy was shot. There is a memorial to him and it is right across from the infamous Grassy Knoll.
2. 6th Floor Museum in the former Texas Schoolbook Depository building where Lee Harvey Oswald hid out. The Museum chronicles the assassination and legacy of President John F. Kennedy; interprets the Dealey Plaza National Historic Landmark District and the John F. Kennedy Memorial Plaza ; and presents contemporary culture within the context of presidential history.
3. Dallas Holocaust Museum across the street. The permanent exhibit gives visitors a view of the Holocaust by focusing on one day during the Holocaust—April 19, 1943. On this day three important and very different events happened: The 20th Deportation Train from Belgium was attacked by partisans; The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising began; The Bermuda Conference met. These events illustrate wartime heroism, Jewish resistance against all odds, and government and diplomatic indifference to the fate of Europe's Jews. The exhibit also highlights the first European box car brought to the US . This car was likely used to transport Jews to concentration or extermination camps.

Total cost is \$40, including transportation and admission into all three historical sites. Register on the Convention Registration page.

WWII veteran recalls 'men we left behind'

By KEITH ROGERS

kr Rogers@reviewjournal.com

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Former Prisoner-Of-War Alan Dunbar, 96, holds his World War II photograph at his Las Vegas home Sept. 16, 2014. (Keith Rogers/Las Vegas Review-Journal)



At age 96, Alan Dunbar admits that his World War II experience as a wounded American soldier in German prison camps made him “as sentimental as the next guy.”

That’s why on National POW/MIA Recognition Day today, he said he will be thinking about “the men we left behind. The men who were killed. The men who were wounded.”

“I’m giving it to you from the heart because I feel that somebody’s got to know that it’s tough to see a man die that you’ve been training,” he said Tuesday at his Las Vegas home.

“It hurt me when I lost somebody because he was wounded and he wasn’t taking care of himself,” he said. “You become kin to them.”

Having just graduated from Temple University, Dunbar was among the first draftees from Philadelphia immediately after the Dec. 7, 1941, Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Following a brief stint as an enlisted man, he quickly became an officer candidate who emerged from Fort Benning, Ga., as a second lieutenant.

Three years later — after losing his brother, Joseph, a Navy commander whose ship was sunk while chasing German submarines off the coast of Italy — Dunbar found himself in the Battle of the Bulge as captain of a communications platoon in the 106th “Golden Lion” Division.

It was the snowy winter of December 1944 and they had dug foxholes in the pine forest along the border of Belgium and Germany. Dunbar’s unit, which was part of the 422nd Infantry Regiment, was positioned near the German towns of Auw and Schlausenbach.

On the morning of Dec. 16, thousands of German artillery pieces started pounding the area.

“What would follow in the next few days would be-

come known as the largest defeat of the U.S. Army in World War II,” according to the 106th Division’s website. “Over the next three days, the 422nd and 423rd Regiments became completely cut off from the rest of the division.”

Memories of what happened Dec. 19, 1944, still burn in Dunbar’s mind.

“I was with my wire crew. One of the guys was on top of a tree. He says to me, ‘Captain, I see a lot of Germans out there.’ The next thing you know they engulfed us,” he recalled.

“There was so damn many of them and so few of us. We fought them for a while,” he said, describing the “glancing blow” from a bullet that pierced his left leg.

Commanders of the 422nd and 423rd regiments decided it would be best to surrender than see their soldiers killed.

Dunbar and his platoon were among 7,000 soldiers from the 106th Division who “went into German captivity and would spend the duration of the war in a series of POW camps,” according to the division’s website.

He was among 185 officers who were herded into boxcars and hauled by train to Oflag 64 near Schubin, Poland.

That’s where he met “the man who saved my life,” Lt. Col. John K. Waters, the son-in-law of Gen. George S. Patton, who had been captured in Tunisia in 1943 and was in charge of the camp’s 1,500 officer POWs, mostly from the North Africa campaign.

With the war in Europe at a turning point, Russian forces were bearing down on Nazi-occupied Poland.

“When the Russians made their advance, the German commander decided they were going to evacuate the camp,” Dunbar said.

The Germans’ plan was to march the American prisoners back to Germany.

“It was in the dead of winter. My boots, I just about couldn’t get them on because my leg was swollen. My feet were swollen,” he said. “So the Germans told me that since I couldn’t walk they were going to leave me by the side of the road.”

But Waters confronted the German guards.

“He said, ‘This man is an American officer. He’s entitled to privileges. And one of the privileges is that since he is wounded he can ride in the meat wagon.’ These were for the people who were sick or shot,” Dunbar said.

“He told the German commander, ‘This unit is not going to leave this camp until you ...’

But before Waters could finish, “the German commander says, ‘He rides in the wagon.’ This man saved my life. I admired this man, and we became very good friends,” Dunbar said.

When the procession stopped at night, Waters would come to the meat wagon and “pick me up bodily and carry me into the barn where we were supposed to sleep. I said to him one time, ‘Colonel, you saved my life.’ And he says, ‘No I didn’t, Alan. I was just doing what was right.’”

On March 27, 1945, Patton had sent a task force 50 miles behind enemy lines to liberate the Hammelburg, Germany, prison camp where Waters and Dunbar were being held. Waters “went out to greet the task force and a German guard shot him in the back,” Dunbar said.

Waters was so badly wounded, the Germans released him to allied authorities, but they captured the task force “and they became POWs with us,” he said.

After about 10 days, the American prisoners were transferred to the infamous Stalag VII-A camp at Moosburg, Germany.

On April 29, 1945, a task force from the 14th Armored Division succeeded in liberating Moosburg.

“And Gen. Patton came in with his two silver revolvers. He says, ‘Gentlemen, I am here to liberate Moosburg and send you all back to where you came from,’” Dunbar recalled. “And some guy in the rear says, ‘The hell with that general. Where the hell are we going to get the planes to go home?’”

“And they sent in over 100 C-47s to pick up the POWs. There were 1,500 POWs. And they flew us to France.”

After World War II, Dunbar stayed in touch with Waters, who recovered from his wounds and went on to become a four-star general. He died in 1989.

Dunbar retired as a lieutenant colonel and then worked as a claims adjudicator for Veterans Affairs in

Philadelphia, Cleveland, San Diego, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles.

He retired from the VA in 1980 and moved to Las Vegas.

Since World War II, he has received “lots of letters from the parents thanking me for bringing their sons back. But, it’s all in a days work,” he said.

Wings of War: Extraordinary Wingmen

by Alice A. Booher

Every military aviator will tell you that a good wingman is indispensable and often key to their success – the flyer’s version of “having one’s back”. However, many may not realize that some of these wingmen are somewhat smaller than ordinarily considered, and that “wingman” may be a bit more a literal than figurative variety.



