

EX-POW BULLETIN

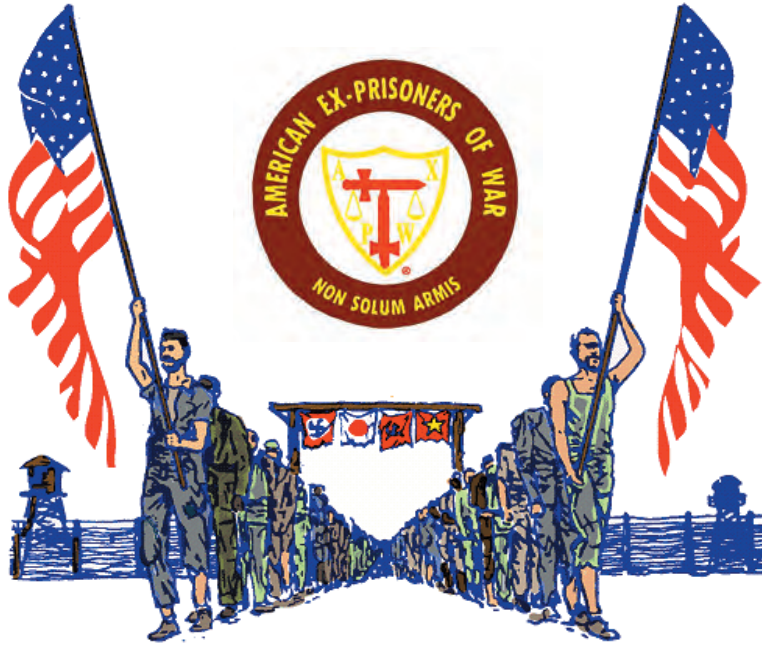
the official voice of the
American Ex-Prisoners of War

Volume 71

www.axpow.org

Number 5/6

May/June 2014



We exist to help those who cannot help themselves

*Election
Issue!*



*Ballot ~
inside back
cover*

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Publisher

PNC Maurice Sharp
9716 54th Street CT West
University Place, WA
98467(253) 565-0444
SHARP1955@msn.com

Editor

Cheryl Cerbone
23 Cove View Drive
South Yarmouth, MA 02664
(508) 394-5250
(508) 760-2008 fax
axpoweditor@comcast.net
Intrepid Staff Reporter
Alice A Booher

Deadline for the July/Aug 2014 issue is June 1, 2014.

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

May/June 2014

This is the first year we will be doing voting by members and not delegate voting as in the past. The ballot and instructions for filling it out and mailing it in begin on page 42. Please make sure you complete the ballot properly. No copies will be accepted. Make sure you return the back cover of your Bulletin (ballot and mailing address) promptly to make sure your vote is counted. Thank you!

May 26, 2014

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers



were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war). It is now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 - 363).

Traditional observance of Memorial Day has diminished over the years. Many Americans nowadays have forgotten the meaning and traditions of Memorial Day.

To remind Americans of the true meaning of Memorial Day, the "National Moment of Remembrance" resolution was passed on Dec 2000 which asks that at 3 p.m. local time, for all Americans "To voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a Moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to 'Taps.'"

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axpow officers & directors 2013-2014

National Headquarters - Clydie J. Morgan, Executive Director/Treasurer, 3201 E. Pioneer Pkwy, #40,
Arlington, TX 76010 (817) 649-2979 (817) 649-0109 fax HQ@axpow.org

Officers

National Commander

James L. Lollar
292 VZ CR 3727
Wills Point, TX 75169
(903)560-1734;(903)560-1705 fax
B52Gunner0169@att.net

National Sr Vice Commander

**Milton "Skip" Moore -
Western Zone**
2965 Sierra Bermeja
Sierra Vista, AZ 85650
(520)459-7295;(520)533-3757 fax
tombstone490@gmail.com

National Judge Advocate

David Drummond
1 Crane Court
Manalapan, NJ 07726
(732) 446-4198
ddrummon@optonline.net

National Chaplain

ND Benny Rayborn
1111 Highway 29
Wiggins, MS 39577
(601) 928-9200
beanrayborn@gmail.com

Jr. Vice Commanders

**Edward L. DeMent -
Eastern Zone**
8735 Doral Oaks Dr., #1617
Temple Terrace, FL 33617
(813) 985-3783; (727) 343-3607
deme8805@aol.com

**Pam Warner Eslinger -
Central Zone**
PO Box 117
Hammon, OK 73650
(580) 821-1526
elib@hammon.k12.ok.us

**Alice Gollin -
Western Zone**
37231 Turnberry Isle
Palm Desert, CA 92211
(760)610-1271;(760)610-1752 fax
mortgollin@aol.com

Directors

North East Region

Charles A. Susino
951 Gates Ave.
Piscataway, NJ 08854
(732)463-8355; (732)221-0073-C
charles.susino@gmail.com

Cheryl Cerbone
23 Cove View Drive
South Yarmouth, MA 02664
(508)394-5250; (508)760-2008 fax
axpoweditor@comcast.net

East Central Region

Judy Lee
PO Box 56
Madisonville, TN 37354
(423)442-3223; (423)442-4702 fax
judithblee@ymail.com

David Eberly
205 Roger Webster
Williamsburg, VA 23185
(757) 253-9553
eberlydsl@verizon.net

Southeast Region

Benny Rayborn
1111 Highway 29
Wiggins, MS 39577
(601) 928-9200
beanrayborn@gmail.com

North Central Region

John W Clark
1201 S Johnmeyer Ln
Columbia MO 65203
(573) 445-3621
clarkjna@aol.com

David Claypool
PO Box 38
Hampton MN 55031
(612) 245-2247
claypool23@midco.net

Committee addresses appear
with their columns

Mid-Central Region

Becky Fisher
6319 Whims Rd.
Canal Winchester, OH 43110
(614) 834-7214
beckyfisher927@hotmail.com

Deanie Schmidt
1001 Parkview Blvd. #316
Columbus, OH 43219
(614) 372-0788
schmidt1925@gmail.com

South Central Region

PNC Morris Barker
710 Chapel View
Waco, TX 76712
(254) 732-5640
mbarker450@yahoo.com

Ben Garrido
6813 W 60th Street
Tulsa OK 74107
(951) 313-9838
bgarrido24@aol.com

Northwest Region

Bonnie Sharp
9716 54th Street CT West
University Place, WA 98467
(253) 565-0444
SHARP1955@msn.com

Southwest Region

Edward "Ted" Cadwallader
9501 Nut Tree Court
Elk Grove, CA 95624
DCadwall@aol.com



Senior Director
Charles Susino, Jr.
136 Jefferson Street
Metuchen, NJ 08840
(732) 549-5775 phone & fax



National Commander
James L Lollar

Although I'll have one (1) additional column afterwards, this is my last column prior to our upcoming 2014 National Convention. Please take extra care on reading this issue, especially the pages relative to the "mail-in" ballot, registration form, and agenda.

Also applicable to our 2014 Convention, I ask all members, primarily the various Committee Chairs, who have responsibility for budgeted line-items to promptly respond to the Budget and Finance Committee requests for budget justifications. Failure to do so could result with improper and/or erroneous amounts being assigned to your line-item budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal years. Your individual budget justifications should be forwarded to NSVC Milton "Skip" Moore, Jr., Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee (reference page 4 for Skip's mailing and contact information).

On March 12, 2014, PNC Charles Susino, Jr., chairman of the Legislative Committee testified before the Joint House/Senate Veterans Affairs Committees on behalf of AXPOW. His testimony focused on funding for VA - it's impact on the claims backlog, caregivers, the homeless. We

also asked Congress to expand the "special groups" of veterans from WWI veterans to veterans of WWII, Korea, Vietnam and the Cold War. The testimony can be seen on our website: www.axpow.org

Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont, Chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, has been working toward passage of S1950, the Comprehensive Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Retirement Pay Restoration Act of 2014. You can also log onto our website to see where this and other veterans bills are as they move through committees and onto the floor for votes.

As with many chapters across the various regions, it seems we are constantly closing and dis-banding due primarily to age and health of our membership. For those of you who are now "at-large" members and are still in position to do so, I sincerely ask you to become active with another chapter and/or department of your choosing. Staying "in touch" is of the utmost importance to our Organization, and membership in existing chapters and departments is one of the best methods to stay abreast of what's happening when it happens. Attendance at meetings is especially relative to our National Conventions. Not only is it a great way to keep informed of what's going on and how it's working, conventions are a great way to catch up with your friends, make new friends, and simply enjoy the fellowship while there.

Please plan on attending the 2014 National Convention at the Hilton Hotel in Arlington, Texas on 25-29 June.

James L. Lollar

news from hq



Hey, it's convention time in Arlington, Texas. After a long, cold winter, you deserve some sunshine and fun. We have lots of stuff for you to do around here. Take a look through this Bulletin and see what we've got.

The Victory from Within exhibit at the Frontiers of Flight Museum is straight from Andersonville, Georgia. The stop in Dallas is the first one outside of Georgia and we are thankful they are coming here. The Daughters of World War II are hosting a reception for you. The Museum has in its collection over 30 aircraft and space vehicles, several of which were built in the North Texas area.

The George W. Bush Presidential Library is also on the agenda. This tour is a combination of the Frontiers in Flight museum and the Library. It's a longer tour but we think you will enjoy it.

Transportation has been arranged for both tours. Fill out your choice on the registration form (page 24).

If you look inside the back cover of your magazine, you will see something new and different. It is a ballot for this year's election of officers. It was voted on last year to give all members the opportunity to vote. Please follow the instructions with the ballot and return it to National Headquarters. If you have any questions, please give us a call.

Clydie, Marsha, Donna

Ex-POW Bulletin
May/June 2014

nsO



Ruth Powell, Director
191 Florence Road
Waltham, MA 02453
781-899-0726

Some little known benefits through VA

Clothing Allowance. Under Title 38 United States Code (U.S.C.) 1162, the VA must pay an annual clothing allowance to eligible Veterans. A Veteran is eligible if he/she has a service-connected condition, or a disability compensable under 38 U.S.C. 1151 that requires the Veteran to wear or use a prosthetic or orthopedic appliance that wears out or tears clothing (Title 38 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 3.810). The clothing allowance may also be paid if the Veteran uses a topical cream/ointment medication for a service-connected skin condition that is prescribed by a physician and causes irreparable damage to the Veteran's outer garments. NOTE: Irreparable damages do not include stains that are removable through regular laundering or dry cleaning. Beginning December 16, 2011, multiple clothing allowance payments were payable for Veterans who

1) Wears or uses more than one qualifying prosthetic or orthopedic appliance (including but not limited to a wheelchair) for a service-connected disability or disabilities;

2) Uses a physician-prescribed medication for more than one service-connected skin condition; or
3) Uses an appliance and a medication for a service-connected disability or disabilities.

To apply for one or more clothing allowances, complete VA Form 10-8678 and submit to the nearest Prosthetics and Sensory Aids Service no later than 1 AUG of each year. The form be completed online and downloaded at <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/medical/pdf/vha-10-8678-fill.pdf>. Effective December 1, 2011, the amount for each clothing allowance award is \$741. For more information about Clothing Allowance refer to <http://www.prosthetics.va.gov/Clothing-Allowance.asp>

Automobile Grant. VA can pay a one-time grant to help certain service-connected Veterans and service persons buy a motor vehicle. The grant is payable to the seller only. Veterans/Servicemembers who receive the automobile grant from VBA and has an approved VA Form 21-4502, is eligible to receive automobile adaptive equipment (AAE). AAE assists the eligible person into or out of the automobile or to safely operate the motor vehicle. To apply or learn more about the automobile adaptive equipment program click on the "Automobile Adaptive Equipment" tab on the right side of this page. The new automobile grant rate for FY 2013 is \$19,505. All automobile grants received on or after October 1, 2012 may be paid at the new rate. If the Veteran/Servicemember received any automobile grant requests on or after October 1, 2012 and paid the old rate of \$18,900, the Veteran/Servicemember may be entitled to an additional payment. VA can

approve a grant for almost any kind of vehicle. Call VBA at 1-800-827-1000 if you have questions about a particular vehicle. For more information about Automobile Adaptive Equipment, please visit <http://www.prosthetics.va.gov/AAE.asp>.

Guide & Service Dog Benefits. VHA published comprehensive regulations effective October 5, 2012, to include guide, hearing and mobility dogs. The regulations provide for veterinary benefits to include prescriptions, medical care, equipment to perform specialized tasks, and handler training with new guide/service dog paid by the VA. VA is working to provide a "pet insurance" to cover the veterinary benefits to make it easier for Veterans to access medical care for their dogs. VHA does not purchase or in any way provide a dog. Veterans who have obtained dogs must have approval from a VA medical care provider stating that the dog is an essential part of the treatment plan for the veteran in order to be eligible for the veterinary benefits. For more information refer to <http://www.va.gov/health/ServiceAndGuideDogs.asp>

If you have a general question regarding artificial limbs/orthotics, automobile adaptive equipment, clothing allowance, durable medical equipment, eyeglasses, hearing aids, HISA, home oxygen, wheelchairs or any other PSAS related device/service contact PSAS via IRIS at <https://iris.va.gov>

Combined
MedSearch & NSO
PTSD
Training Seminar
June 27, 2014 at
National Convention
Arlington, Texas

What is COPD?

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) affects an estimated 24 million individuals in the U.S.

