

# EX-POW BULLETIN

the official voice of the  
**American Ex-Prisoners of War**

Volume 67

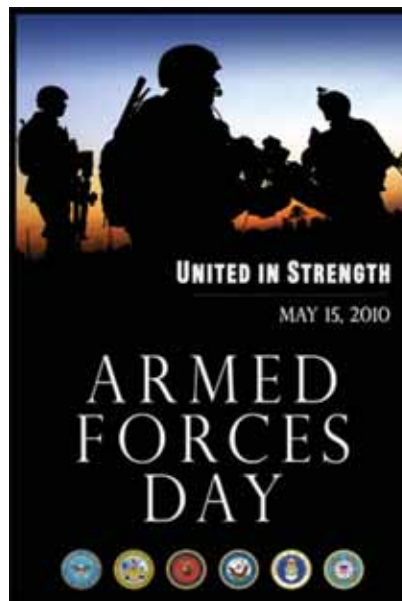
[www.axpow.org](http://www.axpow.org)

Number 5/6

May/June 2010



*We exist to help those who cannot help themselves*



*Armed Forces Day  
Poster 2010*



top, L/R clockwise: The Agua Fria Chapter Commander Anita Pitts with National Directors Skip Moore and Lew Sleeper; The Fox River Chapter Holiday Party. 36th Division alumni/members Ken Blue, Cmdr. Bill Howland, Jack Olhausen and Jerry Andersen; NC Kenny Hanson testifying in Washington, DC; Steel Valley Chapter members and their POW/MIA cake, donated by their local mailman, taken at their annual picnic; Monument erected by the Rocky Mt. Chapter in honor of all ex-POWs.



The Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War met in Washington, DC in April. The Committee was established by Congress on March 12, 1981, as part of Public Law 97-37, the Former Prisoners of War Benefits Act of 1981 (38 U.S.C. §541 ). The Committee advises the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the administration of benefits for veterans who were held as prisoners of war. These benefits can include compensation for service connected disabilities or illnesses, health care, and rehabilitation.

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**Armed Forces Day ~ May 15 2010**

On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force Days. The single-day celebration stemmed from the unification of the Armed Forces under one department — the Department of Defense.

Also in May: The Fall of Corregidor, VE Day, Memorial Day, US broke the code at Midway, American Red Cross Founded, Liberation of Burma, Mother’s Day and loads of PNC Birthdays.

In June: The US Army was founded, North Korea invaded South Korea, Japanese retreat in the Battle of Midway, Flag Day, Father’s Day and the beginning of summer.

Odds & Ends...

It’s hard to believe it’s almost summer. In just over three months, we’ll be at National Convention in Albany, Georgia. For those of you who haven’t made your reservations yet, please look at the convention information pages in this Bulletin and get your reservations and registration papers in.

National Headquarters will be sending out credential packets to all chapters and state departments in June. If you have any questions, or don’t receive a packet, please contact us. The delegate forms will be printed in the July/August Bulletin, along with the election information and resolutions.

Summer is State Convention time. If you can, please take the time to attend not only your own State Convention, but neighboring conventions as well. It is the place where we can really take the time to get better acquainted as well as have the opportunity to meet many friends that we don’t get to see throughout the year. So make every effort to attend any convention you possibly can. Listen, laugh, learn, have fun, enjoy the meals, and most of all, enjoy visiting with old and new friends alike.

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*Deadline for the July/August 2010 issue is June 1, 2010.*

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

**Here’s a great idea: Grab your grandkids and have them bring you to the most wonderful convention!**

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**National Commander  
Kenny H Hanson**

Well, my year as your Commander is more than half over. What a ball it's been! Our membership is an awesome membership and it is a pure pleasure to serve you. It's like I told one person who wrote to ask me about the organization, "our membership is the sole support of our membership".

It was my distinct honor to represent the organization in Washington, DC on March 4<sup>th</sup> when I testified before the Joint House/Senate Veterans Affairs Committees. I testified on behalf of Civilian POWs. It is only right that the civilian POWs who served at our side as POWs should receive some of the same benefits that the military POWs

have. I received many congratulatory messages because of the testimony and I thank each and every one of you who wrote to me about it.

Your response to my letter earlier this spring requesting donations was extremely well received and extremely well responded to by the fine membership of the organization. Thank you for your generosity, enabling us to live up to our slogan: We Exist to Help Those who Cannot Help Themselves.

We held our MidYear Board of Directors meeting in Arlington, Texas again this year. I feel that the meeting was very productive. We can now concentrate on programs to benefit the organization, rather than spend most of our time defending it.

If everything goes well, we should have an IRS classification of 501[c]3 next year by this time. With that classification, all of the money that our generous members contribute as well as outside donations from companies favorable to veterans will be tax-deductible.

Til next time.

*Kenny*

# news from hq



***The Convention is coming!  
The Convention is coming!***

Sorry for the Paul Revere allusion, but it's April as I'm writing my column. If you haven't already made your hotel reservations, make them now. The hotel is starting to fill up. We've got so much planned for this convention. There will be plenty to do for everyone! The Ladies' Luncheon promises to be a big WOW...Opening ceremonies are at Andersonville...We're starting to put together this year's convention booklet and need your ads! You'll find the advertising form in the convention information elsewhere in this magazine.

The Spring direct mail program has gone out with your personalized address labels. We hope you can be as generous as possible with your donations.

Enjoy the rest of Spring!  
Clydie, Marsha, Sally & Donna

## POW Statistics

	Original numbers surviving Captivity	Alive as of Jan. 1, 2009	Alive as of Jan. 1, 2010
WWI	3,973	0	0
WWII	116,129	17,418	15,034
Korea	4,418	1,600	1,472
Vietnam	661	530 (est.)	510 (est.)
Post VN	33	24 (est.)	23 (est.)
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>125,214</b>	<b>19,572</b>	<b>17,039</b>

NOTE: 1. Original numbers taken from official military records  
2. WWII estimates based on 14% mortality rate for age 87.

**COMMENTS:**

VA is currently giving high priority to POWs and their families. The Congressionally-mandated VA POW Advisory Committee is providing continuous oversight to assure full compliance in each VARO as well as the national programs. As data indicates that specific medical conditions are highly likely to be a consequence of the captive experience, those are considered for presumptive status and they no longer require evidence in each POW's records.

~Charles A. Stenger, Ph.D.

**Ex-POW Bulletin  
May/June 2010**

# VA Outreach

## S\*O\*O\*N

### Before it's too late



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#### Reaching out for Good Helping As We Can

Good News Again: Call comes from Pam in Georgia. "I just got a letter from the VA in Philadelphia telling me I got my widow's benefit, or DIC. I'm grateful, but I don't think it's right. They made it effective September 1, 2009, and from what I read, if I got my claim to the VA before Sept. 23, 2009, the effective date would be retroactive to Oct. 1, 2008. They received my claim in August 2009. What do you think?" I told her I thought the effective date should be Oct. 1, 2008. I called Bill Kraus in Philadelphia VA and he says, "Somebody made a mistake. I will take care of it right away." Two days later, Pam checks her bank account. The VA has just corrected her claim amount, and an extra \$13,000+ has just been deposited to her bank account. Bill Kraus makes things right. The VA is inundated with claims, and mistakes are bound to happen, a very small percentage of completed claims. Pam is a happy lady in Georgia!

From Margaret in Washington state: "Thank you SO much for your letter to Dear Abby regarding benefits to widows of veterans who have died of ALS. I filed a claim on behalf of my mother. My dad served in the US

Navy and died of ALS in 1992. At your suggestion, I contacted Rudy Collins, AXPOW NSO in Leavenworth, WA and immediately felt like I had someone on my side. Rudy helped me every step of the way, and today called me with the fabulous news that my mom's claim has been officially accepted and she will start receiving benefits within the next few weeks. Additionally, she may also be eligible for a few months back benefits, based on the date of filing. I have written a thank you note to Rudy and also wish to thank you for your time and efforts to assist people. You have made an enormous difference in my mom's life, for the rest of her life, and I cannot thank you enough. Last June, she made a difficult move from her home to a senior housing apartment which she dearly loves. However, it is more money than her social security and she has been spending her savings and holding her breath until her home sells. Now she will be able to stay in her apartment and sleep at night, knowing she can stay where she is. On her behalf, thank you. She has lived frugally, saving every penny. This compensation will ensure she can live comfortably." And a big THANK YOU to Rudy Collins, serving with dedication to those who need help.

And from Jeff in Oregon: "Fred, I filled out and sent in the Unemployability forms for my dad and the VA came back and increased everything so now he is getting about \$3,200 a month and mom gets a pile of benefits...so thanks for all your help. Dad should have done this a long time ago." Yes, Jeff, your dad should have done it long ago, but he is like so many of us old former POWs, who are not aware of, or past thinking about, the special VA benefits available to us.

A day that keeps being an NSO interesting...

Email from Herb, former POW living overseas. "The VA has raised my PTSD rating from 30% to 50%, Lumbosacral 0% to 10% and left shoulder bursitis 0% to 10%. I thought 50+10+10=70%, but they only gave me 60%, \$1,174 a month. How do

they figure this? I email back, how they take 50% of 100%, which leaves 50%, then they take 10% of that remaining 50% or 5%, which leaves remainder of 45% of which they take 10%, or 4.5% more and round from 59.5% to 60%. Then I tell Herb he is eligible as a former POW to apply for 100% due to Unemployability, and to pull VA Form 21-8940 up on the Internet, and call me so I can make sure he completes it properly. Next day, Herb calls me with VA form 21-8940 before him. It's 10AM tomorrow in Chiang Mai, Thailand, 9PM today here in San Angelo, TX and I find myself almost yelling because it is 10,000 miles between us. Herb completes the form and gets it off to Pittsburgh VARO which handles Southeast Asia VA claims. Another outreach for a POW!

An email from Betty in Artesia, New Mexico: father-in-law diagnosed four years ago with ALS, with condition deteriorating. Help! I refer them to Paralyzed Veterans of America office in Albuquerque VAO to apply for 100% disability.

Call from ALS widow in Minnesota: where to start? Refer to PVA office in St. Paul, MN.

Darrell in Texarkana, TX, non-POW, needs help with claim interpretation. Refer to Ginger Raney, Waco VA super-GURU.

Email from Ann, in Iowa: denied widow's ALS benefit from VA, due to husband's not serving in combat time. That is an incorrect ruling, as combat is not necessary to be eligible. Refer her to PVA in Des Moines VA; in a few days she had DIC.

THERE IS NO TELLING WHAT AN NSO DAY WILL BRING.

Frannie writes: "Hi Fred, I want to thank you for my compensation from the VA. A friend told me about the Dear Abby article, and I got in touch with the VA last August. In January I received a sizable first check, retroactive. Ron died of ALS in June 1999. And my son Bob in Colorado, while going to therapy for her shoulder, told the therapist who told him her father also died of ALS, so he told



## outreach cont'd...

her how to apply for her mother. After three months, her mother got her first VA check. I want to thank you again for alerting the public about this."

"WORD OF MOUTH" is so important. Pass it on.

It's June in February, in Hereford, TX, where NSO Betty Harlan has helped her get her VA compensation: "Dear Fred, I wanted to let you know the VA deposited into my account the amount of \$18,333 this week. The monthly amount to be deposited the 1<sup>st</sup>. I am just amazed! I would never have known about the widow's VA benefit if not for your info in Dear Abby. Thank you so much for caring. And thanks also to Betty Harlan of Sudan, TX for her outstanding help. Sincerely, June". A happy note. Each one differs, depending on many time factors.

With so much activity with ALS claims over the past many months, I had not checked old pending files. Here's one: Letter dated April 6, 2009, to Bill in Nashville, TN with no response. Bill is a former POW, cap-

tured in the Battle of the Bulge in the last, very cold winter of WWII in Germany, and spent time in a cold POW camp near the Baltic Sea. In our home interview I received Bill had possibilities for 100% disability compensation rating. He'd had two angioplasties, and a heart attack in years past, plus PTSD with many anxiety issues, frostbite residuals from forced marches and work in snow, ice and zero degree weather, plus stomach problems and peripheral neuropathy. But no response. On March 5, 2010, I called Bill who said he had heard nothing from the VA, and that his daughter had taken care of his claim; said she had sent papers to someone, but didn't remember who. In my claim letter I also instruct them to return the papers to me so I can send them to the POW coordinator in that state's VARO; she did not do that, and had no idea where she sent them. On March 9, I check with POW coordinator Bill Comp in the Nashville VARO to see if they have claim pending for Bill. They do not. But Bill Comp takes over, saying we have a special claim group here making sure the former POWs are taken care of promptly. He said I will follow up on this POW and will let you know the result. The VA has many POW coordinators over the country, making a special effort for us old POWs. And we have a fine

AXPOW NSO in Tennessee, Charles Heffron of Athens, still doing claims at the young age of 92, and highly regarded by the Nashville VA. We have good POW claim care in Tennessee, thanks to Bill Comp and Charles Heffron.

And lastly, more good news for a widow: Our NSO Betty Grinstead in Iowa writes, "Jean's first husband passed away in 1984 from ALS. She didn't file for any benefits, didn't know she might have any coming. Later she remarried, and then husband #2 passed away. Now ALS is a presumptive. We applied for DIC to death of husband #1. She received her DIC but she was denied her ChampVA. We called Denver and talked to several people, and finally to a Great Lady. Jean's first husband had TriCare. The rule is you can't have ChampVA if you have TriCare. But Great Lady went to those above her and she called me 1 ½ weeks later stating that Jean's ChampVA card would be mailed the next day. No doubt the VA still showed Jean had TriCare, but she had lost it when she remarried. Jean did not have TriCare any longer, so she got her ChampVA. NOTE: Betty Grinstead is our hard-working NSO in Iowa, a persistent Great Lady herself!

## nsos



**Ruth Powell, Director - NSO**  
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As the new NSO Director, I would like to introduce myself to all of our most valued NSOs who are working hard to get benefits to our most deserving clients and their families. I would like to start off my tenure by visiting most of you at the

Albany, GA convention. I am aware that many of you will not be able to make it to the convention, so feel free to call or write me at your convenience. My goal is to bring the NSOs together - knowing your names, where you are located, and most important getting some positive feedback on where I can be of help to you all. I may not be able to answer all of your questions right away, but I will try my best to get you a satisfactory response as quickly as I can. Also, I will keep you up to date with any changes.

I want to recognize the hard work all NSOs are doing, and bring us together as a family. As an NSO, I myself can appreciate the tremendous effort it takes to do the gratifying job you all do. I am open to your suggestions, and I am

willing to help supply you with the help you need to get the job done efficiently. We are under the same umbrella of the most wonderful organization in the country. Knowing that we can close the day with an accomplishment is a goal we all strive for. I will close by thanking each one of you and hope to meet you all. Don't hesitate to introduce yourself to me by phone, mail or in person at the convention. For any questions or suggestions, I can be reached at 781-687-2821.

Thank you all for your cooperation.

*Ruth*

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## American POWs in Korea

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### Part IV

#### Camp 5

Location 40 37 35 N 125 25 49 E

Camp 5 was in the town of Pyoktong on the end of a peninsula in a backwater area of the Yalu river. Pyoktong was a former Japanese resort town of four to five hundred homes. The peninsula pointed west towards the Yalu with water to both the north and south. This was the first permanent camp and the only one until March 1951 when Camp 1 was opened. After March 1952 no new POWs came into Camp 5.

#### Description

The first group of American POWs arrived at Pyoktong on or about 20 November 1950. The village was hit shortly before or shortly after arrival by B-29s and the prisoners were withdrawn a few miles away to the southeast to what became known as the Valley. They remained there until 18 January 1951 when they were returned to Pyoktong. In another debrief the individual says he arrived at Pyoktong on 25 November and remained for two days before being sent to the Valley. In the beginning at Pyoktong the POWs were housed in the standard Korean

homes in the bombed out section of the town. They slept on the bare floor, had no blankets, and were allowed no fires. Initially they slept twenty-five individuals in a room. By the fall of 1951 the number per room was down to about ten. Half the POW population had died and some of the living were sent to Camp 3. Doors were put on the huts and gauze sheeting was used on the windows to keep out flies.

