

# EX-POW BULLETIN

the official voice of the  
American Ex-Prisoners of War

Volume 73

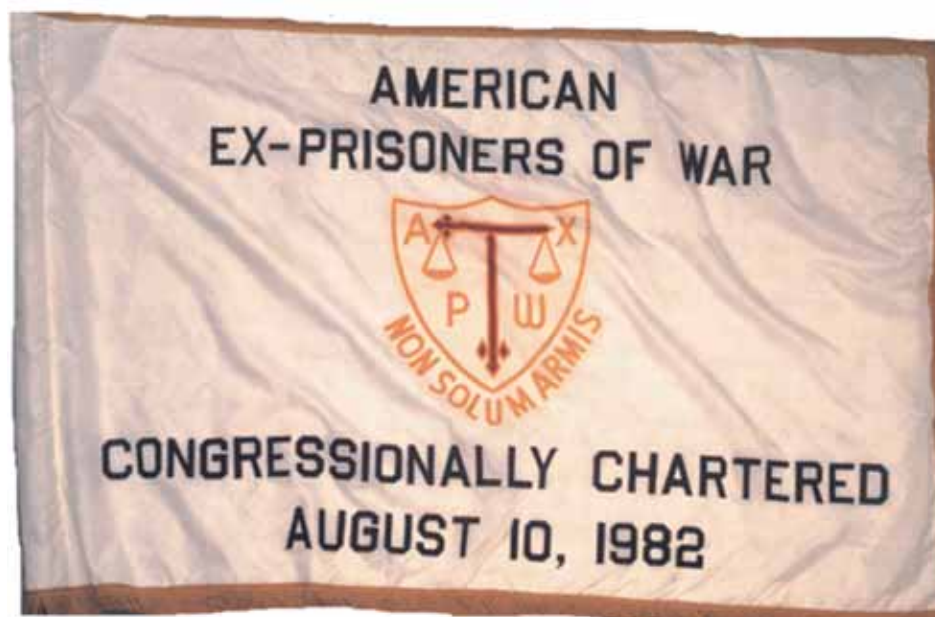
[www.axpow.org](http://www.axpow.org)

Number 7/8

July/August 2016



*We exist to help those who cannot help themselves*



## Memorial Day at Andersonville...

Andersonville National Historic Site is a perfect place for remembrance. That was evident on May 29, 2016 as visitors of all ages gathered within sight of thousands of American flags throughout the national cemetery. Joining keynote speaker Lieutenant Colonel Kent Morrison USMC (Ret) was American Ex-Prisoners of War National Commander Edward L. DeMent.

Commander DeMent recognized former prisoners of war in attendance and spoke about remembrance and legacy.

The legacy of American Ex-Prisoners of War is entwined with Andersonville National Historic Site. The two organizations have partnered in numerous endeavors to educate present and future generations. One result of their efforts is the National Prisoner of War Museum. Now, the legacy of AXPOW will continue through a new route, the American Ex-Prisoners of War Legacy Intern Grant program, an annual sponsorship to provide internships at the national historic site. Initially, each financial grant will be named in honor of a past national commander of AXPOW. This past Memorial Day, National Commander Ed DeMent presented the first two grants to Andrew Astley (Gettysburg College) and Michael Ramey (University of North Florida).



*National Commander Ed DeMent presents American Ex- Prisoners of War Legacy Intern Grants to Andrew Astley and Michael Ramey. Pictured left to right: Commander DeMent, Andrew Astley, Michael Ramey and Andersonville National Historic Site Superintendent Charles Sellars.*

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Please send all materials to  
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## July/August 2016



From the day when North Koreans attacked South Korea on June 25, 1950 to the day of the armistice on July 27, 1953, the events of the Korean war revealed the mass destruction, pain, and

suffering Koreans had to endure. At the end of the war, more than 3 million Koreans died while millions of refugees remained homeless and distraught. About 1 million Chinese died in this battle and American casualties numbered 54,246 people.

Operation Big Switch began on August 5, 1953. It was the final exchange of prisoners of war by both sides. By December, 1953 the figures for repatriated POWs stood at 77,000 Communists for 12,700 UN men, of whom 3,597 were Americans.

### Other dates:

July, 4...Independence day  
July 4, 1802...US Military Academy at West Point opened  
July 9, 1950...MacArthur was named Supreme Commander in Korea  
July 12, 1955...US Air Force Academy was dedicated  
July 31, 1876...US Coast Guard Academy was founded  
Aug 1, 1943...US air raid over Ploesti, Rumania; 110 POWs taken  
Aug 6, 1945...1<sup>st</sup> atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima  
Aug 14, 1945...Japan unconditionally surrendered  
Aug 20, 1866...Civil War officially ended

Summer is in full swing!  
Attend your conventions and picnics!  
Fly your flag proudly!

**COVER: Congressional Charter...**On August 10, 1982, The American Ex-Prisoners of War received their Congressional Charter. Public Law 97-234 provided public recognition of our roots and long history as a "family organization". Congress and the world recognized AXPOW as a veterans service organization — the only one in the country made up of veterans AND their families.

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## National Commander Edward DeMent

This Memorial Day, I was honored to be asked to speak at the ceremonies at Andersonville National Historical Site. Below is my Memorial Day Speech:

*Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. My name is Ed DeMent, National Commander of the American Ex-Prisoners of War. It is my pleasure to represent AXPOW at this important occasion.*



*Our organization is made up of some 12,000 former prisoners of war and their spouses and children. Although we are a close-knit group of people with an important part of our own personal past in common, we also have an important mission closely tied to this solemn place.*

*We see Andersonville and the National POW Museum as an educational institution that seeks to inform visitors about our history. Because the future is in the hands of our youth today, it is vital that they know about our experiences. It is through preserving and growing places like Andersonville that we will educate future generations to what other veterans from the American Revolution to the Global War on Terrorism have done to preserve freedom. It is essential that our children come to Andersonville and the National POW Museum to learn and be inspired about what it means to be an American.*

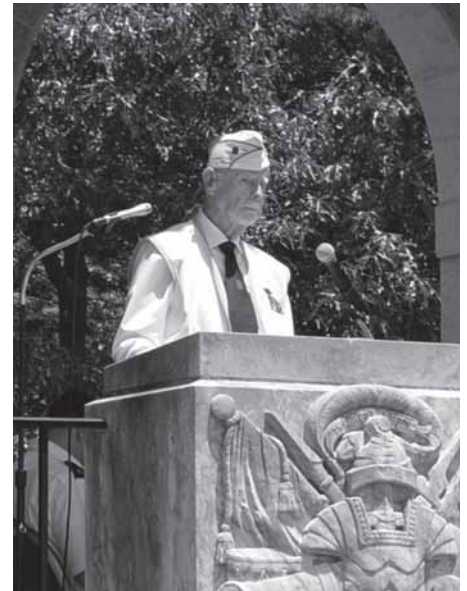
*Just as they have the obligation to learn about our past, we who are veterans have an equal if not greater obligation to take them by the hand and share our legacy with them. It is our duty. In light of that shared commitment, a few years ago, the American Ex-Prisoners of War entered into a partnership with the Park and its Friends group to develop a traveling exhibit showcasing the POW experience and reaching a larger audience with our story.*

*The Traveling Exhibit has been very successful crisscrossing the country and telling the POW story. It is soon to return to Georgia for maintenance and repairs before moving on to its next site.*

*The American Ex-Prisoners of War has now entered into a new partnership with the Park - one which we believe will be as successful as the Traveling*

*Exhibit. This weekend, we presented the first two "Legacy" checks to summer interns at Andersonville. You can read the story of this program on the inside front cover.*

*As we look to our future, we are working to make sure that our sacrifices and experiences are never forgotten.*



This is my last column as your National Commander. I want to express my thanks for the warmth and hospitality I have received on my travels. This has been a momentous year for me and your responses have been very much appreciated.

*Edward L. DeMent*



## from the CEO



David Eberly

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The challenge ahead for AXPOW must be met with imagination and optimism—a mindset and a disposition to look enthusiastically toward our future and to expect with certainty the most favorable outcome.

As I write this, I am in Indianapolis for the 100th running of “The Greatest Spectacle in Auto Racing”—the Indy 500. On this Memorial Day, it is fitting that the pre race parade circled The Indiana State Soldiers and Sailors Monument. This iconic monument was dedicated in 1902 and honors veterans of the American Civil War—an ironic twist to our presence at historic Andersonville where our Museum is a living legacy to all returnees.

As you now read this, our convention is over, your vote has been tallied, and we have embarked on a journey down one of two paths: Either we are crafting a budget reflecting severe cuts to continue our current operation as

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membership and participation wanes rapidly, or we are charting transition pathways for our functions and formalizing a relationship complimenting The National POW Museum and The National Park Service at Andersonville.

As we all realistically embrace the future, there will come a time when there will be fewer and fewer to serve, and we will have helped all who could not help themselves. I say this only because in the past weeks I have met two Greatest Generation returnees in Williamsburg:

Howard, a member, answered my last Bulletin *Call to Arms* article with praise, and he enthusiastically supported an expanded legacy at Andersonville.

A few days later during a Virginia Aeronautical Historical Society trip to the Military Aviation Museum, I met Don, a B-17 pilot who was also a POW. Sadly, as we spoke he confided that his crew and squadron mates were all gone. In response, I assured him that he will surely be remembered, as we all, in the Museum story.

I trust your vote for either option #1 or option #2 was a vote of confidence in the AXPOW leadership to insure that the legacy of men like Howard and Don and all of those men and women who served and returned with honor will be a lasting inspiration.

David



## news from hq



Clydie Morgan  
Chief Operating Officer

### Happy 4<sup>th</sup>!

I'm sure many of you are planning to take part in Fourth of July celebrations across the country. Parades...picnics... quiet moments of contemplation about our wonderful country. “Oh beautiful, for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain...” takes on a special meaning on this very special day. Make an effort to see friends and watch the parades and fireworks if you can.

We are all proud of our AXPOW organization and honored to be a part of the ex-prisoner of war family. Let us all make this Independence Day a special time. Let us remind others of the great price that our forefathers paid for our freedom. Let us remember our service people who are protecting our freedom and the freedom of others around the world today. Let us talk to our young people. They will have to carry on the work of defending our nation and keeping it free.

National Convention is over and I'm sure choices and changes have been made to our great organization. You will be hearing about our plans for the future in upcoming Bulletins. But let us never forget our slogan: “We exist to help those who cannot help themselves.”

### Early Bird Renewal Notice!

Annual Members...take a minute and send your 2017 dues to National Headquarters. Don't miss out on all the benefits membership in AXPOW offers!