COPD is an umbrella term used to describe progressive lung diseases including emphysema, chronic bronchitis, refractory (non-reversible) asthma, and some forms of bronchiectasis. This disease is characterized by increasing breathlessness.

Many people mistake their increased breathlessness and coughing as a normal part of aging. In the early stages of the disease, you may not notice the symptoms. COPD can develop for years without noticeable shortness of breath. You begin to see the symptoms in the more developed stages of the disease. That's why it is important that you talk to your doctor as soon as you notice any of these symptoms. Ask your doctor about taking a spirometry test.

What are the symptoms?

- Increased breathlessness
- Frequent coughing (with and without sputum)
- Wheezing
- Tightness in the chest

How common is COPD?

COPD affects an estimated 24 million individuals in the U.S., and over half of them have symptoms of COPD and do not know it. Early screening can identify COPD before major loss of lung function occurs.

What are the risk factors?

Most cases of COPD are caused by inhaling pollutants; that includes smoking (cigarettes, pipes, cigars, etc.), and second-hand smoke.

Fumes, chemicals and dust found in many work environments are contrib-

uting factors for many individuals who develop COPD.

Genetics can also play a role in an individual's development of COPD—even if the person has never smoked or has ever been exposed to strong lung irritants in the workplace.

Here is more information on the top three risk factors for developing COPD:

Smoking

COPD most often occurs in people 40 years of age and older who have a history of smoking. These may be individuals who are current or former smokers. While not everybody who smokes gets COPD, most of the individuals who have COPD (about 90% of them) have smoked.

Environmental Factors

COPD can also occur in those who have had long-term contact with harmful pollutants in the workplace. Some of these harmful lung irritants include certain chemicals, dust, or fumes. Heavy or long-term contact with secondhand smoke or other lung irritants in the home, such as organic cooking fuel, may also cause COPD.

Genetic Factors

Even if an individual has never smoked or been exposed to pollutants for an extended period of time, they can still develop COPD. Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency (AATD) is the most commonly known genetic risk factor for emphysema². Alpha-1 Antitrypsin related COPD is caused by a deficiency of the Alpha-1 Antitrypsin protein in the bloodstream. Without the Alpha-1 Antitrypsin protein, white blood cells begin to harm the lungs and lung deterioration occurs. The World Health Organization and the American Thoracic Society recommends that every individual diagnosed with COPD be tested for Alpha-1. For more information about AATD and how to get

tested, visit the Alpha-1 Foundation Website or call 1-877-2 CURE-A1.

Because not all individuals with COPD have AATD, and because some individuals with COPD have never smoked, it is believed that there are other genetic predispositions to developing COPD.

Getting Tested

A person may have Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) but not notice symptoms until it is in the moderate stage. This is why it's important to ask your doctor about taking a breathing test (called spirometry) if you are a current or former smoker, have been exposed to harmful lung irritants for a long period of time, or have a history of COPD in your family, such as Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency related COPD.

A spirometry test measures how well your lungs are working. It's a simple and easy test that can help diagnose COPD.

Who should get tested for COPD?

If you have any of these symptoms, you are at risk for developing COPD.

Anyone with the following should get tested:

- Has a history of smoking
- Has long-term exposure to air pollutants (including pollution and second-hand smoke)¹
- Has chronic coughing with or without sputum
- Has wheezing
- Has shortness of breath that has become worse over time
- Cannot keep up with people of your own age

Spirometry is a simple, non-invasive test that is used to diagnose COPD.

medsearch cont'd...

When you take the test, you will be asked to blow all the air out of your lungs into a mouthpiece connected to a machine known as a spirometer. The machine will calculate two numbers: the amount of air you blow out in the first second, and the amount of air you blow out in 6 seconds or more.

These numbers are represented as FEV¹ and FVC (sometimes FEV⁶ is used). FEV¹ stands for the Forced Expiratory Volume in the first second—the amount of air you exhaled in the first second of blowing. FVC stands for Forced Vital Capacity—the amount of air that you exhaled in one entire breath.

A spirometry test can also show your doctor how severe your COPD may or may not be. There are several stages of COPD.

People with COPD have an FEV¹/FEV⁶ (FVC) ratio less than 70%. The FEV¹ percentage predicted indicates how severe the airways are obstructed (blocked or narrowed).

Less than 80% of predicted is considered moderate COPD, and less than 50% of predicted is severe. People with asthma will have a low FEV¹/FEV⁶ ratio when they are having an attack, and then will return to normal or almost normal after using fast-acting medications.

Your doctor may order additional tests to see if your symptoms are caused by lung disorders other than COPD. One is Bronchodilator Reversibility Testing, which determines if your lung function improves significantly with medication.

Your doctor may also order a chest x-ray or a chest CT (high resolution computed tomography), which shows your lungs in much greater detail, to see if your symptoms are

brought on by other problems instead of COPD.

Why is it important to get tested?

Leaving symptoms misdiagnosed, untreated, or undertreated may cause them to worsen faster than if they were treated with proper medication and therapy. Many adults are incorrectly diagnosed with asthma. Providing a proper diagnosis means individuals will receive the right treat-

ments and follow up monitoring. There's no cure yet for COPD but treatments are available to help individuals live better.

How can I get tested?

Start by taking the 5-question [Risk Screener](#) (in box), then talk to your doctor about taking a spirometry test. Early screening can identify COPD before major loss of lung function occurs.

Coping with COPD

1. During the past 4 weeks, how much of the time did you feel short of breath?				
None of the time <input type="checkbox"/> 0	A little of the time <input type="checkbox"/> 0	Some of the time <input type="checkbox"/> 1	Most of the time <input type="checkbox"/> 2	All of the time <input type="checkbox"/> 2
2. Do you ever cough up any "stuff," such as mucus or phlegm?				
No, never <input type="checkbox"/> 0	Only with occasional colds or chest infections <input type="checkbox"/> 0	Yes, a few days a month <input type="checkbox"/> 1	Yes, most days a week <input type="checkbox"/> 1	Yes, every day <input type="checkbox"/> 2
3. Please select the answer that best describes you in the past 12 months. I do less than I used to because of my breathing problems.				
Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/> 0	Disagree <input type="checkbox"/> 0	Unsure <input type="checkbox"/> 0	Agree <input type="checkbox"/> 1	Strongly agree <input type="checkbox"/> 2
4. Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your ENTIRE LIFE?				
	No <input type="checkbox"/> 0	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 2	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> 0	
5. How old are you?				
	Age 35 to 49 <input type="checkbox"/> 0	Age 50 to 59 <input type="checkbox"/> 1	Age 60 to 69 <input type="checkbox"/> 2	Age 70+ <input type="checkbox"/> 2

If your total score is 5 or more, this means your breathing problems may be caused by chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The higher your score, the more likely you are to have COPD. COPD is often referred to as chronic bronchitis and/or emphysema and is a serious lung disease that slowly gets worse over time. While COPD cannot be cured, it is treatable, so please share your answers to the five question screener with your healthcare professional (HCP).

If your total score is between 0 and 4, and you are experiencing problems with your breathing, please share your answers to the five-question screener with your HCP.

Only your HCP can decide if you have COPD. Your HCP can help evaluate your breathing problems by performing a breathing test, also known as spirometry. Don't wait. Call your HCP today to make an appointment to see if you may be at risk for COPD. Remember, when speaking to your HCP, be honest and open in describing your symptoms and explain how your breathing problems affect your activity level on a daily basis.

medsearch cont'd...

After you have been diagnosed with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), chances are, there will be changes in your everyday life. These changes may be small, or they may have a big impact.

Talk with your doctor about how you can breathe better, help slow the progression of your COPD, lower the chances of getting sick with breathing problems, and improve your ability to take part in your usual—or new—activities.

Thousands of individuals with COPD are active members of this community. By calling the C.O.P.D. Information Line at 1-866-316-COPD (2673), you and/or a caregiver can connect with the community, and talk to others who are living well with many of the same challenges you face.

FAQ

I am struggling with quitting smoking. How can you help me quit, and will it really help me breathe better?

Quitting smoking is the one thing you can do that has been proven to slow the progression of COPD.

I am on supplemental oxygen and at times my saturations are okay, but I still get very short of breath. I don't understand why the supplemental oxygen doesn't prevent me from getting short of breath. Isn't that what oxygen is supposed to do?

Low oxygen levels are actually caused by the failure of blood vessels in your lungs to connect with the air sacs that contain oxygen. Your lungs may still be able to support that connection, but you may be short of breath due to other factors, such as hyperinflation, retained carbon dioxide, and a flattened diaphragm, increasing your work of breathing.

I was recently diagnosed with severe COPD. How long do I have to live and what quality of life can I expect?

There is no time limit on how long a person can live, even with very severe COPD. If you exercise safely and effectively, and pay attention to early warning signs of acute exacerbation of COPD—and act on those early warning signs—you can live a full life.

I attended pulmonary rehabilitation several years ago and learned the proper techniques for taking my medications, but the medications do not seem to work as well as they used to. Why is that, and how do I know that I am taking the right medications?

Your COPD may have progressed since then, requiring a different medication regimen. Discuss with your health care provider about trying different medications and doses.

I have had two recent hospitalizations because of my COPD. How can I avoid these flare-ups in the future?

To remain stable and eliminate or decrease these episodes, you must learn about triggers, early warning signs of COPD flare-ups (exacerbations), and have a written action plan worked out with your health care provider. Taking your medications as prescribed will also help you stay healthy.

At times, I become extremely short of breath, anxious, and frightened. How can I avoid these panic attacks?

A trained respiratory health care professional can teach you techniques to keep yourself calm, even when you're short of breath. Participation in pulmonary rehabilitation is the best way to learn and get reinforcement for this important issue. There is also treatment available, so be sure to bring this up at your next health care provider appointment.

I thought only smokers can get COPD. I have never smoked tobacco but my doctor told me I have Alpha-1 COPD. How is this different from regular COPD? Does this mean my children may get this form of COPD too?

A person who has never smoked can develop COPD. One of the causes is Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency, which is genetically inherited. There is a possibility that your children could get this, especially if your spouse is a carrier of the gene. You should have your spouse and children tested

My health is not what it used to be, and COPD is not my only problem. What other diseases are associated with COPD? Will these other conditions impact my overall health?

Other health problems are called comorbidities. Because the heart and lungs work so closely together, COPD may put a strain on your heart, so heart disease is a common comorbidity. Of course, additional chronic health problems call for close monitoring, and possibly additional medications, but with proper management you may still enjoy a long life.

My doctor keeps telling me I need to get more exercise, and now she is sending me to pulmonary rehabilitation. How can I exercise when I can't even catch my breath?

The staff at pulmonary rehab is specially trained to work with people with severe shortness of breath, and significant physical limitations. Even if you are extremely limited in what you're able to do, you can improve and breathe better with pulmonary rehab.

Learn about COPD. Understanding what's happening in your lungs and learning proper breathing techniques can help you control your breathing instead of letting it control you.

COPD Foundation
20 F Street NW, Suite 200-A
Washington, DC 20001
www.copdfoundation.org
866-316-COPD

Ex-POW Bulletin
May/June 2014

POW MEDSEARCH PACKETS

Packet 1~VA Claim Information	\$8.00
Packet 2~Stresses of Incarceration & After Effects Extreme Stress- Covers the after effects on the nerves and body organs	\$8.00
Packet 3~After Effects of Imprisonment- Covers arthritis, alcoholism, visual, ulcers, varicose veins, impotency, brain damage, etc	\$8.00
Packet 4~After Effects of Imprisonment Part 1 - covers the heart, arteries and veins; Part 2 covers cancer	\$8.00
Packet 5~What Every Wife Should Know Before She Is Your Widow - Social Security, insurance, burial procedures, allowances, etc. including what pathologist should look for in an autopsy (includes shipping and handling charge)	\$15.00
Packet 6~Micro-Film Index: Asiatic Theater - Japanese Possible help in locating POW records	\$3.00
Packet 7~Micro-Film Index: European Theater - Germany	\$3.00
Packet 8~The European Story, History of POWs in Germany, and after-effects	\$8.00
Packet 9~The Korea Story, History of POWs in Korea, and after-effects	\$8.00
Packet 10~The Japanese Story History of POWs in Japan, and after-effects	\$10.00
Packet 11~NSO Director Answers Your Questions	\$11.00
Presentation Set~ (Packets 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10)	\$60.00
The Modern Day Tragedy~ medical & claims evidence in support of PL 97-37	\$4.00
POW: The American Experience~ overview on POW experience; reviews vitamin deficiencies, infectious diseases and service-connected statistics	\$6.00
Map of German POW Camps~ shows location of 76 camps	\$3.00
Map of Japanese POW Camps~ 21" x 32" with camps featured in red	\$4.00

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

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

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

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Expiration Date: _____

andersonville



Andersonville NHS
496 Cemetery Road
Andersonville, GA 31711
(229) 924-0343
Brad Bennett, Superintendent
Brad_Bennett@nps.gov

Living History Weekend

By Stephanie Steinhorst,
Park Ranger

Over a thousand visitors participated in the events and programs over the first two weekends in March to mark the 150th anniversary of the opening of Andersonville prison in late February of 1864.



