

# EX-POW BULLETIN

the official voice of the  
American Ex-Prisoners of War

501(c)3 Veterans Service Organization

Volume 78

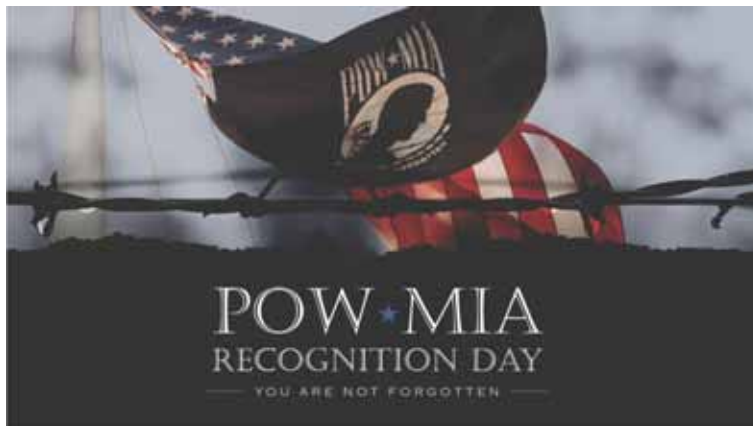
[www.axpow.org](http://www.axpow.org)

Number 7/8/9

**July~August~September, 2021**



*We exist to help those who cannot help themselves*



*National POW/MIA Recognition Day  
September 17, 2021*



### Flag over Fort McHenry, September 1814

In September 1814, Francis Scott Key, an attorney and DC insider, watched the American flag rise over Baltimore, Maryland's Fort McHenry from a British ship in the harbor. Key had been negotiating the release of an American captive during the War of 1812 when the British attacked the fort and Key was held captive. After twenty-five hours of heavy bombardment, Key was sure that, come dawn, the British flag would be flying over Baltimore. Upon seeing the American Flag still aloft, he wrote, on the back of a letter, the first verse of what would eventually become the national anthem of the United States.

*O say can you see, by the dawn's early light, What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming, Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight O'er the ramparts we watch'd were so gallantly streaming? And the rocket's red glare, the bomb bursting in air, Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there, O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?*

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Deadline for the Oct-Dec. 2021  
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Please send all materials to the  
editor at the above address.

*Independence is declared; it must be maintained.*

–Sam Houston, American politician (1793–1863)

The Declaration of Independence is America's revolutionary Charter of Freedom and the document upon which the nation's founding principles were established.

Fly your flag proudly!



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.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Observances of National POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities. It is traditionally observed on the third Friday in September each year. A Pentagon ceremony for National POW/MIA Recognition Day will be held Friday, Sept. 17, 2021. This ceremony will feature troops from each of the military services.

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# national commander



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## TIME FOR ACTION

As we are all painfully aware, we are a rapidly dwindling portion of veterans of the US Armed Forces – former Prisoners of War. As such we have lost much of our former influence with the Department of Veterans Affairs the Congress. Many years ago, Congress passed public law 97-37 establishing the VA Advisory Committee on Former POWs to give guidance to the Secretary about concerns facing the former POW population. In recent years, that influence has been waning for a variety of reasons.

We were informed that the Federal Advisory Committee Act limits service on all such committees to ten years and that anyone who had served that term was dismissed – over half of the committee. At that point we lost the bulk of our corporate memory, though I received many historical documents from the long-time

chairman, Dr. Tom McNish. During the five years of my chairmanship I was unable to get any answer concerning the historically accepted recommendations and their current status. The Committee was also removed from the Secretary's presence and assigned to a designated federal official in the Veterans Benefit Administration with the result that any recommendations had to work their way through the VBA to get to the Secretary – an eighteen month process.

I was also unable to get any action from the VA to coordinate their former POW list with that of the Department of Defense. The numbers I received from the VA last year indicated grossly inflated numbers: over 1,000 for Vietnam and over 200 for Gulf Wars I & II. The numbers for WWII and Korea are far fewer than we know about: 2,625 from WWII and Korea compared to 3,400 who are members of American ExPOWs.

I am currently coordinating some legislation with the Military Officers Association of America to present to The Military Coalition for support. My purpose is to renew Congressional support and to require the VA to remove term limits on our Advisory Committee, to assign it directly to the Secretary, and to actively reach out to living former POWs on the DoD list to encourage them to come in for protocol physicals and medical care.

The first step is to write to the Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee and to copy Secretary McDonough. I've asked that letter to be included in this newsletter so that our members can write similar letters to your Senators and Member of the House. We owe it to each other to care for our fellow former POWs who may no longer be able to help themselves.

May 15, 2021

Chairman Mark Takano  
House Committee on Veterans  
Affairs  
B234 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Takano

I represent a rapidly dwindling portion of veterans of the US Armed Forces – former Prisoners of War. For ten years I served on the VA Advisory Committee on Former POWs and have deep concerns about how that Committee has lost its former valued place in the Department. On behalf of all former POWs of this Nation, I propose a few amendments to Public Law 97-37, known as the "Former Prisoner of War Benefits Act of 1981." I am enclosing a draft of these proposed amendments.

I believe these amendments will restore the confidence of the former POW population and will not be a financial or work burden on the Department. They will accomplish two important objectives: enable the reappointment of long-serving and physically able Committee members to service in order to ensure direct insight and equitable balance; and place the Committee directly responsible to the Secretary.

When a ten-year term limit for volunteer service on the Advisory Committee was instituted a few years ago, the Committee lost over half its members and most of its corporate memory. The location of the Committee's oversight was then shifted several levels down in the VBA and lost its former direct contact with the Secretary. Our efforts to have former Secretaries to remedy these issues have been unsuccessful.

Sincerely,  
Ch, Col, Robert G. Certain, USAF  
(Retired)



## from the CEO

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As I am writing this, it is May. My parents anniversary has just passed ... they would have been married 79 years. My father died 19 years ago next month; my mother 10 years ago in February. At 74, I am the "kid" in AXPOW. A generation removed from the prisoner of war experience. I look at my children and they know what a POW is from listening to their grandfather, but they don't know how the experience changed their grandparents' lives. My grandchildren barely knew my dad.

And their children won't have a clue what a prisoner of war is.

We need to start preparing for this time. Our future is Andersonville National Historic Site and our National POW Museum. Many of you have been to the museum and seen what a powerful legacy it is to Ex-Prisoners of War. My parents' video is in the back room under "Those Who Wait", along with interviews of wives, children and the POWs themselves. Every time I go to Andersonville, I sit and watch. It's a moving opportunity to see and hear my parents again.

Looking at the numbers of POWs alive today, we are in the low thousands nationwide. The vast majority of them are in their late nineties/early hundreds. When I first joined AXPOW, medical research estimated life expectancy of a POW to be less than the general population because of maltreatment. Those of you reading this today sure proved the "experts" wrong!

As our board works toward the future, we need to make sure the POW story is not rewritten or forgotten. Projects we were working toward when COVID took over every part of our lives included a portable, smaller POW museum that could go to public places that currently don't have the capacity to display the larger Traveling Museum. We began plans for "Classroom in a Box" - which schools would use when they were teaching history. When we next meet in April in Texas, we will explore other opportunities to bring the experience to life for as wide an audience as possible.

As we continue the transition we began in 2017, if any of you have ideas, we'd love to hear them. Call or write or email any of us and we'll do our very best to make sure your story and your legacy is never forgotten.

I can't see what this summer will bring in the way of parades and events. We are getting together as vaccinations become widely available, so I am hopeful for a return to somewhat "normal". It will be so nice to begin to get together with friends and family again. The Fourth of July is always meaningful to me - an audio and visual celebration of our freedoms. The freedoms that so many of you fought to preserve.

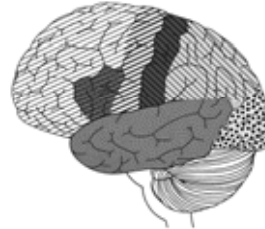
The third Friday in September is recognized as POW/MIA Recognition Day, a time to remember the sacrifices of prisoners of war (POW) and servicemembers who are missing in action (MIA). Until 1979, there was no formal recognition day set aside for these important men and women in uniform. This year, it will be observed on Friday, September 17, 2021.

There are many different ways communities choose to observe this day; even the National Park Service has observations at selected sites. Private organizations also observe the day with events and activities at individual locations nationwide. If you are able, we urge you to take part to add your voice urging the fullest possible accounting of those still missing.

Unfortunately, The Ride Home for this September in Georgia has been canceled, along with tentative plans for an AXPOW board meeting at the beginning of the Ride. The guiding light and impetus for this annual event, Moe Moyer, was in a serious auto accident earlier this spring. Attending this event each year has been a joyous experience...old friends reconnecting, new friendships being made. The bonds are strong as memories are shared. Mom, Marsha, Debbie and I will miss it. We send prayers to Ginny and Moe, with hopes to see him in Texas at our next board meeting.

Fondly  
Cheryl

## the brain



The brain is the most complex part of the human body. This three-pound organ is the seat of intelligence, interpreter of the senses, initiator of body movement, and controller of behavior. Lying in its bony shell and washed by protective fluid, the brain is the source of all the qualities that define our humanity. The brain is the crown jewel of the human body.

For centuries, scientists and philosophers have been fascinated by the brain, but until recently they viewed the brain as nearly incomprehensible. Now, however, the brain is beginning to relinquish its secrets. Scientists have learned more about the brain in the last 10 years than in all previous centuries because of the accelerating pace of research in neurological and behavioral science and the development of new research techniques. As a result, Congress named the 1990s the Decade of the Brain. At the forefront of research on the brain and other elements of the nervous system is the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), which conducts and supports scientific studies in the United States and around the world.

When the brain is healthy, it works quickly and automatically. However, when problems occur, the results can be devastating.

Some 100 million Americans suffer from devastating brain disorders at some point in their lives. The NINDS supports research on more than 600 neurological diseases. Some of the major types of disorders include: neurogenetic diseases (such as Huntington's disease and muscular dystrophy), developmental disorders (such as cerebral palsy), degenerative diseases of adult life (such as Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease), metabolic diseases (such as Gaucher's disease), cerebrovascular diseases (such as stroke and vascular dementia), trauma (such as spinal cord and head injury), convulsive disorders (such as epilepsy), infectious diseases (such as AIDS dementia), and brain tumors. Knowing more about the brain can lead to the development of new treatments for diseases and disorders of the nervous system and improve many areas of human health.