Birds, usually pigeons, have been used in wartime for 5,000 years, early-on mostly only for short distances. By mid-12th century, civilian bird-mail (pigeon post with post offices and postmasters) was a thriving business. Scientists and breeders worked on the hardy little flyers, and by 1819, a trusty swift homing pigeon could fly 200 miles in a day, a skill which greatly expanded its occupational horizons. In the early 19th century, homing pigeons were used in many Belgian cities to bring

stock exchange quotes from across the Channel in London. Their use in commerce and war was fast, quiet and dependable.

Heroic bird feats have been praised since Greeks first voiced poetic, and their saving of combatants and civilians became legend. In 1871, during the Franco-Prussian War, the French used hot air balloons to transport homing pigeons behind enemy lines, and microfilm literally flew in a million messages between Paris and London. In 1914, during the First Battle of the Marne, the French army accompanied troops with 72 pigeons. The Brits levied considerable fines for those who would kill, wound or molest the birds. The U.S. Navy had more than a dozen pigeon stations in WWI, and the birds would fly nearly 11,000 missions after being thrown either up or down (depending on the location of the propellers) out of the aircraft; 11 of them were MIA, but the other 219 birds delivered successful messages. On the first U.S. aircraft carrier, the *USS LANGLEY*, (commissioned in October 1922), a pigeon house was placed in the stern. Individually the birds worked well, but when they were released as a group, the flock of birds roosted in the cranes of the Norfolk shipyard ending that project.

According to the Army Historical Foundation¹, during WWI, U.S. combat commanders usually transmitted messages by wire, but in unfavorable situations, they used pigeons.

When the U.S. entered the war in 1917, the U.S. Army Signal Corps had 600 carrier pigeons, provided by British breeders and trained by American soldiers. They carried messages on scraps of paper inserted into a lightweight canister attached to the bird’s leg. Once released, the bird would fly to his homing coop behind American lines and a bell would sound. Records show that during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, 442 pigeons were used to deliver messages in the Verdun area. One pigeon known as “Kaiser” was captured



wingmen, cont'd...

from the Germans, carrying its little camera. Another pigeon known as "The Rocket (Mocker)" served 52 missions before being wounded by the enemy, receiving the French Croix de Guerre and Distinguished Service Cross. The most famous of the flock may have been "Cher Ami" (a Black or Blue Check cock) who delivered 12 critical messages from the front lines, the most important of which was on October 4, 1918 when fighting was fierce, and a lot of friendly fire was taking a toll. The bird was blinded in one eye, shot through the breastbone and suffered a nearly severed leg from enemy fire, but got the important message through to commanders to "stop shooting at our own folks". Remarkably she survived and made it CONUS but died in June 1919. The colorful taxidermied one-legged bird is at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History "Price of Freedom Americans at War" exhibit along with the Croix de Guerre with Palm that she received from the French.²

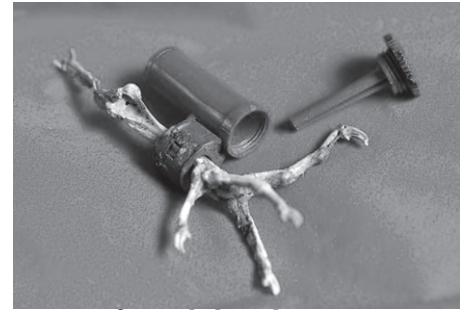


In WWII, the UK deployed 250,000 homing pigeons, many of whom were valiant beyond all belief. The British People's Dispensary for Sick Animals established the Dinkin Medal in 1943 to honor the work of animals exhibiting conspicuous gallantry or devotion to duty while serving in military conflict, and came to be known as the animals' Victoria Cross (although perhaps not by those humans who earned the VC). Not surprisingly, the Dinkin would be awarded immediately to three pigeons, and thereafter, to many more birds including an Irish one named "Paddy", and the American Pigeon Service's "G.I. Joe" (who flew 20 miles in as many minutes delivering a message that saved 1000 lives). From its inception until September 2014, the award has been made to 4 horses, 31 pigeons, 29

dogs and 1 cat for courageous actions such as bringing the news of landings at Dieppe ("Beach Comber") and Normandy ("Gustav"); a dog who made 20 parachute jumps in North Africa ("Rob"); for keeping morale high in a Japanese POW Camp ("Judy") (on which we wrote earlier in the *Bulletin*); in the Battle of Lye Mun on Hong Kong Island; for leading their owners out of the World Trade Center on 9/11 ("Salty" and "Roselle"); for locating a weapons arsenal in Iraq; tracking nationalists in Malaya; and several for detecting explosives in Afghanistan, some of whom died or went MIA in the effort. Many Americans first learned of one valiant bird from an unexpected source, a recent *Antiques Roadshow* in England, hosted by the stylish journalist Fiona Bruce. A visitor had brought a classy rather formal-looking pigeon photo of "Billie", along with Billie's actual Dinkin medal, and the written certificate for his efforts out of RAF Waddington in August 1945, all now preserved at the Allied Forces Mascot Club. As Bruce quipped, we can probably assume Billie never tried to wear his medal.

During WWII, the use of pigeons might have been further expanded since it was reported that they could be trained to deliver small explosives to precise targets, but the British Pigeon Policy Committee nixed the idea. While the Brits phased out the birds by 1948, MI-5 had concern about their continued use by the enemy, and accordingly, 100 birds were maintained until 1950. In 1957, the U.S. Signal Corps transferred 2 hero pigeons to the National Zoo in Washington, "Anzio Boy" and "Global Girl" who had completed 66 missions between them.

In 1982, a gentleman living in Surrey, near famed spymaster's Bletchley Park, found the remains of a pigeon in his chimney. He noticed a small red capsule attached to its leg. The find created quite a stir in Great Britain, and after much investigation it



was confirmed that the content was a top secret encrypted message. Now the problem is to decipher it.³ The Brits estimate that they used 250,000 pigeons during the war. The proximity of this recent find to Bletchley Park (the home of Alan Turing and the Allied cryptographers, and also the location of the MI-6 pigeon loft) has added cache. Britain's top secret GCHQ listening post and decoding department knows it was one of two birds carrying the same message; one suggestion is that it was coming from the site of Allied landings at Normandy since it was found near the HQ of British Field Marshall Bernard Law Montgomery at Reigate right before the D-Day landings. This might make the chimney bird an associate of "Gustav" who brought the first report of the Normandy Landing, after having worked for some time carrying messages for the Belgian resistance.