Warm and sunny weather blessed the annual living history weekend on March 8th and 9th, in the midst of an unseasonably cold spring in Georgia this year. Almost 100 volunteers gathered together over two days to give historical impressions of the guards, prisoners, and civilians who came to Camp Sumter in the spring of

1864. Hundreds of visitors witnessed scenes inside the prison stockade, such as shelter construction or ration distribution, while other visitors spent time learning about the artillery and guard details that surrounded the prison. "Living history is a tool which allows visitors to gain direct insight into the experi-



ences of the young men held here 150 years ago through interactions with volunteers portraying these individuals," remarked Superintendent Brad Bennett. "We are thankful for the great support of the Friends of Andersonville and volunteers who create this opportunity to reflect on the significant sacrifices made by Americans toward liberty and justice for all citizens."

The park also premiered its new Junior Ranger activity book: "Captured! A Prisoner of War Story," at the new Junior Ranger Station tent. The booklet allows kids to explore the National Prisoner of War museum, the prison site, and the national cemetery where they must make calculated decisions about how they might survive Andersonville. Park staff awarded almost 70 Jun-

ior Ranger badges to children who completed the program over the weekend.

Barry L. Brown, co-author of Crossroads of Conflict, a guide to Civil War sites in Georgia, was present to speak on Georgia's role in the Civil War anniversaries. His book is based on a comprehensive survey of 350 historic sites across the state of Georgia identified by the Georgia Civil War Commission.

Members of the 125th New York Infantry re-enactment group from New York State were also on hand on Saturday to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the New York monument in the national cemetery.

Every two months during the anniversary period, the park focuses on a single word theme that represents the events, conditions, or emotions of prisoners during the war. For March and April 2014 the theme is "Arrival." The park also features other Civil War prisons, like Rock Island, Illinois and draws on their stories to present a fuller picture of the captivity experience. A second Living History Weekend will be held later in the year over the weekend of October 25-26, 2014.



Ex-POW Bulletin
May/June 2014

namPOW news



Paul E. Galanti
804.389.1668 (cell)
p.galanti@verizon.net

“Where do we get such men?”
- RADM George Tarrant,
played by Frederic March in the
1954 movie, *Bridges at Toko-Ri*

So why do people join our Armed Forces with so many options that seem at first glance to be better choices? This comparatively low-paying profession is rife with dangerous tasks, long periods of family separation, many hours on duty with no “overtime reimbursement.” Further, our military system is enveloped by a totally separate system of justice in which the majority of cases are resolved solely by “the Boss.” It’s an organization wherein individual rights are stripped away and slowly given back as “perks” and “privileges.” Why would *anybody* want to do it, let alone the thousands who join every year?

While there are risky civilian occupations there are none where an individual can be *ordered* to perform dangerous tasks with the possibility of being killed or going to jail for non-performance. The worst financial manager in the world could do this cost-benefit analysis in his head, conclude that it has no merit and

head back to his Microsoft Excel™ spreadsheets where he’ll toil until 5:00 p.m. and go home.

It seems reasonable to ask, “What kind of idiot would join in the first place?” A better way to explain it is “What kind of marketing genius can convince a young man to swap several years of his life for such disincentives and only a vague promise of the possibility of adventure, a terrific experience and doing something for something larger than one’s self?”

Those are great questions with surprising answers. The draft went away more than 30 years ago. Despite gloom and doom prophecies from “pundits” who never wore any kind of uniform, our armed forces continue to do their duty and perform well. Many voluntarily join each of our armed forces every year. And many more reenlist to stay in. Voluntarily.

Despite those “experts” in Hollywood, academia and the mainstream (sic) media who constantly refer to our military professionals by a derogatory “they” (as contrasted to “we,” the enlightened intelligentsia), morale remains high in the day rooms, ready rooms, bases, ships, aircraft and military vehicles of all kinds. These are far and away some of the happiest, proudest individuals in the world despite nay-saying influencers’ trying to demoralize them. Morale, ironically, appears much higher than in the newsrooms of many newspapers and it was reported thus incredulously by embedded reporters during the race across Iraq.

These wonderful young people - and the military *is* a young profession - are not idiots. A large percentage falls into the upper reaches of intelligence and vocational aptitude tests. And this is

despite an ongoing war - two wars - that will probably last for a while. I’d bet that the average college SAT scores of military officers picked at random are higher than those of the contemporary typical critics of the “military-industrial complex” who might be able to turn on a calculator - with training.

The reasons these volunteers join are many and not intuitive to anyone who’s never served. There are certain aspects of military service that have no direct civilian counterpart. Our service personnel are together in their units 24/7 often for months at a time - which is not a normal part of a civilian job. With rare exceptions, there’s no automatic compensation for extra work and most of the military rewards are intrinsic as opposed to buying loyalty with a wad of cash.

There’s camaraderie and esprit de corps and a feeling that one is doing something for a purpose larger than one’s self. The bonds that tie military units and branches and individual services together are strong and have little counterpart in civilian life. For the combat arms, there is adventure and the pride of being the best at what they do. It can be seen following the annual Army-Navy football game where each team and the Corps of Cadets and Brigade of Midshipmen stand respectfully during the singing of *the other school’s alma mater*. This mutual respect shown by teams and student bodies who seconds before had been beating each other’s brains out is an encapsulation of all that makes our Armed Forces great and different.

They know that after graduation they’ll all be playing on the same team - Uncle Sam’s - but with a much more deadly set of rules.

legislative



**PNC Charles Susino Jr
Chairman**

Washington is still wrestling with the comprehensive Veteran's Bill introduced by Senator Sanders in February. Please note over this period of time between bulletins the Bill number has changed from S.1950 to S.1982, so please use S.1982 for all future correspondence to your Congressman. Despite accumulating 28 co-sponsors, the Senate was 4 votes short of passing so we continue to need your help encouraging Senators to support this legislation. The Bill has so many valuable aspects to veterans so please refer to the March/April bulletin for details on the Bill or go to govtrack.us website or Senator Sander's website.

On March 12th, Charles A. Susino and I went to Washington for the Senate and House Veterans Affairs subcommittee hearings. Congress conducts two hearings in March to receive input from the veteran service organizations on the issues confronting the nation's veterans. American Ex-POW is one of the selected organizations invited to provide direct input to the Nation's top elected officials. By this process, they can better serve the veteran community through developing laws designed to solve the problems of the veterans and their families. In addition to providing formal written and verbal testimony, with the large

2013-2014 Legislative
Committee
PNC Charles Susino, Jr.
ND Charles Anthony Susino
charles.susino@gmail.com

number of Congressman and other officials available, it is a good opportunity to make our presence felt and capitalize on the audience available to raise our current issues with key decision makers.

I encourage you to read the full text of the American Ex-POW written testimony submitted to the Veterans Congressional Committee. I draw your attention to a long standing issue raised requesting Congress to update and expand the list of "special groups" of veterans it established in 1986 who fought in foreign wars to receive medical treatment from the VA regardless of whether the veteran has incurred disabilities while serving the country. Since the special groups only included veterans up to WWI, we continue to believe the more recent warriors are deserving and in need especially as they get up in age.

As a final reminder,

**PLEASE CONTACT YOUR
SENATOR TO SUPPORT
S.BILL 1982**



Kevin Secor Veterans Service Organizations Liaison(DVA) with PNC/Legislative Officer Charles Susino, Jr.

113th Congress Veterans Affairs Committees Information

House Veterans Affairs Committee

Jeff Miller, Florida
Chairman
336 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-4136

Gus Bilirakis, Florida,
Vice Chair
(202) 225-5755

Mike Michaud, Maine,
Ranking Member
1724 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-6306

Senate Veterans Affairs Committee

Bernie Sanders, Vermont
Chairman
332 Dirksen Building
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-5141

Richard Burr, North Carolina,
Ranking Member
(202) 224-3154

General Contact Info:

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 224-3121

U.S. Senate Committee on
Veterans' Affairs · 412 Russell
Senate Bldg. · Washington D.C.
20510

Democratic Staff
(202) 224-9126
Republican Staff
(202) 224-2074

va outreach



Bill Jeffers, Chairman
3522 Millbrook Way Cr
Greenacres, FL 33463
(561) 969-6036
robil1@aol.com

VA OUTREACH #13

We are seeing more and more veterans, including ex-POWs, encountering the need for others to provide their daily care and assistance. The range of their dependancy varies from minimal to extensive. Some require not much more than a "helping hand" for some things. Unfortunately, many need much more.

There are a multitude of private facilities offering both independent and assisted-living options. In an earlier issue, this column addressed not only these, but also those operated by the VA as well as as those under contract with the VA.

Aside from those who choose to place their dependance on one of the above facilities, there are many who prefer, and insist, on home-based long term care. In defense of their position on this matter, they have good reason not to leave their home and community where they have lived for years. They spent years making it the home it is. With their spouses, they may have raised a family there. For them, home-

based care is the preferred option, if it is financially feasible.

For situations like this, there is are several pilot VA programs. One is called Veteran-Directed Care. This is for veterans who need skilled services, case management, and assistance with activities of daily living (bathing, getting dressed, etc.) or instrumental activities of daily living (fixing meals, taking medicines, etc.), or are isolated or their spouse or other caregiver is finding the task too burdensome. Veterans in this program are given a flexible budget for services that can be managed by the veteran or a family member. Under this program, veterans and/or their caregivers have more access, choice and control over the long term care services. For example, veterans can decide what mix of services best meets the needs, hire their own personal caregivers (which might include a family member or neighbor), buy items and services that help them live independently in the community.

The maximum amount allowed per month is \$1800 for one or

multiple people to help. The hourly rate depends on the type of job being done. A third party has to make out the time sheets. A spouse can do the time sheets, but she cannot receive any of the financial aid for the caregiving. While on this program, the veteran cannot also receive home health care from a VA contract home health company; it's one or the other.

To get this program started, , or if the veteran elects to have a VA Home Health Care company to help, the veteran's VA doctor must submit a request for the service. Also, if the veteran does not need medical help at home, there is a respite program where a company can send a person to stay with the veteran while the regular caregiver shops, attends to doctor's appointments, etc. This service has a 180 hour limit per year (unlike the medical program which does not have a limit).

For former POWs, most VA hospitals are now assigning an RN who can contact the veteran's primary doctor for any of the above services, prescriptions, etc.

2014 National Convention Special Events

On Thursday, June 26, we have two very special events for you.

A visit to the President George W. Bush Library and a tour of the Frontiers of Flight museum with the Andersonville National Historic Site's traveling exhibit "Victory From Within: The American Prisoner of War Experience". The 1,200 square foot traveling exhibit is based on the thematic organization of the National POW Museum - Capture, Prison Life, Those Who Wait, and Freedom.

A bus will take you from the Hilton to the President Bush Library on the SMU campus in Dallas. After your self-guided of the library, buses will take you to the Frontiers of Flight Museum at Love Field in Dallas.

After a tour of the "Victory from Within" exhibit and the museum, the Daughters of World War II is hosting a dinner in your honor. The cost of both events is \$40.

You could also just take the "Victory from Within" tour and dinner for \$30. See the registration page for details.

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pow-mia



PNC John Edwards
Chairman

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

Overhaul of POW/MIA Identification Agencies

By Nick Simeone

American Forces Press Service
WASHINGTON, March 31, 2014 -
Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel
announced today that he's ordered
an overhaul of the Pentagon agencies
responsible for recovering and
identifying the remains of America's
war dead.

The reorganization seeks to consolidate the mission, improve efficiency and increase the number of remains identified by the two key agencies charged with POW-MIA accounting efforts — the Defense Prisoner of War Missing Personnel Office and the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, Hagel told a Pentagon news conference.

Last month, the defense secretary directed Michael Lumpkin, acting undersecretary of defense for policy, to provide him with recommendations on how to reorganize the two organizations into

Captured/Missing:

US Service member captured while supporting combat operations: Army Spc. Bowe R. Bergdahi, June 30, 2009, Afghanistan

a single, streamlined unit with oversight for the entire mission. "These steps will help improve the accounting mission, increase the number of identifications of our missing, provide greater transparency for their families and expand our case file system to include all missing personnel," Hagel said.

An armed forces medical examiner working for the yet-to-be-named agency will be the sole DOD identification authority and will oversee operations of the central identification laboratory in Hawaii as well as those in Omaha, Neb., and Dayton, Ohio. "By consolidating functions, we will resolve issues of duplication and inefficiency and build a stronger, more transparent and more responsive organization," Hagel stressed.

In explaining why the reorganization was necessary, Lumpkin told reporters it had become clear that the department needed a "paradigm shift" from what some have called "outdated, institutionalized thinking and behavior that didn't deliver the number of remains accounted for that we had hoped."

"As of next year, Congress has mandated the department have the capacity to identify up to 200 sets of remains a year, but last year the DOD agencies only identified 70 sets," he said.

Lumpkin said the new agency will maintain a single database of records related to missing Americans instead of the multiple databases currently in use. In addition, he said, proposals will be developed for expanding partnerships with private organizations already working to recover and identify remains to "fully embrace progressive science."

No date has been set for when the new agency will be stood up, but

the undersecretary said it would be led by a civilian appointed by the president.

"This is a top priority for the Department of Defense. There is no greater sacrifice a service member can make than by dying for this country and we want to honor these heroes by bringing them home," Lumpkin said.

Vietnam War Airman

The remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing from the Vietnam War, were recently accounted for and buried. Army Staff Sgt. Lawrence Woods of Clarksville, Tenn., was buried as part of group on March 21, at Arlington National Cemetery, in a ceremony honoring the servicemen who were lost in an aircraft crash on Oct. 24, 1964.