Inflammation in the brain can lead to problems such as vision loss,

weakness and paralysis. Loss of brain cells, which happens if you suffer a stroke, can affect your ability to think clearly. Brain tumors can also press on nerves and affect brain function. Some brain diseases are genetic. And we do not know what causes some brain diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease.

The symptoms of brain diseases vary widely depending on the specific problem. In some cases, damage is permanent. In other cases, treatments such as surgery, medicines, or physical therapy can correct the source of the problem or improve symptoms.

One result of brain disease that can affect us as we age is dementia.

### What is dementia?

Dementia is a loss of mental functions that is severe enough to affect your daily life and activities. These functions include

- Memory
- Language skills
- Visual perception (your ability to make sense of what you see)
- Problem solving
- Trouble with everyday tasks

## medsearch, cont'd...

- The ability to focus and pay attention

It is normal to become a bit more forgetful as you age. But dementia is not a normal part of aging. It is a serious disorder which interferes with your daily life.

### What are the types of dementia?

The most common types of dementia are known as neurodegenerative disorders. These are diseases in which the cells of the brain stop working or die. They include:

- Alzheimer's disease, which is the most common form of dementia among older people. People with Alzheimer's have plaques and tangles in their brain. These are abnormal buildups of different proteins. Beta-amyloid protein clumps up and forms plaques in between your brain cells. Tau protein builds up and forms tangles inside the nerve cells of your brain. There is also a loss of connection between nerve cells in the brain.
- Lewy body dementia, which causes movement symptoms along with dementia. Lewy bodies are abnormal deposits of a protein in the brain.
- Frontotemporal disorders, which cause changes to certain parts of the brain:

Changes in the frontal lobe lead to behavioral symptoms

Changes in the temporal lobe lead to language and emotional disorders

- Vascular dementia, which involves changes to the brain's blood supply. It is often caused by a stroke or atherosclerosis (hardening of the arteries) in the brain.

- Mixed dementia, which is a combination of two or more types of dementia. For example, some people have both Alzheimer's disease and vascular dementia.

Other conditions can cause dementia or dementia-like symptoms, including

- Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, a rare brain disorder
- Huntington's disease, an inherited, progressive brain disease
- Chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), caused by repeated traumatic brain injury
- HIV-associated dementia (HAD)

### Who is at risk for dementia?

Certain factors can raise your risk for developing dementia, including

- Aging. This is the biggest risk factor for dementia.
- Smoking
- Uncontrolled diabetes
- High blood pressure
- Drinking too much alcohol
- Having close family members who have dementia

### What are the symptoms of dementia?

The symptoms of dementia can vary, depending on which parts of the brain are affected. Often, forgetfulness is the first symptom. Dementia also causes problems with the ability to think, problem solve, and reason. For example, people with dementia may

- Get lost in a familiar neighborhood

- Use unusual words to refer to familiar objects
- Forget the name of a close family member or friend
- Forget old memories
- Need help doing tasks that they used to do by themselves

Some people with dementia cannot control their emotions and their personalities may change. They may become apathetic, meaning that they are no longer interested in normal daily activities or events. They may lose their inhibitions and stop caring about other people's feelings.

Certain types of dementia can also cause problems with balance and movement.

The stages of dementia range from mild to severe. In the mildest stage, it is just beginning to affect a person's functioning. In the most severe stage, the person is completely dependent on others for care.

### How is dementia diagnosed?

To make a diagnosis, your health care provider:

- Will ask about your medical history
- Will do a physical exam
- Will check your thinking, memory, and language abilities
- May do tests, such as blood tests, genetic tests, and brain scans
- May do a mental health evaluation to see whether a mental disorder is contributing to your symptoms

### What are the treatments for dementia?

There is no cure for most types of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease and Lewy body dementia. Treatments may help to maintain mental function longer, manage behavioral symptoms, and slow down the symptoms of disease. They may include:

- Medicines may temporarily improve memory and thinking or slow down their decline. They only work in some people.



## medsearch, cont'd...

Other medicines can treat symptoms such as anxiety, depression, sleep problems, and muscle stiffness. Some of these medicines can cause strong side effects in people with dementia. It is important to talk to your health care provider about which medicines will be safe for you.

□ **Occupational therapy** to help find ways to more easily do everyday activities

□ **Speech therapy** to help with swallowing difficulties and trouble speaking loudly and clearly

□ **Mental health counseling** to help people with dementia and their families learn how to manage difficult emotions and behaviors. It can also help them plan for the future.

□ **Music or art therapy** to reduce anxiety and improve well-being

### **The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke**

Since its creation by Congress in 1950, the NINDS has grown to become the leading supporter of neurological research in the United States. Most research funded by the NINDS is conducted by scientists in public and private institutions such as universities, medical schools, and hospitals. Government scientists also conduct a wide array of neurological research in the more than 20 laboratories and branches of the NINDS itself. This research ranges from studies on the structure and function of single brain cells to tests

of new diagnostic tools and treatments for those with neurological disorders.

For information on other neurological disorders or research programs funded by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, contact the Institute's Brain Resources and Information Network (BRAIN) at:  
BRAIN  
P.O. Box 5801  
Bethesda, MD 20824  
(800) 352-9424  
[www.ninds.nih.gov](http://www.ninds.nih.gov)

National Institutes of Health  
US Department of Health & Human Services  
9000 Rockville Pike  
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## Widows filing for DIC

By: Betty Harlan,  
Co-Director, NSO Program  
bettyh@fivearea.com  
Phone # 806-946-8588

When a spouse dies who was getting veteran's monthly compensation for conditions that were contracted or made worse while a member of the armed services, the widow is entitled to file for DIC (Dependent's Indemnity Compensation) if any or all of the following conditions are met:

1. The veteran was service connected at the rate of 100% disabled by the VA for a period of at least 10 years; or if the veteran was a former prisoner of war the required period is one year and was receiving compensation. The widow must have been married to the veteran for at least 1

year and lived continuously with the veteran. Also must not have remarried.

2. Or, even if the veteran had not been receiving 100% service related compensation and he died from a disease or injury that had been rated as service related: such as heart disease or stroke. The death certificate would need to have that listed as the cause of death or contributed to cause of death.

In order to file for Dependent's Indemnity Compensation (DIC) the following documents are needed to file with the Department of Veterans Affairs:

1. VA Form 21-534, Application for DIC, Death Pension and/or Accrued Benefits.
2. Original Death Certificate.

3. Copy of Marriage License. (If either had been divorced, would need copies of the divorce decrees.)
4. Proof showing that the veteran was 100% service connected as shown by the rating sheet from the VA (if that is the type of claim) and that disease is listed on the death certificate. If the rating sheet is not available, the VA medical facility where the veteran was being treated should have this information. It may be called a "HINQ SHEET".
5. The claim should be sent to the address on the back of the Application. If the claimant needs help filing this claim there are service officers available at these different places:

## champva, cont'd...

- If the claimant has access to a computer, log on "American Ex Prisoners of War"; click on VA Benefits, then click on the colored box titled "Find an NSO near you". This will bring up the list of service officers in each state that are accredited with the American Ex prisoners of War and how to reach them.
- Also, if the deceased had been going to a VA medical facility, a service officer can be contacted there. At the front desk, ask to see a service officer. There is usually a service officer from a nationally recognized veteran's organization such as DAV, VFW, and state veterans' service. (In Texas it is known as Texas Veterans Service). These service officers are not connected with the VA, and do not charge for their services.

If the claim is granted, the widow is eligible to file for CHAMPVA, if not already receiving this medical benefit. Following are the instructions for CHAMPVA:

CHAMPVA This is the Department of Veterans Affairs medical benefit for the spouse or widow(er) of a veteran who is 100% service-connected, not military retired. Also those deceased veterans whose deaths are deemed to have been a service connected death. Also eligible are the following: a child under the age of 18; a disabled child no matter what age if that child is incapable of earning his own way and who became

incapacitated before age 18 (as determined by the VA Regional Office); and a full-time student age 18 to 23 who is enrolled in an approved educational institution (school certificate required).

If the spouse or widow(er) is already on Medicare, then CHAMPVA is the free Medicare Supplement.

FORMS : Form 10-10d and Form 10-7959c. Spouse or widow signs both the documents, not the veteran.

NOTE: If applicant has a current Medicare supplemental policy, CHAMPVA will be considered a supplement to that Medicare supplemental policy and will not pay anything on the medical bill, so it is advised that as soon as CHAMPVA is granted and ID card received, the applicant should then cancel the Medicare supplement by calling or writing them. This also applies if Applicant has Medicare Part D. (Make sure you are on CHAMPVA computer before you cancel your original medicare supplement through your original company.) Then fill out another

Form 10-7959c and send it to Denver notifying them that the Medicare supplemental policy has been cancelled showing the end date, and then CHAMPVA will be the free primary Medicare supplemental policy. What Medicare approves and pays 80%, CHAMPVA will pay the 20% after the annual deductible is satisfied. An ID card and handbook will be sent along with a packet of forms to explain more about the program. The ID card should be carried in the billfold along with the Medicare card. There is also a Pharmacy Card to be used if a prescription has to be filled at a local pharmacy. Show this card to get the CHAMPVA discount. If an existing Medicare supplement is NOT cancelled, CHAMPVA will NOT pay the 20%.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT HAD CHAMPVA BEFORE, the following copies (not certified) are required

to be sent with the Application.

1. For a widow of a 100% SC veteran, a copy of the *rating decision* which states that the veteran is *permanently and totally disabled*.

2. *Copy of marriage license*. Does not have to be certified.

3. If on Medicare, the applicant must send *copy of his or her Medicare card*, and if that person has a *Medicare supplement* send copy of that card.

4. The *veteran's DD214 (Discharge)* or separation papers from the service. Send the 2 forms together with the 4 proof documents to VHA Office of Community Care, CHAMPVA Eligibility, P O Box 469028, Denver, CO 80246-9028; or fax it to 303-331-7809. Instructions and claim forms will be sent with the approval packet, along with a handbook and instructions how to get your first prescription order mailed to Wyoming if in Western half of US and Georgia if in the Eastern Half. Address is on the back of the Prescription Order Form.

