

EX-POW BULLETIN

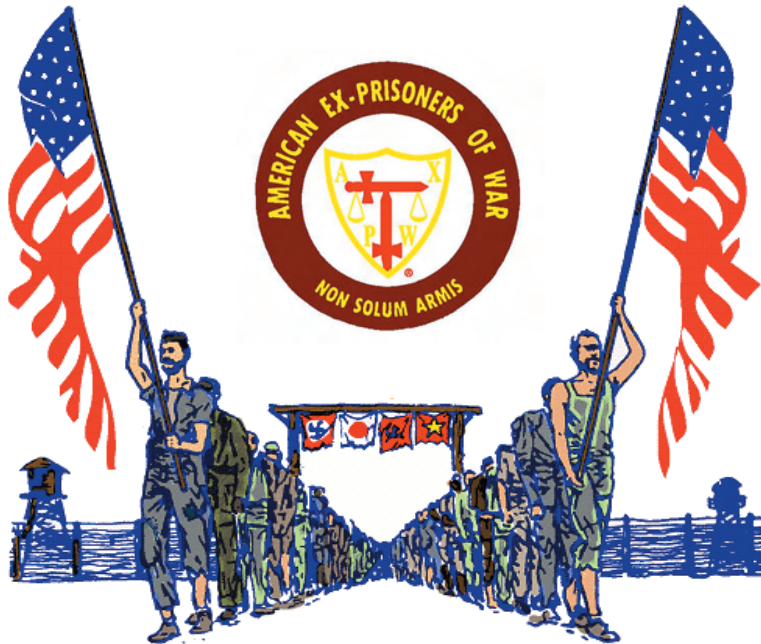
the official voice of the
American Ex-Prisoners of War

Volume 69

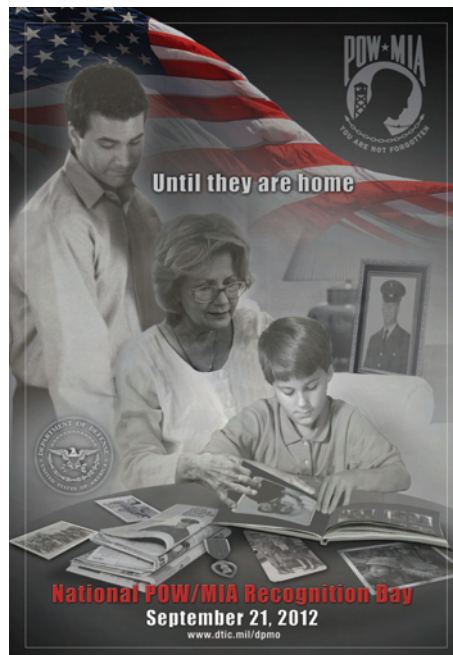
www.axpow.org

Number 9/10

September/October 2012



We exist to help those who cannot help themselves



Convention News
Inside!

Sept. 21, 2012.
National POW/MIA
Recognition Day

National Convention 2012 ~ Arlington, Texas



table of contents

officers/directors	4
commander/HQ	5
NSO	6
medsearch	7
andersonville	11
namPOW	12
outreach	13
Joint Committee	14
pow-mia	15
vavs	16
events, info, looking for	17
news	18
voluntary funding	30
contributions	31
new members	32
taps	33
raffle	39
quartermaster	42

Publisher

PNC Maurice Sharp
9716 54th Street CT West
University Place, WA 98467-1118
(253) 565-0444
SHARP1955@msn.com

Editor

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

Intrepid Staff Reporter
Alice A Booher

Deadline for the Nov/Dec 2012 issue is Oct. 1, 2012.

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

For AXPOW National Service Officers: VA FORM 21-22 has been updated

The new form: "APPOINTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION AS CLAIMANT'S REPRESENTATIVE" must be used for all new claims. To get copies, go to: <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-22-ARE.pdf>. There are also copies available at National Headquarters.

How old are you?

James Morrison of Cocoa, FL wrote that he was captured 2/16/45 at the age of 19 years, 1-1/2 months old. That puts him at 87 now. If you're younger, served in the Army or Air Force in Germany, he'd like to know. The only one we know is PNC John Edwards, born in October, 1926. Here's his information: James Morrison, 4022 Driftwood Pl., Cocoa, FL 32926.

Battle of Midway ~ 70th anniversary

The Battle of Midway is considered by many to be the most important naval battle of the Pacific Campaign during World War 2. The battle occurred between June 4th and 7th, 1942 approximately six months after the Japanese surprise attack against Pearl Harbor. During the battle, the U.S. Navy would decisively defeat the Imperial Navy and more importantly, inflict damage to the point the Japanese fleet would not recover from during the war

Calendar Photo Research Group

We've finally managed to put together a group of volunteers (most of whom don't know what they gotten themselves into) to procure, scan and archival photographs for future use in AXPOW calendars/Bulletins/etc. Alice Booher will head up the team, which includes your editor, Rhonda Cornum, Paul Galanti, Giles Norrington and James Terry. After scanning, photos will be returned to their owners. So if anyone out there has some great pictures, let us know.

AARP Driver Safety

In November, 2012, AARP is again offering a national safety campaign Veterans Promotion in which the AARP Driver Safety classroom course is offered free to veterans and their families. You save 50% on the cost of the on-line course. To locate a classroom course near you, call 866-238-0294 or visit www.aarp.org/veterans. To sign up for the on-line course, visit www.aarpdriversafety.org and enter the promo code "VETERANS".