Woods and seven other service members were aboard a C-123 Provider aircraft that crashed when it was struck by enemy fire while resupplying the U.S. Special Forces camp at Bu Prang, Vietnam. Shortly after the crash, U.S. forces arrived at the site and recovered remains of seven of the crew members, but they could not locate Woods. The remains for the seven crew members were individually identified and the men were laid to rest at that time.

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

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civilians



Alice Gollin
Chairman

COME SIT BESIDE ME SON

By Dorothy Douglas Whittle

After our rescue, but as the fires raged around us, and the battle destroyed Manila, we Bilibid prisoners were moved to the Ang Tibay Shoe Factory. After all the months of captivity, I was frightened, not by the sounds of war, but by the huge wooden gate that suddenly yawned open exposing the unknown world outside. We hastily collected a few items, met at the entrance, and waited for instructions. Mother and Hugh rode in a US military truck while Daddy and I set out walking. Eventually, we too, rode. Little did we know that the folks who line the streets to greet us and seemed so happy for us were also those who would loot everything from our barred prison as soon as we were out of sight.

The next morning, on the way to the most wonderful and appreciated breakfast I have ever eaten, we passed by the Bataan and Corregidor survivors, imprisoned in the compound across the wall from us. These men were even more gaunt, starved and swollen, crippled and maimed, and they sat or lay on their cots

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staring in amazement at the hub-bub around them. As we passed them, my seven year old brother, Hugh, was holding Daddy's hand. The eyes of one of the men lit up when he saw Hugh; he called out to him, "Come sit beside me son, would you, for just a moment?"

As Hugh shyly held back, Daddy, always gracious as well as gregarious, led us over to him, knelt down beside him, and took his hand. He talked to him in a low voice still holding his hand as the veteran reached out his other hand and patted the cot, indicating that Hugh should sit down. He put his arm gently around his shoulders and addressed himself to Hugh.

"I have a son about your age back home. Soon I hope to see him. It's been a long time since I hugged him, could I please hug

you?" As Daddy nodded encouragement, Hugh moved into his arms, sitting very still as tears rolled down the stranger's face. He held him sobbing quietly, but eventually composed himself and released my brother.

"I don't have anything to give you, but I could teach you something I learned as a kid. Do you know how to rub your stomach and pat your head at the same time?" Hugh assured him he couldn't and yes he'd try.

"This is how you do it! We're going to practice 'til you get it right, OK?" Other young children soon stopped by to join the activity, none of them realizing that unknowingly they were throwing an innocent life-line of joy to those brave men who, until recently, never thought they would ever smile again.



L/R: Ted Cadwallader, 49ers Chapter CMDR, Mel Raimundo, Sr. Vice CMDR, 49ers Chapter, Sadie Moles, 49ers Chapter Treasurer, Betty Koob and Eldon Koob, 49ers Chapter members, CAL National Guard Command Sergeant Major William Clark. CSM Clark arranged the briefing by officers and enlisted personnel at the headquarters in Sacramento, CA. John Jensen took the picture. John is a Vietnam vet and companion of Sadie's.



May 10, 2014. 5K Race for Hire Heroes USA will be held in Plano, at the MedAssets Corporate Office, 5543 Legacy Drive Plano, TX. Visit GetMeRegistered.com and search 'Race for Heroes' for course details and information.

June 6-7, 2014. The Dept. of Arizona Annual Convention will be held at the Embassy Suites, Tempe, Arizona, June 6 & 7. Everyone is welcome to attend, please contact Jean McLane, State Treasurer, 8163 E Lakeview Ave, Mesa, AZ, 85209 or call 480-986-0002 or (cell) 480-298-7530.

June 13-14, 2014. Dept of West Virginia Annual Convention will be held at the Best Western (formerly Holiday Inn) Bridgeport, WV. For information, contact Cmdr. Annette Smith, 621 Front St., Brownsville, PA 15417; 724-785-8536.

July 27-Aug 3, 2014. The Korean War Ex-POWs 2014 Reunion will be held in Louisville, KY at the Brown Hotel, 335 West Broadway. This will be our last reunion. The room rate is \$110.00 per day, plus tax. The discounted rate will apply three (3) days prior and after the scheduled reunion dates to accommodate those who may wish to come early or stay late. Reservations can be made by calling the hotel at 502-583-1234.

looking
for



I was a prisoner of war in **Stalag Luft IV** and on Feb. 6, 7, and 8th, 1945 we left the camp and marched 650 miles in 87 days

across Germany, the "Black Death March." I am interested in anyone who is still alive or a relation that would like to go to Germany and visit what is left of the camp and hire a van to retract our so-called march across Germany. Our group had Dr. Lesley Caplan along with us, the whole way. We were liberated May 2, 1945 by the British troops. Please contact me: Herb Gold, 406 Highland Street, Cresskill, New Jersey 07626; 201 569-3079; stalagluft4@gmail.com.

You may remember from our correspondence last year that I am interested in talking to men who were POWs in WWII. I am still developing the idea but I have refined it a little and wonder if you can help. I am still interested in talking to people (and received a wealth of e-mails from former soldiers - all of whom I was careful to reply to saying that it was early days in my research) but in particular, I am interested to talk to any former military who might have endured any period of **solitary confinement**. It's a fascinating area that I am keen to learn more about. Please contact me. David Belton. 26 Beech Croft Road, Oxford, United Kingdom OX2 7AZ; davidbelton@me.com.

My name is Bern Dalo and I am with Dan Bell Casting in Los Angeles. We are currently working on a nationwide casting where we are looking for **USAA members**, especially multi-generational families that have USAA, for an amazing project. I Please know that we have worked on a couple projects with USAA before and each spot has been really beautiful, well done commercials which I'm sure you have seen running on tv. Would love to speak with you further in regards to our project. Please feel free to contact me at (323) 806-2376; email: Berndalo@danbellcasting.com.

The American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial in Washington, DC sets Dedication Date for Oct. 5, 2014.



*President Barack Obama,
Secretary of Veterans Affairs
Eric Shinseki and Memorial
National Spokesman Gary Sinise
Invited to Participate*

Unlike other national memorials, The American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial will pay tribute to disabled veterans both living and deceased across all conflicts throughout the nation's history. The design of the Memorial, by the acclaimed firm Michael Vergason Landscape Architects, envisions a hallowed place amid the bustle of the surrounding Washington streets. Vergason's design was meant expressly for its audience - disabled veterans, their loved ones, friends and caretakers - who will now have a place for commemoration and quiet reflection.

The Memorial was unanimously authorized by Congress in 2000, and signed into law on October 24, 2000 by President Clinton. The 2.4-acre triangular site, located between Washington Avenue SW, C Street SW and Second Street SW, behind the U.S. Botanic Garden and within view of the Capitol, was approved in 2001. The final design was approved in 2009 and 2010 by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Planning Commission.

In addition to the dedication date, the Board of Directors also announced that the Renaissance Washington, D.C. Downtown Hotel by Marriott will serve as the host hotel for the dedication make a reservation online.

Visit www.avdlm.org.

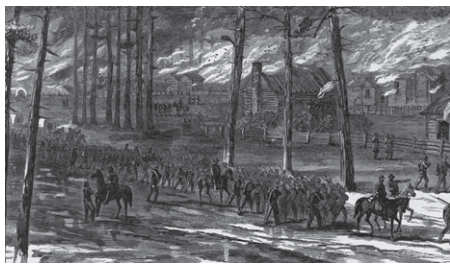
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The Remarkable Camp Asylum

by Alice A. Booher



According to official historians in South Carolina, in December 1821, the state legislature approved \$30,000 to build the S.C. Lunatic Asylum and School for the Deaf and Dumb in Columbia, making S.C. the second state after Virginia to provide funds to care and treatment of people with mental illnesses. The cornerstone was laid for the primary Mills Building in 1822; it took 6 years to build and the first patient, a young woman, was admitted in 1828 with her mother hired as a matron to pay the girl's way. A few blacks, mostly slaves, were admitted but not officially until 1848.



According to the resident expert, Chester DePratter, PhD of the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, USC-Columbia, who has written both scholarly and popular papers on the subject, during the late Civil War years, POWs were moved from camp to camp in the South. From Andersonville and Camp Oglethorpe in GA, many went to Savannah then Charleston and then Columbia where they landed in Camp

Sorghum, a 5-acre open field surrounded by guards and from which escapes were frequent.

Although Asylum Superintendent, Dr. John W. Parker, opposed a plan to turn his complex into a POW camp, and while the Confederates did not get the building, they did use the grounds for a POW camp for about 1,200 Union officers from October 1864 to February 1865, moving in the POWs from Sorghum and elsewhere. Historians, POW letters and diaries describe living in holes they dug, sharing blankets for warmth, with the hospital's 10-foot brick walls on 3 sides and a wooden fence on the other. With General Sherman's March to the Sea and burning the city of Columbia, many city residents also took refuge there. Most of the POWs were moved to Charlotte then Wilmington, NC, although purportedly some mingled with the mental patients (from whom they had been separated while imprisoned) and escaped before being turned over to Federal authorities during February and March 1865. After the War, the surrounding land was used for much needed expansion of the mental health facility and no particular care was taken to save the POW camp remains; after decades of hard use, eventually the entire site was closed.

Fast forward to 2013 when a developer announced plans to use the property for a mega-dollar Bull Street mixed-use Development deal, thus precipitating a race against time. Researchers were given a 4 month window during which they were to evacuate a small portion of the 165 acre grounds to find and salvage the remnants of Camp Asylum (AKA Camp Lunacy).



Dr. DePratter notes that investigating Camp Asylum is important for three primary reasons: (1) it contained Union officers, while most POW camps were enlisted, and this offers a chance to see how officers were treated; (2) it is a camp where no more than a single prisoner died, unique among Civil War POW camps; and (3) it is in an urban setting where it can be used as an educational laboratory for school children and the public to learn local and national history, particularly in this period of 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

DePratter, acting as Chief Archaeologist has tracked down diaries of 40 POW survivors and dozens of letters, with a contribution of funds from the developer matched by the city, and added to by donations, the staff, students and volunteers set about uncovering buttons, combs, handmade bricks, remnants of clothing and



utensils. Tours were instituted for \$10 each to bring attention, people and funds to the site. The tales of Camp Asylum are remarkable: they founded a glee club and could sing all the Yankee songs they liked as long as they also sang Dixie. Many of these POWs were well-educated craftsmen, and SC's Military Museum is endeavoring to preserve some of the careful items crafted there.

Of the many local and national media articles highlighting this effort, several quote Eric Leonard, Director of Education at Andersonville National Historic Site and POW Museum, on the importance of uncovering the histories of POWs even it is an unpleasant task, noting that POWs are an example of the extraordinary cost of war... "It's not an easy story to tell, and it's not a happy story. But it delves into the consequences of war."

News Briefs

D-Day 70 at The National WWII Museum



As the world comes together to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Normandy invasion, The National WWII Museum, which originally opened as The National D-Day Museum in 2000, will honor, educate and reflect both in New Orleans and abroad. At approximately 6:30 am on the morning of June 6, 1944, troops first began landing on the beaches of Normandy. The Museum will kick off the day early with an emotional H-Hour ceremony starting at 6:00 am, including a moment of silence as a tribute to the first waves of the invasion. The ceremony will also include the Museum's historian, an Army Chaplain and a D-Day veteran who will recount his personal experience. Throughout the day, guests will have the rare opportunity to get on board the Museum's authentic LCVP replica while imagining how it must have felt to disembark into a wall

of fire on the beaches of Normandy. Looping newsreels will replicate the way most Americans experienced D-Day. Musical performances are also planned as well as children's activities. John C. McManus, author of *The Dead and Those About to Die*, the story of the Big Red One's harrowing assault on

Omaha Beach, will speak in the afternoon. And after reflecting on the lasting significance of the invasion, visitors to the Museum and on social media will also get the opportunity to answer the question "What does D-Day mean to you?" The

evening will continue with an outdoor film-screening of episodes one and two of the HBO miniseries, *Band of Brothers*, on the Museum parade grounds introduced by a celebrity host. We will also take a moment to celebrate the Museum's Grand Opening as The National D-Day Mu-



seum on June 6, 2000 with an annual birthday cupcake tradition. Events continue on Saturday, June 7 with reenactors, family activities, tours, musical performances, film screenings and an additional lecture by Dr. John C. McManus and an exploration by Dr. Gunter Bischof on D-



Day from the French, American and German point of view. View a full schedule of events. Date: Friday, June 6, 2014 Time: 9AM - 5 PM. <http://www.nww2m.com/2014/02/the-national-wwii-museum-commemorates-d-day-70/>.

ExploreVA

VA is dedicated to your health and wellness. We'll partner with you to help you achieve your personal health goals and make your resolutions a reality. We operate the nation's largest integrated health system, which means eligible Veterans can choose from many VA services designed to improve health and well-being. Whether you want to drop pounds, quit smoking, or take other steps to prevent the onset of disease, at VA, you can get the care you need, when you need it. Exploring VA health services and programs that let you:

Lose weight and keep it off, with VA's MOVE! program.

Receive counseling to help you and family members adjust to life after the military.

Pursue health where it's convenient, even from home, using mobile clinics, Vet Centers, and telehealth services.

View your health records securely anytime, from anywhere—online and through mobile

news, cont'd...

apps—with My HealthVet. **Benefit from VA's coordinated preventive care**, including health assessments and education, immunizations, and physical exams.

