

# EX-POW BULLETIN

the official voice of the

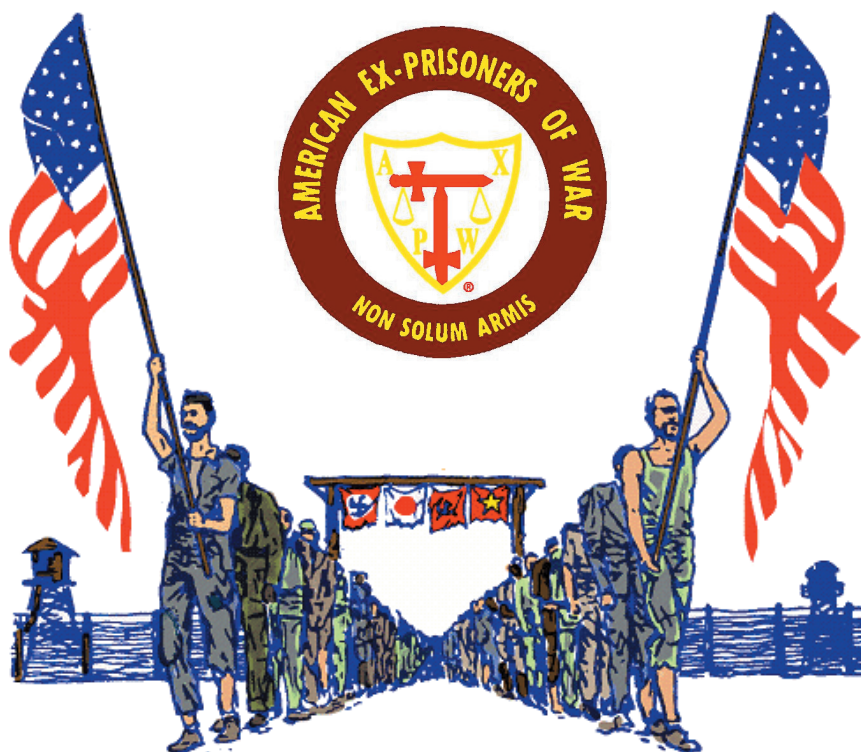
## American Ex-Prisoners of War

Volume 64

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Number 3/4

March/April 2007



*We exist to help those who cannot help themselves*



*USMA at West Point, Established March 16, 1802*

*Happy Birthday, AXPOW! April 14, 1942-2007*

*Inside...News, Outreach, Events, NSO success stories...and more*

Ben Waldron Corregidor veteran and member of Sacramento CA 49ers Chapter AXPOW was presented a POW/MIA National Memorial medallion which the CA Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger had created for the dedication of the memorial at Riverside National Cemetery. Medallions were made available for all CA ex-POWs. Ben's was stolen during a burglary of his home. Also taken was a diary in which Ben had made almost daily entries during his entire period of service on Corregidor and during his captivity. It was the basis of his book "From Corregidor to Paradise". The governor also gave a check for \$5000 to establish a reward fund for the return of the diary. The reward fund is being administered by the 49ers Chapter. If the diary is not returned within a reasonable time the funds will be split between the National POW/MIA Memorial and the National POW Museum. Photos reading from left to right are: Governor, Bob Smith - 49ers Commander, Ted Cadwallader, Past Chapter and CA Dept. Commander, Ben Waldron; Governor presenting check to Ben; Bob Smith, Governor, Ben, Ted; Governor and Ben.



BELOW Left: Henry "Hank" Stone, right and Paul Leahy, both of the Central MA Chapter, AXPOW are shown being congratulated by one of the cadets at Norwich University in Northfield, VT. They were in a group of twelve veterans honored with the French Legion of Honor medal, presented by the French Counsel General. The medal, which was instituted by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802, is the highest award given by France. Hank and Paul both received a congratulatory letter from the Ambassador of France. Right: Members of the Vermont Chapter #1 of American Ex-Prisoners of war at the POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremonies in Essex Junction, Vermont on September 16, 2006. The participants are standing near the wreath that was laid in honor of POWs and MIAs. Shown in the picture from left to right are: James Douglas, Governor of Vermont; Tullio Zampiere; Richard Hamilton, Commander; Arthur Peper, past Commander; Donald Couture; Bill Bister; Francis Angier; Clifford Austin, Legislative Officer; and Bill Busier, Senior Vice Commander.



## senior vice commander



**Charles Hill**

Fellow Members and Friends,

As Senior Vice Commander I am the “money man” of the Organization. My job is to report to you on the true financial status of the organization and to prepare a yearly budget that “fits” the income and expenditures. I’m a bit late in the work involved as I was laid low by a serious case of pneumonia. I am feeling much better, but I still tire easily. All of you who have been ill know what I’ve been facing. We just do not recover as quickly as we used to.

I have sent letters of inquiry to key members, and their answers should give me a true report on income and expenditures to aid in formulating a long range plan for the finances of AXPOW.

The declaration that all financial statements are done on a modified-cash basis is included in the annual audit report from the CPA. Does that mean that an amount owed is not reflected in the statements, but shows up only after it is paid? That’s too late to plan on expenditures. Just what is included in employee contracts? What other contracts are outstanding? These questions and more must be included in a true picture of where our organization stands.

PNC Harvey and Board Member Morris Barker have each presented a plan of asking members for money in addition to what is raised through the direct mail program.

Perhaps I’m old-fashioned, but I believe we should pay as we go. Whether or not that will be possible, I cannot say until after I have received the financial information I need.

The Foundation is a completely separate organization from AXPOW but continues to support certain work within AXPOW. The Foundation, now renamed as Former Military Prisoners of War Foundation, is able to support our National Service Officer Program and the Educational Programs. That leaves the

Ex-POW Bulletin and salaries for the staff as the heaviest expenditures from AXPOW money. I believe some of that expense can be offset by charging for advertising in the Bulletin, a source of income that has been neglected for several years.

Financial reports are lacking from the Quartermaster and from the sale of the booklets under Medsearch. So far, there is no way for me to determine whether or not items under those programs are reasonably priced.

Although some may feel that it is unnecessary to examine all areas of expenditures and income, I believe that it is the only way to properly report to the membership of AXPOW as to our real financial standings. As Senior Vice Commander, I am responsible to report to you concerning all income and expenditures, and I cannot do that under the present method of operation.

Will this process result in changes? I do not know. I do know that AXPOW has been spending more than it receives for the past several years, and that such loss of money each year is highly threatening to the financial security of the organization.

I will continue to work for the benefit of AXPOW, and will report my progress to you on a regular basis. If you have questions, or if you feel you can provide information that will help in this matter, please contact me.

Charlie Hill, Chairman  
Budget & Finance Committee

**NOTE: Commander Fletcher has donated his space this month to SVC Hill.**

## Reconnect with Long-Lost Friends In Our Upcoming Membership Directory. Make sure you are in the book.

Watch your mail for details!

A trained staff member from Harris Direct will be contacting you to verify your AXPOW information.



**Ex-POW Bulletin  
March/April 2007**



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## March/April 2007

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### On the cover...225th birthday

The United States Military Academy at West Point.

*"A Peace Establishment for the United States of America may in my opinion . . . [include] Academies, one or more for the Instruction of the Art Military; particularly those Branches of it which respect Engineering and Artillery, which are highly essential, and the knowledge of which is most difficult to obtain."*

—George Washington, "Sentiments on a Peace Establishment," May 1783

George Washington first proposed a military academy in 1783, but critics opposed this relatively new idea of a special school to train army officers as too European. They deemed it incompatible with democratic institutions, fearing the creation of a military aristocracy. Finally, two decades after Washington's first proposal, on 16 March 1802, the United States Military Academy officially opened. It stood on a commanding bluff overlooking the Hudson River at West Point, New York, 50 miles north of Manhattan.

### Official Notice

#### From the National Adjutant

The MidYear Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled at the Sheraton National Hotel, Arlington, Virginia on March 30-31, 2007.

The schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, March 27 Arrive in DC

Wednesday, March 28 Work the Hill

Thursday, March 29 Testimony

Friday, March 30 Board of Directors meeting

Saturday, March 31, Board of Directors meeting continued, if necessary

Sunday, April 1 Depart for home

### MeaCulpa

On page five of the January issue, I wrote that "some" Pueblo crew members had been tortured...starved. Earl Kisler set me straight: they ALL were starved; they ALL were tortured. I am sorry for the mistake...and amazed that my conscience on the Pueblo, Dale Rigby, somehow missed this.

### Notice

"Warren King is pleased to announce that the moneybox missing from the hotel during the National Convention held in Nashville last October was recently returned to Warren & Mary's house. It mysteriously appeared on their front porch inside a box wrapped in a POW t-shirt. The checks and cash were still inside, so all the checks that had been written to Warren for Grand Ole Opry tickets have now been processed. All of the funds in the cashbox belonged to the Alvin C. York Chapter or Warren & Mary, and they are extremely thankful for its surprising, yet safe return."

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*Deadline for the May, 2007 issue is March 25, 2007.*

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

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# on capitol hill



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“The WAR” starts in September. Ken Burns, the prolific producer of documentaries, will introduce his latest television series on PBS this fall titled simply “The War”. The seven part series (14 hours) directed and produced by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick tells the story of the Second World War through the personal accounts of nearly 50 men and women from four typically American towns representing different geographic parts of the US. The series explores the most intimate human emotions. WWII was a catastrophe that engulfed the world and touched the lives of every family on every street in every town in America. Never in all our history has American been so “together”. This documentary demonstrates that in extraordinary times there are no ordinary lives.

Throughout the series, the pure unadulterated experience of combat is brought vividly to life as veterans describe what it was like to face the enemy and see men die at places like Monte Casino, Anzio, Omaha Beach, the Hurtgen Forest, the Vosges Mountains, the Ardennes and on the other side of the world at Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Peleliu, the Philippine Sea and Okinawa. In all the battle scenes, dramatic historical footage and photographs are combined with extraordinarily realistic sound effects to give the film a terrifying sensation that you are under fire! In every episode, veterans’ accounts of battle are interwoven with the poignant recollections of their loved ones back home, who for months and years carried on with their lives in an economy of shortages and ration stamps while living in constant fear of receiving “that telegram”.

Meeting Ken Burns and Lynn Novick at VA Central Office when I attended a reception in his honor was a real treat. I said to him, “With your youthful appearance, you could hardly have twenty years of film production in the can”. He replied proudly, “I’m going to be a grandfather in a couple of months.” He is an extremely interesting person and obviously a very talented storyteller. Other documentaries he has produced are “Baseball”, “The Brooklyn Bridge” and his most famous “The Civil War” that premiered 17 years

ago. Get ready to watch “The War” starting Sunday, Sept. 23, 2007. I predict it will bring back memories. It is a tribute to us all.

*Les*

The 110<sup>th</sup> Congress has begun with a bang! I am sure you have all been following the activities as we have here in the National Capitol Office. All the new members of Congress are still trying to get settled in their new locations of work, but as of now, there are some still in temporary quarters with temporary room numbers and phone service.

Needless to say, we here have been busy with many phone calls for information and meetings continue to be attended at VA Central Office. I have returned after my Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> second hip replacement and am now only using a cane for security. Thank all of you for your cards and prayers during this trying time for me.

Les and I have been in contact with several Members of the Veterans Affairs Committees regarding our last two Presumptives - Osteoporosis and Diabetes. We must continue our efforts for this legislation! By the time you read this Bulletin, we are very hopeful that the Bills will be introduced and everyone can begin helping convince the Congress to move immediately on this important benefit for former prisoners of war! On this, a package will go out to the Board of Directors just as soon as we get the Bill numbers, and they in turn will contact their respective State Dept. Commanders and then the Chapters asking for immediate help.

The Senate and House Veterans Affairs Committee has informally invited the organization to testify before the committee on March 29, 2007. We have informed the committee that National Commander Robert Fletcher is pleased to accept their invitation.

When the Board of Directors met in Indianapolis in November, they voted to meet again in Washington for the MidYear meeting. I was asked to proceed and try to find a more inexpensive hotel for this meeting. I have worked frantically trying to accommodate this

# on capitol hill cont...

request; however, after 20 or more locations, plus trips to investigate, we had to settle for: Sheraton National Hotel, Columbia Pike & Orne Sts., Arlington, VA. Yes, we have been there several times and they have given us \$189.00 plus tax, their rock bottom price. With our group we can not guarantee the Hotel but approximately 35 rooms and that includes the Board and other ex-POWs desiring to come. The Commander approved this decision. ALL RESERVATIONS HAVE TO BE MADE THROUGH THE NATIONAL CAPITOL OFFICE in order to get this price. A package with the Form and other information will be mailed to the Board of Directors, Committee Chairmen about Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> with all necessary information. If you need more information, please call us.

Again, let me ask for everyone's help in this push with the new Congress. Let us have a remarkably successful year for AXPOW!

*Mary*

## To Contact the Committees

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## Q&A Column

Every month, I receive more and more questions. If I don't get a chance to personally respond to each one, I'll try to answer them here.