Clydie, Marsha, Donna, Sally

# pow medsearch

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## Forgetfulness: Knowing When to Ask for Help



Many people worry about becoming forgetful. They think forgetfulness is the first sign of Alzheimer's disease. Over the past few years, scientists have learned a lot about memory and why some kinds of memory problems are serious but others are not.

### Age-Related Changes in Memory

Forgetfulness can be a normal part of aging. As people get older, changes occur in all parts of the body, including the brain. As a result, some people may notice that it takes longer to learn new things, they don't remember information as well as they did, or they lose things like their glasses. These usually are signs of mild forgetfulness, not serious memory problems.

Some older adults also find that they don't do as well as younger people on complex memory or learning tests. Scientists have found,

though, that given enough time, healthy older people can do as well as younger people do on these tests. In fact, as they age, healthy adults usually improve in areas of mental ability such as vocabulary.

### Other Causes of Memory Loss

Some memory problems are related to health issues that may be treatable. For example, medication side effects, vitamin B12 deficiency, chronic alcoholism, tumors or infections in the brain, or blood clots in the brain can cause memory loss or possibly dementia. Some thyroid, kidney, or liver disorders also can lead to memory loss. A doctor should treat serious medical conditions like these as soon as possible.

Emotional problems, such as stress, anxiety, or depression, can make a person more forgetful and can be mistaken for dementia. For instance, someone who has recently retired or who is coping with the death of a spouse, relative, or friend may feel sad, lonely, worried, or bored. Trying to deal with these life changes leaves some people confused or forgetful.

The confusion and forgetfulness caused by emotions usually are temporary and go away when the feelings fade. The emotional problems can be eased by supportive friends and family, but if these feelings last for a long time, it is important to get help from a doctor or counselor. Treatment may include counseling, medication, or both.

### More Serious Memory Problems

For some older people, memory problems are a sign of a serious

problem, such as mild cognitive impairment or dementia. People who are worried about memory problems should see a doctor. The doctor might conduct or order a thorough physical and mental health evaluation to reach a diagnosis. Often, these evaluations are conducted by a neurologist, a physician who specializes in problems related to the brain and central nervous system.

A complete medical exam for memory loss should review the person's medical history, including the use of prescription and over-the-counter medicines, diet, past medical problems, and general health. A correct diagnosis depends on accurate details, so in addition to talking with the patient, the doctor might ask a family member, caregiver, or close friend for information.

Blood and urine tests can help the doctor find the cause of the memory problems or dementia. The doctor also might do tests for memory loss and test the person's problem-solving and language abilities. A brain scan, such as an MRI, may help rule out some causes of the memory problems.

The biggest lie I tell  
myself is  
"I don't need  
to write that down,  
I'll remember it."

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## medsearch, cont'd...

### Amnesic Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI)

Some people with memory problems have a condition called amnesic mild cognitive impairment, or amnesic MCI. People with this condition have more memory problems than normal for people their age, but their symptoms are not as severe as those of people with Alzheimer's disease, and they are able to carry out their normal daily activities.

Signs of MCI include losing things often, forgetting to go to important events and appointments, and having trouble coming up with desired words. Family and friends may notice memory lapses, and the person with MCI may worry about losing his or her memory. These worries may prompt the person to see a doctor for diagnosis.

Researchers have found that more people with MCI than those without it go on to develop Alzheimer's. However, not everyone who has MCI develops Alzheimer's disease. Studies are underway to learn why some people with MCI progress to Alzheimer's and others do not.

There currently is no standard treatment for MCI. Typically, the doctor will regularly monitor and test a person diagnosed with MCI to detect any changes in memory and thinking skills over time. No medications have been approved to treat MCI.

### Dementia

Dementia is the loss of thinking, memory, and reasoning skills to such an extent that it seriously affects a person's ability to carry out daily activities. Dementia is not a disease itself but a group of symptoms caused by certain diseases or conditions such as Alzheimer's.

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## Keeping Your Memory Sharp

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People with some forgetfulness can use a variety of techniques that may help them stay healthy and maintain their memory and mental skills. Here are some tips:

- Plan tasks, make "to do" lists, and use memory aids like notes and calendars. Some people find they remember things better if they mentally connect them to other meaningful things, such as a familiar name, song, book, or TV show.
- Develop interests or hobbies and stay involved in activities that can help both the mind and body.
- Engage in physical activity and exercise. Several studies have associated exercise (such as walking) with better brain function, although more research is needed to say for sure whether exercise can help to maintain brain function or prevent or delay symptoms of Alzheimer's.
- Limit alcohol use. Although some studies suggest that moderate alcohol use has health benefits, heavy or binge drinking over time can cause memory loss and permanent brain damage.
- Find activities, such as exercise or a hobby, to relieve feelings of stress, anxiety, or depression. If these feelings last for a long time, talk with your doctor.

People with dementia lose their mental abilities at different rates.

Symptoms of dementia may include:

- Being unable to remember things
- Asking the same question or repeating the same story over and over
- Becoming lost in familiar places
- Being unable to follow directions
- Getting confused about time, people, and places
- Neglecting personal safety, hygiene, and nutrition

Two of the most common forms of dementia in older people are Alzheimer's disease and vascular dementia. These types of dementia cannot be cured at present.

In Alzheimer's disease, changes in certain parts of the brain result in the death of many nerve cells. Symptoms of Alzheimer's begin slowly and worsen steadily as damage to

nerve cells spreads throughout the brain. As time goes by, forgetfulness gives way to serious problems with thinking, judgment, recognizing family and friends, and the ability to perform daily activities like driving a car or handling money. Eventually, the person needs total care.

In vascular dementia, strokes or changes in the brain's blood supply lead to the death of brain tissue. Symptoms of vascular dementia can vary but usually begin suddenly, depending on where in the brain the strokes occurred and how severe they were. The person's memory, language, reasoning, and coordination may be affected. Mood and personality changes are common as well.

It's not possible to reverse damage already caused by a stroke, so it's very important to get medical care right away if someone has signs of



## medsearch, cont'd...

a stroke. It's also important to take steps to prevent further strokes, which worsen vascular dementia symptoms. Some people have both Alzheimer's and vascular dementia.

### Treatment for Dementia

A person with dementia should be under a doctor's care. The doctor might be a neurologist, family doctor, internist, geriatrician, or psychiatrist. He or she can treat the patient's physical and behavioral problems (such as aggression, agitation, or wandering) and answer the many questions that the person or family may have.

People with dementia caused by Alzheimer's disease may be treated with medications. These drugs may help maintain thinking, memory, and speaking skills, and may lessen certain behavioral problems for a few months to a few years in some people. However, they don't stop Alzheimer's disease from progressing. Many studies are investigating medications and other interventions to prevent or delay Alzheimer's disease, as well as cognitive decline. People with vascular dementia should take steps to prevent further strokes. These steps include controlling high blood pressure, monitoring and treating high cholesterol and diabetes, and not smoking. Studies are underway to develop medicines to reduce the severity of memory and thinking problems that come with vascular dementia. Other studies are looking at drugs to relieve certain symptoms of this type of dementia.

Family members and friends can help people in the early stages of dementia to continue their daily routines, physical activities, and social contacts. People with dementia should be kept up to date about the details of their lives, such as the time of day, where they live, and what is happening at home or in the world. Memory aids may help. Some fami-

lies find that a big calendar, a list of daily plans, notes about simple safety measures, and written directions describing how to use common household items are useful aids.

### What You Can Do

If you're concerned that you or someone you know has a serious memory problem, talk with your doctor. He or she may be able to diagnose the problem or refer you to a specialist, such as a neurologist or geriatric psychiatrist. Healthcare professionals who specialize in Alzheimer's and other dementias can recommend ways to manage the problem or suggest treatment or services that might help. More information is available from the organizations listed below.

### For More Information About Memory Loss

Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral (ADEAR) Center  
1-800-438-4380 (toll-free)  
adear@nia.nih.gov (email)  
www.nia.nih.gov/alzheimers  
The National Institute on Aging's ADEAR Center offers information and publications in English and Spanish for families, caregivers, and professionals on diagnosis, treatment, patient care, caregiver needs, long-term care, education and training, and research related to Alzheimer's disease.

*Alzheimer's Association*  
1-800-272-3900 (toll-free)  
1-866-403-3073 (TTY/toll-free)  
info@alz.org (email)  
www.alz.org

*Alzheimer's Foundation of America*  
1-866-232-8484 (toll-free)  
info@alzfdn.org (email)  
www.alzfdn.org

*Eldercare Locator*  
1-800-677-1116 (toll-free)  
www.eldercare.gov



National Library of Medicine  
MedlinePlus  
www.medlineplus.gov

### For more information on health and aging, contact:

National Institute on Aging  
Information Center  
P.O. Box 8057  
Gaithersburg, MD 20898-8057  
1-800-222-2225 (toll-free)  
1-800-222-4225 (TTY/toll-free)  
niaic@nia.nih.gov (email)  
www.nia.nih.gov

Visit [www.nihseniorhealth.gov](http://www.nihseniorhealth.gov), a senior-friendly website from the National Institute on Aging and the National Library of Medicine. This website has health and wellness information for older adults. Special features make it simple to use. For example, you can click on a button to make the type larger.

National Institute on Aging  
National Institutes of Health  
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

NIA, one of the 27 Institutes and Centers of NIH, leads a broad scientific effort to understand the nature of aging and to extend the healthy, active years of life. NIA is the primary Federal agency supporting and conducting Alzheimer's disease research.

## AXPOW MEDSEARCH PACKETS

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Packet 1~VA Claim Information</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>
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<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Packet 4~After Effects of Imprisonment</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Packet 5~What Every Wife Should Know Before She Is Your Widow -</b> Social Security, insurance, burial procedures, allowances, etc. including what pathologist should look for in an autopsy	<b>\$11.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Packet 6~Micro-Film Index: Asiatic Theater - Japanese</b>	<b>\$3.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Packet 7~Micro-Film Index: European Theater - Germany</b>	<b>\$3.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Packet 8~The European Story, History of POWs in Germany, and after-effects</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Packet 9~The Korea Story, History of POWs in Korea, and after-effects</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Packet 10~The Japanese Story History of POWs in Japan, and after-effects</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Packet 11~NSO Director Answers Your Questions</b>	<b>\$11.00</b>
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# legislative



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Over the past two months, the political activity has largely been dominated by presidential candidates campaigning for the nomination of their respective party. It is hard to recall a primary with the equivalent media frenzy. As mid to late July approach with the respective party conventions, the candidates will be named and the push for the White House will take center stage. This is the most important time for you to study the candidates' records and positions on issues of significance to you including national defense and veterans' issues. Please take the time to learn about and advocate for your candidate.