You, your spouse, and children may have earned these and many other VA health benefits. Resolve to [Explore VA](#) health care today.

Budget 2015

Continuing the transformation of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) into a 21st century organization, the President has proposed a \$163.9 billion budget, a 6.5 percent increase over Fiscal Year 2014, that will support VA's goals to expand access to health care and other benefits, eliminate the disability claims backlog, and end homelessness among Veterans. The budget includes \$68.4 billion in discretionary spending, largely for healthcare which includes approximately \$3.1 billion in medical care collections from health insurers and Veteran copayments.

It also includes \$95.6 billion for mandatory programs - mostly disability compensation and pensions for Veterans. "This budget will allow us to continue the progress we have made in helping Veterans secure their place in the middle class," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "It is a tangible demonstration of the President's commitment to ensuring Veterans and their families have the care and benefits they've earned and deserve. ... We remain commit-

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ted to providing Veterans the opportunity to pursue their education, find meaningful employment and access high-quality health care," Shinseki added. "From the men and women of 'the greatest generation' to the Veterans who have returned from our most recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, no one deserves it more."

Connecticut News

State Sen. Kevin Witkos (R-Canton) has honored Dan Crowley as December's "Veteran of the Month." Crowley, a Simsbury resident, served in World War II in both the Battle of Bataan and Battle of Corregidor and was held as a Prisoner of War (POW) for nearly four years.

"Dan Crowley has an incredible story to share," said Senator Witkos. "He endured the horrors of war and fought bravely for our country. He survived many atrocities, and today he has an inspiring motivation to serve our community" he said.



In a related story, on the 72nd anniversary of the attack on Pearl

Harbor, the bridge spanning the Farmington River on Route 185 in Simsbury was official dedicated as the "Bataan Corregidor Memorial Bridge." Crowley lobbied for the designation and legislation was introduced by state Witkos and co-introduced by state Rep. John Hampton.

The honor acknowledges the sacrifice of so many veterans who fought, died and suffered during the Battle of Bataan and the Battle of Corregidor in 1942 and the slave labor camps that surrounded the campaigns in the Philippines.

The only known surviving Connecticut residents from those campaigns, Simsbury's own Dan Crowley and Darrell D. Stark of Stafford Springs, were on hand for the dedication, which included speeches, musical performance, a blessing, dedication, flyovers by the Yankee Clippers and more.

Both men were prisoners of war at the hands of the Japanese for more than 3 and half years, enduring situations commonly described as some of the harshest crimes against humanity.

VA to Expand Benefits for Traumatic Brain Injury

Adds Five Illnesses Related to Service-Connected TBI

Some Veterans with traumatic brain injury (TBI) who are diagnosed with any of five other ailments will have an easier path to receive additional disability pay under new regulations developed by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The new regulation, which took effect in January, impacts some Veterans living with TBI who also

news, cont'd...

have Parkinson's disease, certain types of dementia, depression, unprovoked seizures or certain diseases of the hypothalamus and pituitary glands.

"We decide Veterans' disability claims based on the best science available," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "As scientific knowledge advances, VA will expand its programs to ensure Veterans receive the care and benefits they've earned and deserve."

This regulation stems from a report of the National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine (IOM) regarding the association between TBI and the five diagnosable illnesses. The IOM report, *Gulf War and Health, Volume 7: Long-Term Consequences of Traumatic Brain Injury*, found "sufficient evidence" to link moderate or severe levels of TBI with the five ailments.

The new regulations say that if certain Veterans with service-connected TBI also have one of the five illnesses, then the second illness will also be considered as service connected for the calculation of VA disability compensation.

Eligibility for expanded benefits will depend upon the severity of the TBI and the time between the injury causing the TBI and the onset of the second illness. However, Veterans can still file a claim to establish direct service-connection for these ailments even if they do not meet the time and severity standards in the new regulation.

Veterans who have questions or who wish to file new disability claims may use the eBenefits website, available at www.eBenefits.va.gov/ebenefits.

National World War II Memorial 10th Anniversary Commemoration

Saturday, May 24, 2014 ~ 10:00 AM ~ World War II Memorial, Washington, DC.

It is hard to believe that it has been nearly 10 years since thousands of World War II veterans gathered on the National Mall in Washington, DC for the dedication of the National World War II Memorial. Thanks to the support and commitment of many, the Memorial now stands as a lasting reminder of the nation's enduring gratitude to our "Greatest Generation" who - through sacrifice, valor, dedication, and determination - preserved our freedom, saved this nation, and literally saved the world.

Since its dedication in 2004, more than 40 million people have visited the Memorial. Unfortunately, we continue to lose our World War II veterans at a significant rate of 600 a day. Of the more than 16 million Americans who served during World War II, just over one million are still with us today.

This May, hundreds of World War II veterans will once again gather at the Memorial to celebrate its 10th anniversary in what will be, most likely, the last large gathering of our World War II veterans at their Memorial. The *National World War II Memorial 10th Anniversary Commemoration*, like the Memorial itself, will honor those who served and pay tribute to the spirit of unity and shared purpose, which defined the character of our country during the war years.

The 10th Anniversary Commemoration is open to the public; however, all attendees that

wish to reserve seating must register by no later than Friday, May 9th. Tickets will be sent to all registrants in advance of the event. **RSVP now at:** <http://www.wwiimemorialfriends.org/10th-anniversary-event>
Or send the following information: Full Name, Address, Phone Number, Email, Number Attending, Names of all Attending, Identify WWII veterans in your party and relationship, Will anyone in the Party be in a wheelchair or require special assistance?

TO:

Friends of the National World War II Memorial
921 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Suite 304
Washington, DC 20003

S.1950 fails

In late February, a divided Senate derailed Democratic legislation that would have provided \$21 billion for medical, education and job-training benefits for the nation's veterans. The Comprehensive Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Retirement Pay Restoration Act of 2014 (S.1950) bill fell victim to election-year disputes over spending and fresh penalties against Iran. Each party covets the allegiance of the country's 22 million veterans and their families, and each party blamed the other for turning the effort into a chess match aimed at forcing politically embarrassing votes. Republicans used a procedural move to block the bill after Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Bernie Sanders (I-VT) chided GOP lawmakers about their priorities. "I personally, I have to say this honestly, have a hard time understanding how anyone could vote for tax breaks for

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news, cont'd...

billionaires, for millionaires, for large corporations and then say we don't have the resources to protect our veterans," said Sanders, the measure's chief author.

Chairman Sanders has pledged to continue fighting for passage of the bill.

More than two dozen veterans groups, including American Ex-Prisoners of War, supported the legislation.

National Personnel Records Center News

There are now web pages on the National Archives website designed for Veterans Service Officers. The VSO pages are designed to assist you in assisting military veterans, retirees, and their Next of Kin. NPRC suggests VSO's read (or print and read) the general information section first.

While some of the information here may be obvious, this is to ensure that VSOs have the up-to-date and accurate information about NPRC and military records. The information topics requested (in the order of importance based on the survey results) can then be read. The goal was to have the information that VSO's needed in one location. The info provided is of a general nature because there are many different circumstances unique to each person's request, such as:

- Branch of service: (Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard)

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- Time of service: (WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf War, Cold War, Global War on Terrorism, Non-conflict times, etc.)

- Type of service: Active, Guard, Reserve

- Rank: Officer, Warrant Officer, Enlisted

- Record type needed: Personnel, Outpatient Medical, Inpatient Medical, etc.

The direct link for the VSO web page is: <http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/vso/index.html>. The VSO web page may also be found by clicking on the VSO web page link in the lower right corner of the Veterans Records page on the <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/> site.

NPRC sent notifications via email of the availability of the new links to approximately 1,400 VSOs. NPRC will be sending those on their mailing lists a link to a survey, so you can tell them if these pages are useful. For info NPRC has not yet figured out a way to create a VSO only phone line to NPRC that would not eventually be taken over by the general public (without creating individual accounts and issuing individual passwords). Also, NPRC is aware that the header on these pages reads "National Archives at St Louis", instead of "National Personnel Records Center", and that will be corrected in the future.

Mobil Counseling Centers *VA2Vets Tour 2014*

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is rolling out the VA2Vets Tour to make sure eligible Veterans get the benefits that are available to them. The nationwide tour includes 70 RV's that are set up as mobile vet centers. Over the

next year visit every county in Georgia as well as roam the nation to reach as many other counties as possible. The goal is to be accessible to Veterans who might otherwise not have access to a VA Center.

The tour is kicking off in Georgia. According to the VA, Georgia is home to 770,000 Veterans, thousands of whom aren't using, but may be eligible for, benefits through the VA. These include benefits like health care, help with buying a home, and money for a college education. "59% of Veterans know little to nothing about their benefits and these are life changing benefits," said Tommy Sowers, Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. "They change millions of Veterans lives, they changed my life," he said.

Vets can come to the mobile centers to get information, meet with counselors, and even sign up for benefits right there on the spot.

One of the first stops on the tour was at Georgia Tech University. PHD student Mock Abdelaal served in the U.S. Marine Corps. "I served in Iraq and I was there for the invasion," he said. Abdelaal stopped by the mobile vet center. He says he knew the VA was there for him and knew they offered various services, but wasn't aware of the extent. "I didn't realize that I had 5 years of guaranteed medical coverage, cost free...because I'm a combat vet. So I didn't realize that and I had gone to doctors and paid money," he said. He says if he's not aware of certain benefits, he can only imagine the benefits that older generations are missing out on. He thinks these mobile units will help. "I have high hopes that people can get covered and get taken care of".

UPDATE! Convention Tours

There are now two tours scheduled for Thursday, June 26.

· *George W. Bush Presidential Library and the Frontiers of Flight Museum*. The cost is \$40 and includes all entry tickets and dinner at the museum. The traveling exhibit, Victory from Within: The American POW Experience, from Andersonville National Historic Site will be on display at the Frontiers of Flight Museum. Transportation is provided and is limited to 50 passengers. For more information on the Victory from Within exhibit, see the March/April 2014 EX-POW BULLETIN, page 11.

· *Frontiers of Flight Museum* only. The cost is \$30 and includes entry tickets and dinner with a special ceremony honoring ex-POWs. The bus will leave the hotel at 3:15 pm, and join up with the group at the museum and is limited to 50 passengers.

Both buses will depart the museum at 6:45 pm, to return to the hotel.

If you have already registered for the convention and have not received a phone call from us, please contact us. We want to give everyone an opportunity to attend the added event.

See the convention registration page to make reservations.

Our Hotel: Hilton Arlington

2401 East Lamar Boulevard, Arlington, Texas 76006-7503
Tel: 1-817-640-3322,
Fax: 1-817-633-1430
Room Rate \$119
night/free airport
shuttle/free parking



Hilton Arlington is located 10 miles south of DFW Int'l Airport in the entertainment district of Arlington.

Attractions:

Area attractions include Cowboys Stadium, Ranger Ballpark in Arlington, Six Flags and the Arlington Convention Center. Situated in a suburban business area, the Hilton

Arlington is located within walking distance of many area restaurants.

AD Order Form

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

	Black & White	Color
Full Page	\$250	\$500
Half Page... .	\$175	\$300
Quarter Page...	\$125	
BusinessCard.	\$.50	

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State & Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Ad Size: _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Checks Payable to:

AXPOW

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

Short Agenda:

JUNE 25 WEDNESDAY

BOARD MEETING

JUNE 26 THURSDAY

OPENING CEREMONY

BUSH LIBRARY TOUR

JUNE 27 FRIDAY

MEDSEARCH/NSO PTSD SEMINAR

CONVENTION CALL TO ORDER

COMMANDER'S RECEPTION

JUNE 28 SATURDAY

CONTINUE BUSINESS MEETINGS

NEW BOARD MEETING

BANQUET

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American Ex-Prisoners of War
2014 National Convention
June 25 - June 28

Banquet, Saturday evening, June 28

Arlington Hilton
(817) 640-3322

2401 East Lamar • Arlington, Texas

Revised
form

Please read
carefully.

Name _____

Spouse (if attending) _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Branch of Service _____

POW Camps _____

Please list any special needs _____

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

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

REGISTRATION FEE (postmarked by June 15) - # of Persons _____ x \$130 = _____

LADIES' LUNCHEON - Number attending _____ x \$25 = _____

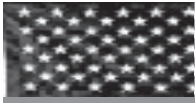
GEORGE W BUSH PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY and
FRONTIERS OF FLIGHT MUSEUM Tour (dinner included)
(limited to the first 50) Number attending _____ x \$40 = _____

FRONTIERS OF FLIGHT MUSEUM Tour (dinner included)
(limited to the first 50) Number attending _____ x \$30 = _____

Late registration - Registration mailed after June 10, add \$25.00 per registrant _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Send registration and payment, made payable to AXPOW, to
American Ex-Prisoners of War
3201 East Pioneer Parkway #40 • Arlington Texas 76010
(817) 649-2979



For National Commander Milton M. Moore



Skip was born in Ft. Clayton, Panama Canal Zone in Oct. 1947. His father, Milton M. Moore Sr. spent 27 years in the United States Army and was elected as the National Commander of AX-POW in 1989. Skip served as National Sgt at Arms for 6 years. He spent 22 years in the Army and had two tours of duty in Viet Nam, retiring as a SSG (E6) in August of 1989.

Skip's son is stationed at Ft. Hood, Texas, after serving two tours in Iraq.