BENEFITS: For those on Medicare, it is a FREE Medicare supplement. If not on Medicare, it can be the primary medical insurance and then supplemental policy should be purchased to cover the 20% that CHAMPVA will not pay. CHAMPVA will pay for ALL prescription drugs if ordered through the CHAMPVA system in Cheyenne, Wyoming for the western half of the nation, and through Dublin, GA, for the eastern half of the nation. (Address & order forms will be sent with approval packet.) Your doctor may fax the prescription directly to CHAMPVA at Express Scripts at 800.636.9494 as shown on the form. If prescription drugs are bought through local pharmacy a co-pay of 25% is required, along with an annual deductible of \$50.00.

# PRESUMPTIVE SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITIES

Public Law 97-37

by William Paul Skelton, III, MD F.A.C.P.

All ex-POWs should keep these. Whenever you open your claim, take them with you and make sure the adjudication officer sees them and have him read them! Make sure he knows all about them. Tell him your own story as it relates to your problem.....

1. ARTHRITIS, TRAUMATIC  
Also known as articular trauma.
2. AVITAMINOSIS  
The total lack of vitamins in the diet.
3. BERIBERI  
Caused by a severe lack of vitamin B1 (thiamine) in the diet.
4. DYSENTERY, CHRONIC  
A disease characterized by frequent and watery stools, usually with blood and mucus, and accompanied by rectal and abdominal pain, fever, and dehydration.
5. FROSTBITE  
The actual freezing of tissue.
6. HELMINTHIASIS  
Infection with any type of worms that parasitize the human.
7. MALNUTRITION  
Merely means bad nutrition.
8. PELLAGRA  
It is caused by a virtual lack of vitamin B3 (niacin) in the diet.
9. ANY OTHER NUTRITIONAL DEFICIENCY  
The lack of protein and calories in the diet generally produces no lasting side effects.

10. PSYCHOSIS  
A generic term for any of the insanities.

11. PANIC DISORDER  
Characterized by discrete periods of apprehension or fear.

12. GENERALIZED ANXIETY DISORDER

13. OBSESSIVE-COMPULSIVE DISORDER  
This may be either obsessions or compulsions.

14. POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER  
The re-experiencing of a trauma of a past recognized stress or that can produce symptoms of distress.

15. ATYPICAL ANXIETY DISORDER  
This is a category that is used for diagnosis when the affected individual appears to have an anxiety disorder that does not meet the criteria for entry into any of the other known anxiety disorders.

16. DEPRESSIVE NEUROSIS /DYSTHYMIC DISORDER  
Characterized by depressive periods in which the patient feels sad and/or down and has a loss of interest in the usual activities that cause pleasure or involvement in usual pastimes.

17. PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY  
Literally Greek for the suffering of nerves outside of the brain and spinal cord.

18. IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME  
Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) is a common disorder of the intestines that leads to crampy pain, gas, bloating, and changes in bowel habits.

19. PEPTIC ULCER DISEASE  
A peptic ulcer is a sore or hole in the lining of the stomach or

duodenum (the first part of the small intestine).

20. CIRRHOSIS  
Scar tissue replaces normal, healthy tissue, blocking the flow of blood through the organ and preventing it from working as it should.

21. STROKE & COMPLICATIONS  
A stroke occurs when the blood supply to part of the brain is suddenly interrupted or when a blood vessel in the brain bursts, spilling blood into the spaces surrounding brain cells.

22. HEART & COMPLICATIONS  
Heart disease includes atherosclerotic heart disease, and hypertensive vascular disease (including hypertensive heart disease, and hypertension).

23. OSTEOPOROSIS  
Osteoporosis is a disease in which bones become fragile and more likely to break.

Disability compensation is a monetary benefit paid to Veterans who are determined by VA to be disabled by an injury or illness that was incurred or aggravated during active military service. These disabilities are considered to be service connected.

To be eligible for compensation, the Veteran must have been separated or discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

Monthly disability compensation varies with the degree of disability and the number of eligible dependents. Veterans with certain severe disabilities may be eligible for additional special monthly compensation (SMC). Disability compensation benefits are not subject to federal or state income tax.

# legislative



Legislative officer  
Charles A Susino

We hope this bulletin finds you and your family well. Since the medical benefits the veterans receive from the VA is so very important staying connected and current is always a priority. The VA has established a new VA.gov website for All Benefits and Services: Veterans can now access all their VA benefits and services through one website, VA.gov. All of the functions previously found on eBenefits are now available on the new website. To allow a smooth transition, eBenefits will remain functional until March 31, 2022. In addition, the site usability and security has been improved, especially with the addition of two factor authentication. We encourage all to log on and check out the new site.

A topic that we have supported and reported on for years is toxic exposure to our veterans and short and long term health impacts. This topic dates back certainly to WWI where troops were exposure to gases. WWII, Korea, and Vietnam were better documented however action on the part of Congress was and is pitifully slow. It is sad that there are still questions and issues around Agent Orange, 50 years later. Now the current conflicts in the Middle East running 20 years and open burn pits, etc. creating health issues for our veterans, we

are asking Congress for a new approach. We stand shoulder to shoulder with the VFW, Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) with their written an op-ed calling for comprehensive toxic exposure legislation. There are currently and have been in years past multiple bills that address the issue of toxic exposure. It only makes sense to address this issue more comprehensively and holistically. Sadly, when current veterans get sick it is an uphill challenge to get the VA to react. It asks definitive answers about the cause of the illnesses before offering veterans all the support they need. So many of our members remember the difficulties ex-POWs encountered until decades later when a broad based list of presumptives was included in legislation provided for the former prisoners of war. A comprehensive system for taking care of troops exposed to toxic hazards of military service is long past due. Two recent proposed Bills include:

The Presumptive Benefits for War Fighters Exposed to Burn Pits and Other Toxins Act (introduced March 2012) would extend presumptive service connection for more than 20 serious respiratory conditions and cancers that may be linked to exposure to burn pits and other chemicals. While VA has yet to affirm that existing data is sufficient to prove associations for these conditions, they must acknowledge that due to the nature of military deployments, requisite data might never have been collected in the first place. After two decades, it is unreasonable to ask critically ill veterans to continue to wait. The Veterans Burn Pits Exposure Recognition Act (S.437) introduced February, 2021 would concede exposure to dozens of chemicals for all veterans who

served in areas where burn pits are known to have been widely used, meaning those seeking health care and benefits for illnesses not yet considered presumptive would no longer have to provide specific evidence of such exposures. The draft language is better than existing laws, there is still improvement in the draft Bill to further reduce the burden on the veteran filing a claim.

In years past, Congress has invited the American Ex-Prisoners of War organization to submit and present testimony to the House or Senate VA sub-committees annually to provide input to Congress where we believe the veteran and their family need the help of Congress. This year AXPOW was invited to submit testimony only. Although our issues were not presented publicly they were received and directly inputted to Congress. We encourage each of you to spend the two hours to hear the concerns from our fellow service organization via the Senate VA subcommittee website. Further, we encourage you to invite your children, grand and/or great grandchildren to do the same.

Major Richard Star Act was introduced by Senators Jon Tester (D-MT), Mike Crapo (R-ID), and Jerry Moran (R-KS) along with 58 bipartisan original cosponsors have introduced the House companion bill. The bill would eliminate the unjust offset for Chapter 61 military retirees who suffered injuries in combat. The bill is named in honor of Maj. Richard Star who lost his battle with cancer on February 13, 2021. Maj. Star was a father, husband, and decorated war veteran who was medically retired as a result of his combat-related injuries

# andersonville



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

Greetings from Andersonville,

We are pleased to announce that the National Prisoner of War Museum re-opened on April 1. We have had about 100 visitors per day since the opening. Mitigations are in place to maintain one-way traffic, protect employees, and maintain cleanliness. Early this Spring we had the museum roof replaced and we are now working to upgrade lighting in the exhibit areas. The park's main exit gate has been replaced with a solar-powered gate.

Park staff operated a special display focused on art created by prisoners of war during a local community event. Former Vietnam POW and Friends of Andersonville Chair Bill Arcuri gave a special in person program at the park. He talked about his

experiences as a prisoner of war and brought several items to show visitors.

A special history study, "In Plain Sight: African Americans at Andersonville National Historic Site", was completed and is now available online at <https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/2285256>. Special Historic Structure Reports on the history of two structures, Providence Spring and the park administration building, are underway.

AXPOW funds that could not be used as intended last year due to the pandemic will be used for two alternative projects. One will create a new wayside exhibit and a new brochure about the POW Memorial Grove located near the park's main entrance. Another project will transcribe some of the former POW oral histories in the park's museum collection. AXPOW funds were also used to support Hugh Peacock, a music teacher at a local middle school. Hugh worked with park staff, did research in the POW Research Library, accessed and reviewed objects in the museum collection, and reviewed POW oral histories. He developed a new, online education program titled "The POW Story of John H. Anderson" that can be found on our website.

The Avenue of Flags was raised for both National Former POW Recognition Day and Memorial Day with the help of Robins Riders. Reimbursements for grave liners are now being processed for each

new interment and for all casketed interments that occurred on or after June 15, 2018.

Thanks to our supporters at the Taylor Foundation/ Bennett International, the Americus Chamber of Commerce, and the Friends of Andersonville NHS for holding a successful event, Thunder for the Wreaths, on May 15. Proceeds from the event will directly support wreaths for Andersonville National Cemetery with a goal of placing a wreath on each of the over 20,000 headstones.

The Traveling Exhibit is at the US Army Airborne and Special Operations Museum at Fort Bragg in North Carolina and will remain there through September. We are looking for a new location for the exhibit in October.



In the next issue, we hope to highlight a donation to the museum collections from Phyllis Hines whose father was a POW during WWII and helped build the Sack of Cement Cross that is featured in the National POW Museum.

As always, we hope you and yours are well, thriving, and plan to visit us soon.

# namPOW news

## TALES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

### YOU ARE A STUPID MAN, STRATTON!

It was a raw and chilly Spring dawn in the prison we called the Zoo on the outskirts of Hanoi, North Vietnam. The duty prisoner from our cell block had just emptied and returned the honey buckets which we had put outside our cell doors.