In recent events in Washington, by Presidential Proclamation March 29<sup>th</sup> is Vietnam Veteran's Day to commemorate the 1973 departure of our last troops. On May 8<sup>th</sup> at the WWII Memorial, there was a commemoration for V-E Day for the 71<sup>st</sup> year since the Victory in Europe.

Regarding veteran's benefits, there continues to be discussions in Washington on the VA 30 day wait/40 mile rule for external health care. While the rules have helped many veterans, there continues to be attention drawn to enhancing the implementation of the rules including the specific veterans' clinical needs.

2015-2016 Legislative  
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charles.susino@gmail.com

On an issue I testified in Washington at the Senate VA subcommittee this February, the Army Secretary recently denied all future Female WWII training pilots burial rights at Arlington National Cemetery. A Bill has been signed into law to reverse the Secretary's actions and reinstate an earned benefit by the Women Air Force Service Pilots program (WASP). On Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, President Obama visited Japan and participated in a wreath laying ceremony at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park. Countries across Asia as well as American citizens especially veterans were concerned that the President would apologize for the American bombing. During the course of his statements, no apologize was offered.

President Barack Obama signed the National POW/MIA Remembrance Act of 2015 into law. Rep. Stephen Lynch introduced and successfully pushed the bipartisan legislation through Congress in March with the help of United States Sens. Elizabeth Warren, D-Massachusetts, and Edward J. Markey, D-Massachusetts, who introduced the bipartisan Senate companion bill.

The legislation honors American service members who are prisoners of war or missing in action by placing a commemorative chair on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol.

The National POW/MIA Remembrance Act of 2015 directs the architect of the Capitol to place a commemorative chair bearing the logo of the National League of POW/MIA Families in a prominent location in the U.S. Capitol. Commemorative chairs, which carry the prisoners of war and missing in action insignia, have been placed in cities and towns around the country, in spaces ranging from city halls

to professional sports stadiums. These seats remain perpetually unoccupied as a solemn reminder of the over 83,000 brave service members still waiting to be brought home.

Joe D'Entremont, of Jamaica Plain, the former president of Rolling Thunder Massachusetts Chapter 1, first brought this initiative to the attention of Lynch and Warren in 2014. D'Entremont and Gus Dante, both members of Rolling Thunder Inc. National, have worked to promote government accountability for American POW and MIA and their families. They have also been national leaders in advocating for POW/MIA chairs in venues across the country.

H.R. 1670, the National POW/MIA Remembrance Act of 2015, passed the House of Representatives unanimously on March 21 and passed the Senate unanimously on April 14.

### REMEMBER

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 action!

#### House Veterans Affairs Committee

Jeff Miller, Florida  
*Chairman*  
336 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4136

#### Senate Veterans Affairs Committee

Johnny Isakson, Georgia  
*Chairman*  
131 Russell SOB  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
(202) 224-3643

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# namPOWs



## Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame by Robert G. Certain

On May 11, 2016 a wall in the west wing on the plaza level of the Floyd Veterans Memorial Building in downtown Atlanta was formally dedicated as the "home" of the GMVHOF. Leading the ceremonies



*Colonel Paul Longgear, director of the Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame introduces the dedication ceremony*

were the founder, COL Paul Longgear, and two Georgia legislators who sponsored the act establishing the HOF, Senator Ed Harbison and Representative John Yates. Representatives of several veteran organizations and a half-dozen of inductees were present, including

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*Georgia State Senator Ed Harbison addresses the crowd at the dedication ceremony*

HOF member and former POW, Robert Certain (Ch, Col, USAF-Ret).



*Georgia Legislature Representative John Yates addresses the crowd at the dedication*

The Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame ([www.gmvhof.org](http://www.gmvhof.org)) is now in its fourth year of honoring Geor-

gians who have served this nation in uniform and who have continued to set examples of Valor, Achievement and Service in their post-military lives. Through 2015 forty-nine men have been so honored.



*Senator Harbison, COL Longgear, GDVS Commissioner Mike Roby, and Representative Yates cut the ribbon to dedicate the Hall of Fame*

The primary purpose of the Hall of Fame is charitable and educational; more specifically, to honor Georgia military veterans and to educate and inform the public of their outstanding accomplishments.

Up to fifteen Georgia military veterans are inducted into the hall of fame each year and awarded the Hall of Fame Medallion during the annual banquet. Of the fifteen inductees, up to ten will be selected exclusively for their valorous military performance, up to five for their extraordinary achievements and up to five will be selected for their combined military/civilian service to our community, state, and nation.



*The GMVHOF Wall in the West Wing on the Plaza Level of the Floyd Veterans Memorial Building in Atlanta*

# andersonville



Andersonville NHS  
496 Cemetery Road  
Andersonville, GA 31711  
(229) 924-0343  
Supt. Charles Sellars  
charles\_sellars@nps.gov

Memorial Day activities at ANHS began on Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> when Robins Riders from Warner Robins, GA brought about 40 volunteers to help raise over 200 full sized American and state flags in the park for our Avenue of Flags. The sight of so many flags waving along the roadways of the national cemetery created a reverent and patriotic atmosphere for the weekend's events.



On Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, hundreds of boy scouts, cub scouts, and other volunteers joined to pay tribute to the honored veterans and family members by placing a small flag on each of the nearly 21,000 graves in Andersonville National Cemetery. Americans young and old, from preschoolers to an octogenarian, spent the morning walking throughout the cemetery and honoring those who have served their country. The tens of thousands of flags combined with the Avenue of Flags presented a stunning visual display that thousands of visitors came to see over the week-

end. The Dixie Crows provided lunch for all the volunteers who helped to place flags on Saturday.

With Sunday came our Memorial Day Observance. The Maneuver Center of Excellence Band set the tone of the ceremony with patriotic music. Sup't. Sellars welcomed the hundreds of veterans and other visitors who came to honor our fallen American military. After the Advancement of Colors by the Georgia State Honor Guard and the Pledge of Allegiance, the band played a stirring rendition of the National Anthem. Rev. Jeff Wallace graciously offered the Invocation and Benediction for the ceremony.

We were honored to have Mr. Ed DeMent, National Commander of the American Ex-Prisoners of War, recognize veterans and speak about the sacrifices and suffering of those who had been held as Prisoners of War and those who never came home. Mr. Jim Covington, President of the Friends of Andersonville, also paid homage to our American military men and women. Following their remarks, the band played the Service song medley during which those who served in each branch of Service stood and were applauded for their service.

Our featured speaker was Lieutenant Colonel Kent Morrison, USMC (Ret), who is the Executive Director of the Marine Corp Logistics Base in Albany, GA. His compelling speech was a wonderful tribute to those who have paid the ultimate price for our freedom. Following his address, numerous organizations placed wreaths along the rostrum in honor of the fallen. The moving ceremony ended fittingly with a rifle salute and the playing of Taps.

Our weekend activities ended with a special mass conducted by the Knights of Columbus on Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. This ceremony was also attended by hundreds of visitors and included a poignant tribute by a veteran who marched through the national cemetery while playing the bagpipes. The series of events held for Memorial Day was a successful and very fitting way to remember those who died defending this nation.

With Memorial Day now behind us, we are preparing for our next big event

in September, National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

Commemoration activities will include the National POW/MIA Convocation on Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> with featured speaker Dr. Derek Mallett. Dr. Mallett worked at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command in Honolulu, Hawaii and will be speaking about the ongoing work to identify the unaccounted for from America's past conflicts. He currently serves as Ass't. Professor of Military History at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College in Ft. Gordon, Georgia. On Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, the park will host a rededication of the USS Pueblo plaque located in front of the National Prisoner of War Museum. Several members of the USS Pueblo's crew, who were held prisoner for 11 months by North Korea in 1968, are expected to attend this rededication. We are working with The Ride Home to help bring these POWs and to plan this year's activities.

The "Victory From Within" traveling POW exhibit, which has been on display at the Fort Douglas Military Museum in Salt Lake City, Utah, will soon return to the eastern half of the country. Beginning in early August, the exhibit will be on display at the National Civil War Naval Museum in Columbus, Georgia. Bringing the exhibit back to Georgia will allow park staff to clean and inspect the exhibit, which has been traveling for nearly 3 years, and make any needed repairs.

The commemoration of the 2016 National Park Service Centennial continues at parks across the nation. This year-long recognition of the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of the National Park Service will be incorporated into events held at Andersonville National Historic Site throughout 2016.



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# civilians



JVC Alice Gollin, Chair

Several years ago, BACEPOW initiated a program to educate young Filipinos about WW II and the events that affected the Philippines so drastically. We attempted to set up a program where we asked high school and college students to submit an essay about an event that occurred during the war, and the 5 top essays would receive monetary awards. We tried to partner with the University of Santo Tomas in this endeavor because of our history as prisoners on the campus. Unfortunately, the history professors at the University gave the project lip service but made no attempt to implement our plans.

Without a sponsor in the Philippines, it will be unreasonably difficult to implement the BACEPOW History award. But then riding to our rescue came the California State Legislature, which passed AB 199 that establishes a non-mandatory requirement that high schools teach a unit of history in 11th grade about WW II in the Pacific and to include the invasion of the Philippine Islands in 1941, the Bataan Death March, the atrocities, and other features and battles of the war.

Recently, the Bataan Legacy Historical Society sponsored a petition on Change.Org and is developing curriculum material in anticipation of the full implementation of the program. Also, last October a number of members of BACEPOW joined members of the Bataan Legacy So-

ciety, Memorae Manila 1945, the Philippine Consulate General, and the San Francisco Public Library in celebrating the 70th anniversary of the end of WW II with the goal of including these important historical facts in the California social sciences curriculum for grades 7-12.

It now appears that an educational opportunity is opening right here, and we can put our emphasis on providing historical education about WW II in the Pacific and specifically the Philippines in our own school system. In the months ahead, we will revisit the idea of creating a History prize in a specific high school that has a large enrollment of Filipino-American students. There will also be opportunities for members of BACEPOW to participate in presenting their first-hand knowledge to students. We'll keep you posted on the progress of this program, and hope that many of you will step forward to volunteer in fleshing out the program with your experiences.

Angus Lorenzen,  
Commander ~BACEPOW

## BACEPOW Reunion 2017

The WW II Museum in New Orleans was inspired by Stephen E. Ambrose, American historian and biographer, a long-time professor of history at the University of New Orleans and the author of many best selling volumes of American popular history, Mr. Ambrose's life passion was concentrated on the European Theater of WWII before his untimely death in 2002.