"I am extremely proud of what my son is doing in the military. My family has had a relative in every war the United States has been involved with since the Civil War."

Currently, Skip serving as Sr. Vice Commander and chairman of the Budget committee for AXPOW.

Skip and his wife, Margie, live in Sierra Vista, Arizona.

For Sr. Vice Commander Edward DeMent

Ed served as FL Dept. Treasurer, JVC, SVC and Commander. He currently is National Director -



Southeast Region, and chairman of the Andersonville Committee, acting as AXPOW's liaison with the Andersonville National Historic Site. He also has spent 27 years as a VAVS representative at James Haley Hospital in Tampa.

Ed enlisted in the Air Force in 1942. He served with the 456th BG out of Italy. He was shot down over Yugoslavia and held in Luft 3 (center compound) and 7A.

Ed lives in Tampa, Florida.

For Jr. Vice Commander ~East Judy Lee



Judy has been an active member of AX-POW, the Department of Tennessee and her chapter for decades.

Members still remember the excellent National Convention put on in Knoxville in 1993; Judy and her late husband Charles were an important part of its success. After serving on National Com-

mittees -- most recently as Chairman of Credentials -- Judy was elected as National Director in 2007. She has been a member of the Strategic Planning Committee, working to ensure the future of the American Ex-Prisoners of War, as well as Credentials; she currently is a member of the Protocol Committee.

Judy lives in Madisonville, TN.

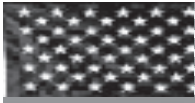
For Jr. Vice Commander ~Central Pam Warner Eslinger



I have been your Jr. Vice Commander for the Central Zone for the past 2 years and South Central National Director since 2008. My par-

ents are PNC Jack & June Warner. I have been coming to the National Conventions since I was 4 yrs. old, so this is like a second family for me, and I love this organization, and want it to carry on for as long as we can make it work, to keep your legacy going for the young people to learn about.

I am very proud to say 2 of my 3 children are member of this great organization, and are planning on coming with some of my grandchildren for their family vacations, and I would like to encourage others to talk to their family members to do the same, so they can meet NOK their age and see what a great organization this is. We need their help to carry on your organization. I have been working hard



Decision 2014 Candidates

as your Jr. Vice Commander for the Central Zone, and appreciate the trust and faith you have put in me to care for it and carry on your legacy.

Thank you for letting me be a part of this GREAT ORGANIZATION!!

For Jr. Vice Commander ~West Alice Golin

My name is Alice Gollin and I have spent 4 years as a Chapter Commander, and three years as



Department of California Commander, and also one term as a Southwest Director. I am currently serving as Jr. Vice Commander for the Western Zone. I am chairman of the Civilian Internee Committee -- fitting because the majority of this special group of POWs live in California. I have been working to make claims filing with the Dept. of Labor an easier process and feel we have made some good headway.

My husband, Mort, was a POW in Luft III and 7A during WWII.

*Bring Your Kids
and Grandkids
to Arlington!
June 25-28, 2014*

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For National Director ~ Northeast

Charles Anthony Susino



I served as AXPOW as National Director - Northeast beginning in 2013. I have participated in several committees

including Legislative, Washington DC POW memorial, VA outreach program, Washington DC special events, and medical research. I have supported my father, PNC Charles Susino, Jr. over the years with AXPOW activities at the local, state, and national levels in various capacities. I share many of the values and ambitions as our organization having grown up in a household headed by a proud patriotic Ex-POW. I look forward to continuing my contributions to the organization and its transition with a greater participation from the NOKs.

For National Director ~ East Central David Eberly

I seek your support to remain as a National Director, East Central Region of the AXPOW Organization following my recent appointment at the mid-year Board of Directors' meeting in 2013. While I may be new to the Organization, my experience, compassion, and sense of duty is rooted in my



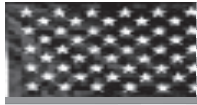
months as the senior allied prisoner of war in Saddam's prisons during Desert Storm—yet, I make no comparison to the trials of those held in Vietnam, Korea, or Germany. Today, our Organization must hold true to its tenets while striving to preserve the legacy for all those who lost their freedom on the battlefields, on the seas, or from air. Their courage and the service of their families who waited must never be forgotten by our National leaders or the American people.

For National Director ~ East Central Marty Klumpp



My name is Marty Galloway Klumpp and I wish to serve as your SE National Director. I have been a member of the organization

for the past 41 years. My parents are the late PNC Joe and Charlotte Galloway and my father-in-law was PNC John Klumpp. I am honored to say I learned everything I know about leadership and commitment from the work of those before us. I currently serve on the budget and finance committee and served on the Strategic Planning Committee, 2000-2003. My career and background is in non-profit management and professional fundraising. I have been successfully involved in multiple Capital Campaigns over the years, raising over \$30 million dollars, writing award winning grants, and successfully presented proposals to national foundations, corporations, and individuals. As the daughter of



PNC's, I look forward to again working with the organization to serve our Southeast Region and to work in Strategic Planning and budgeting to lead to a sustainable, meaningful legacy organization for all of our membership.

For National Director ~ Southeast Benny Rayborn



Benny Mark Rayborn is AXPOW's National Chaplain. He is the son of ex-POW Mark Rayborn. He has two brothers,

both veterans, and one daughter, all in Mississippi. He is married to Mitzi Heustis-Weatherholt. She has two daughters, one in Illinois and the other in Wisconsin. Benny works full time at Dismas Charities, which is a half way house for Federal prisoners in Hattiesburg, MS. He is preaching as an interim minister at Clear Creek Baptist Church in Marian County. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF). He has served two terms as the Grand Master for the State of Mississippi. He is now serving as the Grand Treasurer. Benny also holds offices in all the local organizations of which he is a member as well as the other branches of the order. He has served one term as National Director for the Southeast Region. He also serves as the Commander of the W Jack Cleery Memorial Chapter in Hattiesburg, MS. He and his bride, Mitzi live in Lumberton, MS.

For National Director ~ North Central

David Claypool

David D. Claypool is a NOK and is the son of Warren D. Claypool ETO. David was born in England while his father was a POW. He served 4 years in the US Army with 38 months in Germany. He served with the Army Security Agency in Communication Intelligence at Rothwesten, Germany for over a year and the rest of the time was spent as a Terrain Analyst. David was the quality control specialist for all NATO TOP SECRET Terrain Studies produced by the US Army Topographic Center Schwetzingen, Germany. David was discharged from the Army in September, 1969 as a Specialist Sixth Class (SP6). David retired as a Professional Land Surveyor on June 30, 2009. He and his friend Lisa Hanni have an extensive collection of antique surveying equipment and display it for educational purposes several times a year and also give professional seminars. David has been the Department Commander for the State of Minnesota over the past few years. David sits together with 8 other Federally Chartered Military Organizations on the Commanders Task Force for the State of Minnesota. David has been a North Central representative for the past two years on the National Board of the EXPOWs. He is also a member of the 379th Heavy Bomb Group Organization and the 8th Air Force Historical Society. He is dedicated to the



preservation of the legacy of the Prisoners of War.

For National Director ~ South Central Jan Williams

I would like to be your next National Director for the South Central Region. I have been a life



member since October 2006. I have attended most of the conventions since because I want to help keep the organization going. I am the proud granddaughter of PNC Jack & June Warner. My mom is Pam Eslinger who is now serving a Jr. Vice from the Central Zone.

I am a second grade teacher at Hammon Elementary School, in Hammon, Ok. I have two wonderful children Tim and Ta'ah. My husband, C.R. Williams, has been to several of the conventions, and I am sure there are several that know him. My oldest brother, Jim Johnson, is currently serving as Sgt. of Arms. I have another brother, Jay Johnson, who is also a member and attended several conventions. As you can see, my family is very active in this great organization.

I would like this great organization to continue its original purpose; for the member to come together to visit and to be used for healing. I would very much like to serve you as National Director-South Central Region.

Pawed Combat Patriots

by Alice A. Booher

Part of an occasional series

For centuries, animals have played pervasive, practical, patriotic roles in military combat operations, from battle to sentries to messengers. Many species have been involved, and we will eventually address some others of these and in several contexts. For now, our focus is on working (combat) dogs.

George Washington reportedly had some 50 dogs during his lifetime, and as was the custom of some soldiers, took one named **Sweetlips** with him to war. At the Battle of Germantown, Washington spotted a friendly dog, whose collar and tags showed it belonged to British General William Howe. According to the *Norton Bulletin* of July 4, 2010, Washington via his aide-de-camp Alexander Hamilton scheduled a brief (white flag) truce, slipped a note in the dog's collar, and returned him to a duly impressed and appreciative Howe.

The U.S. officially used dogs during the Seminole Wars. Pit bulls and other breeds were used for protection, sentries, sending messages and guarding POWs during the American Civil War.



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During World War I, the U.S. initially only worked with Alaskan sled dogs to pull carts and ammunition up mountains, but later expanded use to sentries, messengers, and as red cross/ambulance dogs who hauled medical supplies. Many historical references cite hero dogs like **Rags**, a mixed breed terrier, mascot of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division, adopted out of Montmartre section of Paris, who saved lives in the Meuse-Argonne campaign although he had been bombed, gassed and partially blinded; Rags returned CONUS with his seriously wounded handler after whose death Rags was adopted by the ubiquitous infantry family. A pit bull named **Stubby** was given the rank of Sgt during WWI when he discovered, captured and alerted Allies to the presence of a German spy.

In WWII, a German Shepherd-Collie-Siberian Husky mix named **Chips** was highly decorated (and a movie made about him by Disney in 1990). He served as a sentry dog with the 3rd Infantry in North Africa, Sicily, Italy, France and Germany and at the Roosevelt-Churchill Conference in 1943. His gallant exploits included (while being pinned down on the beach by Italian machine gun fire), jumping into pillboxes, attacking gunners and helping to take 10 Italian POWs.

The U.S. Marine Corps used 549 owner-donated dogs in the Pacific islands during which time the Doberman became the official USMC dog. A program called "Dogs for Defense", made up of breeders and trainers, was established and a large number of sentry dogs resulted, some 3,000 of whom worked for the U.S. Coast Guard and military dogs began to be identified as K-9's.

In World War II, a British pointer dog named **Shudi (Judy)** (born in Shanghai in 1930 and buried in Tanzania in 1950), served onboard Royal Navy's *HMS Gnat* and *HMS Grasshopper*. Judy was credited with helping to save lives following the *Grasshopper's* sinking, was captured by the Japanese, and made friends with many of her fellow POWs including Frank Williams. According to a book by Varley and James and many



anecdotal reports, Judy had more lives than most cats: she was sentenced to be killed by the guards, survived the jungles of Sumatra, returned to Britain with Williams where she was registered as a WWII POW and was awarded the Dickin Medal (and collar, now in the Imperial War Museum), considered to be an animal's Victoria Cross.

The Scout program for dogs had been so successful in the Pacific that when the U.S. deployed for the Korean Conflict, some 200 sentry dogs and a scout dog went along. After Korea, the Army dismantled the program to be taken over by the U.S. Air Force primarily as sentries for protecting air bases and missile sites.

According to Historian Harry Summers' *The Vietnam War Almanac*, all branches of the U.S. military made extensive use of dogs in Vietnam including scouting, tracking, sentry duty, flushing out tunnels and detecting. After being trained at Ft. Benning, they went primarily to Ben Hoa for further training, in-country acclimatizing and then worked countrywide. A recent feature by CNN reported about 5,000 dogs worked in Vietnam with 10,000 servicemen as handlers, and K-9 units said to have saved over 10,000 lives. Of these, 232 working dogs and 295 of their handlers were killed; about 200 dogs were then assigned to other non-CONUS military bases, but many were deplorably left behind as "military surplus" when the U.S. pulled out of Vietnam.

Since the 1970's, the USAF used 1,600 dogs worldwide and still uses them, in reduced numbers, in Afghanistan. A spokesperson from the 37th Training Wing at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in Texas, where most military working dogs (MWD)

pawed patriots, cont'd...



are trained, indicated that there are now about 2,500 MWD serving at home and abroad. Other sources refer to some Military Contract Dogs (MCD) operated by contractors. In 2000, President Clinton signed a bill allowing military dogs to be adopted; handlers get first choice and 90+% are adopted by former handlers. The Canine Member of the Armed Forces Act was passed as part of the National Defense Authorization Act which allowed for some other support. There are also civilian groups that assist in post-service adoptions, several CONUS memorials primarily at military bases, and a national memorial has been proposed to honor all American working dogs since WWII. (The British already have a national Animals in War Memorial in Hyde Park, London featuring two mules, a horse and dog.) Of the adoptions that go to nonhandlers, some go to other careers (e.g., The *NY Daily News* announced in February 2014 that a German Shepherd, Caesar, with 3 overseas U.S. Army tours was a valued recruit with the NYC police force).

MWD (and CWD) include a wide variety of canine breeds. However, some rather remarkable recent stories include Belgian Shepherd Dogs (Malinois or Chien de Berger-Belge). Malinois, like other Shepherds, are par-

ticularly well suited for detecting odors (e.g., from humans, explosives, accelerants, drugs), search and rescue or tracking. Trained by the Brits and Americans, these dogs are also used by Unit Oketz of Israeli's Defense Forces. One named **Posy** received the Israeli Medal of Distinguished Service for going into a 6-story collapsed building to locate two trapped Mossad agents; badly injured, she stayed with them until all were rescued.