This month, questions are on ChampVA and Dependency & Indemnity Compensation.

CHAMPVA:

*Q. Do I have to cancel my present Medicare supplement insurance when I apply for CHAMPVA?*

A. No. CHAMPVA will be the 3rd payee if you elect to keep your present supplemental insurance. Medicare will remain as the 1st payee and your present supplement will be the 2nd one.

*Q. When I receive the CHAMPVA card, so I have to use a VA medical facility for medical treatment?*

A. No. A widow or a spouse of a veteran over the age of 65 cannot use the VA facilities for treatment. You can go to any doctor, including the ones you presently receive treatment from.

D.I.C.:

*Q. My husband was disabled for more than 8 years before he died. Why don't I receive the higher DIC amount of \$1,295?*

A. He must have been totally and permanently disabled with either Unemployability or a full 100% from the VA for at least 8 years BEFORE his death and married those same 8 years.

The widows in receipt of DIC whose husbands were never 100% are only entitled to the \$1,067 a month.

*Q. I applied for DIC in 2004 when the regulations changed, why didn't the VA backdate my benefit one year?*

A. The award for DIC under the new regulations cannot go back prior to October, 2004 when the law was changed.

If you applied for DIC the end of 2004, your award could only go back to Oct. 2004.

*Q. My husband died of cancer, but a secondary cause on the death certificate read "hypertension". Could I be eligible for DIC?*

A. Yes, there's a good possibility you may be eligible.

Doris Jenks

NSO Committee  
Beth Brooks - Assistant  
Fred Campbell  
Walter Peterson  
Larry Dwyer  
Eugene Inman  
Leon Horowitz, MD -  
Medical Advisor

**Ex-POW Bulletin**  
**March/April 2007**

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

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## Outreach Perspective ~ A Purposeful Slogan

**"We exist to help those who cannot help themselves"**

OUTREACH...the operative word as I think of former POWs, their widows and other dependents. Where does it begin.

We in AXPOW have a wonderful slogan. It sets the challenge before us. At once we are drawn to the task of reaching out to find those who not have the VA benefits due them. We try every way we can to accomplish this.

The most effective way is when we all realize WE are the OUTREACH "committee". When WE are alert to "those who cannot help themselves", who do not know that special research has shown that our POW experience caused everlasting effects on our later health conditions.

But that's not really where OUTREACH begins.

Thank goodness, about thirty years ago, research made some Congressmen in our US Capitol aware of lingering health problems of former POWs. **Public Law 97-37,**

The Former Prisoners of War Benefits Act of 1981, established "presumptives" and ordered the creation of the POW Advisory Committee. With the work of the committee, further presumptives were mandated.

Now there are more than twenty presumptives that enable us to receive our compensatory benefits - for POWs and their widows. All of this was part of our basic OUTREACH.

Then the establishment of AXPOW's Washington, DC office by Charles "Chuck" Williams assured our presence in Washington for an important continuing point of OUTREACH. Joined in this by Chuck's wife, Ruth and Bill and Mary Rolen, it continues to this day under the leadership of Les Jackson, Mary Rolen and Charles Stenger. They strive continually to work with all congressional offices, and "upstairs" VA Headquarters offices. The OUTREACH message: We are HERE to help you be aware of the plight of this segment of America's military veterans.

More Washington OUTREACH: Every spring our AXPOW Board of Directors meets in our nation's capital. OUTREACH, to our Senators and Congressmen, as our National Officers walk the halls to let them know their constituents' needs. They listen most attentively to VOTING CONSTITUENTS.

In March 2007, our National Officers will be informing Congress of our need for two urgent presumptives: Diabetes and Osteoporosis. Research shows these are serious health problems for former POWs.

Our NSO program does its fine work because we have real benefits to offer former POWs and widows: OVER TWENTY PRESUMPTIVES. Our AXPOW National Officers do this OUTREACH.

## Success

Letter from Mrs. JC in Smalltown, Oklahoma:

"Dear Mr. C, I just have to write you again as I think about the big blessing my former POW husband left me. He really didn't know he was doing it, but just because he had gone through so much in WWII, it happened. Thanks to the VA, and American Ex-Prisoners of War. If it hadn't been for your call, I would never have known the VA benefits available to me as a widow of my J. who died of a service-connected cause - heart trouble.

These past few years, I have had to have help from my children to get along, to make ends meet. Then last year came a miracle. You called and now I am independent of any support help from my children. I can pay my own bills. The VA widow's Compensation has made all the difference. I just had to let you know again how much I appreciate what American Ex-Prisoners of War does for us widows.

Sincerely, JC."

National Service Officers are volunteers who get paid. But not in the usual way.

Most often, they spend their own time and money to help former Prisoners of War and their dependents receive their VA benefits because of the POW deprivations they endured. Their PAY comes when a claimant calls to say they got their award. What is better than a widow's thanks:

"I had to call to let you know I got my widow's benefit for more than \$1,000 a month. Thank you for all you did to help me get that."



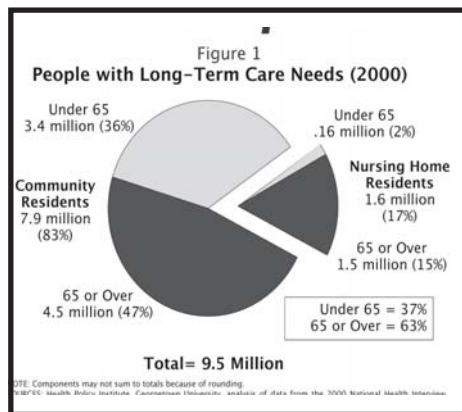
**Packet #5 (What Every POW's Wife Should Know Before She is Your Widow)** has been updated again, with much time and effort on the part of Marlene Agnes, to include the most recent laws and benefits published. The packet may be purchased from National Headquarters. Cost of the updated packet is \$15.00~includes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

## Long Term Care

submitted by Marsha Coke

Although long-term care is often needed by people who have the greatest medical care needs, medical care and long-term care are quite different. Medical care consists mainly of services and products for preventing, diagnosing, and treating health conditions and is typically delivered or directed by a physician or other highly trained medical professional.

Long-term care, in contrast, consists predominantly of assistance with essential, routine tasks of life—such as bathing, getting around the house, and preparing meals—provided to people who need this assistance because of physical or mental conditions or disability. This help may be delivered in a hands-on fashion or may be stand-by or supervisory in nature, such as providing reminders or prompts. Long-term care also includes therapies that help improve a person's functioning and special equipment (such as walkers, wheelchairs, and grab bars) that enhance a person's ability to function.



People receive long-term care in a variety of settings including: private homes; other community settings such as adult day care centers, assisted living facilities, and board and care homes; and nursing homes. Family members and friends provide a substantial amount of long-term care. The bulk of formal (paid) care is provided by home health aides, certified nursing assistants, and personal care assistants, often under the direction of nurses.<sup>1</sup>

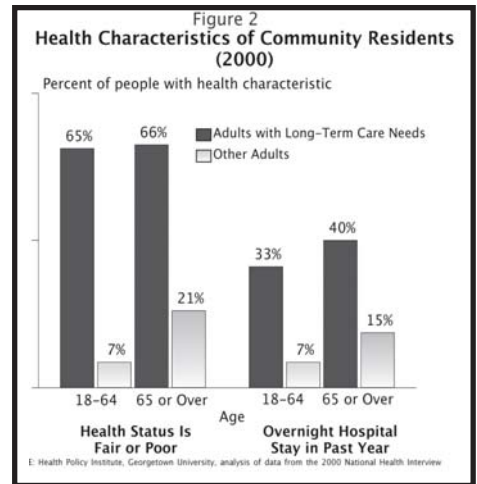
### People Who Need Long-Term Care

The need for long-term care arises from various causes, including diseases, disabling chronic conditions, injury, severe mental illness, and developmental disabilities. In estimating the number of people with long-term care needs, researchers usually define a person as needing long term care if he or she requires another person's help with one or more activities of daily living (ADLs) or instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs). ADLs are fundamental tasks, defined here to include bathing, eating, dressing, using the toilet, getting in and out of a bed or chair, and getting around inside the home. IADLs are additional activities necessary for independence, such as meal preparation, managing money, managing medications, using the telephone, doing light housework, and shopping for groceries and other necessities.

Nearly 10 million people need long-term care—that is, need help with ADLs or IADLs (see Figure 1). Most are age 65 or older, but 37 percent are under age 65. The risk of needing long-term care does, however, rise steeply with age. Among people age 65 or over, 14 percent

need long-term care, in contrast to 1.4 percent of people under age 65. Among people age 85 and older, half need some long-term care.<sup>2</sup>

Not surprisingly, the need for long-term care is often accompanied by other health-related needs. About two-thirds of adults living at home with long-term care needs are in fair or poor health (see Figure 2).



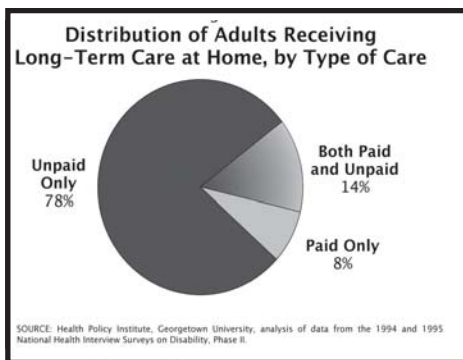
Furthermore, among community-dwelling adults with long-term care needs, one-third of those under age 65, and 40 percent of those age 65 or over, have spent a night in the hospital during the previous year (compared with 7 percent and 15 percent, respectively, of community adults without long-term care needs).

The majority of people with long-term care needs are women. Among community residents with long-term care needs, 60 percent of those age 18 to 64, and 69 percent of those age 65 and older, are

medsearch continued... women.<sup>3</sup> Among nursing home residents of all ages, 72 percent are women.<sup>4</sup>

More than four-fifths (83 percent) of people with long-term care needs live in the community (see Figure 1). The proportion is higher among younger people with long-term care needs—96 percent for those under 65, compared with 75 percent for those age 65 or older and 61 percent for those age 85 or older.

**Community Residents.** There is considerable variation in the extent of long-term care need among community residents. Some people need assistance for a few hours each week, while others need fulltime support. Many people have substantial need—21 percent of community adults with long-term care needs, or 1.8 million people, require assistance in three or more ADLs.<sup>5</sup>



More than three-quarters of community-dwelling adults with long-term care needs rely exclusively on unpaid assistance from family members, friends, or volunteers (see Figure 3). The other 22 percent receive varying amounts of paid assistance—usually in combination with unpaid assistance—including services provided by home health or home care agencies, self-employed individuals, and adult day care providers. Only 8 percent of

adults receiving long-term care at home depend solely on paid care.

Even among community residents with substantial long-term care needs—those who need assistance with three or more ADLs—two-thirds rely exclusively on unpaid help.<sup>6</sup>

**Nursing Home Residents.** People living in nursing homes generally have high levels of disability. Three in four require assistance in three or more ADLs.<sup>7</sup> One in two have some form of dementia.<sup>8</sup> In addition to substantial disability, a lack of family support can be an important factor in nursing home entry.<sup>9</sup>

### Policy Concerns

The quality of life for people with long-term care needs depends on their ability to obtain care in an environment and manner they prefer. Several trends, including the increased availability of alternative residential settings (such as assisted living facilities), growing awareness of the importance of giving people control over their care, and technological advances that enable people to better manage at home, are helping improve the quality of life for people with long-term care needs.

However, people with long-term care needs continue to face considerable barriers to obtaining needed care. Some cannot afford care or are unaware of how to arrange for care (or unable to do so without help). Others cannot obtain care of the desired quality and type where and when they need it.

Findings from a national survey indicate that one fifth of community-dwelling adults with long-term care needs do not receive enough assistance with basic activities.<sup>10</sup> Despite reforms in nursing home regulations, problems with quality of care still exist and many nursing home residents live in facilities that have serious deficiencies.<sup>11</sup>

### Health Policy Institute

Georgetown University  
2233 Wisconsin Avenue, NW Suite 525  
Washington, DC 20007  
(202) 687-0880  
hpi.georgetown.edu

### Notes

#### About the Project

The *Georgetown University Long-Term Care Financing Project* pursues analysis designed to stimulate public policy discussion about current long-term care financing and ways to improve it. The project is supported by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Susan Rogers and Harriet Komisar wrote this *Fact Sheet*.

1 R. Stone, *Long-Term Care for the Elderly with Disabilities: Current Policy, Emerging Trends, and Implications for the Twenty-first Century* (New York: Milbank Memorial Fund, 2000).

2 Health Policy Institute (HPI), Georgetown University, analysis of data from the 2000 National Health Interview Survey.

3 Ibid.

4 A. Jones, "The National Nursing Home Survey: 1999 summary," *Vital Health Statistics* 13 (152) (2002).

5. HPI analysis of data from the 2000 National Health Interview Survey.

6. HPI analysis of data from the 1994 and 1995 National Health Interview Surveys on Disability.

7. Jones.

8. N.R. Sahyoun et al., "The Changing Profile of Nursing Home Residents: 1985 - 1997," *Ageing Trends* 4 (Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics, 2001).