Ambrose's works and avid interests and specific works with D-Day veterans, inspired him to found the National D-Day Museum in New Orleans. He initiated fundraising by donating \$500,000 and secured large contributions from the federal government, the State of Louisiana, Tom Hanks, Steven Spielberg and many individual smaller donations. In 2003, Congress designated the museum as "America's National World War II Museum." The Stephen E. Ambrose Memorial Fund continues to support the development of

the museum's Center for Study of the American Spirit, it's educational programs and oral history and public initiatives.

Just a drop in the bucket of his vast and many writings, movie credits and numerous and important awards, Professor Ambrose's legacies will always be at the forefront of history through his WWII Museum in New Orleans. Some of his memorable works within recent times include the HBO series - the unforgettable *Saving Private Ryan*, also *Band of Brothers - E Company - 101st Airborne and D-Day*, and his book, *Citizen Soldiers*, which became a number one New York Times best seller. His contributions to American history are gifts of the ages.

### National WWII Museum, New Orleans, Louisiana

Located on a six acre campus, in downtown New Orleans, where five soaring pavilions house historical exhibits, multimedia experiences, a period dining theater, an expansive collection of oral histories and artifacts stands tall with the idea of introducing the public of students and scholars to the inside of WW II. The museum, with its treasures, welcomes us to its generation that sacrificed so much to secure our freedom.

**Arrival: Wednesday - February 1st**  
*Hotel:* Embassy Suites New Orleans

**Banquet: February 2nd**

**All Day Program and Visit at WW II Museum - February 3rd**

**Departure Dates: Feb 4th** or choose your own personal departure date.

Please keep these dates in mind for a memorable 2017 BACEPOW reunion. More information will be forthcoming in the months to come. Your BACEPOW Board of Directors

For any questions please contact:  
Sascha Jansen  
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707-448-2909

pow/  
mia



### 20th Plenary Session of the U.S. – Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIA Concludes

U.S. and Russian delegates completed the 20th Jubilee Plenum of the United States – Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIA (USRJC) May 24, in Arlington, Virginia, where they discussed U.S.-Russia cooperation on the accounting mission.

The USRJC was established in 1992 as an agreement between President George H.W. Bush and Russian President Boris Yeltsin to determine the fates of Americans from World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Cold War, who are believed to be missing on the territory of the former Soviet Union, or about whom the Russians may have information.

The second goal of the Commission was to determine the fates of Russian servicemen who are still missing from various conflicts, including the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, from 1979-1989.

During this first plenary session held in more than 10 years, the USRJC was re-energized to make further progress in each of the four conflict's working groups, which all agreed to expand archival research opportunities in both countries.

The U.S. side declared that they will continue its work to find information on the 264 servicemen Russia has listed as MIA from its involvement in Afghanistan. The U.S. side will also increase its efforts to help the Russian side determine what happened to its missing citizens from the other four conflicts.

USRJC delegates also laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery, May 23, paying homage to the veterans from the U.S. and Russia who sacrificed their lives for their countries.

The U.S. Chairman of the Commission is General (retired) Robert "Doc" Foglesong. Other U.S. members include Senator Joe Manchin; Congressmen Tim Walz and Sam Johnson; Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, Kathleen Kavalec; and Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) director, Michael Linnington, among others. The Russian Chairman is General-Colonel Valeriy Vostrotin. Other Russian members include parliamentarians, heads of major Russian archives, officials from the Ministry of Defense and the Russian Red Cross, among others.

The next plenary session of this presidentially-mandated commission is tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2017 in Russia. Constructive engagement on this humanitarian mission is expected to continue.



**Aug. 12- 13, 2016. The Ohio State AXPOW Convention** will be held at the Drury Inn & Suites Columbus South, 4109 Parkway Centre Drive, Grove City, Ohio 43123. Please make your room reservation by calling 1-800-325-0720—Group No 2255454 before July 10, 2016. The state organization will pay for all food and rooms, however, you must reserve your room with your personal credit card. Send your convention registration to Patty Myers; pattyrcp@yahoo.com or mail to 1138 Hawthorne Ave, SW, Canton, Ohio 44710-1414.

**Sept. 7- 11, 2016. The 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and 104<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Reunion.** The 70<sup>th</sup> annual reunion of the 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division will be jointly held with the 104<sup>th</sup> ID in Arlington, VA. For details, please visit <http://106thInfDivAssn.org/events.html#annual> or email Host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org, or call Wayne Dunn at 410-409-1141.

**Sept. 15- 17, 2016. The Ride Home, for National POW/MIA Recognition Day.** Events will be held at Andersonville/Americus, GA. All POWs are honored guests of The Ride Home. Room accommodations, Heroes Dinner and Ground Pounder & Fly-Boy Luncheon is included. For more information, please see pages 22-23 of the March/April issue, EX-POW Bulletin or contact: Jim "Moe" Moyer, The Ride Home, 3818 Litchfield Loop, Lake Wales, FL 33859; Phone: 863-324-7268; [moehog@verizon.net](mailto:moehog@verizon.net). [www.theridehome.com](http://www.theridehome.com)



# A New Dawn:

## The VA's FPOW Committee

by Alice A. Booher



“Committees” have not always had the best of reputations, e.g., the old adage that a camel was a horse put together by a committee. Nonetheless, since President George Washington sought the advice of such a committee during the Whiskey Rebellion of 1794, in Washington, the contributions made by these groups have been impressive and diverse.

Through enactment of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972 (Public Law 92-463), the U.S. Congress formally recognized the merits of seeking the advice and assistance of our nation's citizens to the executive branch of government. At the same time, the Congress also sought to assure that advisory committees: (1) Provide advice that is relevant, objective, and open to the public; (2) Act promptly to complete their work; (3) Comply with reasonable cost controls and recordkeeping requirements; and (4) Had government oversight through creation of the Committee Management Secretariat. In 1976 the President assigned the Committee Management Secretariat to the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA). GSA's role under FACA includes annual reviews and record keeping and advising. Any advisory group, with limited excep-

tions, that is established or utilized by a federal agency and that has at least one member who is not a federal employee, must comply with the FACA.

For several decades we have given you one or more annual reports from the Former POW Committee (FPOW) that advises the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. A year ago, in the July-August 2015 *Bulletin*, we alerted you to a purportedly imminent move by the current Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Robert McDonald to institute wide-ranging changes to all of the advisory committees. It took a bit longer than anyone might have anticipated, but the decisions have now been implemented and we are thrilled to share the details.

The DVA Secretary has 25 federal advisory committees (out of the some 1,000 in Washington as a whole established under the FACA).



Some of you asked that the names not just the constituencies be identified, so these are the current DVA Advisory Committee Names including 15 that have been established by statute (with an asterisk \*) and 10 nonstatutory panels designed to provide advice on selected VA programs and policies.

1. VA National Academic Affiliations Council;
2. Advisory Committee on Cemeteries and Memorials \*;
3. Clinical Science Research and Development Service Cooperative Studies Scientific Evaluation Committee;
4. Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation \*;
5. Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education \*;
6. Veterans' Advisory Committee on Environmental Hazards \*;
7. ***Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War*** \*;
8. Genomic Medicine Program Advisory Committee;
9. Geriatrics and Gerontology Advisory Committee \*;
10. Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses \*;
11. Health Services Research and Development Service Merit Review Board ;
12. Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans \*;
13. Joint Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development and Clinical Science Research and Development Services Scientific Merit Review Board;
14. Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans \*;
15. National Research Advisory Council ;
16. Advisory Committee on Prosthetics and Special Disabilities Programs \*;
17. Advisory Committee on the Readjustment of Veterans \*;
18. Veterans' Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation \*;
19. Rehabilitation Research and Development Service Scientific Merit Review Board ;
20. Veterans' Rural Health Advisory Committee ;
21. Special Medical Advisory Group \*;
22. Advisory Committee on Structural Safety of Department of Veterans Affairs Facilities \*;
23. Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service National Advisory Committee ;
24. Advisory Committee on Women Veterans \*;
25. MyVA Advisory Committee.

The FPOW Committee, as summarized in a memorandum signed March 20, 2012 by then Secretary Eric Shinseki, is authorized by stat-



## committee, cont'd..



ute, 38 U.S. Code § 541, and operates under the FACA as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 2). The Committee's purpose is to advise the Secretary on administration of benefits under 38 U.S.C. for veterans who are former POWs, and the needs of those veterans in areas of service-connected compensation, health care and rehabilitation; duties include reviewing VA programs and activities and developing recommendations for both administrative and legislative action. Support to the Committee is through the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA, the current designated federal liaison officer is Eric Robinson); the committee meets twice a year; and members may include a variety of areas including FPOWs as well as specialists in epidemiology, mental health, nutrition, geriatrics and internal medicine; VA employees may be members, but for the most part, members are Special Government Employees.

In January 2014, under the direction of Jeff "Boomer" Moragne, the VA Advisory Committee Management Office (ACMO) (with staffers Jelessa Burney and Rebecca Schiller) was reorganized and expanded to provide administrative oversight and support for all of the VA's advisory committees. The ACMO has since held training sessions, and in September 2014, it updated the management guideline for the first time in 11 years. At the November 2014 meeting of the FPOW Committee in Seattle, Moragne briefed the committee on the Secretary's mandate for a subcommittee charged with providing guidance on several matters within the FPOW committee. The subcommittee, consisting of

NamPows Bob Certain and Chair Hal Kushner, and Persian Gulf POW Rhonda Cornum reported back at the Spring 2015 FPOW meeting in Washington with recommendations to include more finite terms, successive term limitations, membership numbers, representation to include having the Director of the Mitchell Center for POW Studies as an ex-officio member, and requiring that a member attend no fewer than 50% of the meetings for reappointment. The report was discussed by the assembled FPOW Committee (April 27-29, 2015) and forwarded along with the other written recommendations of the meeting to the Secretary for consideration. In May 2015, the Secretary brought in the Chairs for all of his Advisory committees to a unique meeting in Washington; Dr. Rhonda Cornum was invited to participate for FPOW at that meeting.

Considerable discussion followed among the Secretariat, VBA and FPOW Committee members, and the Secretary declared his intent to follow the proffered advice to be given by the VBA and the statutory chain of command. In February 2016, Undersecretary for Benefits Danny Pimmill made his recommendations which were signed off by the Secretary and letters sent to retiring, ongoing and new FPOW Committee candidates on May 20, 2016, reducing the FPOW membership from 13 to 12. GSA policy prohibits registered lobbyists from serving on an advisory committee, and these appointments have been vetted in that regard.