*Courtesy Mike McGrath*

In silence with muted breathing, kneeling on the cold cement floor with my eyeball peering out the crack at the bottom of the door, I must have looked as if I was exercising some religious rite of morning prayer. At least that is what I was going to tell them if I got caught, since to be communicating or leading in this solitary confinement cell block was a guaranteed ticket back to the humiliation of the torture chamber. The tasks were twofold: to communicate with anyone passing by and to observe the demeanor and behavior of those returning from interrogation.



*"The Zoo" Prison, Hanoi NVN*

Interrogation was a strange kind of thing. Later on in our imprisonment we figured out that the prison authorities had to have permission from higher up to torture us - hence the reason, on our return, we were adamant about the North Vietnamese being guilty of war crimes. But I did not know that in the Spring of 1967.

If a shipmate did not come out of interrogation we were pretty sure that he was being tortured or transferred. If he came out with his cup containing a beverage and a cigarette in his hand, it probably was a "good guy" quiz or "English lesson" for the interrogator. If he came out with paper and pencil in his hand, it was sure he had been tasked to perform under penalty or resumed torture. If you had an idea what was going on you could mentally and spiritually prepare yourself for when your time at bat arrived.



*Dumb Dumb*



*"Mess Dress"*

The duty guard, Dumb Dumb, threw open my door with a crash, shouted "Bow" and made a chopping motion across his wrist with the edge of his hand. This was the signal to put on our "mess dress", the formal prison uniform of striped pajamas with a stenciled number on the back in ridiculously high digits to indicate the thousands of "Yankee Air Pirates" they had shot down.

I did not know if he caught me looking out and I had yet to see anyone return from the first round of interrogations. I was ill. My arms had not recovered from the torture. The back of my right hand had a boil from the knuckles to two inches above the wrist with a head the size of a quarter. I had made no contact with anyone since arriving at the Zoo from the main downtown prison, Hoa Lo [Hanoi Hilton]. I was alone and frightened.



*"Frenchie" aka "The Soft Soap Fairy"*

The interrogator was "Frenchie" an effeminate slip of a man who had the ability order torture but not the courage to watch it. A gratuitous whack across the back of the head by Dumb Dumb got the semblance of a bow out of me.

Frenchie offered me a smoke. I was a non-smoker but got beaten up the first time I refused a cigarette by an interrogator for being "discourteous" I was now a smoker.

I took it - a Truong Son - twelfth lowest brand name in quality out of 14 of their communist production line of cancer sticks. Obviously Dien Bien memorializing their victory over the French was in the top tier and, if offered, a sign of matters of great import about to be discussed.

The appearance of Truong Son indicated a good chance that this would be a low level, low power encounter. The absence of cigarettes was an evil omen. God is good!



"Would you like some tea?"

Silence but an instant grab for the tea which was saturated with sugar. I was down to 120 pounds from 185. We were on a starvation diet of chunks of break, pumpkin, cabbage or kohlrabi [in season]. They were fighting a war over rice and certainly were giving us none of it.

"We want you to meet with some official foreign guests from your country. They want to see you, because you did not bow prettily when your 'confession' was presented downtown last month. They want to see that you are all right and well treated."

## namPOW news, cont'd...

"No."

"You are an air pirate. You are a murderer. You are the blackest of all criminals in Vietnam. You will never go home unless you show that you are a good man by helping us defeat your government in this unjust war."

"No."

"We shall kill you."

"Go ahead."

[Frenchie didn't have the gonads to deliver this kind of a message. I'd take my chances.]

"Your family will never see you again?"

"That's OK; just send them a death certificate."

"Why a death certificate, Stratton?"

"So they can collect the insurance. I'm worth more dead than alive; but they need a death certificate to collect my life insurance?"

"You are not serious?"

"Kill me and see."

"What is this 'insurance' you talk about?"

I was just chumming but I had him! It is never good to talk, not even name, rank, service number and date of birth. I had yet to learn that salient fact. I was scared and just wanted to stay out of the torture chamber. They never really offered you death - just continuous pain and humiliation. I felt that I needed to buy time to get healthy and back to a solid resistance posture.

So we started a tutorial on insurance that lasted all day, two packs of cigarettes and a gallon of tea. House insurance, liability insurance, auto insurance, boat insurance, business insurance, business



Jeff Mac Nelly (RIP), [The Pulitzer Prize winning political cartoonist], immortalized this encounter October 27, 1987 in his syndicated comic strip "Shoe".

partner insurance, termite insurance, crop insurance, flood insurance, wind damage insurance, insurance on Betty Grable's legs, annuities, whole life, term life, with all the modifications and permutations etc. etc. etc.

"Stratton, you lie! You deceive me with fairy tales. I shall ask other Yankee Air Pirates about this 'insurance'. When I find out your lie you shall be very severely punished [their euphemism for torture]."

"Just kill me and get it over with. You said you were going to kill me anyway. Why would I lie? I want the death certificate."

"If you are telling the truth, YOU ARE A STUPID MAN, STRATTON!"

"So you say. Why so this time?"

"Stratton, you buy this insurance and for it to be worth while you must die to collect it. You make a wager with your goods and even your life. Someone else profits from your payments. And still someone else collects the money when you die. To win you must die! If this is true, you are a very stupid man, Stratton."

I felt like Henry Higgins in "My Fair Lady" having made his breakthrough with Lisa Doolittle. I felt like bursting out in song: "The rain in Spain falls mainly in the plain. . ." He's got it, by George I think he's got it! Frenchie, in disgust,

*"Thanks for explaining life insurance to me.  
Best, Jeff"*

feeling he has been made the fool, called Dumb Dumb in to haul me back to my solitary confinement where I had a chance to reflect on his analysis of our cherished capitalist institution - insurance.

In fact I had six years to reflect on the nature of insurance, who is betting what, and who the real winners are.

Upon my return home, I canceled all my high priced whole life policies, investment policies and bought straight term insurance which I still have to day. I invest my own money and reap my own profits.

Indeed, I hate to cut Frenchie any slack, but I was a stupid man.

---

*Richard A. Stratton  
Atlantic Beach FL  
rastratton@msn.com*





# pow/mia

Mary Schantag, Chairman  
P.O.W. Network  
info@pownetwork.org

## Delays and more delays

Some events through DPAA are finally starting to return to normal as COVID restrictions in some government areas are relaxed.

Family Update meetings are back on the schedule, the full list available online at: <https://www.dpaa.mil/Families/Family-Events/>. Updates are scheduled in Washington DC in August and September and the October in Chicago.

Updates had seen increasing numbers of participants as descendants get involved in needing and looking for information on relatives. Attendance in 1997 was only 187 family members. The steady and consistent increase brings the 2019 family attendee total to 1375.

COVID greatly impacted many 2020 DPAA operations, especially overseas. The annual report for the 2019 fiscal year noted:

"We canceled the Chicago FMU and scheduled disinterments, as well as missions to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Republic of Kiribati, the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Kingdom of Belgium, the Italian Republic, the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the Republic of Austria. The majority of the

Agency continued to work from home, and our medics kept up their assistance to local military hospitals.

July After 106 days of maximum telework, DPAA began Phase 1 of its "Return to Work" Plan in early July. This enabled those whose duties could be better performed in the office to return, and they did so after the Agency implemented extensive health and safety protocols to keep everyone safe. Disinterment operations, the first since March, resumed with 16 Unknowns killed during Operation TIDAL WAVE, who were repatriated from Ardennes American Cemetery and Memorial in Belgium. The Republic of Malta also turned over remains recovered by a DPAA partner, the University of Malta, in an underwater mission. With DPAA teams unable to enter Vietnam due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam unilaterally conducted three recovery missions. At the same time, investigation and recovery missions were canceled in Hungary, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Russian Federation, and the Republic of Austria.

Some missions are coming back on track, including funerals for recently identified service members resumed with full military honors.

Still in a massive mess is the COVID shutdown at the National Personnel Records Center. Despite online statements that only emergency requests are being handled, we can tell you they are NOT. Families are desperate to get information needed for military funerals, medical care or nursing home care.

Recent headlines include:

- Senator Hassan Continues Her Efforts to Help Ad-

dress Delays in Veterans' Records & Benefits; Following Push from Senator Hassan, December's COVID-19 Relief and Government Funding Package Includes \$50 Million to Help Address Backlog at National Personnel Records Center, Press Release, Feb 1, 2021.

- *Veterans Across U.S. Can't Access Benefits Because Key Agency Hasn't Returned to Work, NBCLX March 16, 2021.*
- Hundreds of Butler County veterans in limbo because of records delay, Journal News, Feb 24, 2021

The Butler County story went on to say, "The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has seen its backlog grow to 500,000 requests after sending most of its staff home in March 2020, with fewer than 10% of employees working on-site in recent months.... An internal NPRC document obtained by NBCLX indicates it could take the agency 18 months to clear the backlog...."

The latest online update (May 2021) from NPRC states: "Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NPRC has been closed and only completing emergency requests. As of March 29, 2021, the NPRC increased its on-site staffing to 25 percent of the workforce. While we continue to increase our on-site staffing, we are still servicing requests associated with medical treatments, burials, and homeless veterans seeking admittance to a homeless shelter. Please refrain from submitting non-emergency requests such as replacement medals, administrative corrections, or

records research until we return to pre-COVID staffing levels.”

Our office has almost 600 requests waiting for answers. Two hundred of those cannot yet be filed with their “please refrain from filing” note on records research. Some requests were made in early 2020 – and are over 15 months old.

Our requests vary from validations on actual service due to suspected false claims, to families needing files and getting no-where on their own for headstones or military honors after their loved ones passed, to presentations upcoming and biographies needing to be written.

“NPRC received \$50 million included in the December COVID-19 relief and government funding package to address its backlog of veterans’ record requests.”

According to Senator Hassan press release in February.

First it was the 1973 fire that destroyed records, then Pidgeon poop compromised records, and now COVID backlogs at NPRC prevent records being sent. Who would have thought?

As of May 28, 2021

THE NUMBER OF  
AMERICANS MISSING  
AND

UNACCOUNTED-FOR  
FROM THE VIETNAM  
WAR IS 1,584

## Roster Mania: 2021 edition

By Cliff Mills

Reprinted from *Beyond the Wire*, May 2021, the newsletter of Civilian ex-POWs (CPOW)

No two rosters are the same. They are done by different people, at different times, for different purposes and are often frustrating to use. However, they give unique information on people, dates and places available nowhere else. In this print article, it is impossible to provide hyperlinks to online resources, but a companion piece will be posted on my website, [PhilippineInternment.com](http://PhilippineInternment.com), when this issue is released, listing the resources that are already available.