9. W. Scanlon, "Possible Reforms for Financing Long-Term Care," *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 6 (3): 43-58 (1992).

10. HPI analysis of data from the 1994 and 1995 National Health Interview Surveys on Disability.

11. U.S. General Accounting Office, *Nursing Homes: Additional Steps Needed to Strengthen Enforcement of Federal Regulations*.

## medsearch continued...

# What Are The Signs That Your Loved One May Need Long Term Care?

Individuals with elderly or disabled relatives know that it can be very difficult to determine when their loved ones begin to need help with everyday activities. This is particularly true for those whose family members have dementia from early Alzheimer's disease. The effects of dementia can be subtle, making the need for assistance not as apparent as an actual physical disability.

Long Term Care Partners, LLC, administrator of the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program, suggests that as families begin the care coordination process they use the "Independent Living Test," an informal guideline developed by MetLife. The Independent Living Test can help to determine whether a family member is at or near the point when he or she would be unable to live independently and require long-term care services.

The following questions can be used to determine whether a loved one is having difficulty performing everyday activities. If a family member has been having difficulty with any of these everyday activities, contact a FLTCIP Care Coordinator to gather reliable information about the different long-term care options that may be needed.

### Independent Living Test

Questions relating to:

#### 1. Medications

- a. Are prescriptions not being refilled, resulting in failure to take medication when scheduled?
- b. Has taking medication become difficult due to poor memory or confusion? Evidence may include

pills taken together that shouldn't be, different pills mixed together in a pill box or an oversupply or undersupply of pills.

- c. Have conditions previously under control become acute because medication is not being taken correctly?

#### 2. Food and Groceries

- a. Based on past food habits, are the cupboards frequently empty or being filled with unusual foods?
- b. Is the food in the refrigerator often spoiled or kept long beyond the "use by" date?

#### 3. Daily Business

- a. Is the mail being picked up and opened regularly or is it remaining uncollected and/or unopened?
- b. Are credit cards or checkbook being misused or not balanced as well as in the past?

#### 4. Social Contact

- a. Has the amount of social contact changed dramatically, so that there are few public outings or limited social visits with close friends?
- b. Has the ability to drive deteriorated? Is there a fear of driving or a recent history of multiple minor accidents that is leading to isolation?

#### 5. Living Habits

- a. Has there been a change in living habits such as a change in dress or appearance, or a decline in personal hygiene not related to physical disability? Is dress appropriate for the weather?
- b. Have housekeeping habits changed so that a normally neat and orderly home is now cluttered and not cleaned regularly?

- c. Are pets that were normally well cared for suddenly not being fed or cared for as they had been in the past?

#### 6. Solicitations

- a. Is there a sudden increase in ordering unnecessary items through mail or televised advertisements?

#### 7. Calls to Family Members or Health Care Providers

- a. Has there been a marked increase in panic calls to family or medical providers without apparent need?
- b. Have unnecessary calls been made to 911?

The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program is the largest group long-term care insurance program in the country. Created in 2000 by Federal law (Public Law 106-265, the Long-Term Care Security Act), it is sponsored by the Federal government. It provides active and retired members of the uniformed services, Federal employees and annuitants, and their qualified relatives the opportunity to apply for coverage at group rates.

The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program is sponsored and regulated by OPM; further information is available at [www.opm.gov/insure/ltc](http://www.opm.gov/insure/ltc).

The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program is administered by Long Term Care Partners, LLC, and offered by John Hancock Life Insurance Company and Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Contact Long Term Care Partners toll-free at 1-800-LTC-FEDS (1-800-582-3337), TTY: 1-800-843-3557 to speak to a certified long-term care insurance consultant. Online, visit: [www.LTCFEDS.com](http://www.LTCFEDS.com).



1. Santo Tomas prison camp internees Lee Rogers and John Todd.



10. POWs at Cabanatuan Camp 3 beaten with clubs.



11. Bilibid POW hospital ward, Philippine Islands.



12. Bataan Death March, April 1942.



2. Pvt. Robert Collins & M/Sgt. Woodrow Haines back behind UN lines, Chechon, Korea.



3. Pfc. Robert Brandon rations Red Cross parcels, Stalag IX-B.



4. Nichols Field Detail, PI, taken at Pasay Schoolhouse.



5. An American POW suffering from dry beri-beri being treated in Bilibid.



6. A GI is liberated from a German prison camp.



7. Survivors of Suchon Tunnel Massacre, Korea.



8. Three American POWs released by the Viet Cong near Tay Ninh City.



9. 100 days as a POW -- 100 lb. weight loss.

## POW Photos Order Form

These black & white 8x10" photographs are available from MedSearch. Please include a donation of \$5.00 per picture, or \$50.00 for the complete set of 12 with your order. Fill out the form below with selections.

Fill in the number of copies of each picture desired in the blank beside the picture's identification number:

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2. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_ 11. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_ 12. \_\_\_\_\_

Set of 12 photos \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail to:

MEDSEARCH, AXPOW National Headquarters, 3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40  
Arlington, TX 76010. PH: 817-649-2979; fax 817-649-0109; e-mail:  
marsha.coke@axpow.org

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

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# Andersonville



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

## The Far East University Experience: Forrest Knox's Story

*Lauren Miller who served as an intern at Andersonville National Historic Site during the summer of 2006 wrote the article below. She is currently attending Southeast Missouri State University pursuing a Master of Arts degree in history with an emphasis in historic preservation. Following her internship, she chose as her thesis topic, "POWs and Religion During World War II." She is presently conducting research on this topic.*

When I began my internship at Andersonville, I had little knowledge of the prisoner of war experience. While working with the museum collection, I quickly discovered amazing stories of survival and one in particular; I came to know quite well. A photograph of Forrest Knox, World War II prisoner of the Japanese, is an image representing one story of survival under brutal conditions. Forrest persevered with a little help from a towel that accompanied him on his journey.

Forrest Knox joined the tank division of the National Guard for "a kind of silly reason"; he simply liked the vehicles. In 1941, a young

Staff Sergeant Knox traveled with Company A, from Janesville, Wisconsin, to the Philippines. While he enjoyed tanks, Forrest quickly learned that in combat the M-3 ejected hot shell cases that burned the crew. The cases would go down their shirts and pants. Forrest's solution to this problem was to cut the pockets off his coveralls and wrap a towel around his neck.

As the Japanese continued to advance all the Americans retreated to the Bataan Peninsula. Staff Sergeant Knox said, "Our short four months caused the Japs over 70,000 troops. In military terms, that is a pretty fair trade. I didn't like the deal." On April 9, 1942 the Americans surrendered to the Japanese. Forrest and his men were now POWs.

Captivity began for Knox and others with the Bataan Death March. Forrest was in serious danger of heat stroke when he received life-saving assistance from a fellow member of Company A. Herb Dunner took water out of a ditch and poured some on Forrest's towel, cooling him off enough to keep moving.



Surviving the brutal march was only the first phase of Forrest's experience. He survived several different prison camps and numerous work details. Most of the labor was unpleasant at best, but at Manila, his situation dramatically improved. He worked on a truck detail where the labor was light and

the guards treated him much better.

Knox's towel saved his life once more while he was on a hell ship bound for Japan. The men were transported in a tightly packed hold and sanity was in short supply. One man began howling endlessly. Forrest knew the Japanese would not allow the noise to continue and they would shut the hold, suffocating all the prisoners. To keep the men alive, he used his towel to silence the howling man.

Knox endured his experience through sheer determination. "I always said they couldn't kill me if I could stand on my feet. When I was too sick, I'd have someone help me stand up. I operated on bull-headed stubbornness." He saw his time as a POW as learning experience. "We like to say that we went to Far East University and we got an education in human psychology. If we flunked, we died."

Although Forrest suffered from health problems resulting from his POW experience until his death, he was only selectively bitter. Knox had a successful career working as a mechanic for 26 years. One can only think he was still fascinated by vehicles.

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As the time of this article submission, the National Prisoner of War Museum is on schedule to be reopened to the public on February 17, 2007. The work of the contractor to paint and carpet has been completed. The quality of their efforts has been excellent. The last task is to move all the exhibits, furniture and artifacts back into the building. The staff will be very happy when we can open our doors once again and invite our visitors into the greatest museum in the National Park Service.

- Fred Boyles

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Ex-POW Bulletin  
March/April 2007

# NamPOW news



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After lavishing praise upon Vice Admiral William P. Bill Lawrence, his friend from Naval Academy days, Ross Perot in his foreword to *Tennessee Patriot*, states that "I am honored to have been associated with Bill Lawrence, the embodiment of an AMERICAN HERO OF HEROES."

Me, too.

Bill Lawrence was a personal role model and inspiration to me right up to the day he died. It's my opinion that he is as close as the Naval Academy has ever come to graduating a MacArthur. Gen. Douglas MacArthur, Class of 1902 at West Point, excelled at nearly every endeavor at our sister academy - including being First Captain and valedictorian.

Admiral Lawrence stood very high in the Class of 1951 academically, was the Brigade Commander militarily, was elected by his classmates as Class President and by his football teammates as their Captain. He also spearheaded the effort that revamped the Honor Code into its present form. But, unlike MacArthur, Bill Lawrence endured personal suffering and tragedy his West Point counterpart could never imagine.

That "Billy" Lawrence would be so successful was almost pre-ordained. He had been programmed to succeed since his earliest days in Nashville and thrived on competition. Throughout his life, he met men who influenced him and made such an impression that, later when he was in positions

of responsibility, his personal influence on those around him was truly remarkable.

He graduated 8<sup>th</sup> in his class at Annapolis, did well in flight training, was relegated to shore duty for a short while then became a Navy test pilot. While stationed at NAS Patuxent River, he flew the F8U-3 and became the first Navy pilot to exceed Mach 2.0 in that airplane.

Several of his associates at Pax applied for and became the first group of astronauts. Bill was kept from competing for the astronaut opening by a miniscule heart murmur that was only discovered by the meticulous examination required of all contenders for these highly coveted "slots." Characteristically, he accepted the findings and pressed on to command a Navy F-4 squadron in combat in Vietnam.

Shot down and captured in June, 1967, Bill's time as a prisoner of war was a continuation of his "never waste time" philosophy. When the Communists tried to play with his mind, Bill would replay football games; re-live his many interesting flights as a test pilot and in combat; design and build things in his mind. Despite the brutal torture, continual harassment and solitary confinement, he never wavered. Try as they might, the vicious North Vietnamese interrogators were never able to break Bill Lawrence.

Finally, President Nixon got fed up with North Vietnamese perfidy and using the "peace talks" as an instrument of their propaganda. Within 60 days of the start of the "Christmas Bombing," the first group of POWs was on its way home with C-141 fueling stops in the Philippines, Hawaii and Travis AFB in Sacramento.

While at Clark AFB, Capt. Bill Lawrence is told that his wife had divorced him (under grounds of desertion). It was a very rough time for him but he ended up with custody of his younger daughter, Wendy.

Then Bill met Diane Rauch - a beautiful, successful physical therapist - through the graces of one of her patients, John McCain. They met and married very shortly afterward. Diane was made an honorary member of several classes of midshipmen who considered her a second "Mom."

After several good assignments, Capt. Lawrence became an admiral and a good one. Then the "MacArthur of Annapolis" became Superintendent of the Naval Academy during a very difficult time. Women at the Academies were not well-accepted and there was much alumni pressure to abolish the presidential directive. In the middle of the very acrimonious debate, Admiral Lawrence's daughter, Wendy, was a midshipman at Navy in the class of 1981, the second USNA class to admit women. As it turned out, Wendy became a midshipman student leader, successful Navy helicopter pilot and an astronaut who made three flights before retiring as a Navy Captain.

Bill had a very serious stroke when he was the Chief of Naval Personnel. Although his mind was as sharp as ever, his body refused to comply with the commands issued by his brain. The admiral who routinely beat Navy varsity midshipmen tennis players was unable to even move around on his own. However, almost up to the last day of his life, Bill Lawrence would pick up the phone and call friends inviting them to his class luncheon at Annapolis. Or to join him at the Navy football game. Or to tell them jokes, many of which can't be repeated here.

He died while napping on December 2, 2005 the day before he was to journey to Philadelphia to watch his beloved Navy football team in its annual clash with arch-rival, Army. His funeral at the Naval Academy Chapel was attended by thousands. Seated in special seating up front near his widow, Diane, were many former POWs and several rows of his USNA classmates. Bill was eulogized by fellow POW Senator John McCain '58 and his friend and protégé from Midshipmen days, H. Ross Perot '53. The burial, on a cold, drizzly day followed a long walking procession by his many friends and military comrades. As the last shot from the volley of three sounded, a flight of four FA-18s broke into the missing man formation over the gravesite.

As the sun came out as the single F-18 was streaking toward it, I couldn't help thinking that Billy Lawrence was riding that bird skyward. It was indeed a fitting ending and tribute to one of the finest men this great country has ever produced.