The Secretary signed off on: (1) reappointment of five current members for varying finite designated terms [Bob Certain, Norm Bussell, Tom Hanton, Hal Kushner and Shoshana Johnson]; (2) appointment of seven new members for terms from May 20, 2016 to the end of May 2019 [Alice Booher, Bill Richardson, Jeff Moore, Elliott Sortillo, Shirley Quarles, Lane Carson and Joe Milligan]; (3) acknowledgment of eight members' expiring appointments [Thomas McNish, Rhonda Cornum, Michael Ambrose, Charles Stenger, Paul

Galanti, Earl Derrington, Bob Fletcher and the late Bill Andrews]; and (4) appointment of a current member as the new Committee Chair. [Reverend Robert Certain has been named to serve as Committee Chair through August 2018. Former FPOW Chairs have included General Flynn, Dick Stratton and Tom McNish].



Advisory committee rules state that a member cannot serve on more than one committee at a time. However, in the past there has been some shared interdisciplinary data along the way. Jeff Moore, Alice Booher and others have observed other committees' meetings; and the former Agent Orange Advisory Committee brought in NamPows as consultants but not members; other FPOW members have attended other committees on a consultative basis. One current FPOW member, Shoshana Johnson earlier served on the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans. And new FPOW appointee Dr. Shirley Quarles has just completed a successful tenure as Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans.

The DVA has just issued a Press Release announcing the new membership; and confirming the Federal Registry notice of the next FPOW Committee meeting scheduled for Washington, D.C, on August 16-18, 2016. In future articles, more complete biographies and data on the newly constituted FPOW will be included.

# News Briefs

“Don did an awful lot of work over at Bay Pines (VA Healthcare System),” said Grant Raulerson, who like Denny was, is a Korean War veteran and member of The American Legion Turner Brandon Post 7

brothers” whose service is also recognized with a plaque at the memorial’s base.

“We went to a lot of ex-POW funerals, did a lot of ceremonies,” Mauldin said.

Saturday’s event drew hundreds to the park to pay their respects to Denny and the thousands of others who were prisoners of war or missing in action while defending their country.

“Today, more than 83,000 Americans remain unaccounted for from World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War, and the Vietnam War,” said Ret. Lt. Gen. Michael Linnington, director of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency and one of Saturday’s keynote speakers.

The agency’s mission “is to provide the fullest possible accounting for our missing personnel to their families and the nation,” a promise Linnington personally shared with another speaker, Pam Cain. Her father, Col. Oscar Mauterer, was shot down over Laos in February 1966, and he’s never been found.

Cain praised those who have served and sacrificed for their country. “You have done remarkable things, and are remarkable individuals. I am not so remarkable. My experiences cannot equal what you stand for, what you have done and your many accomplishments,” she said. “It is a special day of dedica-



## Florida Memorial

When plans started to come together for a new POW/MIA Memorial at the Hillsborough County Veterans Memorial Park in Tampa, Fla., friends say it was no surprise that Don Denny jumped right in.

“It was typical of Don to volunteer. Over 10,000 hours volunteering in the VA, countless hours in all the veterans’ organizations he belonged to,” said Fran Harrison.

in Clearwater, Fla. “We would get together and just help out where we could.”

Denny, who died in 2012, had a personal stake in creating the POW/MIA Memorial — he was a POW himself, imprisoned for 27 months in North Korea. And so it’s his face on the memorial statue, a likeness of a soldier behind barbed wire, pleading for his release.

The memorial was dedicated Saturday as part of National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day, an annual event whose April 9 date stems

from the Bataan Death March in World War II. A similar event, National POW/MIA Recognition Day, takes place each year on the third weekend in September.

Denny, Raulerson and Post 7’s former chaplain, Vietnam veteran Gordon Mauldin, formed a “band of



## news, cont'd...

tion for others. For the family of Don Denny, returned POW from Korea, the hero whose face is so vividly and poignantly depicted in this statue. For those who worked so hard to see this beautiful and moving POW/MIA Memorial come alive. For the many who work tirelessly to keep America mindful of POWs and MIAs, and support the POW/MIA mission.”

Raulerson said events like Saturday are important.

“I want (people) to know why they were there; I want them to appreciate what they’ve got,” he said. “And so many people don’t care.”

*Photos courtesy of Bob “f-stop” Brinley*

## VA Hepatitis C

VA encourages Veterans to get tested and get treatment for viral hepatitis. If left untreated, hepatitis is life threatening, because it can lead to liver disease. Effective screening and treatment for hepatitis is available at your VA medical center. Testing for hepatitis C infection is recommended for all Veterans born between 1945 and 1965, regardless of perceived risk. May 19 was National Hepatitis Testing Day. Hepatitis C infections can go unnoticed for years, even decades. Effective treatment is available. Don’t let hepatitis C surprise you. Get the facts. Get tested. Get treatment.

“Hepatitis” means inflammation of the liver. It can be caused by one of several viruses, which is why it is often called “viral hepatitis.” The most common types of viral hepatitis within the U.S. are hepatitis A, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C. Hepatitis B and hepatitis C can become chronic, life-long infections that can cause serious health problems including liver damage, cirrhosis, liver cancer, and even death. Veterans

have unusually high rates of hepatitis C, especially those born between 1945 and 1965. Hepatitis C is generally spread through blood-to-blood contact. The disease begins with the swelling of the liver and can progress to liver damage such as cirrhosis and liver cancer if untreated.

Hepatitis C can persist for 10 to 30 years before there are any clear symptoms, which is why most people with chronic hepatitis C are unaware they are infected. There is no vaccine for hepatitis C, but effective treatments are now available. A blood test is the only way to diagnose a hepatitis C infection.

Talk to your VA health care provider about testing and treatment. VA is the largest single provider of hepatitis care in the United States. For more information about hepatitis, please visit [www.hepatitis.va.gov](http://www.hepatitis.va.gov). According to the Hepatitis Foundation International, an estimated 4.4 million Americans are living with chronic hepatitis and about 80,000 new infections occur each year.

## ADBC-MS Convention

Jack Warner and Carl Dyer in hotel lobby in San Antonio, TX. They were two of the nine POW’S that went to Japan in Oct. 2015. The Japanese Government paid all expenses for the POW’S and their caregivers, First Class.



ADBC-MS helped get these trips together. You had to have surrendered to the Japanese on either Bataan or Corregidor and taken to Japan to be eligible to go.

## MIA - All Conflicts

“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 (73,515) Korean War (7,841), Cold War (126), Vietnam War (1,627), 1991 Gulf War (5), and Libya (1).

Over 600 Defense Department men and women — both military and civilian — work in organizations around the world as part of DoD’s personnel recovery and personnel accounting communities. They are all dedicated to the single mission of finding and bringing our missing personnel home. For a listing of all personnel accounted for since 2007 refer to <http://www.dpaa.mil/> and click on ‘Our Missing’.

## WWII Filipino

### Family Opportunity

Beginning June 8, 2016, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will allow certain Filipino World War II veteran family members who are beneficiaries of approved family-based immigrant visa petitions an opportunity to receive a discretionary grant of parole on a case-by-case basis, so that they may come to the United States as they wait for their immigrant visa to become available. An estimated 2,000 to 6,000 Filipino-American World War II veterans are living in the United States today.

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news, cont'd...

## Missouri Convention

The 40th Convention of the Missouri Department of the American EX-POWs was called to order on April 16, 2016 at 11:30 am. Following the opening ceremonies which included the Table Set For One Ceremony conducted by John Clark, lunch was served. The business meeting began at 1:00 pm. The most important piece of business was the approval of a resolution to inactivate the Missouri Department. This was a very hard decision for the members but due to the aging of our members and inability to travel long distances, it was decided that this was the right decision. Within the resolution it specified that remaining funds from the treasury would go to the Jefferson Barracks POW/MIA Museum and Welcome Home, a non-profit group providing shelter to homeless veterans. Elections were held and all officers currently holding office were elected to remain in their office. Past State Commander Raymond Ruetsch conducted the ceremony installing Ralph Kalberloh as Commander, Robert Carter as Vice Commander, and John Clark as Adjutant/Treasurer. We were proud to have several guests who have supported the organization present and they said a few words. Honored guests were Scott Orr, who was a leader in getting into law the exemption of EX-POWs from paying real estate taxes; Doug Meyer, representing the Missouri Veteran Commission; Gary Moore, representing the VA Regional Office in St Louis; Wade Vlosich and Stephen Gaither, representing the Truman VA Hospital; and Lieutenant General Richard Harding, USAF (retired) representing Welcome Home. Also present as our guests were Jim Logan, Wanda Staten, and Eileen Scrivner (with the Jefferson City Elks) who have provided the music and centerpieces at many of our conventions. A Memo-

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EX-POWs in attendance (L to R) John Clark, RF-4 pilot, Wilburn Rowden, B-17 Radio Operator, Ralph Kalberloh, B-17 Tail Gunner, Robert Carter, B-24 Top Turret Gunner

Installation of Officers (L to R) John Clark, Adjutant Treasurer; Robert Carter, Vice Commander; Ralph Kalberloh, Commander

### Missouri Convention 2016 Pictures



EX-POWs, Wives and Widows in attendance (L to R) seated Anne Clark, Mary Louise Carter, Mary Milhollin, Pat Mohrmann. Standing John Clark, Phyllis Monteleone, Wilburn Rowden, Barb Kalberloh, Ralph Kalberloh, Robert Carter, Doris Duckworth, Hilda Moore (Vera Fields also in attendance but left before picture was taken).

rial Service was conducted by Chaplain Ruetsch honoring the members lost in the past year. Following the conclusion of the proceedings, a drawing for door prizes was held. There was a social period with lots of pictures taken. The Department will be formally inactivated on September 16, 2016 at the POW/MIA Remembrance Day at the Missouri POW/MIA Museum. Time of ceremony is yet to be determined. We also thank the Columbia Elks lodge #594 for the use of the facilities and providing an outstanding lunch. Brigadier General Tibbets (Wing Commander of the 509th Bomb Wing) could not attend but sent a letter of

thanks. (B/G Tibbets is the grandson of Paul Tibbets who was the pilot of the Enola Gay and was a member of the wartime 509th.) Also thanks to Mort Walker, a MU graduate and creator of Beetle Bailey for his drawing.



# Motts Military Museum

By Raymond Ruetsch  
Department of Missouri, AXPOW

I am sure that many people have heard the phrase that nothing good comes from your hometown. I am from a small town south of Columbus, Ohio – Groveport. When I was growing up there in the 50s and 60s it was mostly farm land. I went back to visit last year and a lot of things have changed in the almost 45 years since I left when I joined the AF in 1972. I had gone back many times to see family and friends but this time I went to a very impressive place, the Motts Military Museum in my hometown. Most people have heard about the National Museum of the Air Force near Dayton (which is also a fantastic place to visit) but the Motts Military Museum is not as well-known and it deserves the same recognition.