The Swiss continued their pigeon section until 1996. According to a new book, *From Pigeons to Tweets: A General Who Led Dramatic Changes to Military Communications* (the autobiography of LTG Clarence E. McKnight told with Hank H. Cox, 2013), when McKnight entered West Point (Class of 1952), the Army was still using the birds on the battlefield including a homing-pigeon equipped signal platoon laying wires during the Korean War. However, as late as 2010, Indian police suspected that a captured pigeon had come from Pakistan.⁴ These remarkable warriors are also commemorated in places such as "Yankee Doodle Pigeon" of the Hanna-Barbera cartoon *Dastardly and Muttley in their Flying Machines*, and in several British films and games. "Old Sarge" was

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commemorated in book and film, *The Flight*⁵, recently shown at the Yankee Air Museum in NYC, introduced by Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

In memory and honor of these amazingly faithful warriors, we can remember the words of JM Barrie, in his *The Little White Bird*: "The reason birds can fly and we can't is simply because they have perfect faith, for to have faith is to have wings."

(Endnotes)

¹ *Cher Ami- Winged Warrior*, National Museum of the U.S. Army, *Call to Duty*, Vol 9, Issue 1, March 2014.

² See also http://pigeon_racings.tripod.com/wartime_pigeons.html.

³ See George Dvorsky, *Remains of WWII military Pigeon Ignites Code Mystery* at <http://io9.com/5956950/remains-of-world...;see>

also *Can You Crack the Code? Spy Chiefs Stumped By Secret Message Found on Leg of Dead WWII Pigeon* at <http://www.morror.co.uk/news/uk-news/codebreakers-stumped>, etc.

⁴ See *Fowl Play: Alleged Spy Pigeon Held in India*, at <http://tribune.com.pk/story16913/>.

⁵ See <http://www.pigeonsincombat.com/film/html>; and www.americanwwii.com/articlespigeons-of-war

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Fox River Valley Chapter News

On November 9, 2014, the Fox River Valley Chapter awarded Anthony Hufnagel his POW medal.

In attendance were Past Chapter Commanders Norman

Zuckerman & Donald McCormick, Anthony Hufnagel, PCC William Howland and Roberto Salazar from the Chicago Regional Office who presented him with his medal. Congratulations!



New Regulations Automate Burial Payments for Veterans' Survivors

Estimated 62,000 Surviving Spouses Benefit from Regulation Changes

New burial regulations will now allow the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to automatically pay the maximum amount allowable under law to most eligible surviving spouses more quickly and efficiently, without the need for a written application.

Under former regulations, VA paid burial benefits on a reimbursement basis, which required survivors to submit receipts for relatively small one-time payments that VA generally paid at the maximum amount permitted by law.

"VA is committed to improving the speed and ease of delivery of monetary burial benefits to Veterans' survivors during their time of need. The recent changes allow VA to help these survivors bear the cost of funerals by

changing regulations to get them the benefits more quickly."

This automation enables VA to pay a non-service-connected or service-connected burial allowance to an estimated 62,000 eligible surviving spouses out of a projected 140,000 claimants for burial benefits in 2014. Surviving spouses will be paid upon notice of the Veteran's death using information already in VA systems. The burial allowance for a non-service-connected death is \$300, and \$2,000 for a death connected to military service.

This revised regulation will further expedite the delivery of these benefits to surviving spouses, reduce the volume of claims requiring manual processing, and potentially make available resources for other activities that benefit Veterans and their survivors.

For more information on monetary burial benefits, visit <http://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/claims-special-burial.asp>.

Your Stories



The story of owning a beauty salon in the Depression years

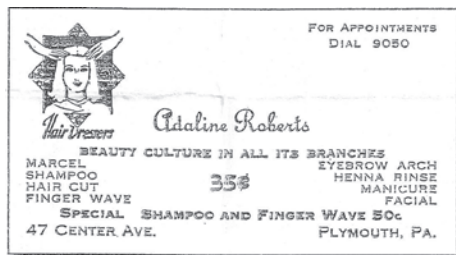
My grandfather, David Haslem, was a coal miner who worked for \$2.00 a day, and sometimes worked only one day a week. My grandmother Elizabeth Haslem's father, William Jenkins, was a Welsh immigrant coal miner who somehow managed to buy a two-acre farm on Plymouth Township Mountain and made it into a productive farm to supplement his income. His wife Hannah died in 1924, and he completed the raising of his eight children himself.

My father, Zachariah Roberts, was a coal miner, and when the mine closed he worked on the WPA. My mother, Adaline Elizabeth Roerts, the daughter of David and Elizabeth Jenkins Haslem, was a beautiful, intelligent and ambitious person who had two small children, Zachariah David and Elizabeth to raise, when she decided to take a beauty culture course. On the 23rd of February, 1931, she received her diploma.

After completing her course, she managed a large beauty salon in Wilkes-Barre for Madam Fenwick who not only owned the beauty school, but also salons in Scranton and Wilkes-Barre.

My mother decided to go into her own business in Plymouth, PA. Her first location did not work out because it was too far from Main Street and bus service was not available at the time.

Undaunted, she moved her business to the center and close to the trolley and bus lines in Plymouth. There her business flourished, and she hired three more operators. She worked six days a week, and on weekends worked 10 and 12-hour days. My grandmother would prepare hot meals for my mother and her staff on their late nights, and at the age of 101 would carry them from her house on Hillside Avenue to near Main Street, two miles downhill, and return trip two miles uphill.



This was during the height of the depression years. How did they finance opening a business? For equipment, \$2 down and \$2 a month, with a payment time of 2 years. Prices at that time were 35 and 50 cents. Permanent waving was the big ticket item with machine waves before cold waving was introduced. Prices were: \$2.50, \$3.50 and \$5.00.



Even at those prices, many people could not afford to have their hair done, so they would barter. A local pharmacist's wife, Edyth WW Gerald, gave my mother a beautiful hand-painted Limoge dish, dated 1910, in exchange for beauty services, and a second Limoge dish also dated 1910.

As I write this, I am 81 years old, a survivor of the depression and WWII as a prisoner of war in Germany for 15 months, and I am still amazed at the extraordinary accomplishments of my great-grandmother, my grandparents and parents - so much with so little. They set a great example for me in how to deal with adversity in life, and for that I am eternally grateful, and to my wife Agnes Whitlow Roberts who had all of their best characteristics.