## pow-mia



### PNC John Edwards, Chairman

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Niskayuna, NY 12309-4815  
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POW/MIA car-window decals are available at a cost of \$20 per 100 by sending a check to the League office at 1005 North Glebe Road, Suite 170, Arlington, VA 22201. POW/MIA lapel pins are also available at \$3 each or 2/\$5. For added information please contact the League's web site at [www.pow-miafamilies.org](http://www.pow-miafamilies.org) or call the national office at 703-465-7432. If no one is available to take your call, please leave a message.

### Navy Aviator Missing In Action From the Vietnam War Identified:

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Vietnam War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

He is Navy Cmdr. Peter Mongilardi Jr., of Haledon, N.J. He will be buried on April 11 at Arlington National Cemetery near Washington D.C.

On June 25, 1965, Mongilardi departed the USS Coral Sea in his A-4C Skyhawk on an armed reconnaissance mission over North Vietnam. His flight encountered bad weather and enemy fire over Thanh Hoa Province, causing the wingman to lose visual and radio contact with Mongilardi. Contact was never

re-established and the aircraft failed to return to the carrier.

In 1993, a joint U.S.-Socialist Republic of Vietnam (S.R.V.) archival team, led by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC), obtained information concerning the crash while researching documents, artifacts and photographs at the Central Army Museum in Hanoi. Later that year, another joint US-SRVU team conducted an investigation in Thanh Hoa Province. The team interviewed two local Vietnamese citizens who recalled the crash and said the pilot died in the impact. The men then led the team to the crash site.

In 1994, another joint team excavated the crash site and recovered human remains and pilot-related items, including a belt tip, boot heel, pieces of flight boot and other items worn by the pilot.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used nuclear DNA in the identification of the remains.

### Three Americans Previously Missing/Unaccounted for Identified:

Lt Colonel Paul E. Getchell, USAF, ME, MIA 1/13/69, Laos, RR 12-16-05, ID 11/20/06;  
Major Benjamin F. Danielson, USAF, USA, MN, MIA 12/5/69, Laos, RR 11/12/03, ID 8/6/046;  
Sergeant First Class Lewis C. Walton, RI, MIA 5/10/71, SVN, RR 10/19/04, ID 10/23/06

The accounting for these Americans brings to 796 the number of US personnel accounted for since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975. Over 90% of the 1,788 still listed as missing were lost in Vietnam or in areas of Laos and Cambodia under Vietnamese wartime control.

### DASD Ambassador Charles Ray in Southeast Asia:

Ambassador Ray has now completed his first visits to Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam since being appointed DASD late last year. Ambassador Ray held a briefing on his trip in mid-February for family and veterans group representatives. Earlier last year, he visited Moscow to reinforce to the Russian Government the importance of naming a Russian Chairman as counterpart to US Chairman General Robert H. Foglesong, USAF (Ret).

### Update on JPAC Operations:

Joint field operations resumed for the 37th time in Cambodia on January 11th, for the 97th time in Laos on January 9th, and will resume for the 87th time in Vietnam in March. The USG has finally taken action on the two-year assignment for JPAC Detachment III Commanders in Laos. This step was long ago approved by the Lao Government, but slowed by the Pentagon bureaucracy. Technical talks will also be held soon in Laos and Vietnam.

Field operations related to WWII began in Thailand in February and are now ongoing in Papua New Guinea and Palau, preceded by operational discussions held in advance and concluded by JPAC Commander BG Michael Flowers.

Also, a DPMO-led team is in Beijing for talks aimed at renewing recovery operations there. A JPAC team recently returned from South Korea and discussions on renewed joint operations to begin later this year. South Korea has now established its own recovery unit to locate and identify remains of its citizens killed during the Korean War. JPAC has provided helpful guidance and advice in that process.

## civilians

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*Peter Parsons is one of four sons of Chick and Katsy Parsons. Chick spent a part of his youth in the Philippines, and had been there since 1921 when WWII broke out. His Naval Reserve status changed to active on Dec. 8, 1941. He was trapped in Manila when the Japanese entered, and he successfully parlayed his title of Panamanian Consul into expatriation. Once in the States, he returned to the Philippines as Gen. MacArthur's liaison with the guerrillas there.*

## Chick Parsons and the Santo Tomas Internment Camp (STIC)

By Peter Parsons  
Baguio, Philippines

Chick Parsons (my dad) entered the Santo Tomas Internment Camp a bit later than most of the other internees. When the Japanese first carted him off on about January 2, 1942, they took him to the Rizal Baseball Stadium. He felt very much at home there as he had spent a good part of his spare time involved in baseball in the Philippines and was instrumental in bringing out Babe Ruth's American League All Stars in 1934.\*

Apparently his demand for diplomatic privilege and expatriation (as Panamanian Consul)—which had been forwarded to Panama through the Red Cross, courtesy of Helge Janson, the Swedish Consul in Manila—had at least confused the Japanese to the extent that they did

not intern him. He also refused to speak anything but Spanish with them.

He lived at home until about April 20. People tell me—and Chick states in his oral history with the US Naval Institute—that he was first taken to Fort Santiago and roughly questioned. After a few days he was taken to the Santo Tomas Internment Camp.

Sally Saleeby has told me that when she was rounded up by the Japanese on Dewey Blvd. Chick was in the truck and helped her get in. The Saleeby girls (Sally and Ann) were to be Chick's "roommates" on the mezzanine floor of the main building for several weeks. This has been corroborated! My father was quick to assure Katsy (our mom) that this was not as great as it sounded, and the poor girls were greatly bothered by lack of privacy.

From when he entered STIC, on April 22, (his birthday), he wrote nine letters to Katsy who had stayed at our home at Robert St. with our grandmother, Blanche Jurika, and me and two brothers, Mike and Pat. We had four sentries stationed at our house.



The letters make fascinating reading. First of all, my father wrote on whatever paper was available, sometimes just scraps. Neither he

nor my mom, who also wrote him, were caught, as they hid the notes inside food and laundry. Second, Chick enjoyed himself thoroughly inside camp. He was among many old friends from business and polo whom he joined in their shanties and shared food with. The package system was still in effect and there was a lot of extra food coming into STIC. Katsy sent him steak, chicken, vegetables, peanut butter, bokayo (a sticky coconut and brown sugar candy), fudge, and fruit. Plus clean clothes and bedding.

He wrote that there were lots of children the ages of Mike (9) and me (5), and that they were having themselves a grand time. He especially commented on his loneliness when he attended concerts and how much he missed having Katsy with him under a full moon. . References to "our friends" meant "the Japanese."

Life inside STIC had not yet turned altogether sour. Chick complained to Katsy that she had better cut back on the food packages or else he would start gaining weight. He enjoyed the daily routine of breakfast at 8 a.m. and the daily visits with his friends. And his siestas in the mezzanine ("Plaza Goiti"). He did not know how long he would be there. As it turns out, he was a guest at STIC for about seven weeks.

### PHOTO: Nipa huts at Santo Tomas

\* The Rizal Memorial Sports Complex, the national sports complex of the Philippines, is considered as the oldest sports complex in Asia. Formerly the Manila Carnival Grounds, the RMSC was built in 1934 for the Far Eastern Championship Games, a precursor to the Asian Games. It is named after the country's national hero, Dr. José Rizal. It was reconstructed in 1953 after it was destroyed during WWII and was used in the Asian Games.



# events and information



**April 11-12, 2007. The Department of Missouri will hold its annual State Convention** at the Inn at Grand Glaize, Osage Beach, MO. Contact Cmdr. Don Redding, 816-350-3686 or Delta J. Endecott, Adj./Treasurer, 816-657-4422.

**April 18-19, 2007. The Department of North Dakota will hold its annual State Convention** at the Gladstone Inn, Jamestown, ND. Executive meeting Wed. at 7PM; Regular business meeting will start at 9AM with registration at 8AM Apr. 19. Reservations: 866-748-4466.

**April 26-29, 2007. Stalag Luft III Ex-POW Reunion** will be held in Kansas City, MO. For more information, call Tom Thomas 630-668-0215 or Bob Weinberg 830-257-4643.

**May 1-3, 2007. Stalag 17B Annual Reunion** will be held at the Hotel Arizona in Tucson, AZ. For reservations: 800-845-4596. For more information, call reunion chairman Vince Pale, 214 E. Hudson Ave., Villas, NJ 08251; 609-886-0923; vpb24@hotmail.com. Or Lydia Dostie, 941-475-5378; dusty538@comcast.net.

**May 8-10, 2007. The Department of Minnesota Annual Convention** will be held at The Kelly Inn, St. Cloud, MN. For registration/reservation information, contact Donald Zupan, Reg. Chairman, 1968 Vierling Dr. E., Shakopee, MN 55379; 952-496-0177.

**May 12, 2007. Annual POW Luncheon** will be held at Barksdale Air Force Base, LA. For reservations or more information call Colonel Steve dePyssler, 866-544-2412 or RAO@Barksdale.AF.mil or 318-456-5976 or FAX 318-456-3520.

**May 25-26, 2007.** The Department of Georgia annual State Convention will be held at the Jameson Inn, Americus, GA. For further information contact Commander Ray Reiersen at 912 925-7073 or Lloyd Pate at 706 556-9413.

**June 7-9, 2007.** The Department of Arizona Annual Convention will be held at the Windmill Inn and Suites, 12545 W. Bell Road, Surprise, Arizona, 85374 phone 623-583-0133, Ext 507. For more information contact: Ruth Kilmer, 15834 Huron Drive, Sun City West, AZ 85375, phone 623 214 0600.

**June 21-25, 2007. WWII PT Boats, Bases, Tenders 43rd Annual Reunion** will be held at the Drawbridge Inn, Ft. Mitchell, KY. For more information, contact PT Tenders, Boats and Bases, PO Box 38070, Germantown, TN 38183; 901-755-8440; [www.ptboats.org](http://www.ptboats.org).

**July 27, 2007.** Ceremonies marking the 54th Anniversary of the armistice ending the Korean War will be held at 10AM on the mall in Washington, DC. Presentations by government and military personnel will highlight the program, organized by the Korean War Armistice Day Committee. For detailed information, contact J. Norbert Reiner, 6632 Kirkley Ave., McLean, VA 22101; 703-893-6313. Information about accommodations and tours is available from Jack Cloman, 2702 Franklinville Road, Joppa, MD 21085; 410-676-1388.

**July 29-Aug. 5, 2007.** The Korean War Ex-POW Association will hold their 32nd Annual Reunion (for all Services) at the Charleston Marriott Town Center Hotel in Charleston, WV. CONTACT: F. Jack Chapman at (505) 523-2298 or by email : fjchap@aol.com.

**August 15-18, 21007. 80th Infantry Division Association 88th Annual Reunion** will be held in Fairborn, OH at the Holiday Inn. For reservations, call 937-426-7800. Reunion Chairman, Elmer G. Dorsten, 208 N. Elm

St., Coldwater, OH 45828; 419-678-2618.

**Aug. 24-27, 2007.** The Department of Ohio 2007 Convention will be held at the Holiday Inn, Zanesville. 740-588-6617. Contact person is "Doc" Unger, (216) 521-1889.

**Aug 26-28, 2007.** The 44th Annual Gathering of Former Prisoners of War of the Far East will be held at Smoky Shadows, Pigeon Forge, TN. For reservations, 800-282-2121. For information, contact: Wayne Carringer, 828-479-6263 or Lan'l Snyder, 281-422-2852.

**Sept. 4-8, 2007. The 106th Div. Assoc.** 61st Annual Reunion will be held at the Crown Center, Kansas City MO. For more info, contact John Kline - 952-890-3155.

**Sept. 27-Oct. 1, 2007. The 45th Infantry Division (Thunderbirds)** will be holding their annual reunion. For further information, please contact: Raul Trevino, 2145 NE Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111; 210-681-9134.

**October 2007. The Second Schweinfurt Memorial Association, Inc.** (SSMA) will be celebrating the 64th Anniversary Reunion of "Black Thursday" (8th Air Force - Mission 115 over Schweinfurt, Germany on October 14, 1943) in Schweinfurt, Germany. (Tentative location for 2008 — Savannah, Georgia). For more information, please contact Julee and Bob MacDonald at 720-254-7418 or juleemac@comcast.net.

**April 29-30, 2008. The First Researching FEPOW (Far Eastern POW) History Conference** will be held at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, Staffordshire, UK. For more information, contact: Meg Parkes, Tel: (+44) (0) 151 632 2017; mm.parkes@btinternet.com; Website: <http://www.kranji.co.uk>.

**Ex-POW Bulletin  
March/April 2007**

# News Briefs

## Helen Smith to be honored

On March 16, 2007, Helen Smith will be honored by the Daughters of the American Revolution with their prestigious award for Service to Veterans in Texas. She now becomes a candidate for the National Award, which will be given in Washington, DC on June 29, 2007. Helen has been an active member of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, since 2005. She is presently serving as treasurer for the John Hogg, Sr. Chapter in Holly Lake Ranch, Texas. She has been chairman for their Service to Veterans Committee for the last two years.