The earliest camp rosters were compiled in 1942 by Francis B. Sayre, the U.S. High Commissioner to the Philippines, with input from the U.S. Department of State, the Red Cross and other agencies. Sayre was able to escape the Philippines before the Japanese occupation. His information was augmented by the knowledge of the 1942 S.S. Gripsholm repatriates. For example, Ex-STIC internee, Jenifer White, compiled a list of hundreds of internees, with short notes on each individual.

In 1943 the Red Cross issued the *Census of Civilian Non-Combatants Interned in the Philippines*. It included the camps at Santo Tomás, Los Baños, Baguio and Davao. It also included lists of people who were outside of the camps, for various reasons. This includes those in hospitals, some of the elderly, those in the Holy Ghost Children’s Home and “persons of special nationality” (usually non-combatant countries).

In 1945, liberation rosters were created listing the former internees of Santo Tomás and Los Baños, over 3,700 and 2,000 names, respectively. Passenger lists then became an essential type of roster in that they recorded who was repatriated on which ship on which date, together with additional information. The information gathered for American, and non-Americans, was quite different and families were often split up between the two categories.

Military POW Rosters were compiled and databased by the U.S. Department of War, as they obtained information from the camps and other sources. Their listings included those in the Merchant Marine and some civilians who had joined the military after the start of the War. Most of these men were shipped to China and Japan, as slave labor, in unmarked ships. A number of these ships were sunk by U.S. planes and submarines, resulting in thousands of deaths. “Hell Ship” rosters were painstakingly compiled by survivors and other witnesses.

The Rizal Roster (also sometimes referred to as “Dhea’s Roster”) indexes the various rosters compiled mainly for Santo Tomás. It was intended to give readers one alphabetical index to all the internees and gives basic information such as name, nationality and age. This

roster, however, contains many typographical errors which results in duplicate entries for a number of internees.

The late Roger Mansell, founder of the *Center for Research Allied POWs Under the Japanese*, developed the *Pacific POW Roster* from mainly U.S. military database records. It is a mammoth work which includes over 46,000 entries, including over 15,000 civilians. This roster, however, includes prisoners outside of the Philippines and focuses mainly on Americans. I am trying to gain access to the data for the civilians in the Philippine camps, to share with our audience.

Some useful rosters have also been included in books about the internment, including:

"Interned in Baguio," published in *Spirits Unbroken*, by R. Renton Hind, 1946

"Official Census List," published in *Santo Tomas Internment Camp*, by Frederic H. Stevens, 1946

"List of Internees of Manila Internment Camp as of July 1, 1944," published in *Only a Matter of Days: The World War II Prison Camp Diary of Fay Cook Bailey*, edited by Caroline Bailey Pratt, 2001

"Los Baños Internment Camp" final roster, published in *Escape at Dawn*, by Carol Terry Talbot and Virginia J. Muir, 1988

As more resources are digitized, they will only add to knowledge we have about the camps and those who suffered in them. I am doing whatever I can to help make this happen, as soon as possible, and hope to report these in future issues.

## CPOW

Civilian Ex-Prisoners of War.

[www.cpow.org](http://www.cpow.org)  
Sally Meadows,  
Commander



Aug. 6-7, 2021. Department of Ohio Annual Convention will be held at Drury Inn and Suites, Grove City, Ohio. Please make your reservation by calling Drury Inn and Suites at 1-800-325-0720. Group #2420868 Or [www.druryhotels.com](http://www.druryhotels.com) and enter group #2420868. Again this year, the Chapter is footing the bill for the rooms and all food. We would like to see all of you at the convention!!

Sept. 20-23, 2021. USS Yellowstone AD 27 Association reunion will be held at the Westgate Branson Woods Resort. For more information, contact Karen Bowen, 603-948-2821; [pkbowen@atlanticbb.net](mailto:pkbowen@atlanticbb.net).

## News & Information

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' National Cemetery Administration (NCA) today announced it would lift all restrictions on gathering sizes at committal and memorial services in VA national cemeteries starting on Wednesday, May 26, 2021.

Earlier this week, the NCA adjusted its rules for visitors and staff members in accordance with the CDC's new guidance. Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People. Fully vaccinated persons are no longer required to wear masks and physically distance themselves while at a national cemetery.

"This is an important step in restoring full operations," said Acting Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs Ronald Walters. "We are pleased families will no longer have to limit the number of people attending a service or physically distance themselves from each other after they are fully vaccinated."

Limitations on the number of persons permitted to attend committal and memorial services have been in place since June 9, 2020. Between March 23 and June 8, 2020, VA national cemeteries only performed direct interments, and did not permit committal or memorial services due to the pandemic.

Consistent with the new CDC guidance, NCA will still require persons who are not fully vaccinated to practice the safety procedures recommended by the CDC – such as wearing

## news, cont'd...

face coverings and maintaining physical distancing – while visiting a cemetery or attending a service.

The NCA oversees 155 national cemeteries and provides grant funding to an additional 118 state, territorial and tribal cemeteries across the nation. More than 93% of Veterans living in the U.S. have access to a free Veterans burial option within 75 miles of where they live.

### New Veterans Benefit at Andersonville National Cemetery

*Reimbursement for grave liners now offered to eligible veterans*

Andersonville National Historic Site is pleased to announce a new

benefit offered to eligible veterans. Veterans who wish to be buried in Andersonville National Cemetery will now receive the same grave liner reimbursement benefit as veterans buried in other national cemeteries.

This new benefit is available to those buried in Andersonville National Cemetery on or after June 15, 2018. It provides a reimbursement, at the same rate provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), for the state-required grave liner. It also provides reimbursement of up to \$500 for installation of the liner.

“We are very pleased to be able to provide this benefit to veterans buried in Andersonville National Cemetery,” said Superintendent Gia Wagner. “They have more than earned these benefits through their service to our country. We are grateful to the Friends of Andersonville for their work in

getting legislation passed that now allows us to provide the same benefits as other national cemeteries. We are committed to offering burial services and honors to veterans and their families, and we are pleased to expand the benefits we provide to them.”

Previously, veterans who wished to be buried in Andersonville National Cemetery had to purchase the grave liner and were financially responsible for any fees associated with the liner installation. In most other national cemeteries, both the grave liner and installation are provided at no cost to the veteran. This gap in benefits was due to a gap in legislation.

Most national cemeteries are managed by the National Cemetery Administration (NCA), part of the VA. However, Andersonville National Cemetery is managed by the National Park Service (NPS), within the Department of Interior



### *Military Gala & Banquet*

**November 9, 2021**

Saluting the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier  
and Tomb Guard

**Chateau on the Lake, Branson, MO**

**Cocktail Reception 5:00 pm**

Dinner, USMC Birthday, Salute, Fireworks and Entertainment to follow.

**GALA tickets, \$55 each. Reservations required.**

**Join us for Branson's Veterans Homecoming. NOV 5-11**

**For more information contact Mary Schantag, Chairman**  
**info@pownetwork.org      417-336-4232**

## news, cont'd...

(Department). Congress had previously authorized the VA to provide this benefit, but this authorization did not extend to the Department.

With advocacy and support from the Friends of Andersonville, Congress corrected the gap in veterans benefits in June 2018 through the Veterans Cemetery Benefits Correction Act. The act authorizes the Department and the NPS to provide the same grave liner benefit provided by the VA and NCA. Once the legislation passed, the NPS worked to create procedures and mechanisms to implement the new legislation. These procedures are now in place and this benefit can now be provided.

To find out more about this benefit, visit the park's pre-planning website at [https://www.nps.gov/ande/plan\\_yourvisit/anc\\_preplanning.htm](https://www.nps.gov/ande/plan_yourvisit/anc_preplanning.htm), email the park at [ande\\_information@nps.gov](mailto:ande_information@nps.gov), or call 229-924-0343 ext. 112.

From the Commander:

April 9, 2021

Yesterday, Alan Rose and I presented POW/MIA flags to Lt-Gen (ret) Darrell Jones, CFO of Blue Skies of Texas to fly on the community flagpoles.



*"In keeping with the President and First Lady's commitment to honor the sacrifices of all those who serve, veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors, the President and First Lady have restored the POW/MIA flag to its original location on top of the White House residence. This action reaffirms that our prisoners of war and those missing in action are never forgotten."*



# The Healing Garden

Dillon, MT

Montana Veterans were honored November 10, 2017 with the dedication of Barrett Hospital & HealthCare's Healing Garden, through the generosity of George and Donna Fryett. Veterans Day (observed) coincided with the 242nd birthday of the United State Marine Corps, presenting the perfect opportunity to honor and celebrate Montana Veterans and their service to our nation. George, a Vietnam POW and Donna, his wife are active supporters of programs which heal the seen and unseen wounds of combat. The Healing Garden is an appropriate extension of their charitable work. A financial contribution that accompanies a naming opportunity, such as this, is designated to capital improvements, directed at improving health outcomes.

A Healing Garden provides a place of refuge for patients, families and staff. It promotes relief from stress and anxiety and provides an overall sense of wellbeing. Nature has restorative properties. Barrett Hospital & HealthCare's Healing Garden is now a living memorial to those who have served this country.

December 24, 1961 - U.S. Army Specialist 4, George F. Fryett, Jr., a 4th generation Montanan was baptized in combat when he pedaled his bicycle out of Saigon in the early morning hours. A few miles out of Saigon, Fryett was captured by Viet Cong Guerrillas. From that day on, he was guarded by a minimum of 14 people. He spent the next 6 months in captivity, never knowing if each day would be his last.

George had arrived in Vietnam July 4, 1961, one of the first 800 collectively to be in Vietnam. It had been a dream of his to serve in a multicultural setting. He had been given top secret clearance. He had undertaken an exceptionally challenging and interesting assignment. Of all the U.S. Military Assistance Advisory Groups serving around the world, this was considered the most important.

George was released from captivity, leaving Saigon, Sunday, July 8, 1962.