Zachariah David Roberts
Past National Commander
601 North Shore
Tinton Falls, NJ 07753

The Great Depression in the United States began on October 29, 1929, a day known forever after as "Black Tuesday," when the American stock market—which had been roaring steadily upward for almost a decade—crashed, plunging the country into its most severe economic downturn yet. Speculators lost their shirts; banks failed; the nation's money supply diminished; and companies went bankrupt and began to fire their workers in droves. Meanwhile, President Herbert Hoover urged patience and self-reliance: By 1932, one of the bleakest years of the Great Depression, at least one-quarter of the American workforce was unemployed.

This is the first in a series of stories of growing up in the Depression. We hope to continue running these slices of American life, so send in your story to the editor and we'll publish them on a semi-regular basis. Next deadline is: Feb. 1, 2015. Thank you! Cheryl

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Lost/Last Valentine: Treat Yourself

by Alice A. Booher

Every February, even the usually crankiest of us may briefly consider a bit of “Valentine-ness”, and if you are amenable to suggestions, here you go, obtainable in several forms.



The book is a *NY Times* and *USA Today* bestseller called *The Last Valentine* by James Michael Pratt, (published in 1996, republished in paperback by St. Martins in 1999). The screenplay by Maryann Ridini Spencer and Barton Taney, *The Lost Valentine*, was first

aired by CBS in January 2011 as an award-winning Hallmark Hall of Fame starring Jennifer Love Hewitt, Sean Faris and Betty White. One does not have to be a special fan of any of these actors to be moved by the film. It features the developing story of a TV journalist (Hewitt) who profiles a WWII widow (White) whose husband, a naval aviator, was lost on the Bataan peninsula in 1944 and declared MIA. They had met and married in 1943; he entered combat the following year, leaving her pregnant with a son, who now has his own grown son (Faris). Eventually the LT aviator’s loving letters had stopped and she received the telegram saying he was MIA. Their last moments together had been in a train station where she had handed him a homemade Valentine. Refusing to believe he was dead, the widow revisits that station every Valentine’s Day. To cut to the chase: with some help, the journalist is able to locate family of a fellow crewmember who had sent a letter home with an account of the crash which contains leads which they follow-up in The Philippines. An elderly native eye-witness is found and provides, via Skype, the story of the MIA pilot who was wounded, healed and fought with the guerillas only to be killed by a Japanese sniper and buried on the spot. Searchers are able to pinpoint his primitive interment site, and remains are recovered along with his effects including the “lost/last” Valentine. With proper authentications and following Navy protocols, after 66 years, now listed as KIA and posthumously awarded the Purple Heart, Silver Star and the Navy Cross, his body is returned with full military honors arriving via the train station.

The film is dramatic but not overly so, well acted, with enhancing unintrusive music (including several versions of *Dream a Little Dream of Me*) and all in all is quite palatable. Hewitt does not overact and her clothing is not distracting; the subplots are modest and tolerable; the storyline is not overly complicated and fairly historically accurate. Betty White is simply extraordinary, a fact recognized by her nomination for the Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by the Female Actor in a Miniseries or Television Series. [White, born in 1922, has won myriad awards since she entered show business in 1939. She was age 89 at the time of the film’s first airing. In her personal life, Betty married first husband, Dick Barker in 1945; he was an U.S. Army Air Corps pilot. She interrupted her own show business career during WWII to join the American Women’s Voluntary Services.]

The Hallmark Channel occasionally reruns *The Lost Valentine*, last in October 2014. Look for it on TV just prior to Valentine’s Day 2015 (it is also available on DVD), get comfy and put on the popped corn. Admittedly, there are some soppy moments: it is Hallmark after all, and they sell greeting cards, but rise above that and take a chance on something special. The experience puts a very human face on the families left behind when service personnel are MIA, POW or unrecovered KIA - and gently but powerfully provides undeniable support of the recovery efforts that continue in real life and on which we report so frequently herein. Collaterally, the audience reached by the film (and the book) is outside the realm of those who ordinarily might know the comparable stories which have been repeated so often in our history - that is very positive and worthy of a Valentine.

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AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR VOLUNTARY FUNDING PROGRAM

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

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

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

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

Please circle one category:

Individual

Chapter

State Department

(If chapter or department, please give name)

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

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Please make checks payable to
American Ex-Prisoners of War - Voluntary Funding
Mail contributions to:
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American Ex-Prisoners of War
3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40
Arlington, TX 76010

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contributions



Please send donations to:
National Headquarters, 3201 East
Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40,
Arlington, TX 76010.

Checks must be made payable to
AXPOW or American Ex-Prisoners
of War You can also make a
donation with a credit card
(MasterCard or Visa). Just call 817-
649-2979. Thank you!

GENERAL FUND

Department of New Jersey
Marc & Carol Joseph, Teaneck NJ
Tacoma Chapter, Washington
In honor of Harry Woodland, by Dor-
othy Woodland
In honor of NC Milton M 'Skip' Moore,
Jr, by Arizona State Department
In memory of Albert George, by
Charles Glazer
In memory of Albert George, by
nephew Michael George
In memory of Albert George, by the
staff at Monroe HS, Monroe MI
In memory of Charles Vogel, by the
Rocky Mountain Chapter
In memory of Francis Edwards, by
Shirley Byrne
In memory of Guido Palozzi, by his
wife, Bernice
In memory of Henry Dunning, by
Phyllis Dunning
In memory of Irene Scaglione, by Jo-
seph Scaglione
In memory of Jeanne Corrigan, by her
family
In memory of Joseph Filko, by An-
thony Longhi
In memory of Loren Enyeart, by Mary

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Enyeart
In memory of Lt B Lamar Howard, by
Shirley Byrne
In memory of Lydia Dostie, by Shirley
Byrne
In memory of my wife June Warner,
by PNC Jack Warner
In memory of Richard Klema, by
Agnes Bartunek
In memory of Richard Klema, by
David Bartunek
In memory of Richard Klema, by
Loretta Fridlund
In memory of Richard Klema, by
Melvin Arensman
In memory of Richard Klema, by
Merlyn Stoecklein
In memory of Richard Klema, by
Nancy Lamia
In memory of Richard Klema, by

Sheryl Gonzales
In memory of Richard Klema, by
Verna Downing

MEDSEARCH

Barbed Wire Buckeye Chapter, Ohio
In memory of Bernard Olszewski, by
his children

VOLUNTARY FUNDING

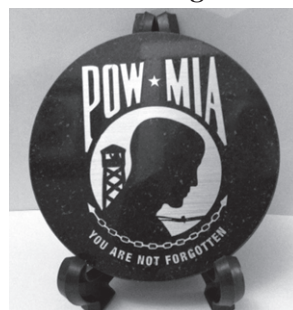
Ben & Lila Nienart, Lafayette NJ
David Goldstein, Westfield NJ
Kachadour Avedisian, Cranston RI
Maurice Markworth, Palmyra PA
Robert Kendall, Lakeville MA
Vernon Rathbun, Waterloo IA
In memory of Valentine Zurawski, by
Irene Surawski
In memory of my husband, William,
by Dharlys Fleharty

Vermont Chapter #1 News



Vermont Chapter #1 members met in
Bristol, VT for an annual banquet hosted
by the American Legion, Bristol Post 19,
Ron LaRose, Commander (left). The Chap-
ter was presented with an Indian black
granite disc, a remnant of the Vietnam
Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. John
Miner, the presenter, who established the
Veterans Outreach and Family Resource
Center in Bennington, VT is also on the board of directors of
Vietnam Veterans of America. He is presenting the disc to VT
Chapter 1 Commander, Richard Hamilton.