As at all the camps the POWs were separated by race and rank. Camp 5 started with five companies. One company held all the black or Spanish speaking Americans and other enlisted UN troops. One held white American and British enlisted, another white American and Turkish enlisted. Non-commissioned officers and officers were each in a separate compound. Various re-arrangements of this system were used over the next two years.

Initially the only water source was in the enlisted compound. Ice covered the interior walls of their huts. The POWs were lice infested and most had severe diarrhea or dysentery. The latrines were inadequate in size and number and poorly located. They were frequently near the company kitchens and some were too close to the only well. This meant feces was everywhere on their clothing, in the huts, and all around their compounds. The only clothing they had was what was left from their time of capture. POWs arriving in March 1951 found men in tattered uniforms, many with no shoes. Dead bodies were stacked outside the huts, awaiting burial.

#### Food

In the beginning the POWs were generally fed twice a day. The meals were usually wormy corn. In the early months of 1951 rice rarely appeared. Each prisoner received



*The photo above is from NARA files. Prisoners constantly referred to crossing the Yalu to bury their dead or to gather firewood. They were actually crossing the backwater to the north of camp for both activities. The Yalu was to the west of the camp, to the left of this photo.*



## medsearch continued...

about a tea cup full of the boiled grain per meal, which was often undercooked. Very small amounts of beans or turnips sometimes accompanied the grain. As time went on one meal a week would be rice. By that summer sorghum replaced the corn and some kind of vegetable became more common. Meat was very rare and almost no salt was added to their diet. A British diary said that in March of 1951 the daily food intake was 200 grams per day. As soon as plants appeared in the spring the POWs would pick any they could find to add some kind of greens to their diet.

Prior to May 1951 all meals consisted of cracked corn or barley. There was no salt and no bread. The leftover barley coffee was used to wash whatever they used as a bowl. By the fall of 1951 each company had its own kitchen with POW cooks boiling the food in large pots. By this time the Chinese had made an obvious decision to improve conditions enough to keep their entire population of POWs from dying. Clean water was piped in. The food improved to where they were getting more rice and sometimes a little meat in the rice. Every six weeks a small pig was butchered for each company. The prisoners had learned they could not drink cold water from wells or streams, they boiled it first and drank it warm or made some kind of coffee. After November 1951 each prisoner usually received part of a canteen cup of sugar every 10 days. This was frequently used by the cooks to enhance a meal or two for all. By this time each POW had been issued two small tin bowls, a cup, and a spoon. One member of the squad would pick up the chow box and soup bucket from the company kitchen and take it to the squad hut. The bowls would be set out and food distributed evenly. Leftovers were then given to the next few men and a record kept of where

they left off. At the next meal leftovers would pick up where they left off the previous meal.

In January 1952 they started receiving rice and turnip broth daily and sometimes steamed bread. By July soy beans and fish started appearing. From August 1952 on the food gradually increased in amount so that the quantity became sufficient while the quality was still poor. The POWs were able to keep track of how peace talks were going at Panmunjom as the quality and quantity of the daily meals went up or down accordingly. Food was also used as the carrot on the end of the stick in Chinese efforts to get individuals or the entire camp population to sign confessions or peace petitions. Prisoners who did not "demonstrate the correct attitude" had their food withheld.

### Medical

Very few of the wounded had received any medical treatment prior to arrival at Camp 5 and for months next to none was provided there. No one had been able to bathe since they were captured and no bathing was made possible at Camp 5 until the winter ice melted from the estuary in April or May of 1951. Prisoners weren't able to shave or cut their hair. Everyone was infested with lice. Dysentery, pneumonia, and malnutrition were rampant. The dead were frequently stripped by POWs who needed the clothing and stacked outside the huts until collection by the burial detail. No clothing was issued by the Chinese that first winter.

The death rate at Camp 5 was horrendous. It can best be understood by looking at a peace petition the Chinese forced everyone to sign in June of 1951. There were 1671 signatures. Five months earlier there had been about 3500 men in the camp.

Initially there was no hospital at Camp 5, instead there was a "dispensary" in the various company

areas. One POW doctor was allowed to hold sick call but could only suggest to the Chinese that some individuals were too ill to work. His supplies were little more than recycled bandages and aspirin. In January 1951 one company dispensary was described as a dirty shack with a paper covered door. Feces was everywhere and "patients" would freeze to death at night. In May of 1951 a sick company was created and the dispensaries closed down. Most of the sick were kept in the sick company and not sent to the central hospital. The POW doctor had about ten medics to help with a patient load of about 100 men. Infected wounds were best treated by letting maggots clean out the dead tissue. In July 1951 the POW doctor was removed from the enlisted compound. Earlier a central hospital was established in a Buddhist monastery on the hill in the town to the east of the POW area. A prisoner who arrived at Camp 5 in May 1951 was put directly in this hospital. There were over 100 POWs lying on the floor, covered in lice and feces. They were not bathed and received no medication. The dead were left with the living for days. The doctor seemed to be a drug addict. The injections he commonly gave patients caused many to die soon after receiving the injection. The dying were frequently put in a hut at the rear of the hospital and left on their own to die.

Patients in the hospital were fed slightly better than other POWs and that was the best medicine they received there. Yet the death rate averaged twenty per day in the hospital itself. The POW doctors that worked there were not allowed to list malnutrition as a cause of death. The Chinese camp commander finally told the doctors the deaths must cease. More medicine was made available. A better diet

## medsearch continued...

for the POWs was the major factor in improving their overall health.

By August 1951 conditions improved. A Chinese medical team was brought in, DDT was used, and the food improved. During the last two weeks of August no deaths occurred in the hospital. There were no deaths at all in the officer's compound after August. At that time most patients were sent back to their company area and no new patients were admitted. About forty patients remained. Medical charts were drawn up on each and they began to be treated like real patients in a real hospital. The Chinese medical team seemed to be there only to improve the health of those forty patients. Their condition improved to bring them to the best health since their capture. At that point the medical team began a series of injections that lasted for two weeks. Then each patient underwent a procedure in which a chicken liver was surgically inserted in the side of the chest. They were told this was a new Russian procedure which would cure all diseases from pneumonia to syphilis. They were monitored for another month and then returned to their company areas. On return they found that while they had been receiving almost excellent medical care at the hospital medical problems in the companies were still going untreated.

A POW who arrived from Mining Camp in late October 1951 was placed directly in the main hospital for beri beri, dysentery, and malnutrition. For the next two months he and the fifty four patients with him were given a better diet which included small amounts of fish or pork and apples. They were allowed to rest and given vitamin injections. He was released

into a company in the camp on 1 January 1952. Even with the improved care and diet twelve of the fifty five died.

By August 1952 medical treatment improved but never became adequate. In the fall of 1952 many had dysentery again, some having twenty or more bowel movements a day. Night blindness returned due to a lack of vitamins. This lack of vitamins also exaggerated any common medical problem such as an earache or toothache. For their entire time at Camp 5 prisoners had to deal with lice during the winter and bed bugs, fleas, and flies in the summer.

### Daily Activities

The day at Camp 5 would start with a bell at 0500 to announce roll call and group exercise. Morning chow was about 0830. Lectures went on during the day with some time for company details such as sweeping up the squad area, picking up chow, gathering firewood, and carrying water. At 1630 another bell would announce evening chow to be followed by speeches. The bell at 2100 (9 pm) was the signal everyone had to be in their huts to be counted again. During winter months the day would start at 0700. By 1952 there was only one roll call at the end of the day. This schedule varied slightly depending on the season. The prisoners were only fed twice a day except for the summer months when some kind of light snack, maybe some peanuts, was distributed at noon. Once the efforts at "re-education" ended in 1952 the majority of the day could be spent in free time except for the work details mentioned above. Chinese music and slanted English news broadcasts were made over loudspeakers around the camp.

In the first months at Camp 5 work assigned to the prisoners consisted of cleaning up camp, digging air raid shelters, and unloading barges. During the last two winters they

would cross the ice-covered estuary to gather firewood. Many POWs thought they were crossing the Yalu when they crossed the ice to bury their dead or gather firewood. This was not the case. The camp was not directly on the Yalu.

By the summer of 1952 sports equipment was supplied. Swimming was allowed at midday. Some prisoners put together a band using home-made instruments. A group of British POWs put on plays. The Chinese would periodically show a propaganda movie. A library was set up with mostly Communist oriented books, magazines, and newspapers. The reading material was in English and some well known novels were included. During the last year prisoners spent lots of time playing cards and talking with fellow prisoners in their company. Since no new POWs were brought into Camp 5 after the spring of 1952 the newspapers were read carefully to try and determine the real progress of the war. In August all the NCOs were moved north to Camp 4. The camp still had five companies: US white POWs, US black POWs, the Turks, the English, and one for other nationalities. Some English POWs were transferred in from Camp 3. In the winter of 1952-53 electric lights were installed in at least one building the prisoners used for playing cards, chess, and ping pong.

In November of 1952 an inter-camp Olympics was held at Camp 5. Teams from most of the other camps were brought in between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of November to participate. The Chinese used this event to show pictures to the world of the happy prisoners enjoying their lenient treatment. The POWs used this event as an opportunity to visit each other, get news on the war and events back home from recent captures, and to compile more complete lists of captures and deaths.

## medsearch continued...

Early in 1953 there was a fly killing campaign with cigarettes given for a certain number of flies presented. This actually reduced the number of flies but the open latrines were the real problem. By this time in the camps boredom was a problem so even a fly killing campaign was welcome. In March material was provided to make bunk beds. Ropes were woven back and forth to provide a mattress.

### Treatment

The first prisoners into Camp 5 came from The Valley and Death Valley and were in terrible condition. Nothing changed once they arrived in late January 1951. As soon as they arrived they were divided into separate compounds, as the Chinese were determined to prevent any military discipline on the part of the American POWs. They were herded into bare rooms of the mud Korean homes, as many as 25 per room. They slept on the floor with only their clothing and body heat to keep them warm. Ice

covered the walls and feces the floors. No one had been able to bathe since their capture. Wounds were untreated. The dying that had begun in the temporary camps and on the marches continued. Their food intake was so minimal some prisoners would paw through fresh feces looking for undigested beans or kernels of corn. The overall scene was reminiscent of the concentration camps of World War II.

During the months of February and March 1951 the only activity required of the POWs was to help bury the dead. That meant collecting the bodies stacked outside the huts and carrying them across the estuary to Boot Hill. There they would use their hands to scrape into the snow as much as possible and place the bodies. The effort required to do this meant some prisoners died while carrying their dead comrades to this make-shift burial ground and were themselves left on Boot Hill.

In these first months the prisoners learned life could actually get

worse. Men were commonly thrown into a variation of "the hole." In one case this was a concrete cell, other variations were covered-over storage pits dug into the ground, cages dug into the side of a hill, or isolated huts away from the prisoner compound. Being put in the hole sometimes meant a loss of two or three day's meals and exposure to the cold with no protection other than what they were wearing. A common punishment was to force a prisoner to stand at attention outside in the cold. When they relaxed they were beaten with fists or rifle butts. This sometimes went on all day and into the night. Others were hung from rafters by their wrists for extended periods of time. For some this meant months of not being able to use their hands, in one case more than a year. After an escape attempt in March a POW was beaten and put in the hole for three days. Then his body was removed and buried. Another escape attempt led to the prisoner being tied up outside in below zero temperatures and water being thrown on him until he died. In the summer the hole might be a shack or a cage dug into the side of a hill. All light would be blocked to increase the heat and food and water withheld. It was not just escape attempts or theft of food that earned prisoners time in the hole. Any display of an "improper attitude" could put them there. Rank was no barrier to this treatment, enlisted and officer alike were beaten or thrown in the hole. One senior officer made a remark the Chinese did not like. For that remark he was beaten and tortured for three weeks, much of that time being hung by his wrists. When he finally signed a confession of his "crimes" he was returned to the officers compound. He told his fellow officers he was supposed to inform on them to the Chinese. He died a few weeks after his return to the compound. An officer who attempted escape was tied up and paraded through the camp. A rope



*This map shows the area east of the Yalu River as it appears today. The scale above refers to altitude.*



## medsearch continued...

around his neck was yanked on to cause choking. He was then thrown in the hole and fed cold grain twice a day. After a month he finally signed a confession and was released from the hole. It was months before he could use his hands. With the starvation diet and lack of medical care a beating or confinement in the hole frequently pushed the body beyond its limit and death followed. This really meant the mood of the guards could determine whether a POW lived or died as time in the hole or standing at attention in the cold all day was often enough to tip an individual to the point of not being able to recover.

In April 1951 the lectures began. The entire camp was told they were guilty of war crimes but they would be treated well if they demonstrated they were "willing to learn the truth." Those who were not willing would be treated as war criminals. They would learn the truth or die in the camp. Execution was frequently mentioned as an outcome for those who did not cooperate. Prisoners had been beaten to death. Prisoners had been forced to stand in the below zero temperatures until they died. Prisoners were dying every day from lack of food and medical care. POWs at Camp 5 had every reason to believe those threats of execution would be carried out if they did not demonstrate some signs of cooperation. The lecture process lasted seven to ten hours daily. After the actual lectures the POWs had to discuss what they had learned and write an opinion. If they wanted to eat the opinions had to be positive. Men were placed in the hole for poor attitudes. The sweat box was also a possibility. It was a small cell with three small windows high on one wall and a grill

in the door. From four in the morning until eleven at night they had to sit or stand at attention with no talking. They had no bed and no blankets. Guards would wake them during the night.

At some point in the spring of 1951 the officers were asked to sign a peace petition. They all refused. The Chinese then said they must debate the issue of the petition and whether or not to sign it. Most finally agreed signing would do no harm as people would understand they were under duress and their names would be made public. Having their names made public increased the chances the Chinese would not execute them. Eight officers still would not sign. These eight were reminded by the Chinese of what had happened to other POWs, reminded of the beatings and the deaths. They were told they would never be released. In the end all the officers signed the petition. The enlisted signed because the officers had signed. Approximately half the camp POW population had died by that time. Even knowing the potential consequences many signed with phoney names or wrote illegibly when they finally signed the petition.

In the summer and fall of 1951 prisoners who did not cooperate during the lectures and the discussions were hung by their wrists and beaten in full view of their fellow POWs. Most cooperated only as much as was necessary to appease the Chinese. By March of 1952 many POWs felt their names had been released to the United Nations, meaning there was less of a chance they would be killed. One entire company refused to participate any longer in the lectures. From that point the only lectures were for those few prisoners who volunteered for study.

### Clothing

POWs arrived in camp wearing whatever they had been captured in minus whatever had been con-

fiscated. In many cases this meant they had no boots. The first clothing issue was not until May 1951 when they were given their standard summer uniform. Until then they had no change of clothing and no baths. In May they were able to bathe in the water of the estuary. The summer clothing issue was every May and the winter issue in September. Timing of the clothing issues gives an indication of the standard weather. The summer clothing issue consisted of two pair of light pants, two jackets, one cap, one pair of canvas shoes similar to tennis shoes, two pairs of shorts, and two shirts. The winter issue was one pair of cotton padded pants, a padded jacket, and one pair of rubber shoes with cotton padded tops. A POW who arrived at Camp 5 in November 1951 was issued the padded pants and jacket, a cap with flaps, gloves, and the winter shoes. He also received a towel, a bar of soap, toothbrush and tooth powder. If an individual arrived after blankets were issued they did not get one until the next issue of blankets.

### Mail

In January of 1952 the first mail was distributed, only a few letters had been handed out prior to then. Prisoners were then allowed to send three letters a month. Mail was handed out two to three times a month but most of the letters were never distributed.

### Release

In the first week of August 1953 the POWs were loaded on barges and sent down the Yalu for a few miles, then put in trucks and taken to Sinuiju. From there they traveled in boxcars for a couple of days to Pyongyang and Kaesong. The next leg of the journey home was by truck to a camp a few miles from Panmunjom. They were all searched before leaving Camp 5 and again before being handed over at Panmunjom. The Chinese were especially looking for any lists of POW deaths.