The devastation of Vietnam could have left George an embittered man. Through his own resilience, and with Donna's caring devotion, they settled in Southwestern Montana and chose a life of service to others. George wanted to be certain that there was support for other veterans and that their physical and mental health were being attended to in the aftermath of the war. George suffers from Agent Orange exposure and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

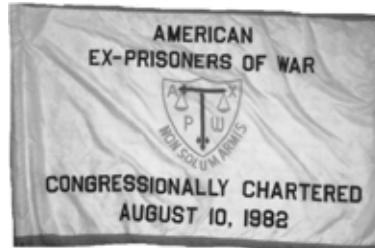
Barrett Hospital Foundation recently honored American Prisoners of War with the addition of the POW flag to the Healing Garden. The flag is displayed in a prominent location, as a reminder of the enormous sacrifice made by the brave men and women who have served and protected The United States of America.

The Fryett's have enjoyed their country home outside of Dillon, MT since 1995. They lead a quiet life: one of gardening, reading, researching, and spending time together.

Brooke Erb, Executive Director  
Barrett Hospital Foundation



UNITED STATES CODE TITLE 36  
PATRIOTIC AND NATIONAL OBSERVANCES, CEREMONIES, AND ORGANIZATIONS  
SUBTITLE II - PATRIOTIC AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
PART B - ORGANIZATIONS  
CHAPTER 209 - AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR



§ 2101. Recognition as corporation and grant of Federal charter  
American Ex-Prisoners of War, organized and incorporated under the Washington Nonprofit Corporation Act (Wash. Rev. Code Ann. 24.03.005) of the State of Washington by Charles Morgan, Junior, San Antonio, Texas; Edward Fisher, Fairhaven, Massachusetts; Charles Miller, La Jolla, California; C. Earl Derrington, Jackson, Mississippi; Edward Parks, Middleboro, Massachusetts; Henry Goodall, Houston, Texas; Stanley Sommers, Marshfield, Wisconsin; Edward Allen, N. Olmstead, Ohio; Irving Rittenberg, Brookline, Massachusetts; Edgar Van Valkenberg, Saint Petersburg, Florida; W. C. Musten, Winston-Salem, North Carolina; Clifford Omtvedt, Eau Claire, Wisconsin; Orlo Natvig, Charles City, Iowa; H. C. Griffin, Houston, Texas; Milton Moore, El Paso, Texas; Marie Harre, Fairway, Kansas; Alfred Galloway, Seattle, Washington; Reginald Reed, Bremerton, Washington; Ralph Moulis, Tucson, Arizona; Betty Rodriguez, Albuquerque, New Mexico; Randall Briere, San Antonio, Texas; Joseph G. Schisser, San Leon, Texas; Herman Molen, Las Vegas, Nevada; Joseph B. Upton, Saint Louis, Missouri; Harold Page, Buckley, Washington; D. C. Wimberly, Springhill, Louisiana; Albert Braun, Phoenix, Arizona; Melvin Madero, San Diego, California; Tillman Rutledge, San Antonio, Texas; Benson Guyton, Decatur, Alabama; Frank Hawkins, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Melvin Routt, Tracy, California; John Romine, Muskogee, Oklahoma; Christopher Morgan, Old Bridge, New Jersey; Allen Smith, Diana, Texas; and John G. Flynn, San Antonio, Texas, is hereby recognized as such and is granted a charter.

§ 2102. Powers of corporation  
American Ex-Prisoners of War (hereafter in this chapter referred to as the "corporation") shall have only those powers granted to it through its bylaws and articles of incorporation filed in the State or States in which it is incorporated and subject to the laws of such State or States.

§ 2103. Objects and purposes of corporation  
The objects and purposes of the corporation are those provided in its articles of incorporation and shall include -

- (1) encouragement of fraternity for the common good;
- (2) fostering patriotism and loyalty;
- (3) assistance to widows and orphans of deceased ex-prisoners of war;
- (4) assistance to ex-prisoners of war who have been injured or handicapped as a result of their service;
- (5) maintenance of allegiance to the United States of America;
- (6) preservation and defense of the United States from all of her enemies; and
- (7) maintenance of historical records.

§ 2104. Service of process  
With respect to service of process, the corporation shall comply with the laws of the States in which it is incorporated and those States in which it carries on its activities in furtherance of its corporate purposes.



#### § 2105. Membership

Eligibility for membership in the corporation and the rights and privileges of members shall be as provided in the bylaws of the corporation.

#### § 2106. Board of directors

The board of directors of the corporation and the responsibilities thereof shall be as provided in the articles of incorporation of the corporation and in conformity with the laws of the State or States in which it is incorporated.

#### § 2107. Officers

The officers of the corporation, and the election of such officers shall be as is provided in the articles of incorporation of the corporation and in conformity with the laws of the State or States wherein it is incorporated.

#### § 2108. Restrictions

##### (a) Distribution of income or assets to members

No part of the income or assets of the corporation shall inure to any member, officer, or director of the corporation or be distributed to any such person during the life of this charter. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the payment of reasonable compensation to the officers of the corporation or reimbursement for actual necessary expenses in amounts approved by the board of directors.

##### (b) Loans

The corporation shall not make any loan to any officer, director, or employee of the corporation.

##### (c) Political activities

The corporation and any officer and director of the corporation, acting as such officer or director, shall not contribute to, support, or otherwise participate in any political activity or in any manner attempt to influence legislation.

##### (d) Issuance of stock; dividends

The corporation shall have no power to issue any shares of stock nor to declare or pay any dividends.

##### (e) Claim of approval or authorization

The corporation shall not claim congressional approval or Federal Government authority for any of its activities.

##### (f) Retention of State corporate status

The corporation shall retain and maintain its status as a corporation organized and incorporated under the laws of the State of Washington.

#### § 2109. Liability for acts of officers and agents

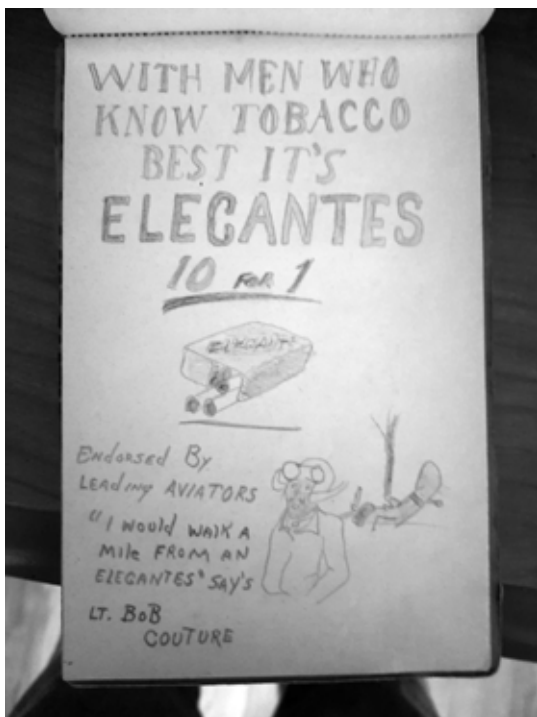
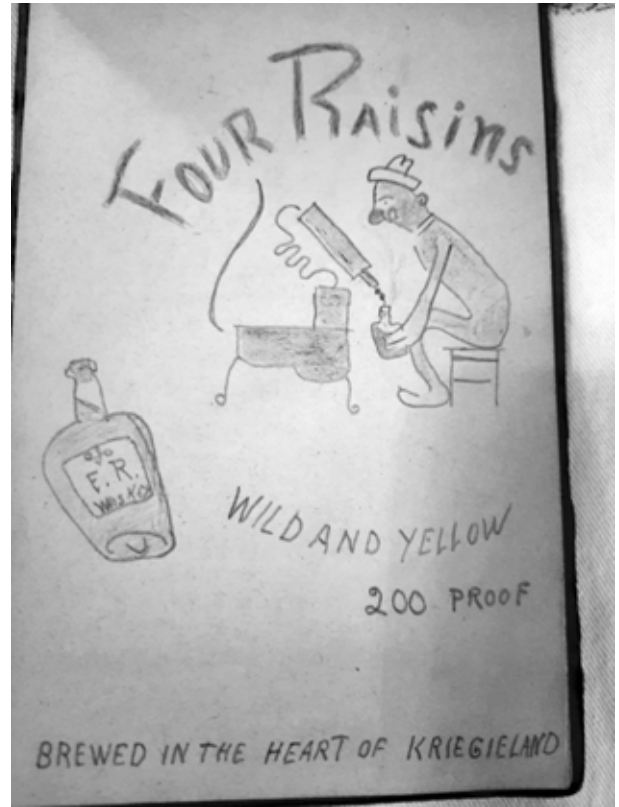
The corporation shall be liable for the acts of its officers and agents when acting within the scope of their authority.

#### § 2110. Books and records; inspection

The corporation shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall keep minutes of any proceeding of the corporation involving any of its members, the board of directors, or any committee having authority under the board of directors. The corporation shall keep at its principal office a record of the names and addresses of all members having the right to vote. All books and records of such corporation may be inspected by any member having the right to vote, or by any agent or attorney of such member, for any proper purpose, at any reasonable time. Nothing in this section shall be construed to contravene any applicable State law.

#### § 2111. Annual report

The corporation shall report annually to the Congress concerning the activities of the corporation during the preceding fiscal year. Such annual report shall be submitted at the same time as is the report of the audit required by section 1101(57) of this title. The report shall not be printed as a public document.