Motts Military Museum was founded in 1987 by Warren E. Motts of Groveport, Ohio who established the museum as a 501 (C) 3 not for profit tax exempt educational organization. The mission of Motts Military Museum is to: "To educate the public on the importance of America's military past through the documentation, collection, interpretation, and preservation of tangible



artifacts and personal stories of the men and women who served and are serving in the United States Armed Forces." Originally established in the Motts family's 1870 residence, the museum moved in 1999 to a more modern 5,100 square foot facility with nearly four acres of land. Over the next several years the museum grew in leaps and bounds. Donations poured in from veterans and their families. In 2001, the museum broke ground for a new wing and by 2006, the entire structure was completed and paid in full.

The museum is divided into different historical periods to include 1776, the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korean War, VietNam War, and Desert Storm. There are also separate displays for General Paul Tibbets (pilot of the Enola Gay) who was also a member of the Advisory Board until his death in 2007, Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, and the Tuskegee Airmen. The museum has built a replica of Eddie Rickenbacker's home and with the help of the "Capt. Eddie" family, has furnished the interior of the house as it was when Capt. Eddie lived there. With various "Capt Eddie"

memorabilia displayed throughout the house, it is believed this will assist the educational process for future generations about the life and times of this American patriot. Some of the exterior displays are a 203mm 8 inch self-propelled M110A2 howitzer, a VietNam era Jeep, a Huey helicopter, and a Higgins Boat.

Of special interest to our members, the museum has dedicated an entire section of its exhibit space to the tragic story of former Prisoners of War. From Andersonville Prison in Georgia to the Hanoi Hilton in Vietnam, Motts Military Museum features the true life experiences of Americans held in captivity.



The museum also has the nation's second largest collection of Holocaust memorabilia and the world's second largest collection of artifacts from 9/11-both the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. These are in storage awaiting funds to build additional space.

The museum is located at 5075 South Hamilton Road in Groveport. They are open Tuesday – Saturday (9 to 5) and Sunday (1-5). Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and veterans, students \$5, and children under 5 free. For more information call 614-836-1500 or go to their website:  
[www.mottsmilitarymuseum.org](http://www.mottsmilitarymuseum.org)

If you are ever passing through Columbus, get off I-70 at Hamilton Road and go south until you reach the museum. It will be worth your time.



# Final Salute to an “Inglorious Basterd”

by Alice A. Booher



Perhaps you became acquainted with the “real” WWII’s “inglorious basterds” through books and both popular and documentary movies; and/or the September-October 2013 issue of the *Bulletin* which featured an in-depth article about one of those men for whom it is now time to provide a closing tribute.

Friedrich Mayer, was born in 1921 in Freiburg, Breisgau, Baden-Württemberg, Germany (near the edge of the Black Forest) where as a boy he was known as Fritz (according to the *NYC Times* of 23 April 2016). In 1938, antisemitism forced the family to flee to NYC with only the clothes on their backs. The day after Pearl Harbor, Frederick or Fred, as he asked to be called CONUS, was initially rejected by the draft board but was soon accepted to replace his brother in the U.S. Army.

In July 1943, in Arizona with the 81<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, Mayer led field exercises for an elite re-

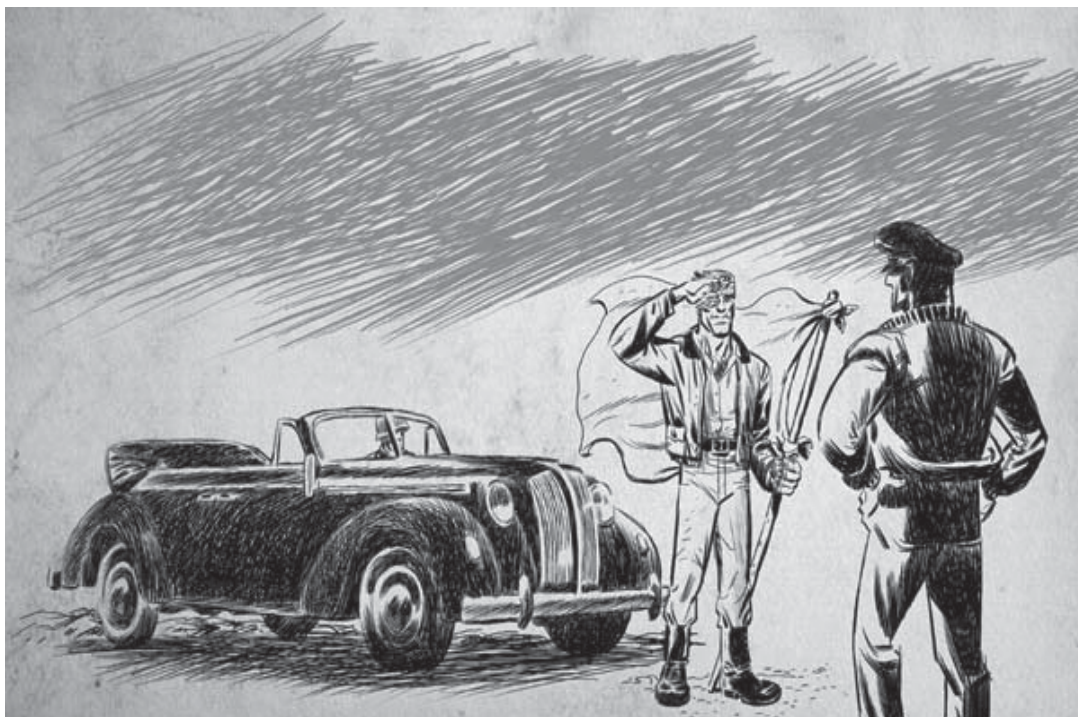
connaisance unit, the Wildcat Rangers, and so impressed military brass that he was asked to report to the HQ in Washington of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS).

Training at the Congressional Country Club, Mayer and his eclectic group, tagged the German Occupational Group (GOG), included (as described in O’Donnell’s *They Dared Return: The True Story of Jewish Spies Behind the Lines in Nazi Germany*), former Luftwaffe pilots, Jewish death camp escapees, Polish deserters, a world class athlete and a former convict. Mayer loved the group whose purpose was to penetrate enemy lines and strike at the heart of Nazi Germany. Considered by many as the genesis of American special ops, GOG completed specialized training at other CONUS locations and embarked on their hard won WWII achievements.

In early summer 1944, the GOG boarded a troop ship for Europe which dropped them in the wrong location; absent backup, they spent several months wandering in North Africa including considerable incidental but pivotal on-the-job learning. Eventually rousing the OSS office in Italy, they were or-



dered to Bari where recruitment of infiltrating agents was not going well; several efforts to use German POWs had been jinxed by legalities/practicalities. Mayer and his group vetted the captured POWs to find a perfect man to join them when they infiltrated behind lines. In January 1945, to test his credibility, dressed as a German officer, Mayer entered Allied POW Camp 209 near Naples. The true story of those days in the POW camp is fabled: not only did Mayer “pass” as a German POW, but he co-opted a brilliant real German POW (former Austrian Wehrmacht officer and lawyer Franz Weber) to infiltrate with him. Operation Greenup was charged with obtaining wide-ranging pivotal Intel from Innsbruck, and their exceptional, brilliant and daring exploits in the Alps gained engineer-



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## bastard, cont'd...

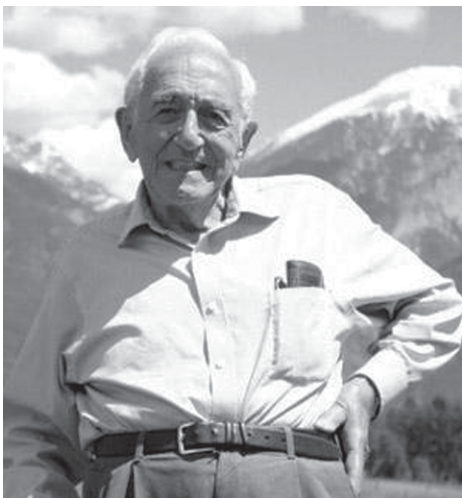


In the mid 1990s, Gottleber, his crew mates and the three spies they dropped in 1945 had another reunion. From left to right: James O'Flarity, Warren Eldridge, Franz Weber, Hans Wynberg, John Billings, Gottleber and Fred Mayer. Photo courtesy of Richard Gottleber.

ing details, train schedules and staggering pivotal insights.

Three months later Mayer posing in beret and civies as a French electrician fleeing the advancing Soviet forces, worked in a German aircraft plant until one of his black market contacts turned him in to the Gestapo as a spy. During his torture-filled captivity, he initially spoke only German but eventually said he was American working alone while protecting his extraordinary harvest of detailed, quality data of industrial and strategic nature.

When, on May 3, 1945, Major Bland West, an intelligence officer with the American 103<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division of the Seventh Army entered Innsbruck, he was met by a car with a white sheet flying – and a beaten, bruised Mayer took him to accept the German surrender of the city.



Former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), William J. Casey, called Operation Greenup “by far the most successful of OSS operations mounted from Bari”.

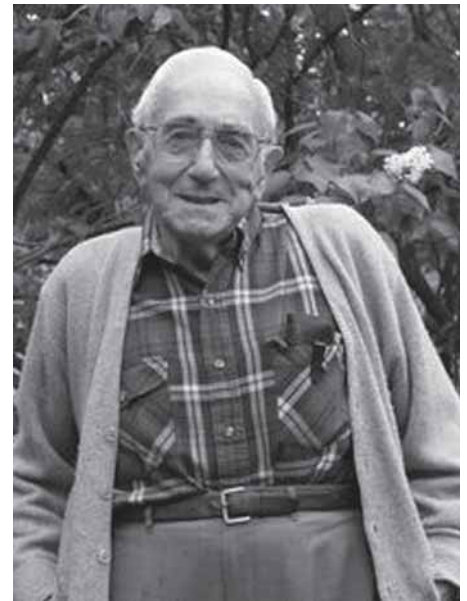
After discharge from the OSS in 1945, Mayer worked at General Motors as a power plant supervisor for Voice of America (including in The Philippines, Morocco, West Germany, Liberia and Thailand) until retirement in 1977, travelling the world and

staying in touch with many of his OSS friends. In 1990, the Austrian government awarded naturalized American citizen Mayer with the Tyrolean Order of the Eagle in Gold.



At a May 2013 *The Real Inglorious Bastards* screening at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual GI Film Festival in Arlington, VA with a Congressional Reception at the U.S. Capitol Building, he finally received the 10 WWII-earned medals (including the POW Medal, Purple Heart and Legion of Merit). He was nominated for the Medal of Honor in 1945, and many have since tried to seek that for him, including the OSS Society [from whom he received a high award in 2012] according to OSSS President Charlie Pinck.