## POW MEDSEARCH PACKETS

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**Check packets you wish to order and send, with payment, to: MEDSEARCH  
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Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (includes shipping/handling\*) **MasterCard and Visa accepted (circle one)** (\$5.00 minimum charge)

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**Ex-POW Bulletin  
May/June 2010**

# namPOW news



Paul E. Galanti  
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Former Vietnam POW Paul Galanti wrote eloquently in the January/February issue of *American Ex-Prisoner of War Bulletin* about the unveiling of a POW monument in Quincy, Massachusetts on October 31, 2009. At the ceremony, I introduced Paul who honored with his words two Quincy boys – fellow POWs from the Vietnam War Captain Alan Brudno, USAF, and Captain Richard Stratton, USN – whose names were engraved on this monument. Paul knew them both. Dick Stratton was there. I represented my brother, Alan, who we lost only 16 weeks after his return from 7-1/2 years of captivity.

Long ago, I thought that my hometown of Quincy had done enough to recognize Alan's service, but the local veterans were not through with him or with Dick, for that matter. The granite monument that the local veterans planned to erect would create far more attention than either Alan or Dick would have ever wanted for themselves.

Months earlier, when the plans for the Quincy POW monument were taking shape, I was asked by the local organizers of this event what I thought about adding to the back of the monument the now iconic POW -

MIA flag symbol. While my hesitation only lasted a minute, I instantly recalled the events of July 6, 1966 when the North Vietnamese forced 52 of our captured pilots to march through the streets of Hanoi in complete violation of the Geneva Conventions. When you look at old photos of the infamous march, you see the be-draggled POWs chained two-by-two and forced to walk a gauntlet of rabid North Vietnamese citizens who kicked, beat and spit on them. Many of the POWs were convinced that they were going to be executed. They were forced to walk with their heads down in submission. The only picture we have of Alan in that march appears in the book *Honor Bound*, by Fred Kiley and the late Stuart Rochester. Kiley and Rochester wrote, "Bill Tschudy and Al Brudno, wearing numbers 381 and 399, were at the front of the column. Tschudy and Brudno ... were being brutally

out of business when our boys came home. That is why no one thought to copyright the symbol. We could never have contemplated that this flag would be flown decades later over buildings and cemeteries throughout the land by order of Congress.

So, after some hesitation, I told them, "Yes, but only if you make one change. Alter the silhouette of the symbolized POW with the guard tower behind him in this way – raise his head up in defiance! If you are going to put *Never surrendered – Never broken – Never Forgotten* on the front of this monument, then lift the head of the symbolic POW. That is how people who view that monument should picture Dick Stratton and Al Brudno. Our POWs bowed only when they were forced to do so."

As a result, the POW symbol now engraved on Quincy's POW monument is unlike any other in the country. All of the former POWs attending the ceremony liked the new symbol. I leave it to others to consider changing the rest of the flags in this fashion some day.

Too much has been said about how my brother died. While it was an incredible tragedy, it should not define who he was or how he lived. This monument is not a headstone. It is a testament to the extraordinary heroism and perseverance of two of Quincy's proud sons. It will, hopefully, inspire future

generations of young people to serve their country and maybe encourage a few to take to the sky, as Alan and Dick Stratton did, to protect and defend our great nation.

Robert J. Brudno

*Mr. Brudno is a former naval officer and the brother of Captain E. Alan Brudno, USAF (Deceased). Capt. Brudno was a POW in North Vietnam from October 1965 to February 1973. Left to find his own way of coping with the psychological scars from his experience and too proud to ask for help, he took his own life in June 1973. His tragic death was the wake-up call that brought needed attention to all returning POWs.*



assaulted as were others to the rear." Buried in my memory was this photo of Alan, wincing in pain because he was being stoned, but his head was clearly up.

As I contemplated the organizers' request, I also recalled that in 1971, as a Member of the Board of Directors of the National League of Families of POWs and MIAs, I was among those who chose the now iconic POW - MIA flag design. We were desperately trying to win sympathy for the plight of the POWs and MIAs then to put pressure on the North Vietnamese to abide by the Geneva Conventions. To be honest, we could not see beyond the end of the war. We hoped to be



# andersonville



Andersonville NHS  
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Andersonville, GA 31711  
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**By Brad Bennett, Superintendent** Dogwoods are in bloom at Andersonville National Historic Site, bright green leaves are filling out the trees, and yellow school buses are bringing students to the National Prisoner of War Museum to learn about the costs of freedom. As summer nears, we are preparing to honor the sacrifices of our American military at our annual Memorial Day Service. We are pleased that Ed Dement will be able to represent the American Ex-Prisoners of War on behalf of National Commander Kenny Hanson. Speaking of Ed, he continues his tireless efforts to share the vision of the "Victory From Within" POW traveling exhibition. I enjoy hearing regular telephone updates from Ed, as he invariably has good news to share about yet another donation made by an AXPOW member or chapter. Since my last writing, your compatriots have contributed another \$3,000. This pushes the POW Traveling Legacy account past \$20,500.

As we draw closer to point of contracting for exhibition fabrication, I requested an updated cost estimate from the National Park Service exhibit design center to make sure that our fund-raising goal was accurate and adequate. With the inevitable inflation since the prior cost estimate, our revised construc-

tion budget is now \$272,000. Accordingly, the National Park Service has increased its 50% financial commitment from \$120,000 to \$136,000. Adding AXPOW's \$20,500 to the Friends of Andersonville bequest commitment of \$62,000 brings the current amount in hand to \$218,500 - leaving us just \$53,500 short of the grand total. Knowing the tremendous generosity so many of you demonstrated to build the National Prisoner of War Museum, I can imagine that this new challenge cannot seem nearly as daunting.

For your benefit in understanding the "Victory From Within" details and sharing them with others in your circles of influence, project manager Alan Marsh has posted to our website the Schematic Design document many of you saw and requested in Boise last year. This 16-page document (divided into two files due to the large size of the color photographs) provides an overview of the traveling exhibition concept, including the thematic areas of Capture, Prison Life, For Those Who Wait, and Freedom. To have a look, simply visit the Andersonville NHS website at: [www.nps/ande](http://www.nps/ande), look under QUICKLINKS, then click on "POW Legacy Traveling Exhibit."

In addition to photographs and original artifacts, the "Victory From Within" traveling exhibition will feature audiovisual displays which will allow viewers to hear the stories many of you have shared over the years during interviews. Thanks to you, Andersonville NHS has one of the premier oral history programs in the National Park Service with nearly 1000 interviews of former prisoners of war. For those of you who may want to convey your experience for the education of current and future generations, we plan on making ourselves available in September at your national convention in Albany, Georgia. Interviews will be conducted and recorded with digital audio/video

technology and will become part of the permanent archives at Andersonville. We will also have staff available at the convention to assist with entering your name into the prisoner of war database maintained at Andersonville. Please look for us at registration to sign up for an interview and have your story preserved for posterity - perhaps as part of the "Victory From Within" traveling exhibition.

*All donations are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to: POW Traveling Legacy and send to: Friends of Andersonville, P.O. Box 186, Andersonville, GA 31711.*

## **Make Your Plans Now! Albany, Georgia Sept. 21-26, 2010.**

From the Revolutionary War to Operation Iraqi Freedom, American prisoners of war have endured untold hardships, and shown tremendous courage. Andersonville NHS commemorates the sacrifices of these brave Americans through exhibits in the National Prisoner of War Museum; preserves the site of Camp Sumter (Andersonville prison); and manages Andersonville National Cemetery.

### **National Prisoner of War Museum**

The 1970 legislation responsible for establishing Andersonville National Historic Site instructed the site "to interpret the role of prisoners-of-war camps in history" and "to commemorate the sacrifice of Americans who lost their lives in such camps." To that end, the exhibits in the National Prisoner of War Museum serve as a memorial to all American prisoners of war. The museum opened in 1998 and is dedicated to the American men and women who have suffered as POWs.

**Ex-POW Bulletin  
May/June 2010**

# tiger survivors



## Shorty Estabrook

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## Doctor Ernst Kisch- Tiger Survivor

I want to tell you about a wonderful man, an Austrian Jew, who was with our group of Tiger Survivors Prisoners of War in North Korea.

Ernst Kisch was born in 1893 and was a medical man of note and had invented some medical procedure only to have it stolen by the Germans way back then.

Dr. Kisch was also a man of music who was a brilliant entertainer and especially good on the piano.

During the Holocaust this humble man and his family was put in German death camps. At the end of World War 2 he was the only one left of his family. All his worldly possessions had vanished and he was alone in the world.

He went to China where he was with the Methodist Mission as their doctor. The Communist took over and he managed to come to New York where he worked in a hospital. Although he was a noted surgeon he had to work as an orderly thinking that in time he would be a doctor again.

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Doctor Kisch, a man who had so much to give to mankind and a man who did not demand much from society except the chance to serve, was refused admittance into the United States of America. My country did that to this wonderful person.

So Doctor Kisch went to Korea to work with the Methodist Mission there and in July 1950 he was arrested by the advancing North Korea Army. He was about 56 years old when arrested. Why the Communist arrested him is beyond me. All he was doing was helping Koreans.

Soon Doctor Kisch and 80 other multi-national civilians became part of the Prisoner of War group called the Tiger Survivors.

Doctor Kisch was able to provide some medical help for many of the sick or wounded. The North Koreans did not give him the tools or medications to help in his work. He would beg for simple medications and would get a slap or a kick for asking.

Our group was taken over by a terrible North Korean Security Police Major who immediately took us on a Death March where 89 people were shot along the way. Some of the Civilian Group as well.

The first winter at Hanjang-ni North Korea was indescribable. I will just say that 222 died in that hell hole including Bishop Patrick Byrne, Catholic Church of the United States. Doctor Kisch tried in vain to save the Bishop but alas could not.

Spring came that ungodly place and the group was moved to an old Japanese Army camp at An Dong North Korea. (Japan occupied Korea for over 40 years)

At An Dong there was a hospital set up. At that place I was cooking for the hospital group and would walk

with Doctor Kisch on some days. He had become weak and was in the hospital himself. He was suffering from many things and had become very frail and weighed less than 100 pounds. He looked like some of the survivors of Hitler's death camps. During the summer of 1951 on June 29 Doctor Kisch was taken to heaven and suffered no more.

It is most sad that his passing had to go unnoticed. That is why I am writing to you now.

Hopefully you can pass this on to all your friends and by so doing his memory will be kept alive.

I am not Jewish but I loved this dear man who touched my life during those impossible days that left 58% of our group bleaching on the nearby hills.

I am now crying and will close.

Love to you all and hopefully we can live in peace someday.

---

## Howdy

Where you from?  
Talk to me  
I need a friend.  
What a mess this is  
And we need each other.  
What happened to you?  
Tell me your story  
I will listen  
Perhaps we can be  
Best friends,  
Buddies  
Brothers.  
We will look out for each other  
And learn the heartfelt  
Mysteries of our souls  
Our families  
And loves.  
We can be there for each other  
Even after the final trip  
For part of each of us  
Now belongs to each of us.

Shorty the Tiger

## pow-mia



### **PNC John Edwards Chairman**

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Niskayuna, NY 12309-4815  
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### **AMERICANS RECOVERED**

1,720 Americans are still listed by Defense POW/MIA Office (DPMO) as missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War. The number of Americans returned and identified since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975 is now **863**, though another 63 US personnel were recovered post-incident and identified before the end of the war, bringing the total to 926. Of the 1,720 **unreturned veterans** still missing and unaccounted for, 90% were lost in Vietnam or in areas of Laos and Cambodia under Vietnam's war-time control.

### **JPAC LEADERSHIP CHANGE**

ADM Robert Willard, USN, Commander of the U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) presided at the January 29th Change of Command from retiring (JPAC) Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command Headquarters, Commander RADM Donna Crisp, to **MG Stephen Tom, USAR**. The Change of Command was held on Heroes Green at JPAC.

### **JPAC OPERATIONS**

The 111th Joint Field Activity (JFA) in Laos, begun on January 13th was completed February 16th. One Investigation Team (IT) and two Recovery Teams (RTs) conducted operations in Xepon and Savannakhet Provinces. Field operations in Cambodia, begun on

January 14th, wrapped up on February 22nd. The 43rd JFA included on Underwater Investigation Team (UIT) and one RT with missions in three separate locations. A large JPAC Advance Work Team (AWT) just deployed to Vietnam in preparation for the 98th JFA, working before arrival of the main contingent to prepare base camp locations and site preparation.

### **NEW JPAC COMMANDER VISITED SOUTHEAST ASIA**

MG Stephen Tom, USAR, held POW/MIA consultations in Vientiane, Laos, last week, his first such talks since assuming command on January 29th. He was supported by JPAC Headquarters, Detachment 3, Stony Beach and DPMO staff. The issue's importance was reinforced by the participation of US Ambassador to Laos Rovic Huso and other US Embassy officials. In discussions with Lao counterpart officials, MG Tom discussed recent Joint Field Activities (JFAs), plans for upcoming operations, and sorting out issues that arise and, if left unattended, could impede POW/MIA cooperation. MG Tom then visited Cambodia where he called on US Ambassador Carol Rodley and Chief of Staff of the Cambodia Army General Pol Saroeun, who also serves as the Chairman of Cambodia's POW/MIA Committee, and other Cambodian leaders.

While it was hoped that he would end his SEA tour with a visit to Vietnam for orientation with Detachment 2 and a visit to ongoing field operations, that was postponed due to other requirements and will have to be rescheduled.

### **US Service members reported missing or captured while supporting combat operations.**

Army PFC Bowe R. Bargdahi, 23 June 30, 2009, Afghanistan.  
Army Staff Sgt. Ahmed K. Altaie, 44, Oct 23, 2006, Baghdad.

## civilians



### **Walter H. Riley, Chairman**

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We were so gratified by the National Commander's testimony before the Joint House/Senate Veterans Affairs Committees in Washington, DC in March. What a magnificent presentation. Commander Hanson spoke about civilian prisoners of war from WWII, from Korea (his war) and from Vietnam. All were treated by their captors as prisoners. In the Korean War, they were marched with, in camp with and treated as their military counterparts. Thank you so much Commander Hanson, for helping get our experiences recognized. We are still trying to find Senators and Representatives to take our case to the next level and will keep you posted on our progress.

Hope to see you in Georgia in September for the National Convention.

*Walter*

If you served in the military after prison camp, please write and let me know. We're compiling number of Civilian POWs who then served in the military.

Thanks!

**Ex-POW Bulletin  
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**June 3-6, 2010. The Dept. of Arizona State Convention** will be held at the Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino, I-10 & Wild Horse Pass Blvd (exit 162). Call 800-946-4452 for discounted room rates \$82.00 per night + tax, suites \$122.00 + tax. Cut-off date for room reservations is May 4, 2010. Please contact POW-WOW Chapter #1 Commander, David Mills 480-473-8259 or Debby Lindhurst at [dclindy-P38@ATT.net](mailto:dclindy-P38@ATT.net).

**June 10-12, 2010. The Dept. of New York will hold its annual convention** in New York City. Contact Wm. Lee Birch, 190 Bethel Loop, #10-H, Brooklyn, NY 11239. 718-642-7647 for more information.

**June 11-12, 2010. The Department of West Virginia** will hold its annual convention at the Holiday Inn, Bridgeport, WV. For information, contact Okla & Arlene Edgell, 212 Maplewood Dr., Fairmont, WV 26554; 304-363-5790.

**June 24-26, 2010. The Department of North Carolina will hold its Annual State Convention** at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux at 1707 Owen Drive, Fayetteville, NC. For reservation call 1-910-323-0111 or 1-877-807-2013. You should arrive on the 24th and leave on the 26th. All Convention activities will be on the 25th including the Banquet. For additional information, call Commander Hugh Howard phone 1-919-4460 or contact Paul Dallas at 910-867-2775 or by email [threatt273@aol.com](mailto:threatt273@aol.com).