It is no secret what Helen has done for our veterans since she married Sgt. Gordon Smith in 1946. She and Gordon have served our veterans by helping them with their medical needs at the VA Clinic and applying for benefits for which they are eligible. Since 1999, Helen has volunteered at the Longview VA Outpatient Clinic, which is part of the Overton-Brooks Medical Center in Shreveport, LA.

Helen has been an active member of the AXPOWS and has held the office of National Historian for the last 25 years. She has also served as National Director, Legislative Committee and Education Committee.

She has also worked with the Texas Tech Southwest Library as they collect the Oral Histories of our veterans. The past three years Helen has sent seven names of

former prisoners of war to be interviewed by the Vietnam Archives at Texas Tech University.

In 1983, Helen traveled to Andersonville, Georgia to help coordinate the building of the POW Museum at the Andersonville historic site.

She continues to speak at conferences and to local groups about our fighting men. Her historical knowledge of our wars and the men who served in them is well known. She enjoys helping students with their history projects and has collected much documentation on all of the American wars.

Helen has walked the halls of Congress in an effort to pass legislation pertaining to our veterans' benefits. Last year, she made two trips to Washington, DC for that reason.

She and Gordon were married for 54 years. They have two children, Allen Gordon, Jr. and Daneila Woods. They have five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Gordon was a former POW who survived the Bataan Death March. He passed away in 2000.

Respectfully submitted, Wilma L. Stackhouse  
Wife of Cmd. Charles D. Stackhouse, USN Retired and former POW.

## Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission

The Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission met on Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> in Washington, DC and continued their review of veterans' benefits. The two-day hearing included testimony from a panel of military and veteran organization representatives, including TMC, MOAA, FRA, AL, and VFW. They opened with oral statements that drove home recommendations for three severe inequities that exist in concurrent receipt law:

- Changing current legislation to include "Chapter 61" disability retirees with less than 20 years of service,
- Extending eligibility to disabled retirees with 10-40% disability ratings, and
- Accelerating/eliminating the 10-year phase-in schedule.

Their written statement can be found on [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org). Several Commissioners, but not all, were receptive to including Chapter 61s with less than 20 years as an option in their concurrent receipt deliberations.

## Former Military Prisoners of War Foundation Elects PNC Paul Dallas President



At a special meeting of the Foundation Board of Directors, on January 26, 2007, in Fayetteville, NC, PNC Paul Dallas (Na-

tional Commander of the AXPOW 2003-2004) was sworn in as the fourth President. He replaces Norm Bussel, who served as President for more than three years. Also, William Richardson (NC), was voted in as Director. Harry Corre (CA) and Charles Lee (TN) became Directors at a previous meeting.

The most important agreement of the day was that each Officer and all members of the Board agreed that we exist as a Foundation for only one reason, as always, to assist our Ex-Prisoners of War brethren in any way we can. We are bound together by friendship.

## news briefs cont...

### *Grants for AXPOW Organization*

Once again, the Foundation is funding the cost of the AXPOW Organization's National Service Officer Program. Thirty-thousand dollars (\$30,000) has been set aside for training and expenses of NSOs who help Ex-POWs and their widows file for benefits. The Board also discussed establishing a substantial "Special Needs" Fund for helping Ex-POWs and dependents.

The Foundation approved a \$5,000 Scholarship Program for family members of a military prisoner of war. Scholarship Applications will be available by April 1, 2007. Write Foundation Scholarship, Attention, Sherrie Bieber, at below address.

The purchase of two new computers was approved: One was approved for AXPOW Historian, Helen Smith, and for the AXPOW Washington, DC office. Funding for the Organization's Education Program is being discussed with AXPOW Director, and Chairman of the Committee, Ed DeMent.

For Grant Request: Contact us or any Foundation Director and they will be glad to help you. New Address: Former Military Prisoners of War Foundation, 914 Bingham Drive, Fayetteville, NC, 28304; Tel: 910-867-2775 - Fax: 910-867-0339.

## VA Obesity Initiative

By the start of Healthy Weight Week last January, more than 41,000 veterans were participating in a weight management program designed by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to reduce the high rates of illness among VA's patients caused by obesity. According to Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jim Nicholson there is a growing epidemic of obesity and diabetes in the nation, especially among veterans. Of the veterans VA cares for 70% are overweight and one in five has diabe-

tes, both of which increase the risk of many diseases. VA's Managing Overweight Veterans Everywhere (MOVE!) program not only encourages veterans enrolled in VA care to get in shape but also offers information to family members and anyone trying to lose weight through an Internet link. VA started MOVE! to encourage veterans to increase their physical activity and improve their nutrition.

Through individual and group counseling, physicians, nurses, dieticians and recreational therapists help enrollees change their eating behavior and increase their exercise. Primary care teams at all VA medical centers stay in touch with participants to track their progress. Increasing numbers of VA community-based clinics also are enrolling veterans.

Anyone can log onto [www.move.va.gov](http://www.move.va.gov) where a questionnaire helps identify personal barriers to weight control. The questions link to about 100 informational materials on the site. People not enrolled in VA health care can take the information about themselves to their personal health care providers.

## Fisher House Expansion Planned

The Fisher House Foundation plans to expand its efforts by building five new homes per year until 2010. This year, VA medical centers in Los Angeles, Dallas, and Seattle are scheduled to break ground on new homes, and the San Diego Naval Medical Center is scheduled to get its second Fisher House as well. On 29 JAN Fisher Houses III and IV at the Brooke Army Medical Center, at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas will be dedicated.

The foundation builds homes on and near active military and Veterans Affairs medical facilities. The houses provide free lodging for servicemembers who must stay

near a hospital for continuing treatment, as well as families visiting wounded loved ones. Today, there are 36 Fisher House facilities in 16 states and one in Germany. After the houses are built, they are gifted to U.S. government, which then maintains them. The foundation works closely with the military to determine where a new house should be built. For more information, visit their website: [www.fisherhouse.org](http://www.fisherhouse.org).

## California Legislation Gives Veterans Privileges

A bill currently in the California state legislature would grant lifetime parking privileges to California veterans who were wounded, held as prisoners, awarded medals for heroism or survived the attack on Pearl Harbor. Bill AB 138 would give qualifying veterans free parking privileges beside meters, in public parking facilities and at curbside spaces that allow parking for more than one hour.

## VA Increasing Support for Medical Education

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), which already helps train nearly half of the physicians in the United States, will increase its support for medical education in the 2007-2008 academic year, adding 2,000 positions for advanced residency training over the next five years.

Through its affiliations with medical schools and universities, VA is the largest provider of health care training in the United States. Currently, 130 VA medical facilities are affiliated with 107 of the nation's 126 medical schools.

# Members' forum



To All Officers, Directors and Members:

After reading Commander Fletcher's column in our Bulletin on the budget deficit figures, I thought the following information might be of interest.

At the National Convention in Tacoma, 1997, the National organization was operating at an anticipated budget deficit of over \$15,000. In the June 1997 issue of the Bulletin, Commander Sonny Mottern stated that our 96-97 budget deficit was \$166,000. Thus, in two years, we had operated, and continued to operate, with a potential deficit of approximately \$316,000.

The officers, directors and delegates at the National Convention voted and approved three budgets **AFTER** being informed of the deficits.

In 1998, we had a change in National Treasurer - from Donald Wakehouse to Sonnie Bill Mottern. An audit was required and completed by Pickens, Snodgrass, Koch & Co. With the help of Sid Hecker of Magnolia Chapter, an accounting firm in Johnson City, TN, Rodefer, Moss & Co, was hired and met with the Budget Committee and the Treasurer to make the transition of the Treasurer's office.

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In the year 2000 we had a balanced budget. The bleeding had stopped, but it was very evident that with our declining membership, our reduced income and anticipated inflationary costs, postage, printing, etc. future changes would be necessary. The question: where to cut?

In 1982, we had PL 97037 passed in Congress, establishing our first list of presumptives for disability ratings, but much would have to be accomplished with the rating boards to achieve our goals. It took many years of time, effort **and expense** for our National Commander, Officers and Directors, plus our Washington Office, to reach our present status.

In 1995, the Board appointed Steve Yarema as the Director of the National Service Office. The membership reaffirmed that helping others is what we are about. To fund this, the members were informed it would have to come out of principal; our income could not support the program.

In the year 2000, the Service Officers budget was \$51,750. Over the following five years, the estimated costs were approximately \$200,000. This money was over projected income; the money was withdrawn from National's savings.

**This money was not wasted.** It was used to benefit our members.

In 1998-99 we had a contract with an outside vendor to work with the appointed editor. On April 16, 1999 and on May 23, 1999, I sent letters to our Judge Advocate outlining my concerns about the contract.

As the Budget Chairman, my foremost concern was money. The Bulletin budget was \$147,000 for the year and it was already \$1509.52 over budget with months still left to go.

The vendor and editor received letters that their current contracts

would not be renewed. They were invited to bid on new contracts, with a spending cap. The vendor then canceled the contract with the October issue still not in production. This contract cost National approximately \$30,000 over budget that had to come from principal.

Three contract proposals were presented to the Board for evaluation. The best contract presented was by our present editor, Cheryl Cerbone. Cheryl had been a national officer since 1986 and a National Director since 1993. She had an MBA in finance and had spent 35 years in the advertising/publishing business as a writer/editor.

In the first year of Cheryl's contract, the Bulletin budget was approximately \$146,000. This year, in the 2007 budget it is approximately \$127,000, despite increased postage and publishing expenses. Her background and experience have saved us an estimated \$266,000 in the seven years. Thanks, Cheryl.

Some money was spent on our MedSearch program that is the basis for compensation claims. Our MedSearch research information was forwarded to the VA, medical schools and service programs.

**This money was not wasted.** It was used to benefit our members.

On a final personal note: I have served on a national level for 25 years and was the Chairman of Education, Legislative, Budget and Strategic Planning committees, as well as Protocol Officer and Election Judge. I shall always remember asking PNC Sonny Mottern how much he spent of his own money over the years. He responded "when I got over \$35,000 I stopped counting". This is true of most of us.

Thank you, Sonny.

Zack Roberts  
Past National Commander

The Members of the Brooklyn "Key" Chapter, AXPOW  
believe in our slogan:  
"We Exist to Help Those Who Cannot Help Themselves"



**In the last 12 years we have raised – and spent \$500,000.00 to help ALL VETERANS**

Several years ago, we purchased two new DELL computers for the National Service Office  
We have donated \$4,000 to help the EX-POW Bulletin  
We furnished two rooms for families of veteran-patients staying overnight  
We purchased rehabilitation equipment, televisions and more

We now ask every chapter with money to buy space in our Bulletin. We need this wonderful publication – MedSearch, TAPS, Stories of the past and other news and articles. The Brooklyn "Key" Chapter is the busiest, most productive chapter in the country. We know most can't do what we have done, but we ask your help in keeping our EX-POW Bulletin alive.  
If you want to help, call Lee at 718-642-7647.

THANK YOU!



**American Ex-Prisoners of War Website Biography**  
[www.axpow.org](http://www.axpow.org)

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



Name

Nickname

Address

City/State/Zip

Email

Conflict and Theater of Operation

Branch of Service

Where were you captured?

POW camps you were held in

How long were you a POW?

Medals received

Job in the military

After the war

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

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

Telephone

Unit

Date captured

Date liberated

SEND TO: American Ex-Prisoners of War  
3201 East Pioneer Parkway #40  
Arlington, Texas 76010-5396

Please include your check for \$65.

If you have any questions, please contact Clydie Morgan, National Adjutant,  
at 817-649-2979; HQ@axpow.org

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In memory of all deceased members  
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# chaplain's corner



## National Chaplain

**John Romine**

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

As I write this devotion, I look out  
upon God's beautiful world that He  
created. I see trees without  
leaves...grass that has been brown  
since last fall. I cannot but wish for  
better weather. By March and April

we should start to see God's beau-  
tiful world turning green with flow-  
ers blooming. If you are anything  
like me, life is a whole lot like that.  
We pray for better things and God  
answers. We sometimes see the bad  
things, but if we pause to think  
about the true and living God  
reaching down to us, we can know  
the difference between the good  
and bad in life. I have heard from  
several ol' POWs and find that they  
also know what it is like to be in-  
undated by the bad things in  
life...but know that God will turn  
winter into spring. And bad into  
good. So let us turn to God and  
praise His Holy name for the good  
and protecting us from the bad. In  
His Holy name we pray.

**Let us pray:** Dear Heavenly Father,  
we do pause and look to Thee for

the blessings that You have stored  
up for us. Dear Lord, may we look  
to You for guidance as we in our  
own way worship and serve You as  
the true and living God. May Your  
loving hands be upon all who call  
upon You. We once again ask that  
You be with the sick...those stand-  
ing in harm's way...and those who  
are still listed as POW/MIAs...and  
that there be peace on earth and  
good will toward all peoples and  
nations. In Your Holy and Blessed  
name we pray. AMEN.