The Indian black granite disc



Back Row: Clyde Cassidy, Roger
Layn, Ralph McClintock, Rich-
ard Hamilton, Rick Gray, Dept
of VT Legion Commander; Lt.
Col. Greg Knight, VT Army Na-
tional Guard. Front Row: Rob-
ert Lizotte, William Blanchette,
Bill Busier, Harry Howe, Francis
Angier.



new members

National Headquarters
3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40
Arlington, TX 76010;
(817) 649-2979



New Members "Welcome Home"

Angela Wash
Citrus Heights CA
Widow of
Benjamin Wash
Korea



Certificate of Captivity

**Prisoner of War
Certificate of Captivity**

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Serial Number _____
Branch of Service _____
Unit when captured _____
Prisoner of War # _____
Camp names & locations _____

American Ex-Prisoners of War
Arlington, Texas

Suitable for framing, this certificate of captivity, printed on 8½" x 11" quality paper, proudly displays your history as a prisoner of war. Each certificate background is personalized to the theater of operation. To receive this certificate from AXPOW, please order from National Headquarters. If you are ordering at Convention, you can place your order in the Merchandise Room. We will need your name, service number, branch of service, unit when captured, POW number (if known), camp names and locations. You can call 817-649-2979 or email: axpow76010@yahoo.com. You may include a picture with your order.

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taps



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

AULNER, John Edward Jr., of Omaha, NE passed away May 7, 2013. He was shot down over the Ferrara River Bridge in Italy, captured and held at Luft IV, then marched across Germany. Both he and his wife are life members of AXPOW. John leaves his loving wife of 64 years, Jean, 2 daughters, 2 sons, 9 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

BELL, James, of Alexandria, VA died Sept. 30, 2014 at the age of 83. He was captured after being shot down north of Haiphong in 1965 and held 89 months until being liberated during Operation Homecoming in Feb. 1973. Survivors include his wife of 40 years, Dora, 3 children, 2 step-children and 11 grandchildren.

BROWN, John D. "JD", 85, of Fort Smith, AR passed away Sept. 20, 2014. He was serving in the 24th Inf. When he was captured as he headed towards the Yah River in Korea. He was held in Camps 4 and 5. JD's most cherished treasures are his wife of 60 years, Sue, 1 daughter, 2 grandsons and one great-grandchild.

BURNS, Frank, 90, Surprise, AZ, a member of the Agua Fria Chapter died October 19, 2014. During World War II, he was captured while serving in the Philippines on Bataan and Luzon. He is survived by his wife Chong.

CICCHINELLI, Joseph M., Sun City West, AZ, a member of the Agua Fria Chapter, died October 9, 2014. Joe was a distinguished WWII veteran with the 551st Parachute Infantry Battalion attached

to the 82nd Airborne. He fought in numerous battles including The Battle of the Bulge. Joe was captured by the Germans as a POW and later escaped. Surviving family includes a daughter and a son, four grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

CODIAN, Louis, 94, of Akron, OH passed away Nov. 22, 2014. He was a proud veteran of the Army during World War II. He fought in the battle of Huertgen Forest, where he was wounded and captured by German forces. He was a member of Northeast Ohio Chapter. Lou is survived by his wife of 68 years, Marge, 3 daughters, 1 son, 5 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, 1 brother and numerous nieces and nephews.

DAVES, Edward H., of Fresno, CA died May 2, 2014. He served in the 8th AF, 401st BG based in Deenthorpe, England. His plane was shot down; he was captured and held in Luft 1, Barth until liberation. He leaves his wife of 69 years, Edna, 1 daughter, her family and a large and loving extended family.

DERRINGTON, Joan O., of Littleton, CO passed away Sept. 26, 2014. Her husband Robert (PAC, 25th BS, 40th BG, Rangoon, Burma) predeceased her. She is survived by 4 sons, 1 grandson and 3 great-grandchildren.

ELLSWORTH, Ralph Edward, of Missouri Valley, IA died Sept. 18, 2014. He was 92. He was captured while serving with the 306th BG, 369th BS while flying over Schweinfurt; he was held in Maulhausen and Stalag 17B. Ralph leaves 1 daughter, 1 son, 2 step-children, 4 grandsons, 7 great-grandchildren, 2 brothers and 1 sister.

FAHRER, Samuel, of East Meadow, NY passed away Aug. 17, 2014. During WWII, he served with the 28th Div., 110th Inf. Co C; he was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and held in Stalag 9B, Berga-un-Ulster. Survivors include his wife, Pearl.

FAUST, Adeline Carter, 81, of Chester, SC died Nov. 13, 2014. She was the wife of the late Julien Grant. Adeline was an active member of the Catawba Chapter AXPOW. She is survived by 2 daughters, 3 granddaughters, 2 brothers and extended family.

FILKO, Joseph, of Bethlehem Township, PA passed away Sept. 26, 2014 at the age of 94. Serving with the 803rd Corps of Engineers, he was wounded and captured on Corregidor; he was held 3 ½ years until liberation. Joe will be dearly missed by his son, 2 grandchildren and a loving family.

GEORGE, Albert D., of Taylor MI, died Sept 22, 2014, He served in 8th AF, 491st BG, 852nd BS and was held in Luft 4, then marched through Germany. He is survived by his wife, Shirley, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 9 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren. He was dearly loved by his family.

GRIFFITH, Martha Josephine, age 92, of Plainview, TX passed away October 27, 2014. She was the widow of ex-POW Hubert (2nd Btn., 131st Field Artillery "Lost Battalion"). Both Martha and Hubert were active members of AXPOW and the Texas Dept. where Hubert served many years as chaplain. She is survived by one son, one daughter and one sister.

taps cont'd...

HASMAN, Norman J. 88, of Sun City West, AZ and North Chili, NY, a member of the Agua Fria Chapter, died July 5, 2014. He was a WWII tail gunner on a B-24 aircraft and shot down twice. Norm is survived by a brother and his six children and many grand- and great-grandchildren.