**June 26, 2010. The Oregon Trail Chapter of the Korean War Veter-**

**ans** will hold a commemoration ceremony of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Korean War. It will begin at 10AM at the Oregon Korean War Memorial located in the Wilsonville Town Center Park at 29600 Southwest Park Place, Wilsonville, OR. Contact Don at [dnldcoh6@aol.com](mailto:dnldcoh6@aol.com) or phone Red at 503-655-7812.

**August 12 - 15, 2010. The Dept. of Ohio convention** will be held at the Ramada Plaza, 4900 Sinclair Rd. Columbus, Ohio. Kenney Hanson our National commander will be our guest. For information contact Norman Swaney - 330 726 9217 or e-mail [nswaney@zoominternet.net](mailto:nswaney@zoominternet.net)

**Aug. 4-8, 2010. The Third Marine Division Association's annual family reunion** will be held at the Sheraton North Charleston Hotel, Charleston, SC. Anyone who served in, was attached to, or served in support of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Division at any time is eligible and invited to attend. Contact Jeffrey A Dement, 23830 W. Ottawa St., Plainfield, IL 60544; 815-436-3783; [jeffdement@aol.com](mailto:jeffdement@aol.com).

**Aug 11-15, 2010. The 91<sup>st</sup> Annual Reunion of the Eightieth Blue Ridge Division Veterans Association** will be held at the Sheraton National Hotel, 900 South Orme St., Arlington, VA 22204; 703-521-1900. Contact: Max R. Schmidt, Reunion Chair, 336-288-0983.

looking  
for



I am trying to help a doctoral student from Texas Tech University locate **Ciro Salas**. The focus of his thesis is: Hispanic Ex-POWs from Vietnam. He has interviewed 7 living vets and has files from the other government agencies. **Ciro Salas** is cited in the book: Honor Bound:

American Prisoners of War in Southeast Asia, 1961-1973. Airman Salas was captured June 15, 1954 while supplying French units. Please contact: Omar Rivera, 113 N. Conway Ave., Mission, TX 78572-5457; 956-451-9417; [lopezpark@hotmail.com](mailto:lopezpark@hotmail.com).

I am looking for information on a **flight jacket and flying boots**. I can not find anyone who can identify these clothes. I was told they are not government issue and possibly were Royal Air Force. Jacket: wool olive drab, Eisenhower-style. Small sheepskin collar. It was an electrified suit. Wires removed by Germans. Boots: very heavy, black, knee-high; top part black suede, shoe part smooth leather with thick, heavy sole, bulldog toe, sheepskin lined. His name -Stanley Waleczyk, waist-gunner, B-17, 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 91<sup>st</sup> BG, 401<sup>st</sup> BS. He was shot down 6/21/44, imprisoned Stalag Luft 4. Please contact: Elsie Valeski, 23 Frances Dr., Seymour, CT 06483; [valeskielsie@yahoo.com](mailto:valeskielsie@yahoo.com).

My name is David Muylaert. I live in Belgium and am a re-enactor for the 104<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div., 415<sup>th</sup> Reg. I recently adopted the grave of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. **Carl D. Rutledge, Jr.** from Washington County, Arkansas. He was born in 1921. He is buried at Henri Chapelle, Belgium. I am looking for any information about this person to give him the honor and respect he deserves. Please email me at: [topline\\_freak@hotmail.com](mailto:topline_freak@hotmail.com).

I am a professor of Sport Studies, in a Faculty of Health, in Australia, researching the place of **recreation and sport in prisoner-of-war camps**. This is also a way of paying tribute to the spirit of men and women placed in situations of intense deprivation of freedom and the opportunity to maintain a combat role. I have carried out interviews with a series of New Zealand ex-prisoners of war as part of my research. Recreational activity and sport (no matter how seemingly

## looking for cont'd.

minor) appear to have given some focus and emotional 'escape' for POWs.

I am writing to ask if any of your POW readers would be kind enough to contact me to give their views and experiences with recreation and sport in their prisoner-of-war experience. That experience may include such aspects that range from mental activity or betting on insects racing to organised sport events to stage plays and musicals. I am particularly interested in what activities gave 'release' from the confines of daily routines and the 'use' or value of these. In short, what recreational activity and sport was engaged in and what purpose, if any, did it serve?

I honour the men and women who have been confined and trust my research reflects their strengths and fortitude. I will reply personally to any correspondence or email and would be happy to send a summary of my research when completed.

Dr Robin McConnell  
Associate Professor of  
Sport Studies, Faculty of Health  
University of Canberra  
Bruce  
Canberra  
ACT 2601  
Australia

I am a NY-based TV production coordinator, writing on behalf of Miyazaki Broadcasting Co. I am writing to seek a possibility of finding family members of ex-POW's from the WWII. My client, Miyazaki Broadcasting Co., is currently in a process of making a history program based on a **B-29 aircraft which was shot down near Shimonoseki, Southern part of Japan, during the WWII**. They conceived of this idea when a bullet-proof jacket of a crew member of the B-29 was found from the ground last year in Miyazaki prefecture. Along with the jacket,

they found a dog tag, thus could identify the owner - Sgt. Julian W. Steele.

Finding this jacket after more than half a century, a story behind it started to unfold.

Sgt. Steele was one of the crew members of the B-29. There were 10 other members on board. They were one of the troops assigned to attack Japanese Navy near Kanmon Strait. After dropping some bombs, their aircraft was shot down by a Japanese flak boat. All the crew members parachuted off the aircraft, landed in a village in Miyazaki, and got captured by Japanese army. They had to spend about 6 months in Japan as prisoners of war. After US dropped atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, they were liberated by the hands of US Navy.

While tracking down the history, my client also found that there were some Japanese people who protected these US soldiers. They found a doctor who encouraged his fellow doctors and nurses to give the best medical treatment even if the patient is a soldier of the enemy. They also found a person who witnessed a Japanese Naval officer stopped local people from burying those captured US soldiers. According to this witness, the officer said to the local crowd "What the hell are you guys doing to these unresisting people!?" (I hope this translation makes sense in a positive way..)

Based on these little episodes, my client would like to tell a story about the few people who tried to protect or take care of the US soldiers during the time of the War. Sorry for writing lengthy...Making the story short, we are trying to find family members of the specific B-29 who have already deceased, and hopefully any one of them can share a story about their husband/father having seen any Japanese people who protected them from all the beat-ups and torturous events. Below is a name list of those crew members:

1/Lt. William C. Grounds; 2/Lt. Olin W. Williams; 2/Lt. William J. C. Lasile; 2/Lt. Jack Hobbie; Sgt. Maj. Neal R. Cooper; S/Sgt. Arvid A. McPherson; Sgt. Harold P. Peterson; Sgt. Mayner B. Hanks; Sgt. Julian W. Steele (Have contacted his daughter through US Consulate, but she is not willing to take our interview); Sgt. Clarence L. Pressgrove (He is still living. Have contacted him but no experience of being protected by Japanese people); Sgt. Warren R. Thompson

Please advise me if there is any way I can contact their living family members.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Keiko Tanaka, TV Production Coordinator, Marcom Visual Creation, Inc.; Tel: (212) 643-8545 | Fax: (212) 643-9480.

I have a few questions about the history of the **airfield at Barth and also the Me-262 jets at the airfield**. Kenneth F. Bradford (my dad) was a POW a Stalag Luft 1. Dad died in 1981 and of course we didn't have the foresight to record his story. I do remember a lot because he would talk about his experiences when asked. There were some vague references to jets. I have a War Time Log and an autograph book he made out of the cardboard from a Red Cross package and an Illustrated Journal that he made and has about 15 drawings. I also have 2 pair of POW wings made out of lead scraped off of cans and off the lead on pipes in the latrine. I would most thankful if you could help me with information on the airfield. Thank you John Bradford [dudrop1@gmail.com](mailto:dudrop1@gmail.com)

I have just learned that my Grandfather **Pvt. Hugo Forte** was with the 23rd Armored Infantry Battalion (7th Armored Division) listed as MIA (taken POW) Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> 1944.

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## looking for cont'd.

Battle of the Bulge (possibly ST VITH). I found my Grandfather listed on a After Action and Battle Reports of the 23rd Armored Infantry Battalion (7th Armored Division) A Company as MIA He was held as a POW at Stalag 4B Muhlberg Sachsen 51-13. I have attached a condensed version of the December Action report. Thank you so much for your time in advance I was wondering if you can post this for a request of information on further details of his capture or release or personal stories pertaining to my grandfather. Jason Forte; Phone 585 300 6880; [jason.forte@asapresourcegroup.com](mailto:jason.forte@asapresourcegroup.com).

## Information

from/about our members

### **BACEPOW (Bay Area Civilian Ex-POWs) has a new website!**

[www.bacepow.net](http://www.bacepow.net)

Check it out!

### **ND Galanti Appointed**

Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell announced additional appointments to his gubernatorial administration. Paul Galanti of Richmond will serve as Commissioner for the Department of Veterans Services. Galanti was a prisoner of war for nearly seven years in North Vietnam's infamous Hanoi Hilton complex. He retired from the Navy in 1983 and has since served in a number of corporate leadership positions.

(Paul serves on the Advisory Committee for Former Prisoners of War and is an AXPOW National Director, East Central Region. Congratulations, Paul!)

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# News Briefs

## Delegation cuts through bureaucracy to honor WWII and Korean War Soldiers

U.S. Senators Jeanne Shaheen and Judd Gregg and Representatives Paul Hodes and Carol Shea-Porter announced that they have secured prestigious Purple Heart medals for 28 New Hampshire Prisoners of War who died in captivity. Of the soldiers being honored, 16 served in World War II and 12 served in the Korean War.

The New Hampshire Chapter of American Ex-Prisoners of War, led by World War II veteran and ex-POW Allan Gavan, has identified 61 New Hampshire POWs who died in service to their country and are eligible to receive the Purple Heart. The organization has been working to locate the next of kin for all 61 soldiers - as is required by the military in order to posthumously award service medals. The New Hampshire Congressional delegation has been working with the appropriate military branches to determine eligibility for awards, and today's announcement represents the first group for whom next of kin have been located.

"Thanks to the tireless work of a dedicated group of New Hampshire veterans and ex-POWs, and the ongoing assistance of the New Hampshire congressional delegation, 28 POWs are finally being recognized for their service to and sacrifice for our country," said Gavan. "We are determined to continue our work until all New Hampshire men who died as POWs and their families have

been appropriately recognized for their sacrifices."

The medals will be presented to the families of the following: Wesley Ash (Merrimack County); Francis Ashley (Lebanon); Philip Botsford (Lyndeborough); Herbert Brokenshire (Winchester); Madison Charles (Coos County); Robert Chase (Strafford County); John Cuss (Alton); Myron Dick (Durham); Gerald Dubay (Rockingham County); Leland Dunham (Littleton); Houston Edwards (Portsmouth); Reginald Frazier (East Swanzey); Burt Gay (New London); Herbert Hesseltine (Littleton); Joseph St. Laurent (Keene); Harry Leighton (Rochester); Elliott Lund (Hillsborough); William Marston (Concord); Roland Maynard (Hillsborough); Patrick McLaughlin (Hillsborough County); Joseph Pelletier (Berlin); James Picard (Hillsborough County); Elmer Richard (Exeter); John Francis Ryder (Merrimack County); Alfred Sidney (Littleton); Frederick Stearns (Cheshire County); Joseph Sullivan (Stratford); Aurel Tremblay (Nashua).

## Sweeping Omnibus Bill For Veterans & Caregivers Passed

*Legislation would bring unprecedented support for caregivers of seriously injured veterans, veterans in rural areas, and women veterans*

U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka (D-Hawaii), Chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, cheered today's Congressional passage of S. 1963, the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act by unanimous voice vote. This landmark bill, authored by Akaka, would establish an unprecedented permanent program to support the caregivers of wounded warriors, improve health care for veterans in rural



## news briefs cont'd..

areas, help VA adapt to the needs of women veterans, and expand supportive services for homeless veterans. S. 1963 passed the Senate unanimously after clearing the House of Representatives.

*"For too long, the families of wounded warriors across America have paid the cost of war without sufficient support from the government their loved ones risked all to serve. I look forward to President Obama signing this important bill for the families of disabled veterans, and for women veterans, veterans in rural areas, and those veterans sleeping on the streets tonight,"* said Akaka.

Akaka held a series of hearings as Chairman, bringing in the families of seriously injured service members to discuss how VA might better help those caring for severely disabled veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Akaka then developed legislation to establish a program to certify, train, and financially support veterans' caregivers. The bill's caregiver support provisions would:

Fulfill VA's obligation to care for the nation's wounded veterans by providing their caregivers with training, counseling, supportive services, and a living stipend  
Provide health care to the family caregivers of injured veterans under CHAMPVA  
Require independent oversight of the caregiver program.

The bill would also provide numerous other improvements for veterans, by:

Expanding health care services for women veterans  
Reaching out to veterans living in rural areas  
Improving mental health care  
Removing barriers to care for catastrophically disabled veterans  
Enhancing VA medical services  
Strengthening VA's workforce

Improving and increasing services to homeless veterans.

## Navy to Commission Guided Missile Destroyer William P. Lawrence

The Navy will christen the newest Arleigh Burke class guided-missile destroyer, William P. Lawrence, April 17, 2010, during a 10 a.m. CDT ceremony at Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Miss.

Designated DDG 110, the new destroyer honors the late Vice Adm. William P. Lawrence, who served nearly six years as a prisoner of war (POW) in North Vietnam and later as superintendent of the Naval Academy.

Lawrence was born Jan. 13, 1930, in Nashville, Tenn. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1951. At the Naval Academy, he played three varsity sports and was president and brigade commander, in which capacity he helped establish the Brigade Honor concept. He graduated from the Naval Air Test Center as an honor graduate and in 1958 was the first naval aviator to fly twice the speed of sound.

During the Vietnam War, as commanding officer of Fighter Squadron 143, Lawrence earned the Silver Star for a strike against a heavily defended target in North Vietnam. He completed his mission, but was captured after his aircraft went down. He remained a POW from June 1967 until March 1973. He earned the Distinguished Service Medal for his leadership to fellow POWs.

Following promotion to rear admiral in 1974, he served as commander, Light Attack Wing, U. S. Pacific Fleet; director, Aviation Programs Division on the staff of the chief of naval operations; assistant deputy chief of naval operations (air warfare); superintendent, U.S.

Naval Academy; commander, U. S. Third Fleet in the Pacific; and chief of naval personnel, retiring in 1986. William P. Lawrence, the 60th Arleigh Burke class destroyer, will be able to conduct a variety of operations, from peacetime presence and crisis management to sea control and power projection.

William P. Lawrence will be capable of fighting air, surface and subsurface battles simultaneously and contains a myriad of offensive and defensive weapons designed to support maritime warfare in keeping with "A Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower," which postures the sea services to apply maritime power to protect U.S. vital interests in an increasingly interconnected and uncertain world.

## VA Uses Recovery Act Money to Repair Historic Monuments

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will use up to \$4.4 million in funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act program to repair and preserve historic monuments and memorials at VA-operated national cemeteries, soldiers' lots and other facilities throughout the United States.

"The Recovery Act will help us preserve these historic memorials for future generations," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "In many cases, these irreplaceable historic structures will receive long overdue repairs while keeping skilled American artisans employed on projects important to our heritage."

Funds for the monument and memorial repairs are coming from more than \$1.4 billion in the Recovery Act allocated to VA.



# AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR VOLUNTARY FUNDING PROGRAM



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

All contributions will go directly into the General Fund to be used for the operation of the organization. A complete accounting of contributors will appear in the Bulletin each month.

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

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

Please circle one category:

**Individual**

**Chapter**

**State Department**

(If chapter or department, please give name)

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone #

Please make checks payable to American Ex-Prisoners of War - Voluntary Funding  
Mail contributions to: National Headquarters  
American Ex-Prisoners of War  
3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40  
Arlington, TX 76010  
*Donations are not tax-deductible at this time*

## Make Your Plans Now!

The 2010 National Convention is being held in Albany, Georgia  
Albany is about 40 miles south of Andersonville...you can get there from anywhere!