**Thought for March and April:**  
When life hands you problems, put  
them in God's hands.

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# taps



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

## PNC Walter Pawlesh Kennedy, PA



W a l t e r Pawlesh, 83, of Kennedy, PA died Jan. 20, 2007, at a local VA Hospital.

He was a World War II veteran who served as a tail gunner on the B-17 Flying Fortress "Heaven Can Wait" with the 8th Air Force, 388th Bombardment Group, 563<sup>rd</sup> Squadron, based at Knettishall Airfield, Suffolk, England. Walt was shot down on the group's fifth mission over Germany in March, 1944. He eluded capture for five days, then spent 14 months in the infamous prison camp Stalag XVII. He received two Purple Hearts for his injuries and also received a Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster; Prisoner of War, World War II Victory, American Campaign, Army Good Conduct, Air and American Defense medals; a European-African-Middle East Campaign Medal with three stars, and a Presidential Unit Citation with 2 Oak Leaf clusters.

Walt retired from the American Bridge Division of U.S. Steel, Ambridge, in 1980 after 38 years of service. He was a member of their management retirement group.

In 1973, Walt was elected National Commander of the American Ex-Prisoners of War after serving at the chapter, department and national levels. The National Convention that year took place in Orlando,

Florida. One of the highlights of the convention was attendance at a space launch from Cape Kennedy. The entire group was seated in the VIP seating to view the 4AM blast-off. Walt also belonged to the 388th Bombardment Group (H) Association; the Purple Heart Organization; the VFW, and the Sewickley Senior Men's Club.

He was predeceased by his wife, Margaret Deckon, and son Walter. He is survived by daughter Barbara Kruze (Jack), of Moon; son Thomas Pawlesh (Marina), of Jefferson Hills; grandchildren Kirk, Kris (Erica), Jaclyn and JJ Kruze and Maggy Pawlesh; great-grandchildren Kameron and Karly Kruze, and brother Paul Pawlesh, of South Carolina.



## PNC Richard Mayo Throckmorton Omaha, NE



R i c h a r d Throckmorton, age 85, died January 24, 2007.

Richard was born on August 17, 1921 in Central City, NE to parents in the restaurant and bakery business who also farmed for a few years. While growing up, he lived in a number of different towns in Nebraska and Iowa, graduating from high school in Tabor, IA, and finished his college training at Iowa State University, Ames, IA, following the war.

He mobilized with the Iowa National Guard in Red Oak, IA on February 10, 1941 and served in the famous 34th Infantry Division, starting with Company M, 168th Infantry and finished in the Intelligence Section of Headquarters Company. In January 1942 he was shipped to Europe for additional training including Commando Training in preparation for the invasion of North Africa. He was among the troops that went ashore at Algiers, North Africa. His unit was involved in three major battles in Tunisia, N.A., and he was captured at Faid Pass, Tunisia on February 17, 1943 by Rommel's 10<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Panzer Divisions.

He was flown to Palermo, Sicily and on to Capua, Italy, and was shipped by boxcars to Stalag VII-A, Mooseburg, Germany and then on to Stalag III-B, Frankfurt on the Oder. He was then sent to Arbeits Kommando US. #1, Spremberg, Germany for the better part of two years. On February 10, 1945 he was forced on what is called "The Black Bread March", marching nearly 500 miles across Germany. During the march he nearly died from malnutrition. He ended up in Stalag XI-A, Altengrabow, Germany from which the American Fifth Armored Division liberated him on Friday, April 13, 1945.

After returning to the States he was sent to Jefferson Barracks, MO where he received his discharge on August 3, 1945. When the National Guard reorganized in 1946, Richard re-enlisted for another four years and was immediately promoted to Master Sergeant.





## taps continued

During his military service he earned and received the Bronze Star, Prisoner of War Medal, Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle East Campaign Medal, with three Bronze Stars and one Arrowhead, World War II Victory Medal, and the Combat Infantry Badge.

On November 30, 1940 he married Aletha Jeanne Huitt, and they have four children, twelve grandchildren, and thirteen great-grandchildren. Their oldest son, Terry, graduated in 1965 from West Point and is retired from the Army. Their second son, Dick, Jr., was also in the Army. One grandson is a graduate from V.M.I. and is an officer in the Virginia National Guard, and another is in the Marine Reserves.

After joining AXPOW, he was an officer at both the local and national levels and served on virtually all major committees within the organization. He was elected National Commander at the 1998 Convention in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Most recently, Richard was the National Judge Advocate for the organization.

**PNC DC Wimberly  
Springhill, LA**



DC, a native of Ringgold, Louisiana and resident of Springhill since 1954, died January 27, 2007 in Springhill. He was a member of Central Baptist Church and was a former principal of Sibley, Shongaloo, Springhill Jr. High School and Browning Elementary School with 37 years of service. He was a graduate of Ringgold High School, Northwestern State University; received his Master's Degree at LSU Baton Rouge and his Plus 30 from Auburn University in Alabama. DC served in the Army during WWII, with Company E, 101<sup>st</sup> Inf., 26<sup>th</sup> Div. In November 1944, he was captured by the Germans in Luxembourg and was imprisoned in Stalags XII-A Limberg, 111-A Furstanberg, 111-B Luckenwalde. He was first released, then re-imprisoned by the Russians as the war was winding down. After escaping, he walked to Wittenberg, then was delivered to the 30<sup>th</sup> Division's Headquarters.

DC joined the American Ex-Prisoners of War in the early 1960s - at a time when legislative activity on behalf of ex-POWs was lively. Dozens of bills to improve the lot of former POWs were passed and signed into law. In 1974, DC was elected National Commander of the American Ex-Prisoners of War at the National Convention in Las Vegas in July. As Commander, he wrote a three-part article for the Bulletin: "Helpful Hints for Getting New Members". In fact, membership had more than quadrupled over the past five years, going from 700 to more than 2,800. Additionally, DC was our National Judge Advocate from 1978 to 1989. He was also a 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree Mason and member of the Shongaloo Masonic Lodge and Springhill Shriner's Club and El Karuba Temple.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Mrs. Inez Gamble Wimberly of Springhill; daughters, Sandra W. Wren and husband Richard of Haughton; Virginia "Bess" O'Malley and husband Mickey of Ball

Ground, Ga.; a son, D. C. Wimberly Jr. and wife Belinda of Bossier City; grandchildren, Kim Everett and husband Tommy, Robbie Bland and wife Mandy, April Jones and husband Chad, Angela Wimberly, Elizabeth Mullis and husband Ken, Michael O'Malley and Patrick O'Malley; great-grandchildren, Luke, Bailey, Kelli, Chloe, Balend, Gracie, Abigail, Preston and Vivian; step-grandchildren, Keeth, Kyle, Melissa, Jennifer, Alicia, Deanna and Jenny; a sister, Abbie W. Fontenot of Natchitoches; sister-in-law, Martha Wimberly; and a host of nieces and nephews.

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**BARNDT, Elmer J.**, of Dillsburg, PA passed away Jan 1, 2007. He was 81. Elmer was shot down while serving in the AAC during WWII. He was a prisoner of war until he escaped and made his way back to allied forces. He was a member of the Capital City Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his wife, Irene, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 1 sister and 7 grandchildren.

**BASCU, John**, 88, of Colts Neck, NJ passed away Jan. 19, 2007. He was captured while serving with the AAF during WWII; he was interned in Luft 1, Barth. John is survived by his beloved wife of 58 years, Winifred, and a large extended family.

**BIRCH, James T.**, 89, of Nashua, NH died December 25, 2006. Jim entered the Army from Sebring, Ohio, serving with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. Hq. Co, 314<sup>th</sup> Infantry - 79<sup>th</sup> Division. He was captured on Jan. 19, 1945; held in Drusenheim, Germany, Stuttgart, Baden Baden, Ludwigsburg, Markt Pongau, Austria. He leaves his wife of 54 years, Gertrude, one daughter and two grandsons. He was a life member of AXPOW (New Hampshire Chapter).

**BRAUN, Betty M.**, 83, of Omaha, NE passed away Oct. 16, 2006. She was a member of AXPOW and the Omaha Chapter #1. Survivors include her

## taps continued...

husband of 63 years, Richard, 3 daughters, 2 sons, 9 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

**BRUNNER, Albert L.**, 81, of Beaufort, SC passed away Nov. 11, 2005. He served in the Army with the 87<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. He was captured at St. Vith and imprisoned in Stalag 9B. He was the beloved husband of the late Charlotte; he is survived by 2 daughters, 1 son, 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**BUTLER, Paul** died Feb. 2, 2005. **BUTLER, Jane** died June 2, 2006. Both were residents of Southbury, CT. Both were active members of National (where Paul served as National Director) and the Nassau-Suffolk and CT Chapters, AXPOW. Paul was captured while serving with the 451<sup>st</sup> BG during WWII. He was held in Luft 1, Barth. Paul and Jane were married for 52 years and raised six children. They also leave six grandchildren, 1 brother, 1 sister and many, many friends.

**CARTER, Ninevah A.**, of Newport News, VA passed away December 13, 2006. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during WWII, providing ground support for Tuskegee Airmen missions in North Africa and Italy. Later during the Korean Conflict he was a POW. He was a member of the James L Hale Memorial Chapter, AXPOW. His wife Betty, two daughters, a son, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren survive him. Family, friends and POW buddies will miss him.

**CHOMOS, Stephen F.**, 83, of Ford City, PA passed away Dec. 26, 2006. During WWII, he served with Company A, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn, 179<sup>th</sup> Inf. Reg., 45<sup>th</sup> Div. He was captured in Italy and held in Stalag IIB, then taken to a forestry camp until liberation. He was a life member of AXPOW and the Mahoning Valley Chapter. Survivors include three daughters, seven

grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

**CLEMONS, Marvin P.**, of Orlando, Florida, died June 22, 2005. He served with the 1 Armored Inf., 3 Bn. Medics in Germany. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Flossie, and 3 daughters.

**COLEMAN, Ervin**, 85, of Ashcamp, KY passed away April 22, 2006. He was captured in North Africa during WWII and held in Germany for more than two years. Survivors include his wife, Alka, one daughter and one granddaughter. "He reminded us every day that laughter is the best medicine."

**CONRAD, John A.**, of Lakewood, CO passed away Dec. 28, 2006. He was 85. John was captured while serving in Europe with the 91<sup>st</sup> BG. He was held in Stalags 7A and 17B. He was a member of the Mile High Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife, Georgina, 1 daughter, 1 son, 4 sisters, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**DARLINGTON, Julian T.** died Sept. 10, 2006. He was 88 years old. **DARLINGTON, Jeanne M.** died Jan. 8, 2007. They lived in Memphis, TN. Julian was shot down after participating in the Ploesti raid and held in Bulgaria. Julian and Jeanne were members of the Mid-South Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include 2 daughters and 1 granddaughter.

**DAVIS, Eulice Niles**, 81, of West Melbourne, FL died Jan. 26, 2007. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and was a POW until liberation. He leaves his wife of 58 years, Barbara, 2 sons, 2 daughters, 4 granddaughters, 1 brother, 3 sisters and one soon-to-be great-grandchild.

**DAW, Alan Claxton**, of Elizabethton, TN passed away May 11, 2006. He was captured during the North African campaign in WWII; interned in several POW camps in Germany until liberation. He was a member of the East Tennessee Chapter, AXPOW. His wife, Maria, predeceased him; he leaves a daughter, Regina.

**DEITSCH, Delois F.**, of South Bend, IN passed away Oct. 27, 2006. He was the beloved husband of Renatta. Delois served with the AAC during WWII and was a POW for one year. In addition to his wife, Delois is survived by one son.

**DeLUCAS, Donald**, 82, of Forked River, NJ died March 1, 2006. He was a member of the Ocean County Chapter, AXPOW. During WWII, he was a POW in Germany. He leaves his wife, Vera, 1 son, 2 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson.

**DENHOLM, Charles J.**, 92, of Alexandria, VA passed away Dec. 28, 2006. He was commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 16<sup>th</sup> Inf. when he and his troops were captured during fierce fighting in Tunisia. Their transport ship was bombed and the ship was slowly sinking. The ordeal ended when several British soldiers swam ashore and the approaching Allied forces were persuaded to stop the bombardment. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Elizabeth, 3 children, 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**DIGGS, Benjamin F.** of Pensacola, FL died Dec. 24, 2006. During WWII, he was captured while serving in the Army, 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Div., and held POW in Germany. He was a life member, AXPOW. Ben is survived by his wife of 59 years, Mary Grace, 1 daughter, 1 sister and a large and loving extended family.

**DIMMITT, Robert Orville**, of Agency, IA died Dec. 28, 2006. He served with the 34<sup>th</sup> Div., 168<sup>th</sup> Reg., Co. L; he took part in the invasion of North Africa and was captured at Faid Pass. Bob was a POW in Stalag IIIB for more than 26 months. He leaves his wife of 60 years, Marian, one son and two granddaughters.