The Dogington Post website says that there have been 578 Army dog teams in Iraq and Afghanistan and at least 4 MWD's have died since March 2011. Many facilities and units use dogs along with military police. Press stories refer to a military dog named **Brad** and his handler as being among 38 killed in August 2011 when a special ops helicopter went down over Afghanistan.

U.S. Navy SEALs and other Special Ops groups all train dogs, including Labrador Retrievers and Malinois, and the international press reported that one of the latter named **Cairo** was part of *OPERATION NEPTUNE SPEAR*, which located, captured and killed Osama bin Laden. The SEALs, a Pakistani-American translator and Cairo had flown in on two modified Black Hawks (one of which crashed outside the compound walls). Cairo's role was to help clear the building, sniff for bombs and booby-traps, search for false walls or hidden doors and keep the curious at bay. News reports indicated that Cairo had been trained to slide down ropes and jump 5,000 feet with protection of Canadian made K9 body armor with a load-bearing harness for tandem rappelling and parachuting. [Dogs also have Kevlar jackets and other protection and may well carry equipment.] When President Obama went to privately thank the Naval Special Warfare Development Group team, he asked to meet Cairo (the dog was the only named op member), then being held in another room by Secret Service; the SEALs commander suggested an introduction via Presidential treats.

Another Malinois in recent news is called "**Colonel**", (whether from his



given name or simply his rank is unclear; dogs are given ranks that make them senior to their handlers to ensure that humans treat them with deference; their rank patch is displayed on their body armor). Colonel was purportedly captured from coalition troops operating in eastern Afghanistan in December 2013. NATO and then the U.S. confirmed a dog went missing at that time without identifying the unit to which he had been assigned; it was later suggested that it was a British special ops unit. A video later surfaced of robed, bearded men displaying specialized M-4 assault rifles with scopes and a captured dog wearing a protective vest, a global positioning device with a light blinking and a camera. [A fascinating recent *Foreign Policy Journal* piece and other associated data on MWD suggest that the more elite of dog assault suits can cost upwards of \$86,000. The *Blogs Nosey Parker* has also noted that the MWD are often equipped with cameras and special doggie night goggles with infrared capability to allow a dog to see heat forms through concrete]. A front page article in *The Washington Post* on February 7, 2014 noted that a Taliban spokesman said the dog had been captured after a long firefight between coalition forces and the Taliban in the Alin Nigar district of Laghman province, Afghanistan. He noted that the dog had been outfitted with "sophisticated devices". The video showed chanting mujahedeen declaring victory in striking down coalition spies by capturing Colonel, now a POW probably held in Afghanistan or Pakistan, and whose ultimate fate has not since been confirmed.

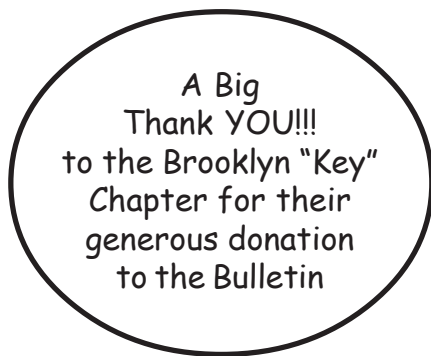
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contributions



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In memory of Bob
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In memory of Charles J
Schroer, by Members of the Mile
High Chapter
In memory of Charles J
Schroer, by Mrs. Louise Schroer,
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In memory of Ferrin W Eiland,
by John S Avant, DDS

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In memory of Ferrin W Eiland,
by Yvonne Eiland Veasey
In memory of Gloria Noble, by
Robert Noble
In memory of Herbert C Brown,
by Lieselotte LeBaron
In memory of Jean Edith
McCarthy, by Linda Gerbracht
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Dorman Jr, by Ruth E Dorman
In memory of Marie James, by
Marvin & Josephine Roslansky
In memory of Michael Gagich,
by Bill Jeffers

BULLETIN

Brooklyn 'Key' Chapter of New
York

MEDSEARCH

In memory of Leonard
Hornbeck, by the Columbia
River Chapter
In memory of Steve Swidarski,
by Lena Swidarski



**2014
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in Arlington, Texas
June 25-28
Bring the kids...bring the
grandkids...there is plenty to
do and plenty to see!**

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Russell Mann, Southold NY
In honor of Pittsburgh Area
Chapter, which we had to close
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Frank Kravetz
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by Beatrice Cullinane
In memory of Joseph Carson, by
Leonard Fattic

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An important way you can help
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It's very simple to make a be-
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"I give, devise and bequeath to the
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Please take a few minutes of your
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new members

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New Members "Welcome Home"

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Petersburg MI
Son of Steve Venglarcik, ETO

Patricia A Myers
Canton OH
Daughter of Charles E Myers, ETO

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Shelly A
Canton NY
Son of Donald Corbine, KOREA

John Steven Venglarcik
Whitehouse OH
Son of Steve Venglarcik, ETO

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Russell NY
Son of Donald Corbine, KOREA

Karen Zale
Newport VT
Daughter of John Zale, PAC



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**Prisoner of War
Certificate of Captivity**

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

American Ex-Prisoners of War
Arlington, Texas

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

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May/June 2014



taps



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

BURNS, Kenneth M., 89, of Tucson, AZ passed away Feb. 2, 2014. He served with the 8th AF, 429th BG, 728th BS during WWII; was shot down, captured and held in Stalag Luft 11B, 6 and 4. He leaves his loving wife of 68 years, Norma, 1 daughter, 1 son, grandson and great-grandson.

BURNS, Opal, 84, of Bowman, ND died Feb. 6, 2012. She as an active member of the North Dakota chapter, AXPOW. Opal was the widow of ex-POW Allen (capturd on Corregidor and POW at O'Donnel and Cabanatuan. Survivors include 1 son, 6 daughters and their families.

COSSIN, Carl, of Columbus, OH died March 25, 2014. He had served in the 10th Mountain Division in Italy in WWII and served in Co. A, 21st Inf. in Korea. He was a POW for three years and told that story in his book "Raw Guts". He is survived by two sons, 3 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren. He was a member of Ohio Chapter #1, AXPOW.

COWAN, Douglas, of San Antonio, TX passed away on February 19, 2014. Doug was a former member of the Agua Fria Chapter, Sun City, AZ. He served with the U.S. Army in the Battle of the Bulge and is survived by his wife, Theresia.

CRAWFORD, Frances Wright, 92, of Hampton, VA passed away Feb. 10, 2014. She was 92. On December 5, 1942 she married ex-POW M. H. (Jimmy) Crawford, now deceased. She was a member of the James Hale Chapter and a life member of AXPOW. She is survived by 1 son, 2 daughters, 1 sister, 4 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

CUCAROLA, Joe F., of Sterling, CO died March 8, 2014 at the age of 93.

During WWII, he served with the 106th Inf. Div, Co B, 422nd Reg. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and held in Stalags 4B, 8A and 12B. Joe was an active member of the North-east Colorado Chapter and life member of AXPOW. He leaves his wife of 60 years, Lillian, 2 sons and their families.

DENTON, Jeremiah, of Williamsburg, VA, former Alabama Senator, died March 28, 2014. He was 89. The retired Navy rear admiral survived nearly eight years in captivity in Vietnam, including time in the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" after his Navy A-6E Intruder jet was shot down on a bombing mission in 1965. Denton achieved widespread recognition during his imprisonment. In an internationally televised press conference in 1966 staged by the North Vietnamese for propaganda purposes, he answered the interviewer's questions while simultaneously blinking, in Morse code, the message "T-O-R-T-U-R-E." The message confirmed to the U.S. for the first time that U.S. POWs were being tortured in captivity. He is survived by his wife, Mary Belle Bordone, 5 sons, 2 daughters, a brother, 14 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren.

FEHLMAN, Alvin I., of Wauconda, IL died Jan. 22, 2014 at the age of 92. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge while serving with the 106th Inf., 423rd Reg. He was held in Stalag 4B. Alvin was a life member of AXPOW. He leaves 2 sons, 1 daughter, 5 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and 1 sister.

FORTE, Jack C., member of the Fox River Valley Chapter, AXPOW, passed away. He served with the 15th AF, 454th BG, 357th BS during WWII. He was captured and held in Luft 3, 13D and 7A until liberation. Survivors include his wife Ann and 5 children.

FREY, Helen C., 89, of Montgomery, Alabama died 17 February 2014. She was the widow of Frederick J. Frey, Stalag Luft III. They were both past Commanders of the AXPOW Montgomery Chapter. They leave behind four daughters and four grandchildren.

FURIGA, Frank, of Broadview Heights OH, died January 17, 2014. Frank served with the 547th BS, 384th BG and was held in Germany. Members of the Barbed Wire Buckeye Chapter, he is survived by his wife of 57 years, Teresa 'Terri'.

GAGICH, Michael, 88, of Butler, PA passed away January 23, 2014. During WWII, Michael served with the 401st Bomb Group flying out of Deenethorpe, England. Following a ditching in the North Sea while returning from a mission over Germany on February 16, 1945, the entire crew spent over 12 hours in a single 5-man raft. They drifted within shouting distance of a German shore defense installation in Holland where the entire crew became POWs. They were all within an hour or two of death from hypothermia. He is survived by one daughter, two grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

GOSS, Delayne, of Colorado Spring, CO died March 4, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Arthur (ex-POW in Germany), 3 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great-grandchild and 1 sister.

GRACE, Nancy, member of the Springfield, IL Chapter, AXPOW, died Dec. 24, 2013. She was the widow of Bill (ex-POW, Chapter Commander/State Dept. Commander). She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

GULLORY, Alva, 94, of Evergreen, LA died Feb. 16, 2010. He served in the 142nd Inf. Div. and was captured in Southern France and held in Stalag

taps cont'd...

3C in Germany. Alva leaves his wife, 3 children, 7 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

HEFFRON, Charles Buckner "Chuck", 95, of Athens, TN died March 23, 2014. During WWII he served in the U.S. Army; as a member of the 1st Aircraft Warning Company, his company brought the first RADAR to the Philippine Islands. When the Philippines were surrendered to the Japanese May 6, 1942, he was sent to prison camps Cabanatuan and Bilibid in the Philippines, and then on "Hell Ship" (the Nissova Maru) to the POW camp Fukuoka No. 3, Kyushu, Japan, where he was forced to do hard labor in the Yawata steel mills. He was a POW for three and one half years. He served as Chapter Commander of the American Ex Prisoners' of War, and as Tennessee State Commander. He was a National Service officer with AXPOW. He is survived by his wife, Frances, 2 sons, 7 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren; one sister, and 1 brother.

HIZENSKI, Jessi S "Hi", of Frederick, MD, died in Feb, 2012. He served with the 15th AF, 49th BS, 2nd BGH and was held in Luft 1. He is survived by his wife, Ella Mae.

HUNTER, David, 89, of Johnstown, PA passed away Nov. 28, 2013. During WWII, he served with the 106th Inf., Co D. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and held in Bad Orb until liberation. He leaves his loving wife of 65 years, Leona, 4 sons, 1 daughter, 11 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, 3 sisters, 2 brothers and a large and loving extended family.

HUREAUX, Carol M., of Alaska died July 9, 2012. She was 85 and the wife of ex-POW William for 66 years. Bill served in the 35th Inf. Div., 320th Reg., Co K; held in Stalags XIII, IIIA, KDO 499E, XIA. Carol was a member of the Alaska Chapter, AXPOW. In addition to her husband, she leaves 2 children, 6 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

JOHNSON, Robert G., of Marble Falls, TX died March 8, 2014. During WWII, he fought in the North Africa-Italy Campaign; he was a POW in Stalag 3B, 2B, 3A, 7A for 19 months. Robert was a life member of AXPOW. Survivors include his wife, Nelda, 6 sons, 4 daughters, 17 grandchildren and 221 great-grandchildren, numerous family relatives and dear friends.

KENNEDY, Blanche, 89, of Benedict, MN died Feb. 23, 2014. She as a member of MN Lakes Region Chapter, AXPOW, serving as Adjutant-Treasurer and later as Sr. Vice Commander. Blanche was the widow of Charles (POW in Germany). She leaves 6 children, 22 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren, 1 brother and their families.

KREBS, William Guy Jr., of Pascagoula, MS passed away Feb. 16, 2014. He was 93. Guy was a life member of AXPOW, member of the Magnolia Chapter and Dept. Commander (MS). He was captured while serving in the USA in the Battle of the Bulge in the Ardennes Forest. His loving wife, Mimi, 4 sons, 1 daughter, 4 step-children, 30 grandchildren, 33 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren survive him.

LAWRENCE, Arthur, of Wallingford, CT died Aug. 9, 2013 at the age of 88. He was captured in Italy at the Anzio beachhead during WWII while serving with the 7th Inf. Reg., 3rd Div. Arthur was a life member of the Connecticut Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his loving wife, Pauline, 3 brothers, and many nieces, nephews and extended family.

MARSH, Richard, 80, of Columbus, OH, died Feb. 23, 2014. He served in the First Cavalry Division in the Korean conflict and was a POW for three years. He was a member of Ohio Chapter One, AXPOW. He is survived by his wife Martha, 2 children, 2 stepchildren and 3 grandchildren.