Drive...FLY (3 flights daily into Albany)...  
Train (to Atlanta, then rent a car)

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HEY KIDS!  
GET GRANDMA & GRANDPA TO BRING YOU TO  
ANDERSONVILLE NEXT FALL! YOU'LL HAVE A  
GREAT TIME!



**National Convention**  
**September**  
**21-26, 2010**  
**Albany Georgia**

# AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR VOLUNTARY FUNDING PROGRAM UPDATE



The American Ex-Prisoners of War Voluntary Funding Program was first announced in the Nov/Dec 2007 issue of the EX-POW Bulletin. As you will recall, the program was designed to assist in keeping the entire AXPOW organization **SOLVENT** and readily **available** to help POWs, and their dependents with their needs. Our purpose, assisting POWs, requires involvement of the entire AXPOW organization. In 2006, we realized that if the organization was to survive additional funding would be needed to meet our necessary expenses. We had experienced a shortfall in operating funds over the past few years, as we are still confronted with today.

Since the inception of the organization in the 1940s, the shortfall in operating funds has resulted due to several reasons, with little financial adjustment to meet these changes - although services have been extended, and rightly so, to all members. Additional funds were also needed to override the shortfall due to increased printing costs, decreased in-house and direct marketing sales, maintaining an office, travel, and business technology. The AXPOW organization today includes 17, 574 members of which 16,399 (93%) are life members. Life membership fees do not generate needed operating funds each year.

Annual membership (1175) generates approximately \$40,000 annually. Annual membership fees coupled with the direct mail programs and other general fund revenue falls short of our budgeted requirements. All these functions are critical in meeting the needs of POWs, especially as we advance in age. The overall budget for 2010 is \$435,655. At this time, six months in the budget year, we are approximately \$20,000 short of our budgeted requirements.

The first year the Voluntary Funding Program was in effect, we met our goal of \$35,000. The second year we were under the budgeted amount with contributions of \$27,359. The budget for 2010 is again \$35,000. For the first six months of this year, the program has generated \$7,293 or \$10,261 short of expected revenue. Total revenue since inception of the program - \$69,679. **Those who have contributed are to be commended for their interest and efforts.**

It is true that **life** and **annual** membership dues, coupled with other revenue, at one time provided adequate funds to support the AX-POW programs. However, in view of increased costs in the operation of the organization and decreased revenue as listed above, continued areas of funding must be explored. With the Voluntary Funding Program being successful in the past in helping meet our budgeted requirements, it is felt that the continuation of the current program can again supply needed funds to maintain the purpose of the organization.

Other veterans service organizations (VFW, American Legion, Purple Heart, DAV) are experiencing similar funding problems. The VFW with 1.5 million members announced two years ago a new funding program, called LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP which includes annual voluntary contributions for all

members including life members, based on a formal giving program.

The AXPOW Voluntary Funding Program parallels that of the VFW, whereby the entire membership, including life members, are giving the opportunity to contribute to the operation of the organization, based on ability and willingness to contribute.

It is realized that the Bylaws exempt life members from additional dues; therefore, it is again stressed that this is a **VOLUNTARY** program - a vital and worthy one - that will help keep the AXPOW organization solvent and available to assist POWs and dependents.

If we fail in our funding efforts, the communication arm of our organization, the BULLETIN, which keeps us informed about AXPOW activities, issues affecting POWs, VA news and many other topics of interest, **will cease to be published.** The extremely important Outreach program will no longer function as effectively as it should, to seek out ex-POWs and dependents who need assistance with benefits such as DIC and ChampVA. We could also lose the camaraderie with other POWs on local, state and national levels.

**I would urge each of you to continue contributing to the Voluntary Funding Program in order to keep AXPOW function for ALL our members.**

Thank you.  
Morris Barker,  
National Sr. Vice Commander  
AXPOW



# Members' forum



## DOWN, BUT NOT OUT!

In spite of our declining Southern Arizona chapter membership there were four of us who could hardly walk, but still talk who turned our for the annual April 9 Ex-Prisoner of War National Recognition Day.

All of us pushing age 90, Lee Tracy, P-47 pilot, Bill Newton, B-24 pilot, Dick Cooksley, Baton Death March survivor, and yours truly, Lew Sleeper, B-17 ball turret gunner displayed our memorabilia which was broadcast all over Southern Arizona by the local Tucson TV stations to educate the public on our sacrifices to keep our nation free.

The event is sponsored by our local VA, and they work all the local media to spread the word. If you are like us, and can hardly walk, but can still talk, take advantage to spread the word in your area on the April 9th POW recognition and the mid-September National POW/MIA recognition day.

Lew Sleeper  
National Director,  
Southwest Region

## Dear Cheryl, can you please publicize?

A NEXT-OF-KIN CHORUS FOR THE ALBANY CONVENTION!

Yes, we're planning to form a chorus of singers, consisting of the kids and grandchildren of our Ex-POWs. They will be singing TO their senior citizen parents many of the oldie/goodie songs of their

generation. We are recruiting all those people who love to sing — not necessarily those with professional voices — only a love of singing is required. The chorus will sing songs such as: "Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree", "Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue", "Jeepers, Creepers," "Mairzy Doats", to name a few. Doesn't that sound like fun? A great opportunity to make new friends and have a good time. Write Deanie Schmidt at [schmidt1925@gmail.com](mailto:schmidt1925@gmail.com) or call me at 614-372-0788 if you're interested.

AND...

Will you give a big push for the ladies luncheon in Albany for the May/June issue? We are working hard to make it a great one! I'm working with a Palma James, a member in Albany Nancy Fornes recommended, and we are working on a guest speaker or entertainment plus a gift bags for each attendee. Thanks! Marsha Coke, National Headquarters

**From:** <[dougburns1@cox.net](mailto:dougburns1@cox.net)>

**Subject:** Changed VA procedures

For info: The VA has consolidated their process for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) and Burial Benefits filings. Whereas the DIC application (VA Form 21-534) used to be submitted to your servicing VA Regional Office (VARO), the form is now submitted to one of 3 Pension and Maintenance Centers. For the eastern part of the U.S. the submission goes to Philadelphia; for the central area it goes to St. Paul, MN and I'm not sure of the western region, but your servicing VARO can tell you (the office you get when you call the 800 number in your phone book). You will also need to submit a VA Form 21-530 for burial benefit re-imburement with the VA Form 21-534. The death certificate and itemized mortuary billing statement gets submitted with the VA Form 21-530. If the forms are submitted to your servicing VARO it will just delay the pro-

cess. As long as I am able I can assist your surviving spouse with the process if she so desires. I encourage all of you to get a copy of the forms mentioned and fill out the portions relative to your military background info (service entry dates, service #s, etc. ). You generally don't have to fill out any of the financial info (definitely not if you're 100% ). Just leave those areas blank. Put the partially completed forms with your important papers so that your spouse knows where they are. It will save a lot of grief for your spouse. You can download the forms and print them out by going to [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov). On the right side of the opening page of that site you'll see items listed in blue. Click on Forms and type in the form # that you want to print out. You don't need the form description; just the #. Hope this is all clear to you. I would also like to stress that it's important that your spouse make the 3 calls to DFAS, VA and SS ( all 800 #s; DFAS is 321-1080 and select the option to report a death and the others are in your phone book ) as soon as possible after your passing. If she doesn't, the agencies will keep paying benefits and she'll have to pay it back. That can get really complicated and messy. Don't think you're invincible; DO IT NOW!

(Note: Doug Burns is an AXPOW NSO. )

Dear Cheryl,

A very special event was happening this day inside the home of Ed Suominen in Scottsdale, AZ. Ed was sitting at the table with two other men. Two very special men. They all shared the same horrible experiences as POWs in a German prison camp - Stalag 2B.

Dave Zifkin came in from New York. Ray Reitz was from Maine. Ed never talked much about this terrible time in his life. But now they were sharing their stories and some were even humorous incidents. Many of

## members forum, cont'd...

the stories they shared included the medic, Sid Weiss of Arizona. Sid was a compassionate and likeable man who did all he could to help his fellow soldiers. I, Ed's wife, was sitting on the nearby sofa taking in all the conversation shared by these three men who endured the same torments for two years. The two of them had been liberated, but Ed had escaped from the winter march, ending up inside a concentration camp and escaped from there. He got home just before the war ended.

We had no idea where Sid Weiss was living in the US but I thought I could try to find his address on the Internet. Can you imagine my excitement when I found it and amazingly, he was right here in Phoenix. I found the phone number and called. Sid answered the phone and I told him what was happening. He yelled back, "I can be there in an hour." I gave him the address and instructions.

I didn't tell the others what was going to happen. It was all I could not to, but this was going to be a wonderful surprise. It was so exciting. I kept looking out the window and at last his car drove up.

I opened the front door and Sid stepped inside. He walked to the table where the fellows were. He stood there before them and didn't say a word. Then a loud shout came out from all of them when they recognized him. They jumped up quickly yelling, "Sid, it's Sid." They began hugging and hitting each other's backs. I could see tears flowing.

This small precious gathering of former POW friends and inmates of Stalag 2B will never be forgotten, along with their stories, good and bad. Ed's escapes and life in Stalag

2B is in the book, "Twice to Freedom".

Mary Suominen  
12201 N. 58<sup>th</sup> Way  
Scottsdale, AZ 85254  
480-332-0621

**Mr. Darwyn E Walker**  
2054 E Seminole St.  
Springfield, MO

**Dear Mr. Walker:**

It is my pleasure as Consul General of France in Chicago to inform you, on behalf of the people of France, that the President of the French Republic has named you Knight of the Legion of Honor\* for your valorous actions during World War II.

My fellow countrymen will never forget your sacrifice. Their children and grandchildren are as proud of your courageous actions as can be your own children and grandchildren.

This outstanding distinction is the highest honor that France can bestow upon those who have achieved remarkable deeds for France. It is also a sign of true gratitude for your invaluable contribution to the liberation of France during those difficult times in the History of our nation.

It is a privilege for me to send you my sincere and warmest congratulations. Please accept my very best wishes for yourself and your family and friends.

Merci beaucoup for all you did!

Sincerely yours,  
Sidy Diallo

Consul General Adjoint

\*Decree of the President of the French Republic Feb. 11, 2010

**Dear Cheryl,**

I am a veteran who served for 4 years in Iraq and Afghanistan, and I found your organization through the America Supports You website. You represent a large group of in-

dividuals that have sacrificed an enormous amount for our nation, and I thank you for it.

I am a founder of a 501c(3) organization which may also interest you as well. It's called Beyond Orders ([www.beyondorders.org](http://www.beyondorders.org)), and is basically a website that facilitates humanitarian aid to Afghanistan and Iraq through the US military. We are half social networking website & half Craigslist: through Beyond Orders, the US military requests:

- books
- medical supplies
- tools
- and even soccer gear

on behalf of the communities in which they operate and patrol.

Then, our network of stateside supporters gathers the requested goods, and we send them directly to the soldier or Marine who requested them for delivery to the communities.

Many non-profits are care package groups that feed the troops cookies or donate toiletries. Beyond orders is different - our aim is to help to solve the ultimate problem (not soldier hunger): forge stronger bonds between the native populations and the US by helping to grow those communities through better education, medical treatment, and opportunities. Only this will bring home the troops and spread peace.

We believe that our website goes beyond nice relations between the Afghans, Iraqis, and the US: it actually makes the US military safer and closer to accomplishing the goals set out by President Obama.

Thank you for any consideration.  
Matt



# American Ex-Prisoners of War Candidate for National Office 2010



Candidate for office of:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Member Chapter:

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

Date and Place of Capture:

Places of Internment:

Date and Place of Liberation:

Biography (Please attach, including picture):

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

**Submit to: Milton M Moore, Jr., Chairman, 2965 Sierra Bermeja, Sierra Vista, AZ 85650**

**email: skip.m.moore@us.army.mil Phone: (520) 459-7925**

## National Convention Tentative Agenda Sept. 21-26, 2010

## AD Order Form

Page size is 8 1/2 x 11

### Ad Pricing

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

**Tuesday Sept. 21:**

National Service Officer  
Training  
Registration Desk Open in PM

**Wednesday Sept. 22:**

National Board of Directors  
Meeting  
Registration Desk Open  
Hospitality Room Open  
Hospitality Room  
Evening Entertainment

**Thursday Sept. 23:**

Daytrip to Andersonville  
Opening Ceremonies at  
Andersonville National Historic  
Site and the National POW  
Museum

**Friday Sept. 24:**

Past National Commanders  
Breakfast  
General Business Session  
Camp Reunions  
Hospitality Room  
Commanders Reception  
Evening Entertainment

**Saturday Sept. 25:**

General Business Session &  
Balloting  
Banquet and Installation of  
Officers

**Sunday Sept. 26:**

Devotional  
National Board of Directors Meeting

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

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Ad Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Checks Payable to:**  
2010Convention Fund  
Mail Form with Ad materials and  
check to:Marsha Coke, National  
Headquarters, 3101 E. Pioneer Pkway,  
Suite 40, Arlington, TX 76010

**PSSST!**  
Did you know the hotel is  
only 8 miles from Southwest  
Georgia Regional Airport?



# *American Ex-Prisoners of War 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention*

## Sept 21-26, 2010

~~ Albany, Georgia ~~

To be held at the Hilton Garden Inn. Room rates are \$109 per night, plus tax. Parking at the hotel is free. Airport Transportation is about \$15 by cab from the Southwest Georgia Regional Airport. Call the Hilton Garden Inn at 229-878-4861 no later than August 20, 2010 to make your hotel reservations.

**COME JOIN US AS WE SHARE OLD MEMORIES AND MAKE NEW ONES!!!**

***For More Information, contact: American Ex-Prisoners of War***  
***Phone: (817)649-2979; Email: [hq@axpow.org](mailto:hq@axpow.org)***  
***Or The Reunion BRAT***  
***Phone: (360)663-2521; Email: [Info@TheReunionBRAT.com](mailto:Info@TheReunionBRAT.com)***

### REGISTRATION FORM

YES, SIGN ME UP FOR THE AMERICAN-EX PRISONERS OF WAR 2010 CONVENTION!!!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 POW CAMP \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH OF SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME OF YOUR GUESTS \_\_\_\_\_  
 PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY \_\_\_\_\_  
 BANQUET MEAL SELECTION: BEEF \_\_\_\_\_ CHICKEN \_\_\_\_\_ VEGETARIAN \_\_\_\_\_  
 IS THIS YOUR FIRST REUNION? YES: \_\_\_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_\_\_  
 REGISTRATION FEES  
 REQUIRED REGISTRATION FEE: # of PERSONS \_\_\_\_\_ x \$96 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 BUS TO ANDERSONVILLE NUMBER ATTENDING \_\_\_\_\_ x \$16 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 LADIES' LUNCHEON NUMBER ATTENDING \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 TOTAL ENCLOSED = \_\_\_\_\_

PAYMENT IS DUE NO LATER THAN AUGUST 20, 2010

PLEASE SEND PAYMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS AND MADE PAYABLE TO:

**THE REUNION BRAT**

50721 State Hwy 410 E, Greenwater, WA 98022; (360)663-2521

Confirmation of Registration and Itinerary will be sent out by August 30, 2010. A \$20 per person cancellation fee will apply to all cancellations received within 30 days of the event. Cancellations received within 10 days of the event will be non-refundable. Call the Hilton Garden Inn at 229-878-4861 no later than August 20, 2010 to make your hotel reservations. Be sure to mention you are with the AXPOW Convention to receive your group rate of \$109 a night, plus tax. These prices are available 3 days prior to and after your event should you choose to extend your stay. We'll see you soon in Albany!