When told by *Army Times* in 2014 that folks were not giving up on his Medal of Honor, Mayer responded: “I did my job, and that’s all that really mattered. I didn’t do it to get a medal, that’s for sure”.



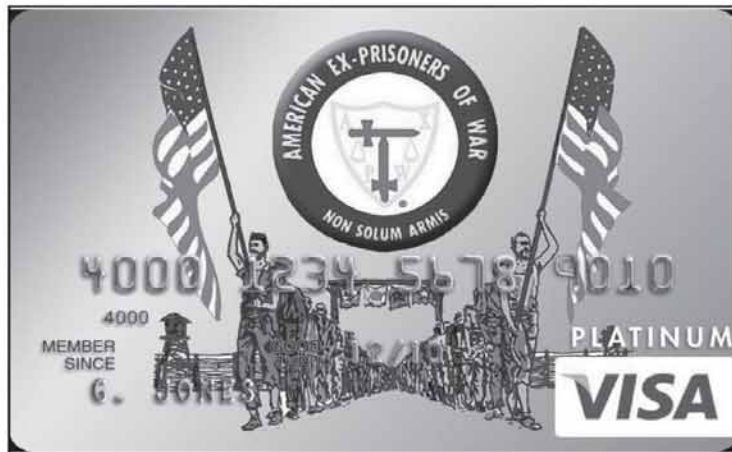
A daughter Claudette Mayer told *Army Times* (on 4/16/2016) that he remained “fully engaged mentally and physically until recently”, continuing 38 years of volunteering driving for Meals on Wheels in his Charles Town, WV until three weeks before his death on April 15, 2016 at age 94.

*The Washington Post* of April 28, 2016, said he had been diagnosed with pancytopenia. He directed that there be no funeral, and that his body be given to research at the WV University School of Medicine. He was married and divorced from Sylvia Stieber, and is survived by his life-partner of 20 years, Virginia Nash, his daughters Claudette and Irene Mayer-Feldberg, a grandson Shane, a great-grandson, a sister Ruth Wassermann and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

The *Charleston Gazette-Mail* (4/17/2016), speaking for a legion of admirers, quoted a press release from Sen. Joe Manchin (D/WV) that after his capture as a POW, Mayer “exemplified what it was to be a true American hero”.

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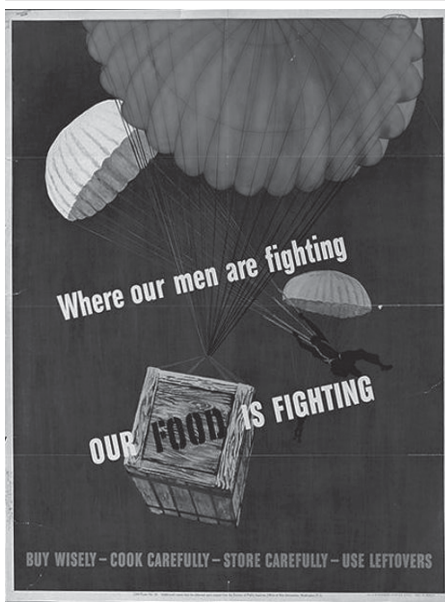
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Checks must be made payable to  
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you!

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In honor of our American Heroes,  
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In memory of Bruno Trocciola, by  
Robert Trocciola  
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Eccles Capt USMC, and Margaret  
Eccles, by Anita Shields  
In memory of Claude D Young, by  
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In memory of Claude D Young, by  
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In memory of Guido Pallozzi, by  
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In memory of Helen Howell, by  
Forrest Howell  
In memory of Lloyd Kilmer, by Ruth  
Natvig Kilmer  
In memory of my husband, Harry  
Glixon, by Geraldine  
In memory of PNC Orlo Natvig, by  
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In memory of William Camillo, by Kim  
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## VOLUNTARY FUNDING

In memory of my husband, Daniel  
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## The Legacy of your love can live on after...

An important way you can help  
ensure that the American Ex-  
Prisoners of War is always  
there for returning POWs, their  
families and their dependents  
is through your will or living  
trust.

It's very simple to make a  
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this sentence with your  
attorney or financial planner  
and they can add the following  
to your will or living trust:

"I give, devise and bequeath to  
the American Ex-Prisoners of  
War, 3201 E. Pioneer Parkway,  
Suite 40, Arlington, TX 76010,  
the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ or  
\_\_\_\_\_percent of the rest,  
residue and remainder of my  
estate."

Please take a few minutes of  
your time to help.

Thank you!

## Maryland POWs Honored

The sheer number of Americans  
listed as missing in action—more  
than 73,000 in World War II, 7,900  
in Korea, hundreds during the Cold  
War, nearly 2,000 in Vietnam, and  
even on today's modern battle-  
fields—is difficult to grasp. Thus, it  
becomes a major importance to  
honor those who have endured  
captivity as prisoners of war  
(POWs) or who have been or con-  
tinue to be listed as missing in ac-  
tion (MIA). The VA Maryland Health  
Care System honored Maryland's  
former POWs and expressed spe-  
cial appreciation to this group of  
Veterans in April at the Perry Point  
VA Medical Center.

In the past, the luncheon guest list  
included more than 100 former  
POWs. In recent years, however,

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with the passing of WWII Veterans,  
the gathering's numbers have been  
diminishing, and this year's luncheon  
honored seven former POWs and  
their families.

Each former POW offers a unique  
story. They all share a common  
thread—fear, brutality, deprivation,  
pain and loss. But their stories are  
also fused with dignity, honor, char-  
acter and a hope that transcend the  
extreme and inhumane experiences  
they survived.

Leonard Kirk, 93, a WWII  
Veteran who was taken  
prisoner in Germany, re-  
calls the thin broth, the  
deprivation and hard sur-  
faces that served as a bed  
when he was prisoner. Af-  
ter his return from Ger-  
many, he remained in the  
Army and his first duty sta-  
tion upon his return was

Louisiana, where he guarded Ger-  
man POWs. "I can tell you they slept  
in beds with mattresses, sheets and  
pillows. They ate good food, com-  
pared to what we as prisoners had  
in Germany. We ate what the Ger-  
man soldiers had it wasn't more than  
that broth," said Kirk, who stays ac-  
tive and is an avid swimmer at his  
local gym. "I'm sure many of them  
wanted to return to the U.S. after  
they were sent back to Germany."





# taps



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



**PNC EDWARDS, John S.**, age 90, passed peacefully and naturally at home in Niskayuna on Monday April 11, 2016. Born October 21, 1925, in Oakham, MA, the son of a World War I veteran, he was a career military officer, retiring in 1972 with the rank of Colonel. John was a graduate of Barre High School in Barre, MA and earned a B.A. from the University of Nebraska and a master's degree from Boston University. During his distinguished military career, John was the recipient of 40 United States and foreign decorations and awards, including The Legion of Merit, The Daughters of the American Revolution Medal of Honor, a Purple Heart and POW medal. He faithfully served his country in World War II, The Korean War and The Vietnam War. His service included participation in eleven major battle campaigns, the 1952 Nevada Atomic Tests and a Pentagon posting in Washington, DC. During World War II John was shot down on his 24th mission over Germany and was taken Prisoner of War. He was liberated by General George Patton's 14th Armored Division in May 1945. John's POW experience forged his

lasting Faith, love of Family, love of Freedom, and respect for Food (the four "F's" as he would frequently say). To those who knew him, his military service, life experiences, and core values define "Americas Greatest Generation." John's post military career included his role as the executive director for the New York State Interdepartmental Fuel and Energy Committee and director of contingency planning for the New York State Energy Office. He retired from New York State leadership in 1994. Forever active in veterans support activities, John organized the Northeast New York Chapter of the American Ex-Prisoners of war and served as its first commander. He was elected as the first commander of the Department of New York, AXPOW. At the National level with AXPOW, he served as National Director, Jr. and Sr. Vice Commander and was elected National Commander, serving 1989-1990. John is the also the past president of the Northeast Chapter of the Korean War Veterans. In 1992, he became the national committee chairman to establish the National POW Museum at Andersonville, GA. The museum grand opening ceremony was held April 9, 1998 with thousands of spectators in attendance. John was also the founder and chapter president of the New York State Military History and Military Heritage Institute in Saratoga. John proudly displayed the New York State license plate "Former Prisoner of War #1" which was issued specifically to him. John loved our military men and women. Survivors include his beloved wife, Helga Edwards and many relatives that loved and adored him deeply. John was the loving father of John S. Edwards Jr. and his wife Jocelyn, and Laura Edwards Bach and her husband Adam of Niskayuna. He was the especially proud "Papa" to Emma, Jurgen, Henry, Tristan and Hagan.

**BAKER, Charlotte B.**, of Rochester, NY passed away April 10, 2016. She was 94. Charlotte was the loving wife of Robert (8<sup>th</sup> AF, POW in Stalag Luft 1). They were married 72 years. She loved her family and will be missed by 3 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, 1 sister and a large, loving extended family.

**BEGLEY, Wild Bill**, 94, a Bataan March Survivor, passed away on April 27, 2016. Mr. Begley served in the Philippines as an Infantryman & in the Army Air Corps. He was captured in early April of 1942 & imprisoned in Mukden, Manchuria for 3 1/2 years. After his liberation he went on to serve in the Air Force until 1961. Bill had been a very active member of Fresno Chapter #1 & very instrumental in helping veterans receive their benefits. He is survived by his wife Lenora & daughter Polly.

**BRAIN, Wallace T. Sr.** died March 7, 2016 at the age of 93 in Akron, Ohio. During WWII, he served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn, 422<sup>nd</sup> Inf., 106<sup>th</sup> Div. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and held in 9A and 9B until liberation. He is survived by his loving wife of 73 years, Helen, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 12 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren and their families.

**BROOKS, Howard E.** of Mt. Laurel, NJ passed away April 12, 2016 at age 96. He proudly served his country in the US Navy aboard the USS Houston (CA-30) during WWII. He was captured when the ship was sunk during the Battle of Sunda Strait on March 1, 1942. He was a prisoner of war 3 1/2 years, held in various POW camps, including the

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## taps cont'd...

work camps of "Branch 5" in Burma along the Burma-Thailand Railway. In April, 1944 the Japanese transported him to a POW work camp in Saigon, French Indo-China, where he was eventually liberated in September, 1945. He was the beloved husband of 49 years to Silvia. He also leaves 2 sons, 3 grandchildren, 1 sister and their families.