HOWARD, Thomas Hugh of Pikeville, NC passed away Sept. 6, 2014 at the age of 90. During WWII, he served with the 8th AF, 324th BS, 91st BG (H). After capture he was held in Luft 4. Hugh was a life member of AXPOW and past commander of the Dept. of North Carolina. He as a member of the Coastal Plains Chapter. Survivors include one daughter.

JIRON, Salvatore "Sal", of Glendale, CA passed away Sept. 29, 2014. He served in the Navy during the Korean War. His wife, Dorothy Rose was a civilian POW in Santo Tomas Internment Camp during WWII. Sal leaves cousins, extended family and many friends.

JONES, Lillian J., wife of Richard (ex-POW captured in the Philippines and held 3 ½ years) died Nov. 13, 2014. Both Lillian and Richard were active members of AXPOW and were a familiar sight at conventions.

McDONALD, John B. of Sun City Center, FL formerly of Chicago, IL passed away Sept. 23, 2014 at the age of 95. He was captured while serving with the 331st Inf., 83rd Div. during WWII. He was held in Oflag 64 and 13C. John is survived by 4 children, 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

MICKELSON, Earl S., of Littleton, CO passed away Sept. 18, 2014. During WWI, he served with the 508th Para. Inf., 82nd AAB. After cap-

ture, he was held in Stalag 12A. Earl was a member of AXPOW and the Mile High Chapter. Survivors include his wife, Alice and family.

MORGAN, Mae Elvera, of Sioux City, IA died June 6, 2013. She was 81 and a member of the Rocky Mountain Chapter, AXPOW. Her husband, Glenn (ex-POW, 84th Inf. Div.) predeceased her. She leaves 2 sisters, 2 stepchildren and many nieces and nephews.

MORROW, Bernard G., of Tacoma, WA passed away Oct. 11, 2014. While serving with the AAC during WWII, he was shot down, captured and held until liberated by Patton's Army. His wife of 65 years, Naydene, 1 son, 2 daughters, 10 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren survive him.



MOTTERN, Eulah B. "Sweetie", of Watauga, TN passed away Sept. 16, 2014. She as 92. Sweetie and her late husband, Sonny, were active members of

AXPOW both at the local and national level. Sonny was National Commander and Sweetie was always by his side at conventions. Survivors include 1 son, 1 daughter, 4 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great-granddaughter and 1 great-great-great-granddaughter. She was a kind and gentle woman who will be missed by all who knew her.

MURRAY, Charles Rutledge Sr., of St. George, SC died Sept. 22, 2014. During WWII, he served with the 103rd Inf. Div., participating in the invasion of South France. He was captured and held until liberation. Charles was an active member of AXPOW and the Lowcountry Chapter. He leaves his wife of 61 years, Dorothy, 1 daughter, 1 son, 5 grandchildren,

5 great-grandchildren and 1 sister.

O'DONNELL, Gloria, 89, of Chesapeake, VA and Goodyear, AZ passed away October 31, 2014. She was the widow of Richard W. O'Donnell and a long time member of the Agua Fria Chapter, Sun City, AZ. She is survived by two sons, three daughters, nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

O'DONNELL, Joseph P. of Robbinsville, NJ died Sept. 23, 2014. He was captured after being shot down over Austria and held in Luft 4, then marched across Germany. After liberation, Joe was a very active member of the former Continental Chapter, AXPOW where he served as Commander. He was vitally interested in documenting Luft 4 and wrote two books on the subject. Survivors include 1 stepdaughter, 10 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and a large extended family.

OLSON, Rolland T. "Ole", of Chicago, IL died in Jan. 2013. During WWII, he served with the 15th AF, 461st BG; he was shot down, captured and held in Luft 1, Barth. He leaves his wife, Jeanne, 2 sons, 2 daughters, 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

PFANNENSTIEL, Victor John, of Loveland, CO passed away Oct. 14, 2014. He was captured while serving in Korea HQ Btry., 82nd AAA Bn. and held in Death Valley and Camp 5. Survivors include 2 sons, 1 daughter and 3 grandchildren.

PFLUM, William J., 90 of St. Petersburg, FL died Sept. 20, 2014. Serving with the 8th AF, 453rd BG, 733rd BS during WWII, he was cap-

taps cont'd...

ured and held until liberation. He is survived by his wife Roseann, 4 children, 7 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

ROLEN, Mary, of Springfield, VA passed away Nov. 29, 2014 at the age of 86. Both she and her husband were active advocates for POWs. Bill served as Executive Director of AXPOW for 5 years; Mary worked in the office and remained involved after his death. She was also active with the Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War and Gold Star Wives. Survivors include one daughter and one son and his family.

RUBIN, Sylvia, 87, of Monroe Township, NJ died Aug. 9, 2014. Both Sylvia and her late husband (ex-POW Bernard) were members of the Central Jersey Chapter, AXPOW. She is survived by one daughter and two grandchildren.

RUTLEDGE, Tillman Joe passed away October 25, 2014. During WWII he was captured in the Philippines and endured the rigors of the Bataan Death March and 3 ½ years of captivity; he was a POW by the age of 17. He followed his military experience with continued devotion to his country, as an active and vocal member of the San Antonio Chapter, AXPOW, volunteering at Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland Air Force Base, and at the Audie L. Murphy Memorial Veterans Hospital since its opening in 1973; he had over 41,000 volunteer hours with the Department of Veterans Affairs. His wife, Joyce, predeceased him; he leaves 2 daughters, 2 sons, numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and a host of friends.

SCHNECK, David, of Bel Air, MD died Sept. 22, 2014. He was captured during the Battle of the Bulge while serving with Co. C, 75th Div. He was held in 12A until liberation. Survivors include his beloved wife, Zita, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 6 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and 1 sister and their families.

SPERLING, Alvin B., 93, of Washington, DC passed away Oct. 14, 2014. As part of the 83rd Inf. Thunderbolt Div. he was wounded outside St. Lo and captured. He was liberated by Patton's Army. Alvin leaves 3 sons, 8 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

SULZER, Evelyn V., of Sun City, Arizona, passed away August 27, 2014. Evelyn was the widow of ex-POW Robert Sulzer and a long time member of the Agua Fria Chapter. She is survived by one daughter, a sister and a brother.

THOME, Michael N., 96, of Sacramento, CA, member of the 49ers Chapter, AXPOW, and a life member of AXPOW, died September 23, 2014. During WW II he was trained in military intelligence and military government. He served with the 106th Inf. Div. and was captured during the Battle of the Bulge. His wife predeceased him. He is survived by two daughters, two grandsons, five sisters, one brother, and many nieces and nephews.