Ex-POW Bulletin  
 May/June 2010

American Ex-Prisoners of War  
Website Biography  
www.axpow.org

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

Name

Nickname

Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone

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

Submit 1 or 2 photographs (color or black and white).  
Biography:(please type or print)

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

Please include your check for \$65 payable to AXPOW. If you have any questions, please contact Clydie Morgan,  
National Adjutant, at 817-649-2979; HQ@axpow.org

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May/June 2010  
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# new members

National Headquarters  
3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40  
Arlington, TX 76010; (817) 649-2979  
Marsha.Coke@axpow.org



## New Annual Members Welcome Home!

Ronna Janssen  
Deland FL  
Daughter of Julian Walker, ETO

Vernon L Wright  
Rosalind  
Sarasota FL  
USAF 51 TW 25 TFS  
Pong Yang #5, #6  
1/16/52-9/5/53



William T Kornke  
Betty J  
Dundalk MD  
101 DIV  
Farm, Marinfeld, Prussia,  
Stamlager 12A  
10/7/44-liberation  
William Edward Quarles  
Evelyn  
Largo MD  
Sgt. USMC Marine Guard  
Tehran, Iran

Mary Lou Vaught  
Nixon TN  
Daughter of William Vaught, ETO

## New Life Members Welcome Home!

\*denotes new member to AXPOW

Roger Primmer \*39663  
Lancaster OH  
Son of Wilbur R Primmer, ETO

Joyce Mullett \*39664  
Coshocton OH  
Daughter of Robert Hagans, ETO  
Emery Pitman \*39665  
Akron OH  
Son of Russell Pitman, ETO

Kazumi Arakaki \*39666  
North Las Vegas NV  
2 DIV USA  
Camp 4, North Korea  
5/51-11/53

Roderick Reynolds  
Jimmie \*39667 39668  
Grand Prairie TX  
Son of Laverne Reynolds, ETO

## Albany, Georgia...

is the largest town in rural Southwest Georgia with a population of 121,000. We have a very mild temperature year round. It can get as high as 101 in the summer, but the winters are nice, because there are probably only two or three times a year that we have to wear a heavy coat. The average high in January is 62 degrees, and the average low is 41.

The first inhabitants of the Albany area were the Creek Indians. They called their riverbank home Thronateeska meaning "the place where flint is picked up." Today it's called the Flint River. Nelson Tift founded our city in 1836, and in 1890 he planted 25,000 pecan trees. We are known for our pecans. We are also known for our reputation as "the good life" city. This is new the 2005 Super Bowl NVPD branch. Ray Charles was born here in 1930. The golf champions Ray and Nancy Lopez Knight reside here, as does the jazz trumpeter Harry James.

Everyone loves good cuisine and great shopping. Albany has a variety of restaurants and shops that are unique to this city as well as well known chains that are loved by everyone. Get a taste of Albany at one of the exclusively Albany restaurants. Enjoy shopping at one of the exclusive shops. Or shop at the Albany Mall.

Must see attractions include an aquarium built around a 175,000 gallon blue hole spring, a wild animal park, the Southeast's largest collection of sub-Saharan African art, information and memorabilia about the 1960s Albany Georgia Civil Rights Movement, a house whose cellar housed food supplies for the Confederate Navy during the Civil War and more.

Albany, which boasts more than 600,000 pecan trees, is the pecan capital of the U.S. Albany hosts the annual National Pecan Festival, which includes a race, parade, pecan-cooking contest, the crowning of the National Pecan Queen and many other activities.



**JOIN US AS WE COMMEMORATE THE “FORGOTTEN WAR”**

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND THESE EVENTS!

To make a reservation, please complete the online registration form at [www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/korea.asp](http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/korea.asp). If you are planning to attend the dinner, your payment must be returned with your registration form.

Additional questions? Please call (937) 255-5940 for more information.

**■ Exhibit Opening and Dinner Under the Wings**

Thursday, June 24, 2010 | National Museum of the United States Air Force

*Event includes a special unveiling of the new Korean War exhibit area in the museum's Modern Flight Gallery.*

Reception begins at 6 p.m., and the dinner and program begin at 7 p.m. You'll enjoy an all-service Color Guard and a performance by the U.S. Air Force Band of Flight. Cost is \$25 per person (\$12.50 for children ages 6-10, free for children under age 5), which includes a two meat buffet, dessert and ice tea. Reservations are based on availability and will be open until June 1, 2010. No refunds after May 24, 2010.

**■ Freedom's Call Military Tattoo**

Friday, June 25, 2010 | National Museum of the United States Air Force

*Korean War veterans will be honored during this spectacular event.*

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base celebrates freedom during the sixth annual Tattoo, featuring live music, aircraft fly-overs and a fireworks show. Admission is free. Preferred parking and seating will be available to Korean War veterans and their guests (reservations due June 1, 2010). Pre-show activities begin at 4:30 p.m. and the main show begins at 8 p.m. Refreshments will be available for purchase during the event.

**■ Korean War Memorial Ceremony**

Saturday, June 26, 2010 | 130 Riverside Drive in Downtown Dayton

*Recognize, honor and remember the service and sacrifice of those who fought in the “Forgotten War.”*

A 13-foot tall granite statue representing all of the U.S. Armed Forces stands in tribute to the men and women who served during the Korean War. Join us for a ceremony at 5 p.m. as we honor these veterans.

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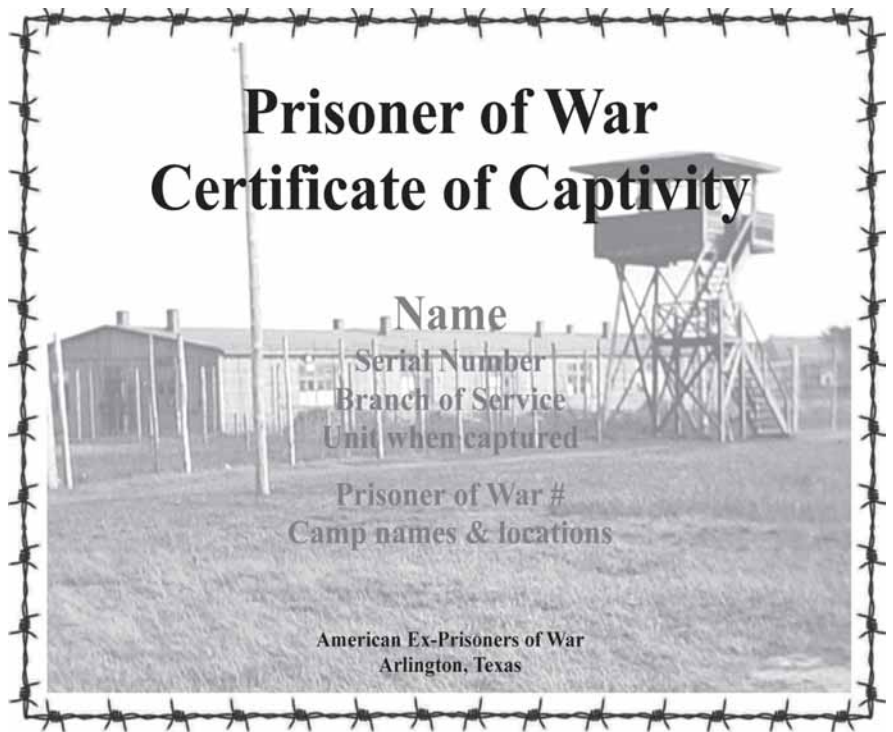
*Please contact the following visitors bureaus for information about area lodging and attractions:*

**Dayton/Montgomery County CVB**(800) 221-8235, [www.daytoncvb.com](http://www.daytoncvb.com)**Greene County CVB**(800) 733-9109, [www.greenecountyohio.org](http://www.greenecountyohio.org)**Warren County CVB**(800) 791-4FUN, [www.ohioslargestplayground.com](http://www.ohioslargestplayground.com)**Greater Cincinnati CVB**(800) 543-2613, [ww.cincyusa.com](http://ww.cincyusa.com)**Northern Kentucky CVB**(877) NKY-VISIT, [www.nkycvb.com](http://www.nkycvb.com)**Experience Columbus**(866) EXP-COLS, [www.experiencecolumbus.com](http://www.experiencecolumbus.com)

# Certificate of Captivity

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 purchase this certificate from AXPOW, send your name, service number, branch of service, unit when captured, POW number (if known), camp names and locations, along with your payment of \$25.00. You may include a picture with your order.

Please order from National Headquarters. If you are ordering at Convention, you can place your order in the Merchandise Room.



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



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

### Life Membership Rates

Under 35	\$360
36-50	\$300
51-60	\$180
61 & over	\$120
Spouse of life member	\$ 40

### Annual Membership Rates

Single Membership	\$ 40
Husband & wife	\$ 50

### Mail to:

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

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# contributions



Please send donations to:  
National Headquarters, 3201 East  
Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40,  
Arlington, TX 76010. You can also  
make a donation with a credit card  
(MasterCard or Visa). Just call 817-  
6492979. Thank you!

Contributions are not  
tax deductible at this time

Thank you! Thank you!  
Thank you!  
AXPOW member Rita  
Monteith sent in a very  
special donation...  
"In memory of my beloved  
husband Ex-POW  
Joseph Monteith"

## GENERAL FUND

Haskell Yadlovker, Flushing NY  
Inland Empire Chapter  
In memory of Benny Dan Osecky,  
by the Bill Rolen Memorial Chapter  
In memory of Carl Fyler, by Joanne  
Molen  
In memory of Emilio "Al" LoBato,  
by the Rocky Mountain Chapter  
In memory of George Danko, by  
Bob & Helen Seitzinger  
In memory of Glenn Morgan, by  
Mae Morgan  
In memory of Guillerma Baylon, by  
the Inland Empire Chapter  
In memory of Helen Modzik  
Osecky, by the Bill Rolen Memorial  
Chapter  
In memory of Henry Dunning, by  
Phyllis Dunning  
In memory of Howard G Wilson, by  
Adeline Robinson  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Andre & Louise Trawick

**Ex-POW Bulletin**  
**May/June 2010**  
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In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Charles & Virginia Knight  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Ernie & Daisy Posadas  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Jim & Denise Roethemeier  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Lori Thomas  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Mary Eva Payne & Family  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by McDonald's Coffee Friends  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Millie Hines  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Patricia Kavanaugh and Ben  
Nelson  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Paul & Beverly Nord  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Phillip, Kim & Joe Metzger  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Tom & Mary Alice Springer  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Wilma Jeanette Oldham  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Robert & Betty Pritchett  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Wave 3, Raycom Media  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by E J Mabry Insurance Agency  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Sister Miriam Frenke  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Brumit Restaurant Group  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Paul , Ann & Elizabeth  
Metzger  
In memory of James Bernard Tho-  
mas, by Jim & Jonel Harmon  
In memory of James R Martin, by  
Doris Martin  
In memory of James Twinn, by  
Clifford Austin  
In memory of Jim Daugherty, by  
VFW Post 6790, Wellton AZ  
In memory of Jim Daugherty, by  
Robert Newberry  
In memory of John D Collins, by  
Norma Ford  
In memory of John D Collins, by  
Chuck & Audie Hartney  
In memory of John D Collins, by F  
G 'Dick' Williamson  
In memory of John D Collins, by Dot  
& Tom Davis  
In memory of John D Collins, by  
Charles Sudduth

In memory of John Schultz, by  
Judith & Peter Matheisz  
In memory of Margaret Reifenrath,  
by Carmen Rowles  
In memory of Talmage Suber, by the  
Dept of Georgia

## MEDSEARCH FUND

North Central Ohio Chapter  
In memory of Ann Sorrell, by the  
Greater St Louis Chapter  
In memory of Earl Ryley, by the  
Columbia River Chapter  
In memory of Elmer Meng, by the  
Greater St Louis Chapter  
In memory of Gladys Roberts, by  
the Columbia River Chapter  
In memory of Margaret 'Peggie'  
Block, by the Department of Mary-  
land  
In memory of Mary Ringo, by the  
Columbia River Chapter  
In memory of Robert Woehlke, by  
the Department of Maryland

## BULLETIN

Brooklyn "Key" Chapter

## NSO

In honor of Fred Campbell, given  
anonymously

## VOLUNTARY FUNDING

Bernard Buenger, Cherokee IA  
C Norman Gustafson, Scotch Plains  
NJ  
Charles Susino, Metuchen NJ  
Eugene Ostrowski, Cheektowaga  
NY  
Howard Latton, Portage WI  
John S Smith, Universal City TX  
Keith Ginther, Fairfield MT  
Lorna Brinser, Greeley CO  
Mel Stevens, Arlington TX  
Morris Barker, Waco TX

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**Bring your  
grandkids!**

**National Convention  
September 21-26, 2010  
Opening Ceremonies  
will be held at  
Andersonville National  
Historic Site**





# taps



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

**ACHEN, Norman Wesley**, 88, passed away Feb. 17, 2010. He was a WWII P-51 Fighter Pilot in the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 4<sup>th</sup> FG, 334<sup>th</sup> FS. He was shot down, captured by the Germans, and sent to Stalag Luft III, escaped during the March and has recorded his experiences in his book, "Go With GOD".

**ADDINGTON, Estell**, member of the James L. Hale Memorial Chapter, VA passed away in December, 2009. She was the widow of Douglas, member of Co. L, 110<sup>th</sup> Inf., 28<sup>th</sup> Div. Estell is survived by one daughter.

**ALLE, Samuel A.** of Grand Rapids, MN died Feb. 15, 2010 at the age of 90. He served as an Army combat medic in WWII with the 80<sup>th</sup> Div. Co. 317L. He was wounded and captured in Germany; he was held in Stalags 12A and 3C. He leaves his wife of 63 years, Shirley, 2 sons, 2 granddaughters and 7 great-grandchildren.

**BABINGTON, William F.** of Franklinton, LA passed away March 3, 2010 at the age of 87. Stationed in England, he served in the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 94<sup>th</sup> BG. He was shot down over Germany and captured. Bill is survived by his wife, 3 children, 6 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

**BALAY, Buford A, "B.A."**, of Joplin, Missouri, died March 6, 2010. He served with the 363<sup>rd</sup> BS, 493<sup>rd</sup> BG, and was held in Stalag 4D.

**BARNETT, Dorothy**, member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW died July 2005. She was the widow of ex-POW Carroll "Barney", who died in 2001. Barney was captured Dec. 10, 1941 while serving with the Marines. He was taken to Japan and held in Zentsui prison for 46 months.

**BAUGH, William Joseph**, of Colorado Springs, CO passed away Feb. 19, 2010. Bill was shot down in Vietnam Jan. 21, 1967 on his 25<sup>th</sup> combat mission and held in the Hanoi Hilton, sharing a cell with Mike McGrath. He was released March 4, 1973. He was known throughout the community for his presentations on life as a POW and for his activism on POW/MIA issues. Bill leaves his wife, Mary, 4 children and 5 grandchildren. He will be missed by all who knew him.

**BITTNER, John H.**, of Windom, MN died Feb. 25, 2010. He was 90 and a member of the Prairieland Chapter, AXPOW. He was a POW during WWII. John is survived by one step-daughter and one grandson.

**BECKER, Donald**, of San Antonio, Texas, died March 9, 2010. An AX-POW life member, he was a member of the San Antonio Chapter. He served with the 106<sup>th</sup> Div and was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. He was held in Bad Orb. He was predeceased by his wife of 62 years, Joetta.

**BETTS, Dave**, of Circleville, Ohio passed away in Dec. 2008. During WWII, he was captured at Kasserine Pass in North Africa; he was a member of the Fairfield Barb Wire Chapter 4, AXPOW. Dave is survived by his wife, Betty.

**BLACK, Robert V.**, 87, passed away March 10, 2010 in Houston, TX. His B-24 was shot down after flying out of Cerginola, Italy. He spent 13 months as a POW in Stalag 17B. He leaves behind his wife and best friend of 63 years, Ivonne, 1 son, 2 grandsons, 1 great-grandson and 2 great-granddaughters.

**BLUM, Adolf**, died Nov. 17, 2005. He was a member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW. He served

with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 100<sup>th</sup> BG; he was held in Stalag XVII and Luft IV. Adolph was preceded in death by his wife, Mary.

**BLUM, Shirley**, member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW died Nov. 25, 2006. She was the widow of ex-POW Samuel.

**BOMAR, Jack Williamson**, member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW died May 21, 2009. He was captured Feb. 1967 in Thai Nguyen, North Vietnam; he was held in Hoa Lo, Cu Loa, Band Liet, Dan Hoi until liberation April 1973. Jack is survived by his wife Kay.