My dad, Kenneth Bradford, drew these cartoons in a small book he made from cardboard from Red Cross box. He was a POW in Stalag Luft I. John Bradford ~dudrop1@gmail.com



## new members

National Headquarters  
PO Box 3445  
Arlington, TX 76007-3445  
(817)-649-2979  
axpow76010@yahoo.com

JOHN MCINTYRE  
BROWNSBURG IN  
SON OF JOSEPH E MCINTYRE,  
ETO

SANDRA BOURESSA  
HOPKINS MN  
DAUGHTER OF ROBERT  
BOURESSA, ETO

RICHARD CAMERON ANSHUS  
SYLVIA  
O'FALLON IL  
NAM: US ARMY HHC 2nd/1st  
196th LIB 23 DIV  
ZOO, PLANTATION GARDENS,  
HANOI HILTON 3/8/71 TO  
3/27/73

JOHN CLARK  
MARGERY  
RIO RANCHO NM  
SON OF MARCIA IVORY CLARK,  
CIVILIAN, SANTO TOMAS

### Welcome!

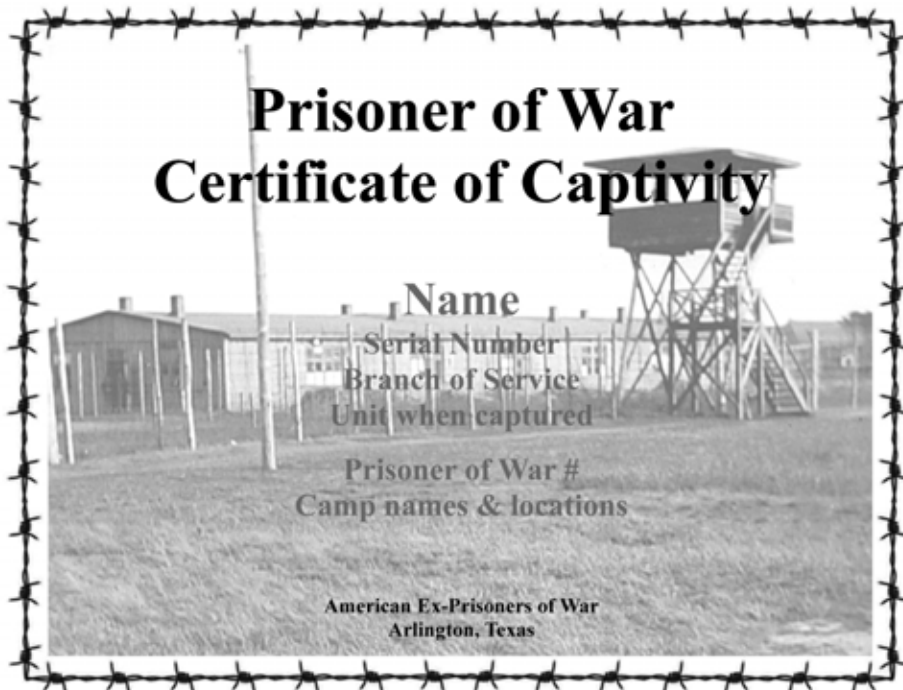
## Request for membership application American Ex-Prisoners of War

Name:  
Address:  
City:  
State/Zip:

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

DO NOT send dues with this  
request for an application.

Mail to: American Ex-Prisoners of  
War PO Box 3445 Arlington, TX  
76007-3445 (817) 649-2979  
email: HQ@axpow.org



## Certificate of Captivity \$25.00

Suitable for framing, this  
certificate of captivity, printed  
on 8½ x 11" quality paper,  
proudly displays your history  
as a prisoner of war.

Each certificate background  
is personalized to the theatre  
of operation. We will need  
your name, service number,  
branch of service, unit when  
captured, POW number (if  
known), camp names and  
locations. You may also  
include a picture with your  
order. To receive this  
certificate from AXPOW,  
please order from National  
Headquarters by calling 817-  
649-2979 or email:  
axpow76010@yahoo.com.

# Contributions



please send donations to:

National Headquarters, PO Box 3445, Arlington, TX 76007-3445. Checks must be made payable to AXPOW or American Ex-Prisoners of War.

## GENERAL FUND

In memory of Bonnie Sharp, by Velma Wilson & Family, by Ken & Jan Sharp, by Deborah Wells

In memory of Carl Groesbeck, by Jonathan & Judith Groesbeck

In memory of Howard Chittenden, by Marianne Roenna

In memory of Edith Smith, by Wendy Gibbons, by Cynthia Deliman

In memory of Ed & Edith Smith, by Florence Vesey, by Helen Fronce

In memory of James Enzor, by Dimond Bros Insurance LLC, by GuideOne Mutual Insurance Co, by Sarah Martin, by Brenda Toebben, by Gregory & Appel Insurance, by Alan Levy, by MaryAnn and Tom Frank, by Dorothy Catton, by M/M Arthur Bryant, by Jim & Kathy Poole, by Pete & Jess Loomis, by Josephine Shanafelt, by Sarah & Larry Copeland, by Tony & MaryRae Corsaro, by Helen Frazier, by Gretchen Harding, by Cynthia Robinson, by Rebecca Emery, by John Mutz, by Service Club of Indianapolis, by Classical Music Indy, by Marcia Duke, by Joan Kealing & family, by Debby Jackson, Andy, Jeff, Mike Jones, by Sandra Caulfield, by Wilbur Baird, by Bobbie & Mike Rodrigue, by Burton & Jean Bittner, by Tom & Mindy Davis, by Rex Smith

In memory of John Bryner, by Barbara Clark

In memory of Joseph Early, by Lisa Early

In memory of Lee & Shirley Patton, by Marianne Roenna

In memory of Nick Yezdich, by Katherine Yezdich

In memory of Phillip Muth, by his family

In memory of Victor Leehoff, by James & Nancy Carlson

In memory of William R Travers, by Janet Travers

## VOLUNTARY FUNDING

Irving Lautman, Norristown PA

Jean bird, Novato CA

Kevin Hermening, Mosinee WI

Loraine Corrington, Lynnwood WA

Robert R Smith, Tomahawk WI

## The Meaningful Gift

A number of years ago, one of our members made the decision to establish a bequest to the American Ex-Prisoners of War. He felt strongly that he truly cared about our future and wanted to leave a legacy to us. He and his wife are now gone, but their generous gift enabled them to demonstrate in a very meaningful way their commitment to AXPOW. More recently others have done the same. Support for our programs became the beneficiary of their generosity.

You, too can take action today to help ensure that the American Ex-Prisoners of War remains through your will or living trust. This gift can be funded with cash or securities, mutual funds or other investments that are not serving your current needs. This special gift will benefit future generations as well as we continue our transition to a true legacy organization.

It's very simple to make a bequest to the American Ex-Prisoners of War. Simply share 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, PO Box 3445, Arlington, TX 76007-3445, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_(named investment) or \_\_\_\_\_percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate."

Your generous support of our programs over the years has made a tremendous difference to ex-POWs and their families. Please take a few minutes of your time to help ensure our future. And feel free to contact CFO Marsha Coke at [axpow76010@yahoo.com](mailto:axpow76010@yahoo.com), or CEO Cheryl Cerbone at [axpowceo@comcast.net](mailto:axpowceo@comcast.net). Phone #817-649-2979.

## Thank You!



# taps



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

CHITTENDEN, William H. of Wheaton, IL died Jan 16, 2020 at age 100. He was the last of the 203 US Marine Embassy Guard detachment captured 8 Dec 1941 in Peking and Tientsin, China (North China Marines). He was held in slave labor camps at Woosung and Kiangwan in China and Kawasaki and Niigata in Japan where he was liberated on Sept. 5, 1945. Howie was very instrumental in establishing the Illinois Department, AXPOW. He served as chapter commander of the Fox River Valley Chapter and as State Commander after that. During that time, he helped create two Illinois Chapters – OKAW and Little Egypt. His loving wife of 59 years, Patricia, son William and brother Robert, predeceased him. Howie is survived by 1 daughter, 1 son, 1 grandson, 1 brother, 1 sister and extended family. He will be remembered as a true patriot.

ENZOR, James Arnold, of Indianapolis, IN passed away March 12, 2021 at age 96. He served with Co. B, 409th Inf. Reg, 103rd Div. during WWII. He was captured in Selestat, France and held until liberation. He would serve out the rest of the war as a POW, detained in various camps both in Germany and Czechoslovakia. Jim is survived by his loving wife of 27 years, Jane, 5 children, 3 stepchildren,

8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

FUNK, Edythe J, life member of AXPOW and longtime member of the Mile High Chapter, passed away Jan. 19, 2020. She was 96. Edythe was the widow of ex-POW Glenferd (ETO, 15th AF, 465th BG, 782nd BS). She is survived by 1 son, 1 daughter, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

HICKS, Dorothy C, of Arvada, CO died Feb. 22, 2020 at the age of 98. She was the widow of ex-POW Oliver Odell (PAC, 2D, QM, held in Japan). Dorothy leaves 1 son, 1 daughter, 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

HITCHCOCK, Marion C, St. Petersburg, FL, passed away March 13, 2021. Marion was 93 and the widow of ex-POW Charles R. (91st BG, 322nd BS). Both Charles and Marion were life members of AXPOW. She is survived by 1 daughter, 1 son, 1 grandchild and 2 great-grandchildren.

MARTINEZ, Dolores Del Rio, 84, passed away on February 25, 2021. She was the widow of ex-POW Frank (US Army, Korea). Dolores was much loved, and will be missed by her family and friends. She is survived by 1 daughter, 2 sons, 1 sister, 3

grandchildren, 2 great-grandsons and many nieces and nephews.

MUTH, Philip J. Muth, of Wis Rapids and Appleton, WI passed away March 17, 2021 on his 97th birthday. Philip was part of the 15th AF, 451st BG, 727th BS based in Foggia, Italy. His plane was shot down, he was captured and held in Stalag Luft 3. He and other POWs were marched across Europe as the war was ending; he was liberated from Moosburg. Philip was past state commander and past chapter commander in Wisconsin and an active veterans advocate. Joan, his wife of 71 years, predeceased him; he leaves 2 children, 2 grandsons, 2 great-grandchildren, nieces nephews and their families.

NATTIER, Clayton A, of Lakewood, CO died Feb. 5, 2021. He was 98. During WWII, he served with the 8th AF, 306th BG, 369th BS. He was shot down, captured and held in Stalag Luft I, Barth. Survivors include 1 son, 2 daughters, 4 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

PATTON, Leonard, of Springfield, IL passed away Oct. 25, 2011. He was wounded in battle near the Hurtgen Forest, captured and held until liberation. He was a driving force for Illinois POWs, serving as state commander,

## taps, cont'd...

then Springfield Chapter commander. He was also active in the local VFW and MOPH.

PATTON, Shirley, of Springfield, IL died Oct. 8, 2020. She was the widow of Leonard and an active member of AXPOW with him. She is survived by 2 sons, 1 daughter, 7 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

SHARP, Bonnie,



of University Place, WA passed away April 22, 2021 at the age of 86. She was the widow of ex-POW Maurice (US Army, Korea). They lived with their family on various Army posts throughout the US, eventually settling in Washington state. After retirement, Bonnie joined Maurice as an active member of the Tacoma Chapter, AXPOW. She served as chapter commander, then as Director and Jr. Vice Commander for the national organization. During her time working for AXPOW, she had the privilege of accompanying her husband, attending two breakfasts at the White House, meeting President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush. One of Bonnie's favorite pastimes was photography. She and her husband Maurice also traveled extensively, enjoying sightseeing trips across the country, embarking on three different

cruises, and taking two trips to Europe, where they toured eight countries. Bonnie's great love was her husband, her 4 children, her 10 grandchildren, and 17 great-grandchildren.