**DOBSON, James F.**, of Upper Marlboro, MD, died in March, 2016. A member of AXPOW since 1994, he was a member of the Chuck Williams Mid-Maryland Chapter. He served in 483 BG, 815 BS and was held in Luft 4 and Luft 1. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Ida Mae.

**EVANS, J.W. Jr.**, of Alabaster, AL passed away Mar. 29, 2016. He was captured while serving with the AAC during WWII; after being shot down over Spain, he eluded capture. He was sent to the Pacific with the 398<sup>th</sup> BG, 874<sup>th</sup> BS, shot down and became a POW in Tokyo. JW was a life member of AXPOW and member of Chapter 1, Birmingham. Survivors include his loving wife Quinell, 1 son and 1 grandson.

**FULLER, David P.**, 91, passed away in Roseville, CA February 16, 2016. He served in the Rhineland and the Central European Campaigns, (during the time period of the Battle of the Budge), in the 14<sup>th</sup> Armored Division. He was captured and held until liberation. He was a life member of AXPOW and Chaplain of the 49ers Chapter. David leaves 2 children, 5 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren. David was a compassionate man who served his country in time of war and he will be greatly missed.

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**GARVER, Edwin**, of Evergreen Park, IL died April 22, 2016. He was 98 and former commander of the Greater Chicago Chapter, AXPOW. During WWII, he served with the 388<sup>th</sup> BG. After capture he was held in Stalags 7A and 3B. His wife of 70 years, Sybil, 5 children, 7 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren survive him.

**GRAY, George G.**, of Stanley, VA passed away Dec. 4, 2015. He was 82. He served with the 7<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div., 31<sup>st</sup> Inf. Reg., Co E during the Korean War and he was captured and held 27 months. George is survived by his wife of 59 years, Ruby, 1 daughter, 2 sons, 1 grandson, 1 great-grandson, 1 brother and 1 sister He was loved by many and will be greatly missed.

**HEIMBUCH, George**, 96, a recent member of Fresno Chapter #1, passed away on April 27, 2016. George enlisted in the Army Air Corps at 19 years of age, was stationed in the Philippines & captured by the Japanese in May 10, 1942 & sent on a "Hell Ship" to Japan spending the remainder of the war in Kawasaki 2B POW camp. George was very active in his church mentoring young boys to serve God & a love for their country. George is survived by his daughter Janet Davis & husband Phil & grandchildren plus a large host of friends who loved this man for his infectious smile.

**KUSHNER, Larry S.**, 91 of Monroeville, PA died March 6, 2016. He was captured in Cisterna, Italy while serving with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ranger Bn, Co A as 1<sup>st</sup> Scout. He was held in Stalag 2B and a farm labor camp. He escaped from the infamous forced march. Larry leaves two sons and one daughter and their families.

**MAHONEY, Edward A.**, 96, of Port Richey, FL passed away Feb. 8, 2016. During WWII, he served with the 376<sup>th</sup> BG. His plane was shot down, he was captured and held in Luft 1, Barth until liberation. He was a proud life member of AXPOW. His

loving family – wife Kathy, 1 son, 1 daughter and 1 granddaughter – will miss him greatly.

**MECHALAKOS, George**, a lifelong resident of Easton, Pa., passed away on August 22, 2015 at the age of 92. He was a veteran of World War II, serving with Co. K, 335<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. He spent 9 months as a prisoner of war in Stalag 2a, Neubrandenburg, Germany and was liberated and subsequently discharged in 1945 at the rank of sergeant with 2 bronze stars. He is survived by his wife Chrisanthe of 52 years, son James, and 2 grandchildren.

**MOULTON, Richard**, of Vero Beach, FL died March 19, 2016. He was 91. He was captured by Slovak troops while serving with the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, 459<sup>th</sup> G, 758<sup>th</sup> BS flying over Hungary. His dog tags were taken before he was released, then recaptured, which led the Gestapo to believe he was a Russian spy. He was finally taken to a German POW camp and held until liberation. Richard leaves his wife of nearly 70 years, Virginia, 2 sons, 3 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, 1 sister and their families.

**NEWELL, Edward Perkins**, 97, of Augusta, ME passed away May 4, 2016. While serving with the 545<sup>th</sup> BS, 384<sup>th</sup> BG, flying on the B-17 Flying Fortress, he was shot down over Bonn, captured and held until liberation. Survivors include his wife of 37 years, Jaroslava, and 3 stepchildren.

**PHILIPS, TJ**, 92, of Davis, OK died March 30, 2016. He was captured in Italy and transported to Germany where he spent 15 months as a POW in Stalag 3B. He leaves his wife, Phyllis, 1 daughter, 2 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

**PLATTENBURGER, Archie Howard "Bob"**, of Indian Land, SC passed away Oct. 2, 2013. While serving in the US Army, he was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. Bob is survived by his wife, Mary, 3 sons, 3

## taps,cont'd...

daughters, 2 brothers, 1 sister, 9 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren and their families.

**ROTH, William P.**, of Audubon, IA died April 21, 2016. He was 95. He was captured during the battle of Kasserine Pass while serving with HQ Company, 168<sup>th</sup> Inf., 34<sup>th</sup> Div. and held 26 months. Bill was a member of the SW Iowa Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include 2 sons, 2 granddaughters, 2 brothers, 1 sister, and a large, loving extended family.

**SHIPMAN, Dorothy E.**, of Lakewood, CO, 91, passed away May 3, 2016. She was an active member of the Mile High Chapter, AXPOW. Her husband, Elmer (106<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. POW in Luft 1, 12D)

predeceased her; she leaves 2 sons, 4 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

**SLOCA, Charles**, 93, of Fort Loudon, PA died Nov. 20, 2015. He served with the AAC during WWII; he was captured after his B-17 was shot down and held in 3B until liberation. Charlie is survived by his wife of 61 years, Joan, 9 children, 18 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

**STARK, Darrel D.**, 92, of Stafford Springs, CT passed away Feb. 17, 2016. He was captured on Bataan while serving with the 31<sup>st</sup> Inf. He survived the Bataan Death March and 3 ½ years of captivity in Cabanatuan, Davao, Bilibid, then Japan. The love of his life, Julia, predeceased him; he leaves 3 children, 9 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, 2 brothers and a large

and loving extended family and friends.

**WEISS, Andrew F.**, of Tonawanda, NY passed away Feb. 14, 2016. During WWII, he served with the 96<sup>th</sup> BG. He was shot down, captured and held in Stalag 17B until liberation. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Joan, 2 daughters, 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**WOJTUSIK, Stanley**, of Torresdale, PA died Sept. 25, 2015. He was 90. He was captured while serving with the 106<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. in the Battle of the Bulge. He was held until liberation. Stanley served two terms as national president of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. He was preceded in death by his wife Agatha Ruth. He had 5 children, 10 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

## chaplain



ND Benny Rayborn

If you are like me, you have this year, heard enough political ads to last you a life time! Are you tired and fed up with the rhetoric? The contradictions? And the mud slinging? If so, you are like myself and many other people (Conversely, some people actual thrive on and enjoy such things).

However, there is a larger issue at stake. The issue is that many people do not vote. They leave the control of the government to other people. Our early forefathers

established a wonderful country. Through the years many people (including our Ex-POWs) suffered for and gave their lives to keep for all of us, the freedom of voting. The ability to choose our leaders. To vote is to maintain and protect that freedom.

I have recently heard people say: "It won't make any difference, so why vote?" They do not seem to realize that by not voting they are not trying to make a difference in the government. In our system a change begins with the single, one vote of a voter. Joined with others who feel the same way a change may be had. A change that comes about only by voting.

As believers, we should pray for wisdom and insight to vote properly, that is, we should chose what pleases our Heavenly Father. By not making a decision at the poll we are letting other people make decisions for us. Some of those people are ungodly people without morals or conscience. No one knows the outcome if ungodly people gain control of our government.

I have two scriptures : 1 Timothy 2:1-2 "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty:"

Ezra 6:10 "That they may offer sacrifices of sweet savours unto the God of heaven, and pray for the life of the king, and of his sons."

There is a quote by an unknown person (not original with me) "If we forget we are one nation under God, we will be a nation gone under."



Benny



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

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

IN MEMORY OF:

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO BE SENT TO:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Memorial donations should be sent to:  
**American Ex-Prisoners of War**  
3201 East Pioneer Parkway #40  
Arlington, Texas 76010-5396

(rev. 02/07)



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Arlington, Texas 76010-5396

(rev. 02/07)



**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](http://www.4thinfantry.org) for membership and reunion information.

**"Steadfast and Loyal"**

# 50/50 drawing

**June 27, 2015 Arlington, TX**

- 1st Place** GROVER MULLINS, MO **\$322.60**
- 2nd Place** ANGIE SARACENO, AZ **\$241.95**
- 3rd Place** DOROTHY MURPHY, FL **\$161.30**
- 4th Place** JACK WARNER, OK **\$80.65**

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 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division vet, were attached to the 106<sup>th</sup>, a relative of a 106<sup>th</sup> 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  
July/Aug 2016

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

PLEASE PRINT  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

You do not have to be present to win. Your donation is not tax deductible. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. Donation not required to enter.  
Thank you for your support. (6/17)

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

PLEASE PRINT  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Ex-POW Bulletin  
July/Aug 2016  
32**

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

PLEASE PRINT  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40  
Arlington, TX 76010-5396**

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Thank you for your support. (6/17)





## 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

Phone #

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

Ex-POW Bulletin  
July/Aug 2016

### 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
Barbed Wire Pin	3.00
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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

#### Shipping/Handling/Insurance:

**Total: \$**

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**

AMERICAN EX PRISONERS OF WAR



# POLO SHIRT

COLORS AVAILABLE

White, Royal Blue, Maize, Black

Soft Egyptian cotton knit shirt with no curl collar

Smooth appearance

Three button placket

Men's, S-5XL ; women's S-3X

S-XL \$38.00 (Call 660-627-0753 for pricing larger orders)

Add \$1.50 per line for extra lettering such as name or "next of kin"

Plus \$2.00 for each size above XL

\$8.95 shipping each

Shipments to Missouri add 5.6% sales tax

Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_ Gender (men's/women's) Color \_\_\_\_\_ Added lettering \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed or VISA/ MasterCard/ AmEx \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code(3 digits on back of card, 4 on front of AMEX) \_\_\_\_\_

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](mailto:Roger@lonepineridge.com)





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  
e-mail: HQ@axpow.org  
No collect calls, please

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



### Challenge Coins!

great gifts...great hand-outs...great way to show your pride in your organization

AXPOW Logo on front/Five services on reverse

**\$10.00<sub>ea</sub>**

### 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