VOGEL, Charles Franklin, 91, of Hereford, CO passed away Sept. 28, 2014. He was shot down while serving with the Army Air Corps; he was captured and held in Stalag 17B. Charles was adjutant of the Rocky Mountain Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife, Anita, 1 son and 7 grandchildren.

WALDMAN, Wesley Leon, of San Antonio, TX died Nov. 27, 2014. He was 93. During WWII, he served with the 15th AF, 97th BG; he was

shot down and held in Luft 1, Barth until liberation. Survivors include 2 daughters, 3 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild and their families.

WALLER, Delphine T., 89, of Waskom, TX died Aug. 8, 2014. She as the widow of ex-POW Herschel (27th BG, survivor of the Bataan Death March and 3 ½ years captivity). Delphine is survived by 1 son and 1 grandson.

WARNER, June, of Hammon, OK passed away March 17, 2014. She was the wife of Past National Commander Jack. June loved traveling with



Jack. They went to all 50 states and several countries in their 68 years of marriage. At National Conventions, she was surrounded by Warners and extended Warners. She also loved to sew; making all of Pam's clothing until she got to jr. high school. Her other interests were gardening and cooking (her grandchildren were convinced that no one fried chicken like grandma), but her main interest was her family. In addition to Jack, June leaves daughter Pam, 4 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild.

WILSON, Earl, 89, of Bradenton, FL died Sept. 30, 2014. Earl proudly served in the USA with the 423rd Inf., 106th Div. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and held in Stalag 4B. He leaves 1 daughter, 1 son and 1 grandson.

WYLIE, Charlotte P., of Lexington, SC passed away Nov. 20, 2014 at the age of 91. She and her husband, ex-POW DC "Pete" Wylie, were active members of the Catawba Chapter, AXPOW. In addition to Pete, Charlotte is survived by 3 sons, 4 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren and 1 sister.

chaplain



ND Benny
Rayborn

Worried Prayer?

Prayer. What is it? Talking to God? Praising God? Giving thanks to God for the good things in your life? Acknowledging God's presence in your life? The thoughts of your heart? Things you want?

Prayer is a lot more than all of the above things rolled into one. For one, it is communion with God. You are visiting God. And yes, we expect answers to our prayers. Usually we expect a "yes" answer while failing to realize that "no" is just as much an answer as "yes". "No" is not the answer we usually desire. It has been said that some of the best blessings are unanswered prayers. In most cases that means a "no" answer.

We are taught to pray usually at an early age by our parents, "I lay me down to sleep, if I die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to keep". In my experience, there is no faith as strong as that of a child. It is sad that as we grow, we often lose that trust in the Almighty.

Prayer is an acknowledgement of faith. Acts 2:21 "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Not maybe. Not I hope

so but "...shall be saved." Therefore it follows that prayer is putting one's hand in God's.

Prayer leads us through an invisible door in to the presence of God. However, worry leads away from trusting God into another room filled with disappointment and hopelessness.

God does not stop us from worrying. We have to stop ourselves from worrying. It has been said that prayer does not cancel worry. But worry will cancel prayer.

Most people who read this article probably have never been a prisoner-of-war. But imagine the worry that each of them must have shouldered. And with good reason. They were in the midst of the enemy. Things looked grim to minimize their situation. Who could they trust? Who could they turn to?

I would guess that most would have practiced Philippians 4:6 "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

They had nothing but with God they had everything. In closing I will leave you with this question: What do you have?

Benny



Recipe for a Happy New Year

~ Anonymous



Take twelve fine, full-grown months; see that these are thoroughly free from old memories of bitterness, rancor and hate, cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past—have them fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time.

Cut these months into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many persons spoil the entire lot this way) but prepare one day at a time.

Into each day put equal parts of faith, patience, courage, work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavor of the rest), hope, fidelity, liberality, kindness, rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad dressing— don't do it), prayer, meditation, and one well-selected resolution.

Put in about one teaspoonful of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor.

As we make our resolutions for the year ahead, let us go forward with great hope that all things can be possible

AMERICAN EX PRISONERS OF WAR



WOOL
&
LEATHER
JACKET

Classic "Varsity" look top quality jacket

Heavy black wool body; black leather sleeves & pocket welts

Quilted lining, full snap front, quality rib knit collar, cuffs, bottom hem

Unisex sizes S—3x

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Add \$1.50 per line for added lettering such as "State Commander" or "Next of Kin" (14 characters/spaces per line)

Plus \$10.00 for each size above XL

\$10.95 shipping each within Continental U.S.

Shipments to Missouri add 5.6% sales tax

A portion of the price is returned to American Ex-Prisoners of War

Desired lettering under logo (\$1.50/line; 14 characters/spaces per line)_____

Check enclosed or VISA/MasterCard/AmEx_____

Card security code(4 digits on front of AmEX card, three digits on back of others)_____

Expiration Date_____Signature (CC only)_____

Ship to: Name_____

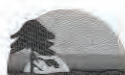
Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Mail to Lone Pine Embroidery, 32245 Lone Pine Way, Greentop, MO 63546

Or E-mail to Roger@lonepineridge.com

Or call us at 660-627-0753





The National 4th (IVY) Division Association

Formed at Camp Greene, NC, on November 17, 1917 for service in World War I. The "IVY Division" has a long and distinguished heritage that continues through World War II, the Cold War in Europe, Vietnam, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Membership in the Association is open to all former Veterans and currently serving Soldiers of the 4th ID and attached units. The 96th Annual Reunion will be September 9-14, 2014, in Lexington, Kentucky.

Check our website at www.4thinfantry.org for membership and reunion information.

"Steadfast and Loyal"

50/50 drawing

June 28, 2014 Arlington, TX

- 1st Place JEANNE BREESE, AZ \$202.20
- 2nd Place MARIE CARLSSON, TX \$151.65
donated back to organization
- 3rd Place MARIE CARLSSON, TX \$101.10
donated back to organization
- 4th Place ELLEN BLOCKER, MS \$50.55

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

request for membership application American Ex-Prisoners of War

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Membership is open to US Military and Civilians captured because of their US citizenship and their families.

**Do NOT send dues with this request
for an application**

Mail to:

American Ex-Prisoners of War
3201 East Pioneer Parkway, #40
Arlington, TX 76010-5936
(817) 649-2979 voice
(817)649-0109 fax
e-mail:HQ@axpow.org



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.