SIMPSON, Iris Isabelle, of Noblesville, IN (formerly of Des Moines, IA) passed away January 1, 2021 at the age of 95. She is the widow of Russell E. Simpson who served nine months in an Italian POW camp. He served with the 134th General Infantry Division of the Regular Army and with the First British Commando Unit. Survivors are one son, three grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. She will be missed.

SNYDER, Marvin, of Overland Park, KS died March 31, 2021. He was 95. He was captured while serving with the 99th Inf. Div. during the Battle of the Bulge, spending 4 ½ months in captivity, primarily in Stalag 13C and workcamps. His wife, Emelie, predeceased him; he is survived by 2 sons, 4 grandchildren and their families.

STORANDT, Mavis V, 92, of Cataract, WI passed away Aug. 2, 2020. She was the widow of ex-POW Robert (Stalag 17-B). Mavis leaves behind 2 children, 2 grandchildren, 3 great-grandsons and their families who miss her very much.

STULTZ, S.G. "Jerry", of Hialeah, FL died April 1, 2021 at the age of 97. During WWII, he was captured after being shot down. He was held in Stalag Luft IV until he successfully escaped. He was an active member of AXPOW, serving as chapter commander of the Gold Coast Chapter. Arlene, his wife of 72 years, predeceased

him; he is survived by 1 son, 2 daughters, 8 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild.

WADE, Wallace R 'Wally', originally from Swampscott, MA, but living in Ocala, FL, died Feb. 26, 2021. An AXPOW life member since 1986, Wally served in the 106th Div. 423rd Bn, He was captured and held in Stalag 4B and workcamps in Czechoslovakia until he was able to escape. He is survived by Rachel, his wife of 70 years; 4 children, 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

### POW's Prayer

By Jean Ray and L. Vancil

Father,

Your own Son was a prisoner.

Condemned, he died for us.

Victorious, He returned to bring

us the gift of life everlasting.

Comfort us now in our longing

for the return of the Prisoners

Of War and

those Missing In Action.

Help Us Father;

Inspire us to remove the ob-

stacles. Give courage to those

who know the truth to speak

out.

Grant wisdom to the negotia-

tors, and compassion to the

jailers.

Inspire the media to speak out

as loudly as they have in the

past.

Protect those who seek in se-

cret and help them to succeed.

Show us the tools to do Your

will.

Guard and bless those in cap-

tivity, their families, and those

who work for their release.

Let them come home soon.

Thank you Father.

Amen.

National Conference on Ministry  
to the Armed Forces  
Arlington National Cemetery ~ Chaplain Hill  
"To The Glory of God And The  
Memory Of The Chaplains Who  
Died In Services Of Their Country."

P. O. Box 7572 Arlington, VA 22207-9998  
Contact: Tom Mariam (917-446-3773 or [tom@mariam.biz](mailto:tom@mariam.biz))  
<http://www.ncmaf.net/>

The American Ex-Prisoners of War strongly support updating the  
Chaplains Monuments, located in Section 2 on Chaplains Hill  
at Arlington National Cemetery.

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## Chaplain



Keith Lewis  
2205 Overbrook Drive  
Jasper, AL 35504  
(205)275-9035  
[zpadre@icloud.com](mailto:zpadre@icloud.com)

Now that we are coming out from under the heavy burden of the restrictions from the virus this past 15 months, we need to take an inventory of where we are, where we need to head

to our desired destination, and what we can do to make our lives better and of our family, friends and neighbors. We are unsure what needs to be done and how to do it!

The world we live in has changed dramatically - conflicting medical information, conflicting lifestyles, conflicting political vision and conflicting visions of what we would like the nation to look like. A quote from Amelia Earhart can give us some vision of how to proceed.

"  
*The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is tenacity. The fears are paper tigers. You can do anything you decide to do. You can act to change and control your life; and the procedure, the process is its own reward.*"

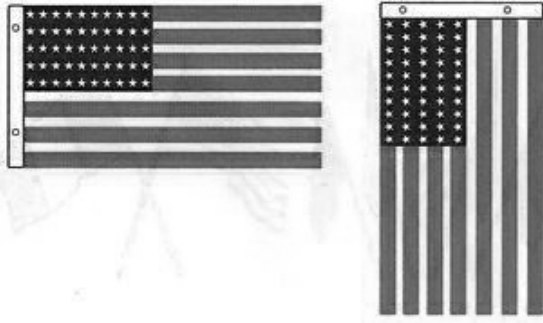
We have been through the recovery process before and we can do it again. Sticking together, standing up for what is right and checking in on each other. Another quote makes this point very well - *God gave us the gift of life; it is up to us to give ourselves the gift of living well.*" Voltaire.

Let us pray for one another. May peace become the life-giving moment in our lives.

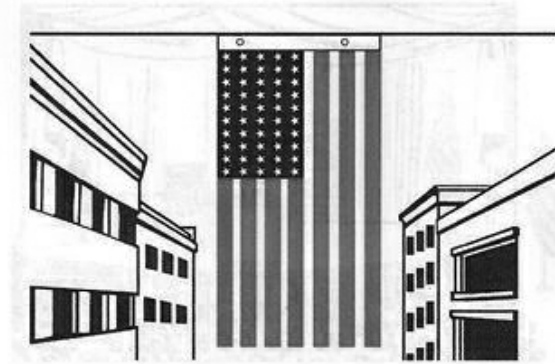
Keith



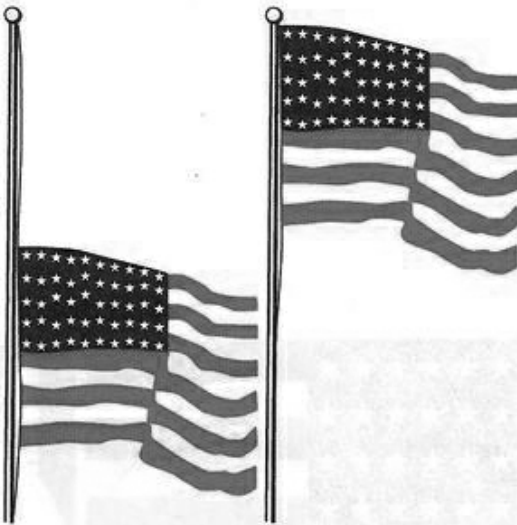
# FLAG ETIQUETTE



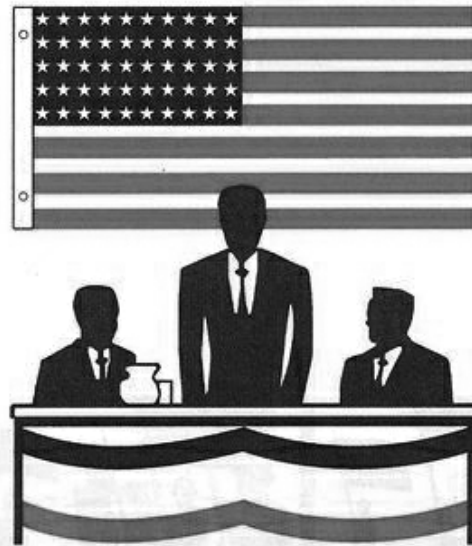
When the Flag of the United States is displayed in a manner other than by being flown from a staff it should be displayed flat, whether indoors or outdoors. When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the Flag's own right, i.e., the observer's left. When displayed in a window it should be the same way. The Flag should never be draped or used as a decoration to replace bunting.



When displayed over the middle of the street, as between buildings, the Flag of the United States should be suspended vertically with the union to the north on an east-and-west street and to the east on a north-and-south street.



When flown at half-staff, the Flag is first hoisted to the peak of the staff and lowered to half-staff. Before lowering the Flag for the day it is again raised to the peak and then lowered. On Memorial Day, the Flag is displayed at half-staff from sunrise until noon and at full-staff from noon until sunset.



When used on a speaker's platform, the Flag, if displayed flat, should be displayed above and behind the speaker. It should never be used to cover the speaker's table nor to drape over the front of the platform. If flown from a staff it should be on the speaker's right.





American Ex-Prisoners of War  
**MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTION**  
 To honor a loved one or a former member  
 (Donations are tax-deductible to the extent of the law)



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

IN MEMORY OF:

---

Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_

GIVEN BY:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO THE SENT TO:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Contributions should be sent to:  
 American Ex-Prisoners of War  
 PO Box 3445  
 Arlington, Texas 76007-3445

All Checks must be made payable to AXPOW or American Ex-Prisoners of War

# 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

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  
PO Box 3445, Arlington, TX 76007-3445



JEFFERSON BARRACKS POW-MIA MUSEUM  
JEFFERSON BARRACKS POW-MIA MUSEUM

*N is for Never Forget* is a child -friendly book that takes readers on a compelling journey through wartime history. Poignant illustrations and stories capture key people, concepts, and memorials to help readers understand and honor the sacrifices endured by men and women prisoners of war and missing in action on behalf of freedom .

Proceeds from books purchased through JBPM, Inc. (501c3) go directly to restoring \ renovating the former 1896 Officers Quarters Building into the Jefferson Barracks POW-MIA Museum. \$21.95 including S/H. Contact Paul Dillon at [rpdcw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rpdcw@sbcglobal.net); 314-609-9037.

**AMERICAN  
EX-PRISONERS OF WAR**



**CONGRESSIONALLY CHARTERED  
AUGUST 10, 1982**



Challenge Coins

\$13.00 includes S/H/I



Bronze Grave Medallions

\$100.00 includes S/H/I

All orders for products sold by AXPOW, including dues/subscriptions should be mailed to: American Ex-Prisoners of War, National Headquarters, PO Box 3445, Arlington, TX 76007-3445; axpow76010@yahoo.com

### 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 below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please allow 4 weeks to make address changes.

Mail to: National Headquarters, AXPOW, PO Box 3445, Arlington, TX 76007-3445. Email: HQ@axpow.org