**BREITWIESER, Walter J.**, 84, of Little Falls, NJ passed away on April 14, 2010. During WWII, he served in the Army, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. He was held POW in Stalags XIIA and 2A. Walter leaves 3 daughters, 2 sons, 16 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and 1 sister.

**BREMERMANN, Floyd "Bix"** 85; passed away Dec. 21, 2009 at the Chula Vista Veterans Home in San Diego County. He was a Bombardier and the sole survivor when his plane was shot down over Hungary. He was with the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, 449<sup>th</sup> BG, 716<sup>th</sup> BS and spent time in Stalag 7A. He leaves a wife, Margaret and two sons.

**BRIDGEWATER, Billy Bowen**, of Raleigh, NC died Oct. 25, 2009. He was a member of the 291<sup>st</sup> BG, 575<sup>th</sup> BS. His B-26 was shot down over Lyon; he was captured and held in Stalag 17B until liberation. Billy is survived by his wife, Mary, 4 children, 2 step-children and 9 grandchildren.

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Ex-POW Bulletin  
May/June 2010

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## taps continued...

**BRYAN, Margary Lucinda Varner**, 92, of St. Louis, MO passed away Jan. 15, 2010. She was the widow of ex-POW Kenneth. Margary was especially proud of how her husband had bribed a guard to get a letter out of camp to let her know he was ok before the Army knew his status.

**BUERSTER, Raymond W**, of West Seneca, NY, died in March, 2010. A member of the Western New York Chapter, he served with the 44<sup>th</sup> Div, 324<sup>th</sup> Inf Reg, and was held in Stalag 4B. He is survived by his wife, Mary.

**CHARLES, Ernest James**, of Pikeville, KY passed away March 26, 2010. He was 82 years old. He was a member of Medical Company, 21<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment of the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and went from Japan to Korea with that unit. He saw action on 5 July 1950 and was among the first Americans to meet the North Korean Army. He was captured that day and spent more than 37 months in POW camps in Korea. Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Emma.

**CHAVEZ, Ramon**, died March 6, 2010. An AXPOW life member since 1981, and a member of the Western Illinois Chapter, he served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Inf. Div. and was held in Stalag 13C. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Loretta.

**CISKE, Jerome L**, of Appleton, WI died June 25, 2009. He was 88. Jay served with the 9<sup>th</sup> Armored Div. during WWII. He was a POW in Germany. Survivors include his wife, Arlene, 4 sons, 1 daughter, 8 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren, and numerous extended family.

**CLARK, Albert P**, 96, member of the Rocky Mt. Chapter, AXPOW, passed away March 8, 2010. He was shot down over France while flying for the RAF and held 33 months as a POW. During his internment, he directed security activities at Luft III in preparation for what came to be known as "The Great Escape". Gen. Clark was past superintendent of the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. He will be missed by his many friends.

**CLARK, Laverne**, widow of former POW Earl passed away March 11, 2008. She was a member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW.

**CLARKE, Mary K.**, of Levittown PA died Feb. 1, 2010. She was the beloved wife and best friend for 61 years of William "Pud" Clarke. Mary was the chapter Chaplain for many years and right arm to Cay Burns. She also leaves two daughters, one son and numerous grandchildren and grand dogs.

**COSTELLO, Paul**, of Lansing, MI passed away Dec. 30, 2009. During WWII, he served in Co. B, 393<sup>rd</sup> Inf. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. Paul was predeceased by his bride of 59 years, Rosalie. Survivors include Michael Costello.

**COURTS, Evaline**, widow of Walter, passed away March 3, 2008. She was a member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW. Walter was captured at Faid Pass, North Africa while serving with the Army Engineers, CO F., 109<sup>th</sup> Eng., 34<sup>th</sup> Div.

**CRAM, James V.**, 86, of Palm Harbor, FL, died March 16, 2010. He was a WWII Veteran, serving with E Company, 422<sup>nd</sup> Inf., 106<sup>th</sup> Div., captured in the Battle of the Bulge. He was a member of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter, AXPOW. He is survived by Carol, his wife of 46 years, a son, a daughter, 7 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

**CRUZ, Conchita**, of Sunnyvale, California, passed away in mid-January, 2010. Conchita was a long time

member of the Tacoma, WA Chapter, AXPOW.

**DeLaCRUZ, Ruben D.** died April 11, 2010. He was 79. was promoted to Glory on 11 April 2010 in the early morning hours. He was a member of HQ Co., 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 19<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment of the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and went to Korea from Beppu Japan when the Korean War broke out. In camp he was known by the name of Cruz and later he corrected his name to DeLaCRUZ. He leaves his beloved wife, Rosa.

**ELEK, Joseph M**, of Dallas, Texas, died December 26, 2009. A member of the Dallas Metroplex Chapter, "Joe" served with the 16<sup>th</sup> FABN, and was held in Stalags 9B and 9A.

**ELLIOTT, Norman D**, of Eau Claire, WI passed away Feb. 4, 2010. He was a Wake Island defender and became a POW on Dec. 23, 1941. He was released from his last prison camp at Hokkaido, Japan in Sept. 1945. He was a life member of AXPOW. Norman is survived by his wife of 64 years, Dorothy and one brother.

**FAUBER, William Clayborne Jr.**, of Roanoke, VA died March 15, 2010. He was captured while serving with the Army Rangers at Anzio, Italy in 1943; he was held until liberation. Bill was a life member of American Ex-Prisoners of War where he served as Roanoke Chapter Commander. He also served as Commander of the Department of Virginia. He leaves his loving wife, Lou, 4 sons, 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**FRANZWA, Arthur**, member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW died Dec. 2, 2006. During WWII, he served with the 19<sup>th</sup> BG, AAC. He was captured in the Philippines and held in O'Donnell, Cabanatuan, Bilibid, Amori.

**GASPER, Edward J.**, of Lubbock, TX passed away March 15, 2010. He was captured on December 18, 1944 while serving in the Army and sent to Stalag 9B, Bad Orb, in Ger-

## taps continued...

many. He was a member of the Hub of the Plains Chapter, AXPOW and was a faithful volunteer at the Lubbock VA Outpatient Clinic, where he will be missed very much. His wife, Nelle, predeceased him. He is survived by a sister, 4 nephews, 1 niece, and 1 sister-in-law.

**GOUR, Joe**, member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW died Sept. 2009. He served with the 106<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div and was captured in Muhlberg. He escaped on his fourth attempt.

**HASTINGS, William R.**, 87, of Riddlesburg, PA passed away Feb. 16, 2010. He served in the Army during WWII; he was a POW for 1 ½ years. Bill was a member of the Southern Alleghenies Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife, Catherine, 2 children and 4 grandchildren.

**HOCKMAN, Duane Wesley**, of Winchester, VA passed away Feb. 11, 2010. During WWII, he served as a Tank Destroyer Driver attached to the 45<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. He was captured near Lyon, France and held until liberation. Survivors include Martha, his wife of 62 years, 1 son, 1 daughter, 4 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren, 2 sisters and 1 brother.

**HUMBEL, Robert**, member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW died Jan. 5, 2006. He was captured near Regensburg and held in Stalag XD, then force-marched across Germany. He was repatriated Sept. 1944. Robert leaves his wife, Linda.

**INGEBRITSON, Joyce**, 83, of Staples, MN passed away Feb. 24, 2010. She was the widow of Orville, an ex-POW held in Germany for 27 months. Joyce was a member of Lakes Region Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include two sons, four grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, three sisters and three brothers.

**INGRAM, Robert F.**, of Springfield, IL died March 2, 2010. Bob served aboard the USS Houston from 1939

to 1941; he was then transferred to Corregidor where he was captured. He was a POW for 3 ½ years. He leaves his wife of 65 years, Betty, 2 daughters, 2 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and his brother William, who was also a POW.

**JACKSON, Ernest B.**, of Covington, GA died May 21, 2009. He was assigned to the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 306<sup>th</sup> BG, 423<sup>rd</sup> BS, flying out of England. He was shot down and spent 15 months in Stalag 17B before liberation. He is survived by his wife, Mary, 2 daughters, 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**JOHNSON, Annie O.**, of Scranton, ND passed away Nov. 2, 2009 at the age of 86. She was a member of the Dakota West Chapter. Annie leaves her husband, ex-POW Bryce, 4 children, 8 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**JOHNSON, Margaret Ruth Stewart**, a member of South Louisiana Chapter, died March 18, 2010. She was the beloved wife of ex-POW Erwin, who served in the AAC and was captured on Bataan. Margaret is also survived by 4 children, 2 sisters, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. She will be missed by all in the Chapter.

**KO, Charlotte Gliese** passed away Feb. 7, 2010 in Joplin MO. She was 94 years old. Lotte was teaching at Seoul University when the Communist came to arrest her and her husband. Her husband was taken away and has never been heard from since. Lotte was imprisoned with 80 other civilians from several countries and American POWs taken early in the war from the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. That group is now known as the Tiger Survivors.

**KOZICH, Alexander**, of Navarre, FL died Jan. 3, 2010. Al was captured on Corregidor in May, 1942 while serving with the 60<sup>th</sup> CAC in "B" Battery. He was held in the Philippines and Japan for 3 ½ years.

While working on the docks, he joined a group called GG Harrison and his 40 Thieves. Their intent was to sabotage and interrupt the Japanese effort. He continued his efforts after being transferred to Japan. Al leaves his loving wife, Eleanore, 2 sons, 4 step-children and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**LONGHI, Harrison L.**, of Plymouth, MA passed away Feb. 23, 2010 at the age of 88. He served with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 100<sup>th</sup> BG. His Flying Fortress was shot down and he spent 16 months as a POW. Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Gloria, 2 children and 1 grandson.

**LOTESTO, Nicholas**, of Nanuet, NY passed away July 16, 2008. During WWII, Nick served with the AAF, flying out of Foggia, Italy. He was shot down and captured on July 16, 1944. He was injured by townspeople, then taken into custody by German soldiers. After interrogation, he was sent to Luft IV where he stayed until marched ahead of the Russian army. He escaped and managed to reach France. Survivors include his beloved wife, Ann.

**MAFFETONE, Dominick**, member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW died Sept. 15, 2009. He was captured while serving with the 334<sup>th</sup> BS, 95<sup>th</sup> BG; he was held until liberation. He leaves his wife, Ruth.

**MARTIN, James R.**, of Jackson, Tennessee, died October 5, 2008. He was a B-24 Pilot, and held POW at Luft 1 on the Baltic Sea. A member of the Mid-South Chapter, he is survived by his wife of 60 years, Doris.

**McCAIG, Cristabel**, member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW died March 9, 2008. She was the wife of ex-POW David.



## taps continued...

**McCRAV, Joseph C.**, of Mayer, AZ passed away Feb. 28, 2010. He was 95. During WWII, he served with the 320<sup>th</sup> BG, 442 BS. He was shot down over Italy, taken prisoner and held in Stalag Luft IV, then force-marched across Germany. He leaves his daughter Margaret, 1 grandson and 1 great-grandson.

**McTEAGUE, John**, of Newport News, Virginia, died March 6, 2010. While serving with the 49<sup>th</sup> BS, 15<sup>th</sup> AF, he was shot down on Feb. 24, 1944, over Austria. He was sent to Stalag Luft 1 and remained there until liberation by the Russian Army on May 5, 1945. He was a member of the James L Hale Memorial Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include one son and one daughter.

**MILLER, Victor**, of Chandler, Arizona, died May 14, 2009. A member of the East Valley Chapter, he served with the 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Bn Co E. He was a POW in Stalag 7A. Victor is survived by his wife, Faye.

**MONTOYA, Horacio**, of Albuquerque, NM passed away Oct. 27, 2009. He was 93. During WWII, he served alongside his brother Ben with the 200<sup>th</sup> CAC. Both were captured and spent 3 ½ years in captivity in the Philippines and Japan. Horacio is survived by his wife of 61 years, Loyola, 3 sons, 2 daughters, 10 grandchildren, 1 great-grandson and many other family members.

**MORROW, Eleanora E.**, of Lancaster, OH passed away Dec. 7, 2009 at the age of 85. She was the widow of Tom Morrow, Sr., who was captured in Germany and held for 8 months. Both Eleanora and her husband served as commander of the Fairfield Barb Wire Association Chapter 4. She is survived by 1 daughter, 2 sons, 2 stepsons, 1

stepdaughter, 4 sisters and 2 brothers.

**MURPHY, Vera Edith**, of New Lebanon, OH passed away Feb. 1, 2010. She is survived by her loving husband of 64 years, Glen (a POW in Germany during WWII), 5 children, 19 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren as well as a host of extended family. She will be missed by her family and friends.

**NAZIMEK, Joseph C.**, 90, member of the Greater Chicago Chapter, AXPOW, died Feb. 19, 2010. During WWII, his B-24 was shot down; he was captured and held in Luft IV. Joseph is survived by his wife, Ann, 4 daughters, 2 sons and 8 grandchildren.

**NIELSEN, Lilian**, of Elgin, IL died March 22, 2010. She was 84. Both Lilian and her late husband, ex-POW Donald, were members of the Batavia Chapter, AXPOW. She leaves 1 daughter, 1 son, 5 grandchildren, 1 sister and 1 brother.

**O'NEILL, Constantine**, member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW, passed away May 26, 2009. During WWII, he served with the 157<sup>th</sup> Inf., 45<sup>th</sup> Div. He was captured in Salerno, Italy and held in camps 7A, 2B, 3B. His wife, Mary, survives him.

**OSECKY, Benny Dan**, of Annandale, Virginia, died March 7, 2010. A survivor of the Bataan Death March, he was held in Camps O'Donnell, Cabanatuan, Las Pinas and Bilibid on Luzon Island. He was among thousands sent in "hellships" to Japan. Not realizing POWs were aboard, US bombers sank the ship Sgt. Osecky was on. He was recaptured, shipped to Japan and freed by US Marines in September, 1945. A member of the Bill Rolan Memorial Chapter, he was predeceased by his wife of 62 years, Helen, in January, 2010.

**PHELAN, Walter Joseph, Jr.** 86, of Memphis, TN passed away Jan. 28,

2010. He was a member of the Mid-South Chapter, AXPOW. Walter was captured in the Battle of the Bulge while serving in the Army. He was held until liberation. He leaves his wife, Jeanne, 1 daughter, 3 sons, 12 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**PAGET, Richard**, member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW died Jan. 5, 2005. He served in the Navy on the USS Canopus and was captured after it was scuttled. He was held in Osaka, Japan. Richard is survived by his wife, Laura.

**PENA, Alfred**, passed away March 25, 2010 in Mexico. He was an ex-POW in WWII and a member of AXPOW. Alfred is survived by his wife, daughter Theresa and four grandchildren who miss him very much.

**PENCE, J Lorin**, of Ashton, Idaho, died February 6, 2010. A member of the Idaho Chapter, he served with the Army Air Corp, and was held in Dulag, Wetzlar, Stalag 7A and 13D. He is survived by his wife, Thelma.

**PERRO, Edward**, member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW died Dec. 24, 2005. He was captured while serving in the 453<sup>rd</sup> BG in Belgium. He was held in Luft III. His wife, Dolores (Dee) survives him.

**QUINN, Edward F, "Moxie"**, of Lillington, North Carolina, died November 30, 2009. He served with Co G, 45 Division, and was held in Stalags 7A, 3B and 3A. He was a member of the Broward-South Palm Beach Chapter.

**RAMSHAY, John**, of Mesquite, Texas, died March 19, 2010. John served in the Army and was held in Stalags 7A, 3B and on a work farm. A member of the Fort Worth Chapter, he is survived by his wife of 65 years, Stella.

**REGEHR, Walter J.**, of Citrus Heights, CA passed away Jan. 31,

## taps continued...

2010. He was captured while serving in the Air Force during WWII. Walter leaves his loving wife, Colleen, 2 sisters and extended family. He will be missed forever.

**REIERSON, Laurel**, beloved wife of 63 years of ex-POW Ray, passed away Dec. 13, 2009 at the age of 82. She was active in the Department of Georgia and attended all functions since 1988, as well as assisting Ray while he was Adj/Treas. for many years and when he was Dept. Commander.