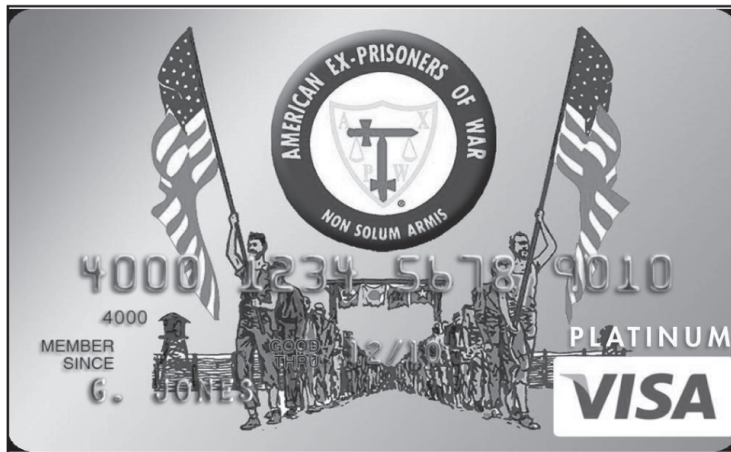
**The CUB Magazine is published three times
per year. Published since 1946.
Annual Reunions held yearly since 1947.**

Jacquelyn Martin, Membership Chairman
121 McGregor Ave.
Mount Arlington, N.J. 07856
973-663-2410
E-mail: jsc164@aol.com

Ex-POW Bulletin
Jan/Feb 2015

**Every credit card sends you a statement.
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The AXPOW Visa card program is operated by UMB Bank, N.A. All applications for AXPOW Visa credit card accounts will be subject to UMB Bank N.A.'s approval, at its absolute discretion. Please visit www.cardpartner.com for further details of terms and conditions which apply to the AXPOW Visa card program. * Donation made when card is used once within 90 days of issuance. † After this period a low variable APR will apply.

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From UMB

**Ex-POW Bulletin
Jan/Feb 2015**

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AXPOW Gravesite Medallion



The Medallion is 4", Bronze/Brown with Lacquer. Hardware for mounting is included. Weight - approximately 1.25 lb.

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

\$75.00

**plus \$15.00 S/H/I
Shipping costs on two or more is \$20.00.**

AXPOW Vest Order Form

(For members only)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Size (Men/coat, Women/chest measurement) _____

Long, Regular or Short _____

Name on front of vest _____

Chapter Name (back of vest) _____

Price: \$55.00, includes S/H

Please allow 8-10 weeks for delivery.

AXPOW Challenge Coin



great gifts...great hand-outs...great way to show your pride in your organization AXPOW Logo on front/Five services on reverse

\$10.00 ea

Official AXPOW Cap (specify size)	40.00
Vinyl Cap Bag	3.00
Necktie w/logo (regular only)	30.00
U.S. Flag Bolo Tie	20.00
Mini POW Medal Bolo Tie	30.00
Brooch pin	5.00
EX-POW pin (goldtone)	5.00
Logo pin	5.00
POW Stamp pin	3.00
Past Chapter Commander pin	5.00
Past Department Commander pin	5.00
Magnetic Ribbons	5.00
Challenge Coins	10.00
Eagle pin w/Barbed Wire (silver)	8.00
Vest Chainguard	8.00
4" Blazer Patch	4.00
2" Medallion (for plaque)	6.00
Canvas Totebag w/4" logo	15.00
AXPOW Notecards (pkg of 25)	6.00
Special Prayer Cards (pkg of 25)	6.00
AXPOW By-Laws	5.00

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 S/H)

Ship to: _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

We accept Master Card/Visa

12x18 AXPOW Graveside Flag	10.00
Aluminum License Plate	5.00
3" Vinyl Decal	1.00
3" Inside Decal	1.00
8" Vinyl Decal	6.00
12" Vinyl Decal	10.00
AXPOW Prayer Book	2.00
Ladies Prayer Book	1.00
POW DVD - ETO or Pacific	11.00
"Speak Out" Education Packet	6.00

CLOTHSTRIPES (specify which title) 3.00

Life Member · Chapter Commander · Chaplain · Historian · Past Chapter Commander · Chapter Adj/Treas · Chapter Adjutant · Chapter Treasurer · Dept Commander · Past Dept Commander · Dep't Treasurer · Dep't Adjutant · Sr. Vice Commander · Jr. Vice Commander · Service Officer · Legislative Officer · Past Chapter Officer · Past Department Officer

QUANTITY	ITEM	SIZE / COLOR	PRICE

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

Shipping/Handling/Insurance:

Total: \$

For credit card orders: Card # _____ Expiration: _____

(Check one) Master Card _____ Visa _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

**FOR ALL ORDERS, MAIL TO:
AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR
3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40
Arlington, Texas 76010-5396
817-649-2979
axpow76010@yahoo.com**

POW/MIA Chair of Honor Dedication



Princeton University and Rolling Thunder®, Inc. National dedicated a “POW/MIA Chair of Honor” on November 22, 2014, the first at an Ivy League School. The dedication was at Princeton’s home football game against Dartmouth College at the Princeton University/Power’s Field Stadium. The Chair was dedicated by Ex-Prisoner of War Staff Sergeant Charles Susino, Jr. who was held captive for fourteen months in German Prison camps during WWII. Accompanying Sergeant Susino was Artie Muller, Executive Director of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. National along with the POW/MIA Chair of Honor Committee person Elaine Martin and other members of the organization.

Mr. Susino provided these statements at the dedication. “I would like to thank Rolling Thunder and Princeton University for providing this POW/MIA “Chair of Honor”. It is so important because it represents veterans from all wars, both past and present, which were missing in action or prisoners of war and did not come home. As I look at the chair, I see many faces from the battlefield that never returned, yet envision them with us today. Let this chair serve as a sobering reminder, that we as a nation and society must never forget their sacrifice.... please remember. God bless our troops. Thank you. “





All orders for products sold by AXPOW National Organization, including dues/subscriptions should be mailed to:
American Ex-Prisoners of War
National Headquarters
3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40
Arlington, TX 76010-5396
(817) 649-2979/ (817) 649-0109 fax
e-mail: HQ@axpow.org
No collect calls, please

Thank you for supporting the American Ex-POWS with your purchases of National Merchandise.

Bronze Grave Medallions



\$75.00 plus \$15.00 S/H/I

Shipping costs on two or more is \$20.00.

change of address form

Include your mailing label for address change or inquiry. If you are receiving duplicate copies, please send both labels. If moving, please give us your new address in the space provided.

Please print:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone () _____ Email _____

Please allow 4 weeks to make address corrections.

Mail to: National Headquarters, AXPOW, 3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40, Arlington, TX 76010-5396
Or fax: (817) 649-0109
Or e-mail: axpow76010@yahoo.com