**DOUCETTE, Manford H.**, 85, of Seabrook, NH died Jan. 29, 2007. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1940 and was stationed as an airplane and engine mechanic at Nichols Field in the Philippines, where he was a technical sergeant. His base was over run by the Japanese in 1941 and he was held prisoner of war for 3½ years by the Japa-

## taps continued...

nese after surviving the Bataan Death March. Survivors include his wife of nearly 60 years, Gardina, 1 brother and several nieces and nephews.

**ERICKSON, Harold O. Jr.**, of Livonia, MI passed away Dec. 12, 2006 at the age of 83. He served in the 8<sup>th</sup> AF during WWII; he was shot down over Germany and held in Stalag 17B. Harold was a member of the Wolverine Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife Jane Ann, two children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**ESTERLINE, Erma J.**, age 80, of Casper, WY passed away July 13, 2006. She was the beloved wife of Milton "Bud" Esterline; they had been married for 63 years. She is also survived by 3 sons. Erma was a life member of AXPOW.

**FALONE, John J. Sr.**, of East Liverpool, OH passed away July 12, 2006. He was 86. John served with the Army's 393<sup>rd</sup> Inf. Reg. during WWII. He was captured at the Battle of the Bulge. He was a member of the American Ex-Prisoners of War. Survivors include his loving wife Irma, 1 son, 1 daughter and 1 grandson.

**FENSTERMACHER, Norman E.**, of Vega, TX died Jan. 5, 2007. He was a member of the Texas Panhandle Chapter, AXPOW. During WWII, he served in the Army, 7<sup>th</sup> Inf., 3<sup>rd</sup> Div., Co. F. He was held in Dulag 2A. There are no known survivors.

**FORD, Joseph**, 83, of Madison, VA passed away Jan. 7, 2007. He served with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Div. during WWII. He was captured in Germany and held until liberation. He was a member of the Blue Ridge Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife of 56 years, Josephine, 3 daughters and 4 grandchildren.

**GEORGE, Virginia [Vicki]** passed away on Jan. 8 2007 Vicki was a life

time member of the axpow Southern chapter of New York. Vicki was active with AXPOW for many years. Her husband of 60 years was the New State Commander from 92 to 94. She will be missed by her family of two sons, daughter, grandchildren and grandchildren.

**GIBSON, Laurel**, 85, of Clyde, OH died Jan. 5, 2007. GIBSON, Vivian died Dec. 12, 2006. "Gibby" served with the 99<sup>th</sup> BG, 348<sup>th</sup> BS, 15<sup>th</sup> AF. He was shot down on a Vienna mission and held for 10 months; he was released from Stalag VIIA. Vivian and Laurel were active members of the Maumee Valley Chapter, AXPOW. They are survived by one son and one daughter. Both will be sadly missed by friends and family.

**GODIN, Alfred** died Nov. 13, 2006. **GODIN, Elaine** died Nov. 11, 2006. Both were residents of Johnson City, TN and members of the East Tennessee Chapter, AXPOW. Alfred was a past chapter/past state commander. They will be missed by family and friends.

**GOLDEN, Jack J.**, of Gouldsboro, PA passed away Dec. 22, 2006. He was shot down over Hungary on Aug. 20, 1944. He was held at Luft IV, and then marched until liberation. Survivors include his wife, Maureen.

**HAMM, William**, member of the Dayton Area Chapter, AXPOW died recently. During WWII, he was captured and held in Stalag II-B until liberation.

**HAMPTON, Elbert T.**, of Longview, TX passed away Jan. 8, 2007. He was 87. During WWII, he was part of the 27<sup>th</sup> BG, 48<sup>th</sup> MS, deployed to the Philippines. He survived the Bataan Death March and 3 ½ years of captivity. Elbert is survived by his loving wife, Mary, 1 daughter, 1 son, 5 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great-grandchildren.

**HANDLEY, William John**, of Shelby Township, MI died Nov. 6, 2006. He was 84. During WWII, he served in the Army; he was captured at the

Battle of the Bulge. He was a member of the Wolverine Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his wife, Phillis, one son, one daughter, grandchildren and sisters.

**HARMON, Clarence Brumley**, of Greeneville, TN died Oct. 28, 2006. He was a waist gunner, serving with the 452<sup>nd</sup> BG, 730<sup>th</sup> BS. He was shot down on his 23<sup>rd</sup> mission and was a POW until liberation. Brumley leaves his wife of 57 years, Elizabeth, 1 son and 1 daughter.

**HARRIS, J.D.**, of Benton, AR passed away Nov. 17, 2006. During WWII, he was shot down over Hungary on Aug. 20, 1944. He spent the duration of the war at Stalag Luft IV. Survivors include his wife, Verl.

**HEINZEL, Jack H.**, age 93, of Melbourne, FL died Jan. 19, 2007. Jack was sent to Clark Field in 1941. He was captured in the Fall of Bataan. After surviving the Bataan Death March and the sinking/torpedoing of TWO hell ships, he was finally taking to Japan, and later, Manchuria. He was liberated at Mukden. Jack is survived by his wife, Winifred, and one niece.

**HILDEN, Mary Ann**, age 79, of Boonville, MO died Nov. 28, 2006. She was a life member of AXPOW and the beloved wife of John L. John was a POW in Germany. Mary loved to travel, even after moving from post to post for 20 years. In addition to her husband of 56 years, she leaves 4 children, 4 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**HILLIARD, Roy Sr.**, of Sebring, OH died Dec. 12, 2006. He served with the 106<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div., D Company, 422<sup>nd</sup> Reg. during WWII. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. Roy was preceded in death by his wife, Shirley; he leaves 2 sons, 1 daughter, 4 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

## taps continued...

**HOLTZLAW, Ralph**, of Oklahoma City, OK, long-time chaplain for the Central Oklahoma Chapter and Chaplain Emeritus, died Dec. 31, 2006. Ralph became a POW in Germany after his plane was shot down over Italy. For many years, he served as chairman of the chapter's volunteer force at the Oklahoma City VA Hospital. In 1999, he was selected Outstanding Member by AXPOW in recognition of community service and service to veterans. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn, 5 children, 24 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

**JOHNSON, Rita Mary**, of Clarendon Hills, IL passed away Sept. 5, 2006. She and her husband, Joseph, were life members of AXPOW. Joseph served with Patton's Third Army, G-4 Section. He was captured on a mission ordered by Patton. She is also survived by two sons (one served in Korea; one in Viet Nam). One grandson was killed near Baghdad last summer.

**KECK, Wilbur H.**, a member of the Middle GA Chapter, AXPOW, passed away Nov. 26, 2006. He was shot down over Germany during WWII and was captured. He was held 11 months until liberation. Wilbur also saw combat in Korea. He leaves his wife, Lolly, and two children.

**KERT, Murray**, member of the San Fernando Valley Chapter, AXPOW died Jan. 7, 2007. He lived in Tarzana, CA. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge while serving with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne; he was held in Stalag IVB. Beverlee, his devoted wife of 58 years, and two daughters survive him.

**KISER, James W. Sr.**, of Gaffney, SC passed away Sept. 9, 2006. He was nearly 85 and was the husband of 36 years of Blanche. Jim flew with the 95<sup>th</sup> BG(H), 336<sup>th</sup> BS, 8<sup>th</sup> AF. He was shot down over Berlin and captured. He spent the duration of the war in Luft 1, Barth. In addition to

his wife, Jim is survived by 3 children, 2 step-children, 13 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

**KONOPKA, Joseph Sr.**, 81, of Philadelphia, PA died March 20, 2006. He was captured while serving with the Army in the Rhineland; he was held at Stalag V-A, IV-B and IV-A. At the end of the war, he was liberated by the Russians, then the 76<sup>th</sup> Div. took the prisoners to an evac hospital. He was a member of the Liberty Bell Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Rosemary.

**LEONARD, Lola M. "Kelly"** of Denver, CO passed away Jan. 1, 2007. She was 86. Kelly was a member of the Mile High Chapter, AXPOW. Her late husband Albert served with the 95<sup>th</sup> BG and was held in Stalag Luft III. Kelly is survived by 1 son, 1 daughter, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**LINDSAY, John B.** of Sarasota, FL passed away Feb. 1, 2006. He was 82. John served with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 398<sup>th</sup> BG, 601<sup>st</sup> BS. He was shot down and held in Stalag Luft IV until being marched across Germany. He leaves his loving wife of 63 years, Dorothy, 3 daughters, 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

**LISICA, Samuel**, of Coraopolis, PA died in October, 2006. He was a bombardier with the 751<sup>st</sup> BS, 457<sup>th</sup> BG, 8<sup>th</sup> AF. He was shot down over Merseburg, Germany and spent six months in Luft III. His wife, Mary, predeceased him; he leaves 3 sons.

**LOPEZ, Melencio E.** of Athens, GA died Oct. 14, 2006. He fought under the US Armed Forces of the Far East (USAFFE), "F" Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 51<sup>st</sup> Inf. Reg., 51<sup>st</sup> Div. during WWII. He survived the Bataan Death March, was a POW at Camp O'Donnell, Capas and later joined the guerilla forces. Mel is survived by his wife of 52 years, Juliet, 5 daughters, 2 sons, 19 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**McVAY, Hilda**, a native of Hawley, MN and resident of Georgia passed away Nov. 6, 2006. She was a member of the Mountaineer Chapter,

Cleveland Georgia. She is survived by her loving husband of 62 years, Birch.

**MOORE, Matthew G.**, of Yorktown Heights, NY passed away Nov. 23, 2006 at the age of 86. He was shot down while serving with the AAC, 306<sup>th</sup> BG, 369<sup>th</sup> BS out of Thurleigh, England. He was a POW in Stalag 17B until liberation. His wife, Lori, 3 sons, 1 daughter and 9 grandchildren survive him.

**O'BRIEN, William T.**, 88, of Valrico, FL, member of the Greater Tampa Bay Chapter, AXPOW died Sept. 26, 2006. He was shot down in 1944 while serving with the 9<sup>th</sup> AF; held by the Germans until liberation. He leaves his loving wife of 64 years, Lucille, 1 daughter, two grandchildren and one sister.

**PARKER, Kenneth I.**, 86, of Memphis, TN passed away Dec. 10, 2006. He served with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF during WWII and was a POW for 14 months. He was a member of the Mid-South Chapter, AXPOW. He is survived by his wife, Claudia, 2 daughters and 2 grandchildren.

**PENFIELD, Roy H.**, 85, of Wellsville, NY died Sept. 30, 2006. Roy came ashore at Omaha Beach with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne, 116<sup>th</sup> Inf. He was captured at St. Lo after being shot in the shoulder. Roy was liberated by Gen. Patton after 200 days. He leaves one step-daughter and one stepson.

**PIERSON, John W.**, of Stevenson, AL passed away Nov. 22, 2006 at the age of 74. He served with Company I, 31<sup>st</sup> Inf. Reg. in Korea. He was a POW for 33 months. Survivors include his wife, Lula, 2 sons, 4 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

**PORTER, Shirley M.**, 78, of Sun City Grand, AZ, died Jan 4, 2007. She retired to Phoenix with her husband, Past Chapter Commander, Bob Porter, of Agua Fria Chapter. She was preceded in death by her husband of 52 years. She is survived by 2 sons, 1 daughter and 6 grandchildren.

**RAIMONDI, Emil V.**, of East Longmeadow, MA passed away Jan.

## taps continued...

3, 2007. He was 88. Emil was captured while serving with the 30<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. during WWII. He landed on Omaha Beach, then fought in the Battle of Mortain. He was past commander of Western MA Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his beloved wife of 63 years, Rita, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 1 sister, 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

**RANDALL, Allen D.**, of Gulfport, MS died Dec. 29, 2006. He was 88 and a member of AXPOW. During WWII, he served as a member of the 27<sup>th</sup> BG in the Philippines. He survived the Bataan Death March and 3 ½ years of captivity. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Maxine, 1 son, 1 daughter, 3 grandchildren, 1 sister and 1 brother. Both Allen and Maxine were life members of AXPOW and the Magnolia Chapter.

**RICHARDSON, Earl E.**, of Elizabethton, TN passed away Dec. 28, 2006. He was serving with Darby's Rangers before his capture and 18 month internment in Stalag 2-B, Hammerstein. Earl was an accomplished fiddle player. He is survived by his wife, Ina, and one daughter.

**RIDENOUR, William Arthur**, 82, of Dayton, OH died Jan. 27, 2007. During WWII, he was serving in the Army when he was captured and held until liberation. He was a member of the Dayton Area Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his loving wife of 60 years, Sophie, 2 daughters, 3 sons, 1 sister, 10 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**ROTH, Dorothy**, of Audubon, Iowa, died December 5, 2006. She was a member of the Southwest Iowa Chapter. She is survived by her husband of 56 years, William.

**RUNDALL, Milo E.**, of Cedar Falls, IA passed away March 13, 2006. He served as a P-38 pilot with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF during WWII. He was shot down over North Africa and held 28 months. Mike leaves his wife of 60 years, Norma, 1 daughter, 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**RUSSELL, Carleton**, of Columbia, SC passed away in November, 2006. During WWII, he served with D Company, 422<sup>nd</sup> Reg., 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Div. He was a POW.