**ROACH, William Edward**, of Land O'Lakes, FL died March 8, 2010. During WWII, he was attached to the 355<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group, flying out of England. He was shot down over France, captured and taken to Luft I, Barth. There he earned the title of "The Mole" for his affinity to use a coffee can to dig escape tunnels. Survivors include his wife, Irene, 2 sons, 4 stepchildren, and many grandchildren, friends and extended family.

**ROZMAN, Leo**, of Boynton Beach, FL (formerly of S. Fallsburg & Brooklyn, NY) passed away Jan 30, 2010 at the age of 85. Leo was a former POW and veteran with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne. He was a member of the Hudson Valley Chapter, AXPOW. Marilyn, his loving wife of 63 years, survives him; he also leaves 1 brother and numerous nieces and nephews.

**SCARAMUZZINO, Frank J Sr.**, of Detroit, MI died March 8, 2010. He was 87 and a former POW in Germany. Frank is survived by his beloved wife, Nina, 2 daughters, 4 sons, 18 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

**SCHADE, Eleanor**, wife of ex-POW Richard, died June 2005. She was a member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW. Richard served with the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, 2<sup>nd</sup> BG, 429<sup>th</sup> BS. He was captured in Austria and held in 5 camps.

**SHAW, Burrell**, member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW died Sept. 1, 2006. He was captured while serving with the 452<sup>nd</sup> BG and was part of the forced march from Luft IV. **SHAW, Mary Lee**, wife of ex-POW Burrell, passed away July 6, 2005.

**SHUPING, Natalija "Nata"**, 83, of Lancaster, OH passed away Dec. 27, 2009. She as the widow of Ralph Shuping. Ralph was captured in the Philippines and survived the Bataan Death March and 3 ½ years of captivity. Nata leaves 1 daughter, 2 sons, 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**SINGLETON, Allen Daniel**, of Seagoville, TX, died April 2, 2010. A member of the Dallas Metroplex Chapter, he was a P-38 Fighter Pilot with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 20<sup>th</sup> FB, 55<sup>th</sup> FS, and was held in Dulag Luft, Luft 3, Stalag 13D and 17. He is survived by his wife, Norma Faye.

**SLACK, Robert E.**, of El Paso, TX passed away Nov. 27, 2009. He was flying out of Foggia, Italy when he was shot down and captured; he spent 13 months in Stalag 17B. Bob's wife, Billie, predeceased him; survivors include his daughter Becky.

**SMITH, CL "Snuffy"**, 80, passed away May 3, 2009 in Piggott, AR. He was captured while serving in the Army during the Korean War. He was held in various camps, including Camp 5. Snuffy is survived by five children.

**SMITH, Virginia Morris**, 84, of McLean, VA died March 6, 2010. She was the widow of ex-POW Wayne. Virginia was a member of AXPOW. She is survived by 4 daughters, 1 son, 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**SOHN, Rosser**, passed away Jan. 24, 2010. He was a Marine in the Philippines when WWII started. He was in several Japanese POW Camps, including Cabanatuan Camp #3, Bilibid, and Camp Fukuoka #17 in

Japan. He lived in Vista, CA and attended the Vista POW group of the San Diego POW Chapter.

**STEVENS, Frank Joseph**, 91, died Feb. 11, 2010 in Grand Blanc, MI. He joined the Army, guarding the Panama Canal. When war broke out, he ended up in Europe; he was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and later escaped. Frank is survived by 3 sons, 1 daughter, 9 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren and 1 sister. He was a member of the WV Barbed Wire Mountaineers Chapter #1, AXPOW.

**STEWART, R C**, of San Antonio, Texas, died March 26, 2010. "Stew" was with the 351<sup>st</sup> BG and was held in Luft 3 and Stalag 7A until liberation. He was predeceased by his wife, Martha Jane.

**THOMAS, James Bernard**, of Henderson, Kentucky, died February 19, 2010. An AXPOW life member since 1998, he served as Commander of the Department of Kentucky. He was captured at the Battle of the Bulge. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Patsy.

**TOTH, Marian, "Tiny"**, wife of ex-POW John S. died Dec. 5, 2009. John served with Co.A, 39<sup>th</sup> Reg., 9<sup>th</sup> Div. He was held in 4A, 12A, Chartres.

**TURNHAM, Keith Maine**, 85, passed away Feb. 14, 2010. He was a Flight Officer on a B-24; he became a POW when his airplane collided with another plane and he was forced to bail out by parachute. He was in the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 489<sup>th</sup> BG, 845<sup>th</sup> BS and a POW in Stalag Luft I.

**TWINN, James**, of Belen, New Mexico, died Feb. 21, 2010. He served in the 106<sup>th</sup> Inf. Division and was captured by the German SS in the Battle of the Bulge. He was among the very few members of

## taps continued...

the Zittau Survivors who were held for more than one hundred days in a slave labor camp in Nazi Occupied Poland. Survivors include his wife, Marte, 2 daughters, 2 sons, 2 brothers and 1 sister.

**VISTUBA, Leo**, of San Antonio, Texas, died March 8, 2010. He served and retired from the USAF where he was a POW of the Japanese for 42 months. He was in the Bataan Death March and held in Camp O'Donnell. A member of the San Antonio Chapter, Leo is survived by his wife of 62 years, Catherine, also an AXPOW life member.

**WAGELIE, Mary Nora**, 87, of Blaine, WA passed away March 3, 2010. She was predeceased by her husband ex-POW Oscar "Mick". Nora was a member of the Fourth Corner Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include 1

son, 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**WARREN, Robert A.**, 89, longtime resident of Norfolk, MA and Mattapoisett, MA, died March 26, 2010. He served with the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, 461<sup>st</sup> BG, 756<sup>th</sup> BS, flying out of Foggia. He was shot down over Austria, captured and sent to Luft 1, Barth, North Compound II. Bob leaves his wife, Deborah, 4 sons, 9 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, 1 sister and several nieces and nephews.

**WILLEY, Lloyd**, 95, passed away Jan. 24, 2010. He was in a Marine Detachment on the USS Houston. He was very active in the San Diego POW Chapter for many years, serving as Chaplain. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy and two children.

**WINTERS, Rondo S.**, 95, of Lisbon, OH died March 9, 2010. He was a

member of the Mahoning Valley Chapter, AXPOW. During WWII, he served in the Army; he was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. Survivors include 1 daughter, 2 stepsons, 7 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

**ZEBROWSKI, Dorothy**, widow of Daniel, died Jan. 14, 2009. She was a life member of AXPOW and the East Valley Chapter. Daniel was shot down while serving with the 304<sup>th</sup> BW. He was held in Stalag Luft IV.

**ZIELBERG, George John**, 92, died April 10, 2010, in Clearwater, FL. During WW II, he was in the ETO, serving in the 169<sup>th</sup> Infantry. He was held in Stalags 3A, 3B, and 7A. He was a member of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter, American Ex-Prisoners of War. George is survived by two daughters, 4 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

## national chaplain



James H. Beaver  
22644 Montego Bay Road  
Abingdon, VA 24211  
(276) 623-0875

### Job 11:18.

"And thou shall be secure, because there is Hope."

Ex-POW Bulletin  
May/June 2010  
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We are living in insecure times. Trouble seems to be on every hand. Our economy is so unstable that we don't know what will happen next. Our nation is almost bankrupt. We are at war in the Middle East and our leaders seem to be confused as to handle them. We appear to be on the threshold of nuclear war. We don't have very much to feel secure about; but God is the one we can always depend on. He is ever-present, a help in time of need. Don't be discouraged or dismayed, but look up to God for the strength and help you may need.

### Job 11:13-19.

Job's friend, Zophar tells Job, "if there be sin in his heart, quit sinning."

"and thou shall be secure, because there is hope."

And that Hope is in God.

### Psalms 31:24.

"Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord."

### II Timothy 1:12.

Paul said, "I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day."

To know God is to be secure in Him.

May God Bless and Keep each of you, always.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Rev. James H. Beaver". Below the signature, the name "REV. JAMES H. BEAVER" is printed in a small, sans-serif font.

*The Memorial Service at the National Convention will be held at Andersonville National Historic Site on Thursday, September 23, 2010. Join us!*



## Now Hear This!

The Dept. of New York will hold its 2010 convention in the "Big Apple".  
June 10, 11, 12, 2010

Many things to see and do in New York City. The best hotel rate ever at the Fort Hamilton lodging on the Army base.

Our ETO POW documentary made at our 2009 convention will be aid on the NBC network on Memorial Day. We want to make our next documentary on Pacific POWs. So we will give the first 10 registrants FREE hotel for three nights and 6 meals. Send a one page synopsis of your experience. If you wish to bring a spouse her cost will be \$275.00.

Contact Wm Lee Birch, 190 Bethel Loop, #10-H, Brooklyn, NY 11239; 718-642-7647.

See you there!

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With a **NUMBERED**  
keychain/flashlight combination  
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If it's lost, the finder can return it to us and receive a \$15.00 reward. We will return it to you. If you give this as a gift, you need to give us the name and address of your recipient.

This is an attractive, silver-colored and thoughtful item. It is sent in a handy gift box and is ideal for friends and family.

This is a fund-raising project of the Dept. of New York. Profits are being used to give Wounded Warriors and their families a "Taste of the Big Apple". Five days/four nights airfare, hotel, food, admissions.

**\$10** each including S/H

To: Dept. of New York, AXPOW  
190 Bethel Loop, #10-H  
Brooklyn, NY 11239

## 50/50 drawing

September 12, 2009  
Boise, Idaho

1st Place	Alice Gilligan New York, NY	\$676.40
2nd Place	Robert Boebel Fox Lake, WI	\$507.30
3rd Place	Victor Breite St. Louis, MO	\$338.20
4th Place	John DeVere South Charleston, WV	\$169.10

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



## The 106th Infantry Division Association

Organized at  
Camp Lucky Strike 1945 active since  
1946

If you are a former 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division vet, were attached to the 106<sup>th</sup>, a relative of a 106<sup>th</sup> veteran, you are eligible for membership in the Association.  
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Toll Free (888) 644-8952  
beeth2@hotmail.com

Ex-POW Bulletin  
May/June 2010

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

PLEASE PRINT

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you for your support. (9/10)

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

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Thank you for your support.

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May/June 2010  
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(9/10)

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

PLEASE PRINT

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

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

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Thank you for your support.

(9/10)

# The Quartermaster's Shop

order on page 42



## AXPOW Pocket Knife

11 function pocket knife includes a stainless steel knife, screwdrivers and much more! AXPOW imprint is protected by an epoxy dome, lasting a lifetime. Rubber grip ensures easy handling...individually gift boxed...folded knife measures 3 3/4"x1"

**\$13.00 plus s/h**

## AXPOW Vests!

The uniform of the American Ex-POWs consists of the military cap and the vest. These vests are custom-made with your name on the front, and your chapter and logo shield on the back. Orders take approximately six weeks to complete.



**\$55.00 each includes shipping/handling**

For pins, vest guards and other items to "dress up" your vest, order from the merchandise page.

**AXPOW Flashlights**  
Bright safety light when you need it! AXPOW logo in color...individually gift-boxed.  
**\$12.00 plus s/h**



12 energy saving LED bulbs to provide ultra-bright light  
The tough casing is made of aircraft aluminum  
Water and shock resistant  
4.5" long  
Push button, sealed rubber switch, with handy carrying strap. Each is individually

## Jeweled Flag

You love your country. Our Austrian Crystal Flag and USA pins are beautiful ways to show your patriotism. They make wonderful gifts ~ for yourself or someone you love.

American Flag ~

**\$30.00 plus s/h**



## Bronze Grave Medallion

### with AXPOW LOGO

The Medallion is 4", Bronze/Brown with Lacquer, weighs approximately 1lb 4oz, containing 84% copper, balance in other metals. The hardware for mounting is included in each packet.

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

**\$75.00 plus s/h/i**

(\$15.00 for one; \$20.00 for two or more)



### 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 shipping and handling)

Ship to: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mail orders to:

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

### 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 shipping/handling

Please allow 8-10 weeks for delivery.

Mail orders to:

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

Official AXPOW Cap (specify size)	40.00	Eagle pin w/Barbed Wire	8.00	12x18 AXPOW Graveside Flag	10.00
Vinyl Cap Bag	3.00	(specify gold, silver or antique gold)		3x5 ft. AXPOW Flag w/3-color logo	
Maroon AXPOW Sport Cap	8.00	Jeweled Flag Pin	30.00	with fringe, indoor use	60.00
Black Eagle Sport Cap	9.00	USA Jeweled Pin	15.00	with grommets, outdoor use	60.00
Canvas Sport Cap (tan)	10.00	Logo Necklace	5.00	3x5ft. blackPOW/MIA flag, outdoor use	25.00
AXPOW Pocket Knife	13.00	Logo Earrings (pierced or clip)	5.00	AXPOW Metal License Plate Frame	10.00
Necktie w/logo	30.00	2" Medallion (for plaque)	5.00	Aluminum License Plate	5.00
(specify regular or pre-tied)		Vest Chainguard w/eagles	8.00	3" Vinyl Decal	1.00
AXPOW Logo Bolo Tie	25.00	3" Blazer Patch	4.00	3" Inside Decal	1.00
U.S. Flag Bolo Tie	20.00	4" Blazer Patch	4.00	8" Vinyl Decal	6.00
Mini POW Medal Bolo Tie	30.00	8" Blazer Patch	10.00	12" Vinyl Decal	10.00
Barbed Wire pin	3.00	<b>CLOTH STRIPES</b> (specify which title)	3.00	Bumper Sticker "Freedom - Ask us"	2.00
Life Member pin	5.00	Life Member · Chapter Commander		AXPOW Wall Clock (includes battery)	20.00
Crossed Flags Lapel pin	5.00	Past Chapter Commander · Chapter Adj/Treas Chapter		AXPOW Notecards (pkg of 25)	6.00
Brooch pin	5.00	Adjutant · Chapter Treasurer		Special Prayer Cards (pkg of 25)	6.00
EX-POW pin (goldtone)	5.00	State Department Commander		AXPOW Prayer Book	2.00
Logo pin	5.00	Past State Dept. Commander · Department Adjutant		Ladies Prayer Book	1.00
POW Stamp pin	3.00	Department Treasurer · Sr. Vice Commander		AXPOW By-Laws	5.00
Past Chapter Commander pin	5.00	Jr. Vice Commander · Chaplain · Historian		POW Videotape - ETO or Pacific	11.00
Past Department Commander pin	5.00	Service Officer · Legislative Officer		"Speak Out" Education Packet	6.00
AXPOW Pocket Knife	13.00	Past Chapter Officer · Past Department Officer		Canvas Totebag w/4" logo	15.00
				AXPOW Flashlight	12.00

**We accept Master Card/Visa**

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

## *The Seventh Annual Memorial Service for Lori Piestewa.*

Kim Titla, member of the Piestewa Committee: "We have with us today Tribal Leaders, elected officials, Navajo and Hopi representatives who will speak and sing, and Lori Piestewa's best friends former POWs Joseph Hudson, Shoshana Johnson, Jessica Lynch, and Patrick Miller. These soldiers have returned faithfully year after year. This is the seventh year. Shoshana also brought her mother Eunice, her daughter Janelle, and Cousin Devyn, Joseph Hudson brought his daughter Cameron, and Jessica Lynch brought little Dakota Ann, named after her best friend and roommate Lori Ann Piestewa."

Thanks to Committee member Maria Rivera Rodriguez and others for the magnificent photos.





**AXPOW Flashlights**  
Bright safety light when you need  
it! AXPOW logo in  
color...individually  
gift-boxed.

**\$12.00 plus s/h**

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



12 energy saving LED bulbs to provide  
ultra-bright light

The tough casing is made of aircraft  
aluminum

Water and shock resistant

4.5/8" long

Push button, sealed rubber switch, with  
handy carrying strap. Each is individua

### change of address form

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

Please print:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Please allow 4 weeks to make address corrections.

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

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No collect calls, please