MEHLHAFF, Walter, 91, of Hot Springs, SD passed away May 6, 2013. He served in the 1st Inf. Div. from North Africa, Sicily, Omaha Beach through France, Belgium and was captured near Stolberg, Germany. Survivors include his wife, Delma, 2

sons, 2 daughters, 5 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

NORTH, Carol Oglee, of Wellfleet, MA and Largo, FL passed away Feb. 18, 2014. She was the beloved wife of Brig. Gen. Kenneth W. North, who preceded her in death in 2010. In 1966, Ken was deployed to Vietnam, was shot down and held until 1973. During the latter part of the Vietnam conflict, Carol worked with the Nixon administration as the Head of the National League of Families in Washington, D.C., to work toward the goal of bringing the POWs back home to America. She is survived by 4 daughters and their families, as well as her loving grandchildren and great-grandson. She also leaves 2 sisters, as well as many other family members and friends.

OHLAUSEN, Jacob, of Elmhurst, IL died March 1, 2014. He and his wife were member of the Fox River Chapter, AXPOW. Jack served in the Army, 36th Div., 141st Inf. He was captured and held in 5B and 7A. His wife, Corrine, survives him.

OLIPHANT, Ruth Bartlett, of Dallas, TX (formerly of Colorado) died March 6, 2014. Her husband, John, predeceased her. Ruth is survived by 1 son, 1 stepson, 4 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

RANNENBERG, Karl S., of Janesville, WI passed away Sept. 29, 2013. He was commander of the Southern WI Chapter, AXPOW. Karl was captured while serving with the 168th Combat Engineer Bn during the Battle of the Bulge. He leaves his loving wife of 50 years, Darlene, 3 sons, 2 stepsons, 1 stepdaughter, 7 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren and their families.

ROTELLA, Louis J., 91, of Paterson, NJ died Dec. 25, 2013. He was a WWII veteran of the 8th AF, 388th BG, 561st BS. After being shot down and captured, he was marched from

taps cont'd...

Nurenberg to Stalag 7A. His wife of 62 years, Raffaella, predeceased him; he leaves 2 children and 4 grandchildren who miss him very much.

SACSON, Gunnar, of the Fox River Valley Chapter (IL) passed away Jan. 25, 2014. He was 95 and a survivor of the Bataan Death March while serving with the 200th Coast Artillery. Gunnar was held in O'Donnell, Cabanatuan and the Yokahama Brickyard, Nigata. Gunnar's wife Thelma predeceased him; he leaves one daughter and her family.

SAYLOR, Homer Brooks of Seven Hills, OH, passed away Feb. 1, 2014, at the age of 96. He was a veteran and prisoner of war during WWII, serving with the 36th Div, 134th Reg., USA. He was a POW at Stalag 2B until his liberation in May 1945. He is survived by one son and daughter-in-law, 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandsons.

SHENKER, Max, of Sunrise, FL died Jan. 29, 2014. He was 94. During WWII, he was captured while serving with Co G, 41st Armored Inf. Reg. and

held in Stalag 11A. Max leaves his wife of 72 years, Ida, 3 sons, 7 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

SHOWS, Janelle Napier, 86, of Moselle, MS passed away Nov. 1, 2013. She was the widow of ex-POW Clifford; both were members of AXPOW and the Mississippi Chapter. Janelle is survived by 2 sons, 2 daughters, 1 brother, 1 sister, 12 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great-grandchildren.

SIMPSON, Annette, beloved daughter of ex-POW Russell (deceased) and Isabelle died Nov. 26, 2013. Russell was a POW held in Caps 66 and 59. All were members of the Mid-Iowa Chapter, AXPOW.

SNIDER, Norman Earl, of Peoria, AZ, passed away on Feb. 4, 2014. Norman was a member of the Agua Fria Chapter, Sun City, AZ. In 1950 he joined the Air Force Reserves and was called to active duty in Korea. He was a gunner in a B-26 and was shot down and captured in North Korea in March, 1951 and held until the armistice, August, 1953. Norm is survived by his wife, Kathleen, a

daughter, a son, 6 grandchildren and 2 step-grandchildren.

SONGER, Harold "Sparky", of Danville, IL died Jan. 12, 2014. He served in the Army during WWII, fought in the Battle of the Bulge as part of the 106th Inf. Div He was captured and held in 4A and 4B until liberated. Sparky was the former commander of the Illiana Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves 1 son, 1 daughter, 6 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, 1 sister and his loving cat Hemingway.

TSUYOSHI, "Nick" Nishimoto, 85, of Honolulu, retired Army staff sergeant and 35th Infantry member who served in the Korean (POW in Camp 5) and Vietnam wars, died in Honolulu. He was born in Hilo. He is survived by 3 daughters, 1 brother, 11 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

UNGER, Alice F., 90, of Lafayette, CA passed away Feb. 13, 2014. She as the beloved wife of ex-POW John (captured on Wake Island and held 44 months). In addition to her husband, she leaves 2 sons, 3 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

chaplain



ND Benny Rayborn

HELLO!

I am sure almost every one has received a sweepstakes promotion in the mail at some point in their lives (For some of us, many times). I recently received a letter that stated in very large type, "You have definitely won \$25,000".

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Not having been born yesterday I read the material carefully. Finally on page 4 I learned, "You have definitely won \$25,000 if your name is drawn from all entries..." A really different story from the headline of page one.

There are some people you cannot trust. You need to read the "fine print" to see the true story. The company that sent me the mailing intended to earn money when/if I ordered their products.

When the chips are down, when no one else is trustable, when there is no one to talk to, there is one you can rely upon. There is God.

Our Ex-Prisoners-of-war learned that the hard way. I have heard several stories of our loved ones finding God in the prison camp and never losing Him.

A bold statement but within 2 Peter 3:9 we find that God is "...not willing that any should perish,". These words hold a number of promises for us including, God is not against you. Rather, He is "for you" and He wishes you good not evil. It is no wonder that many people in times of war turn to the Lord God for protection. In these days of "peace" can we do any less?

My prayer for you is, May God bless you and keep you safe. Amen.

Benny





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

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Spouse:

Email:

Conflict and Theater of Operation:

Branch of Service:

Unit:

Where were you captured?

Date captured:

POW camps you were held in:

How long were you a POW?

Date liberated:

Medals received:

Job in the military:

After military service:

Your biography listing may include 1 or 2 photographs (color or black and white) and a 1000 word or less narrative. Please type or print your narrative. Photos and narratives may be emailed to hq@axpow.org please reference "Biography" and your name.

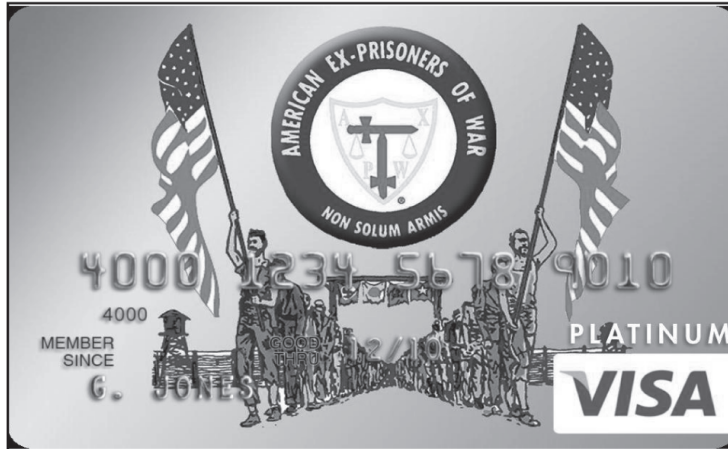
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Ex-POW Bulletin
May/June 2014

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

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

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

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50/50 drawing

November 2013 Arlington, TX

1st Place	Adene Miles, MS	\$241.40
2nd Place	Skip Moore	\$181.05
	<i>donated back to organization</i>	
3rd Place	Velma Wilson	\$120.70
4th Place	Alice Gollin	\$ 60.35

These drawings help raise money needed for our operating expenses. They allow our members to participate in a very worthwhile project, while giving them a chance to win. 50% of the donations will be given to the General Fund and the other 50% are awarded as prizes. The amounts are determined after all donations are received. You do not have to be present to win. Please make copies of the tickets on the other side and offer them to your Chapter members, family and friends. We are asking \$5.00 for 6 tickets. These donations are not tax deductible. Fill out the tickets and send them and your donations to:

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

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Camp Lucky Strike 1945 active
since 1946

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

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

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

Ex-POW Bulletin
May/June 2014

<p style="text-align: center;">American Ex-Prisoners of War 50/50 Drawing</p> <p>PLEASE PRINT Name: _____ Telephone: () _____ Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____</p> <p>Here is my donation of \$5.00 for 6 chances to win the drawing. Prize amounts are determined by the total amount donated. Mail your donation American Ex-Prisoners of War and entry to: 50/50 Drawing 3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40 Arlington, TX 76010-5396</p> <p>You do not have to be present to win. Your donation is not tax deductible. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. Donation not required to enter. Thank you for your support. (6/14)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">American Ex-Prisoners of War 50/50 Drawing</p> <p>PLEASE PRINT Name: _____ Telephone: () _____ Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____</p> <p>Here is my donation of \$5.00 for 6 chances to win the drawing. Prize amounts are determined by the total amount donated. Mail your donation American Ex-Prisoners of War and entry to: 50/50 Drawing 3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40 Arlington, TX 76010-5396</p> <p>You do not have to be present to win. Your donation is not tax deductible. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. Donation not required to enter. Thank you for your support. (6/14)</p>
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AXPOW Gravesite Medallion



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

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

\$75.00

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

AXPOW Vest Order Form

(For members only)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Size (Men/coat, Women/chest measurement)

Long, Regular or Short _____

Name on front of vest

Chapter Name (back of vest)

Price: \$55.00, includes S/H

Please allow 8-10 weeks for delivery.

AXPOW Challenge Coin



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

\$10.00ea

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

Name Badge Order Form

(for members only)

Actual size of badge is size of a credit card



PLEASE PRINT:

Name _____

Line 1 _____

Line 2 _____

Name Badge with name & chapter and city: **\$6.00**(includes S/H)

Ship to: _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

We accept Master Card/Visa

12x18 AXPOW Graveside Flag	10.00
3x5 ft. AXPOW Flag w/3-color logo with grommets, outdoor use	60.00
3x5ft. blackPOW/MIA flag, outdoor use	25.00
Aluminum License Plate	5.00
3" Vinyl Decal	1.00
3" Inside Decal	1.00
8" Vinyl Decal	6.00
12" Vinyl Decal	10.00
Bumper Sticker "Freedom - Ask us"	2.00
AXPOW Prayer Book	2.00
Ladies Prayer Book	1.00
AXPOW By-Laws	5.00
POW DVD - ETO or Pacific	11.00
"Speak Out" Education Packet	6.00
CLOTHSTRIPES (specify which title)	3.00
Life Member · Chapter Commander · Chaplain · Historian · Past Chapter Commander · Chapter Adj/Treas	
Chapter Adjutant · Chapter Treasurer · Dep't Commander	
Past Dept. Commander · Dep't Adjutant	
Dep't Treasurer · Sr. Vice Commander	
Jr. Vice Commander · Service Officer · Legislative Officer · Past Chapter Officer · Past Department Officer	

QUANTITY	ITEM	SIZE / COLOR	PRICE

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

Shipping/Handling/Insurance:

Total: \$

For credit card orders: Card # _____ Expiration: _____

(Check one) Master Card _____ Visa _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

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



INSTRUCTIONS FOR CASTING YOUR BALLOT

This year is the first time AXPOW is implementing a mail-in ballot. All members who are current on their dues are eligible to vote. Please follow these instructions.

You must use the original ballot on the next page to vote. Photocopies will be destroyed and the vote will not be counted.

The names on the back of the ballot (the mailing label) are the members eligible to vote. The first name listed is Voter 1 and the second name listed is Voter 2 (where applicable).

Place an X in the box next to the candidates name for whom you are voting.

Write-in candidates are not allowed and there will be no nominations made from the convention floor.

Sign the ballot, place in an envelope and send it to:

AXPOW BALLOT
3201 E PIONEER PKWY #40
ARLINGTON TX 76010

Ballots must be received at National Headquarters by June 20, 2014 to be counted.

Only current AXPOW members are eligible to vote.

If you have any questions, please contact National Headquarters at 817-649-2979 or hq@axpow.org.

Ex-POW Bulletin
May/June 2014

American Ex-Prisoners of War
2014 Election
National Ballot



	voter #1	voter #2	
National Commander	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	MOORE, MILTON M. (AZ)
National Senior Vice Commander	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	DEMENT, EDWARD (FL)
National Junior Vice Commander			
Eastern Zone	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	LEE, JUDY (TN)
Central Zone	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	ESLINGER, PAM (OK)
Western Zone	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	GOLLIN, ALICE (CA)
National Director			
Northeast Region	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	SUSINO, CHARLES ANTHONY (NJ)
East Central Region	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	EBERLY, DAVID (VA)
Southeast Region (VOTE FOR 2)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	RAYBORN, BENNY (MS)
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	KLUMPP, MARTY (GA)
North Central Region	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	CLAYPOOL, DAVID (MN)
Mid-Central Region			NO CANDIDATE
South Central Region	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	WILLIAMS, JAN (OK)
Northwest Region			NO CANDIDATE
Southwest Region			NO CANDIDATE

SIGNATURE(S) OF
VOTER(S) _____ / _____



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

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



Challenge Coins!

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

AXPOW Logo on front/Five services on reverse

\$10.00ea

change of address form

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

Please print:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone () _____ Email _____

Please allow 4 weeks to make address corrections.

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