**SCAGLIONE, Irene G.**, age 75, of Norwood, NJ died Jan. 9, 2007. She is survived by her husband, Joseph, a member of the Garden State Chapter #1. Joseph served in WWII with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 303<sup>rd</sup> BG.

**SHOAF, James Riley II**, age 88, of Palm Coast, FL passed away Jan. 6, 2007. He was a POW for 27 months in Oflag 64 during WWII. He was a member of AXPOW. Jimmy is survived by his wife of 69 years, Doris, 2 sons and 2 brothers.

**SMITH, William L.**, of Kinston, NC passed away Oct. 26, 2006. Bill was a bombardier with the 573<sup>rd</sup> BS, 391<sup>st</sup> BG, 9<sup>th</sup> AF. He was a POW. Bill was a member of the Coastal Plains Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife, Jeanette and three children.

**SONGER, Eloise**, 77, of Danville, IL died Oct. 28, 2006. She was the wife of Harold, POW in Germany, Company I, 423<sup>rd</sup> Inf. Reg., 106<sup>th</sup> Div. Eloise and Harold were members of the Illiana Chapter, AXPOW. In addition to her husband, she is survived by one daughter, six grandchildren and one sister.

**SPAINHOUR, Reggie**, of Rural Hall, NC passed away Dec. 7, 2006. He was serving in the Army when he was captured at the Battle of the Bulge. Reggie was a member of the Piedmont Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his loving wife, Ginna (Mae), one daughter, three sons, seven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren.

**SPURGIN, Robert**, 87, of Isle, MN and Inverness, FL died Oct. 12, 2006. Bob served with the 79<sup>th</sup> FG, 86<sup>th</sup> FS, 9<sup>th</sup> AF in WWII. He was captured in North Africa and was a POW in Germany for 2 ½ years. Bob was a member of the MN Lakes Region Chapter, AXPOW where he served as Commander for several years. He was also JVC of the MN Dept. Bob is survived by his wife, Lois, 2 sons, 2

daughters, 3 step-children, 13 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and 1 brother.

**STEVENS, Josephine "Jo"**, of Fort Worth, Texas, died January 6, 2007. Jo was the loving wife of Fort Worth Chapter commander, Mel Stevens. She was known by many nation-wide because she faithfully attended chapter, state and national meetings. At national conventions, she helped in the merchandise sales room. Jo also hand-made the corsages given out to every women who attended the national convention in Arlington, Texas. In addition to Mel, Jo is survived by 1 son, 1 daughter, 3 granddaughters, 1 great-granddaughter, 1 sister, numerous nieces and nephews and a host of friends. She will truly be missed.

**WHITEHEAD, John L.**, of Phoenix, AZ passed away April 6, 2006. He was a member of the 106<sup>th</sup> Inf. Division. He was captured in December 1944 during the Battle of the Bulge. John leaves his wife, Ann, 1 daughter, 1 son and 3 grandchildren.

**WILLARD, Myrtle Alice**, age 84, of Carlsbad, CA passed away Dec.14, 2006. She was a member of BACEPOW Chapter, AXPOW. She is survived by her beloved husband of 61 years, Doug, and two daughters. Doug is a co-founder of the BACEPOW Chapter and was imprisoned in the Santo Tomas Internment Camp.

**WOOD, Robert M.**, of Bloomington, IN died June 22, 2006. He was 83. Bob was captured near St. Vith while serving with the 106<sup>th</sup> Inf. (423/I) during the Battle of the Bulge. He was held in various Stalags until liberation. Bob is survived by his wife, Wilma, 1 son, 3 daughters, 1 sister, 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. He was a life member of AXPOW.

# new members

National Headquarters  
3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40  
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Marsha.Coke@axpow.org



## New Annual Members "Welcome Home"

Rochelle Beauchamp  
Whitener  
Grand Junction  
Daughter of Virgil  
Beauchamp, PAC

Billy E Bishop  
Margaret  
Avon Park, FL  
Army  
12A  
2/45-3/45

William E Shay  
Punta Gorda, FL  
8AF  
Frankfort, marched,  
Heyde Kreug, E  
Prussia

Donald Regier  
Catherine „Kay”  
Parkton, MD  
106 Inf Div 422 Reg  
Bad Orb, 9B,  
Ziegenhain, 9A  
12/19/44-3/30/45

Robert Paul Heine  
Lillian M  
Cheektowaga, NY  
8AF 384 BG 546 BS  
Dulag Luft, Frankfurt,  
Luft 3, 7A  
3/16/44-4/29/45

Richard J Hughes  
Patricia H  
Brooklyn, NY  
379 BS 392 BG Flight  
Bombardier  
Hospital, Sagan,  
Nurnberg, 7A  
12/13/43-4/1/45

## New Life Members "Welcome Home" \*denotes new member to AXPOW

Erving L Boeger  
Mary Ann 32694 39278  
Gridley, CA  
Cannon Co 110 Inf 28  
Div  
4B

Blanche D Kiser 39279  
Gaffney, SC  
Widow of James W Kiser  
Luft 1

Rosamond I Nelson  
\*39280  
Red Oak, IA  
Widow of John M Nelson  
7A, 3B  
2/43-5/45

Weldon F Holmes  
\*39281  
St Petersburg, FL  
Flight Commander  
Flying Fortress  
Dulag Luft, Luft 3, 7A  
6/25/43-5/25/45

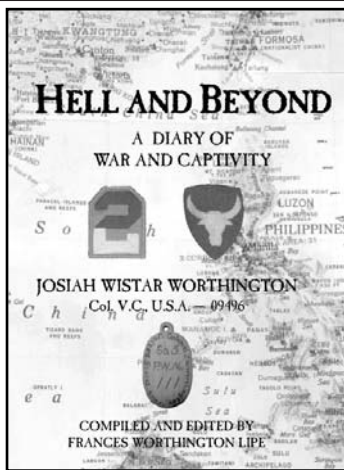
Paula Farmer Bise  
\*39282  
Summerville, SC  
Daughter of Paul  
Farmer, ETO

Willie Columbus  
Bussell  
Valane \*39283 39284  
Suffolk, VA  
USS Pueblo Boatswains  
Mate  
1/23/68-12/23/68

Edward H Highfill  
Betty J \*39285  
39286  
Miami, FL  
7 Armored Div 87  
Recon  
4B 12/19/44-5/9/45

Arthur Ralph Meyers  
Joy 39286 39287  
Denver, CO  
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Luft 1  
4/11/44-6/45





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50/50 Drawing**

PLEASE PRINT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Thank you for your support.



# 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.

**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

Life Membership Rates	
Under 35	\$360
36-50	\$300
51-60	\$180
61 & over	\$120
Spouse of life member	\$ 40
Annual Membership Rates	
Single Membership	\$ 30
Husband & wife	\$ 40

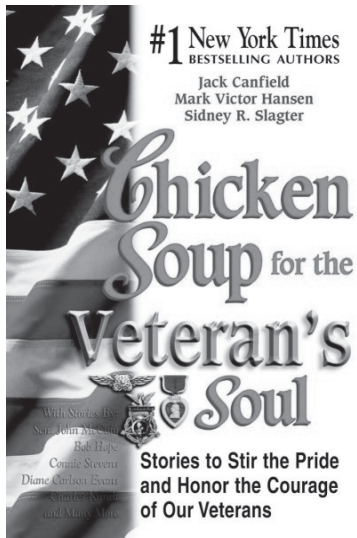
### Order Your Personalized Autographed Copies of *Chicken Soup for the Veteran's Soul!*

**For every book you purchase 20% will be donated to the American Ex-Prisoners of War Organization**

For more info call: 888-387-6373, fax: 888-387-6373, e-mail: remember@vetstories.com  
 Write: Veterans Stories, Inc., 95 Uno Lago Dr., Juno Beach, FL 33408

#### Order Personalized Autographed Copies

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name of Person(s) to Autograph book to: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this Person a Veteran? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

# of books \_\_\_\_\_ X \$12.50 + \$2.50 shipping/handling per book = \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to Veterans Stories, Inc.  
 95 Uno Lago Dr., Juno Beach, FL 33408**

**Ex-POW Bulletin  
 March/April 2007**



## Magnetic Ribbons \$5.00

### AXPOW Vest Order Form

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: \$50.00, includes shipping/handling

Please allow 8-10 weeks for delivery.

Mail orders to:

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

Official AXPOW Cap (specify size)	25.00	Vest Chainguard w/eagles	7.00	AXPOW Metal License Plate Frame	6.00
Maroon AXPOW Sport Cap	8.00	Travel Alarm Clock with case	10.00	Aluminum License Plate	4.00
Eagle Sport Cap	9.00			3" Vinyl Decal	1.00
Vinyl Cap Bag	3.00	3" Blazer Patch	3.50	3" Inside Decal	1.00
Barbed Wire pin	2.50	4" Blazer Patch	3.50	8" Vinyl Decal	5.00
Life Member pin	4.00	8" Blazer Patch	10.00	12" Vinyl Decal	10.00
Crossed Flags Lapel pin	4.00	<b>CLOTH STRIPES</b> (specify which title)	2.00	Bumper Sticker "Freedom Is Happiness"	2.00
Brooch pin	4.00	Life Member · Chapter Commander		Bumper Sticker "Freedom – Ask us"	2.00
EX-POW pin (goldtone)	4.00	Past Chapter Commander · Chapter Adj/Treas Chapter		Magnetic Ribbons	5.00
Logo pin	4.00	Adjutant · Chapter Treasurer		Memorial Seals	
POW Stamp pin	2.50	State Department Commander		3 sheets, \$1.00; 10 sheets, \$3.00; 20 sheets, 5.00	
Past Chapter Commander pin	4.00	Past State Dept. Commander · Department Adjutant		AXPOW Daisies (dozen)	1.50
Past Department Commander pin	4.00	Department Treasurer · Sr. Vice Commander		In lots of 12, (ie , 24, 36, 48, etc.-per dozen)	1.25
Eagle pin w/Barbed Wire	7.00	Jr. Vice Commander · Chaplain · Historian		Wall Clock (battery included)	20.00
(specify gold, silver or antique gold)		Service Officer · Legislative Officer		AXPOW Notecards (pkg of 25)	5.00
Necktie w/logo woven in fabric	20.00	Past Chapter Officer · Past Department Officer		Special Prayer Cards (pkg of 25)	5.00
(specify regular or pre-tied)				AXPOW Prayer Book	2.00
AXPOW Logo Bolo Tie	15.00	12x18 inch American Flag	5.00	Ladies Prayer Book	1.00
U.S. Flag Bolo Tie	18.50	12x18 AXPOW Graveside Flag	10.00	POW Medal Poster Print	5.00
Mini POW Medal Bolo Tie	20.00	3x5 ft. AXPOW Flag w/3-color logo		AXPOW By-Laws	5.00
Goldtone Bolo Bezel w/cord	9.00	with fringe, indoor use	60.00	POW Videotape – ETO or Pacific	11.00
Logo Necklace & Pierced Earrings	10.00	with grommets, outdoor use	60.00	"Speak Out" Education Packet	6.00
2" Medallion (for plaque)	4.00			Canvas Totebag w/4" logo	15.00

### We accept Master Card/Visa

QUANTITY	ITEM	SIZE / COLOR	PRICE

For orders up to 7.99, add \$3.00; For orders 8.00 to 24.99, add \$7.00  
 For orders 25.00 to 49.99, add \$10.00; For orders 50.00 to 99.99, add \$13.00  
 For orders over 100.00, add \$18.00 Checks/Money Order/Credit Card Accepted.

### Shipping/Handling/Insurance:

**Total: \$**

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

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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



On Feb. 18, 2007 about 60 Nam-POWs, friends and family members gathered at the Nam Viet Restaurant in Arlington, VA for our Annual Tet Reunion. A great time was had by all. Our host, John Nguyen and his Mom carried on his father's tradition; his whole family participated. We remembered Nguyen Van Thoi whose friendship with Orson Swindle started this a quarter of a century ago.  
~ Paul E. Galanti.



## Name Badge Order Form

(for members only)

AXPOW

3201 E Pioneer Pkwy #40

Arlington Texas 76010

### Choice of attachment

(check one or we choose)

- Pin-on Actual size of badge is 2 1/8" x 3 3/8"  
 Clip-on (size of a credit card)

### PLEASE PRINT:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Line 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2 \_\_\_\_\_



Name Badge with name & chapter and city.....\$ 6.00

(includes shipping and handling)

Ship to:

Street \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

### 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 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

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

e-mail: [Marsha.coke@axpow.org](mailto:Marsha.coke@axpow.org)

Subscription Rates -- non members  
\$20.00 per year

Foreign subscriptions  
\$30.00 per year

Now accepting MasterCard/Visa

All orders for products sold by AXPOW National Organization, including dues/subscriptions should be mailed to:

American Ex-Prisoners of War  
National Headquarters  
3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40  
Arlington, TX 76010-5396  
(817) 649-2979/ (817) 649-0109 fax  
e-mail: [HQ@axpow.org](mailto:HQ@axpow.org)  
No collect calls, please