EMAIL Address

The email address for the Joint Strategic Planning & NOK Committees is: legacy@axpow.org.

Cover: Sept. 21, 2012. National POW/MIA Recognition Day

EX-POW Bulletin (ISSN 0161-7451) is published bi-monthly (six times annually) by the American Ex-Prisoners of War, 3201 E. Pioneer Pkway, Arlington, TX 76010. Periodical postage paid at Arlington, TX and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: send address changes to EX-POW Bulletin, AXPOW Headquarters, 3201 E. Pioneer Pkwy. Suite 40, Arlington, TX 76010-5396. Founded April 14, 1942, in Albuquerque, NM, then known as Bataan Relief Organization, Washington State non-profit corporation, "American Ex-Prisoners of War", October 11, 1949, recorded as Document No. 133762, Roll 1, Page 386-392. NONPROFIT CORPORATION. Nationally Chartered August 10, 1982. Appearance in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the American Ex-Prisoners of War of the product or service advertised. The publisher reserves the right to decline or discontinue any such advertisement.

© 2012 American Ex-Prisoners of War



axpow officers & directors 2012-2013

National Headquarters - **Clydie J. Morgan, Adjutant/Treasurer**

3201 E. Pioneer Pkwy, #40, Arlington, TX 76010

(817) 649-2979 (817) 649-0109 fax HQ@axpow.org

Officers

National Commander

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

National Sr Vice Commander

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

National Judge Advocate

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

National Chaplain

PNC Gerald Harvey
709 Baptist Home Lane
Chillicothe MO 64601
660-646-4301

Jr. Vice Commanders

**Wm "Bill" Jeffers -
Eastern Zone**
3522 Millbrook Way Cr
Greenacres, FL 33463
(561) 969-6036
robill1@aol.com

**Pam Warner Eslinger -
Central Zone**
PO Box 117
Hammon, OK 73650
(580) 473-2783
elib@hammon.k12.ok.us

**Milton "Skip" Moore -
Western Zone**
2965 Sierra Bermeja
Sierra Vista, AZ 85650
(520) 459-7295; (520) 533-3757 fax
skip.m.moore@us.army.mil

**Committee addresses appear
with their columns**

Directors

North East Region

Franklin R. Koehler
243 Torrey Pines Dr.
Toms River, NJ 08757
(732) 244-4629; (732) 505-8702 fax
relheok1@aol.com

Laura McIntyre
PO Box 475
Hardwick, MA 01037
(413) 477-8260 (413) 477-0172 fax
axpow62a@comcast.net

East Central Region

Judy Lee
PO Box 248
Madisonville, TN 37354
(423) 442-3223; (423) 442-4702 fax
judithblee@ymail.com

Southeast Region

Edward L. DeMent
8735 Doral Oaks Dr., #1617
Temple Terrace, FL 33617
(813) 985-3783
deme8805@aol.com

Benny Rayborn
459 Grady Brown Rd
Lumberton MS 39455
(601) 466-1951
beanrayborn@gmail.com

North Central Region

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

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

**Senior Director
Carroll Bogard, Ph.D**
275 N Taft #116
Mason City IA 50401
(641) 424-4870 - Voice
(641) 512-4543 - Cell

Mid-Central Region

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

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

South Central Region

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

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

Northwest Region

Bonnie Sharp
9716 54th Street CT West
University Place, WA 98467-1118
(253) 565-0444
SHARP1955@msn.com

Southwest Region

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

Lewis "Lew" Sleeper
6636 E Villa Dorado
Tucson, AZ 85715
(520) 751-9628 Voice
(520) 490-1082 Cell
sleepjl@aol.com



**National Commander
Charles Susino, Jr.**

I want to thank you for supporting me through the years. Working my way through the chairs, I have had the opportunity to meet many of you. I hope you will feel free to contact me with any ideas you have for the future of AXPOW.

Serving as your commander is a heavy responsibility. I take that responsibility very seriously. Because of aging and the loss of members, we have many obstacles to overcome this year. I have goals that I want to work toward during my year; I spoke about them the night of my installation at the National Convention.

Good evening,

I feel honored and privileged to serve as the National Commander representing the men and women who served our country and suffered as prisoners of war. As Commander, my energies will be true to the organization's slogan "to help those who cannot help themselves". For that, we include the veterans and their families.

I am pleased to have with me today, Lillian, my lovely wife, my daughter Diane and her husband, Ted. My son, Charles and his wife Celeste were not able to attend due to Celeste's

illness. I am very grateful for their love and support.

For the coming year, my objective is to continually improve our ability to serve the veterans who deserve and need our help, and to use what influence we have as an organization on policymakers in Washington DC and elsewhere to insure our veterans are treated fairly. Through the collective efforts of everyone in the POW organization, we can serve our veterans who have served our country and earned these basic benefits.

In closing, I want to thank the PNCs for their service to our organization and their efforts to preserve the focus consistent with our motto and charter. I can only hope that one day I will be viewed positively among that accomplished group of leaders.

As those of you who attended the 2012 Convention know, it was a good one. Our members and their families took advantage of the variety of different places to visit; our delegates attended the meetings and took care of business. I hope to see you in June, 2013 back in Arlington, Texas.

UMB Credit Card

Every time a member - or member's family or friends - signs up for the new UMB credit card (which features our marching men on the face), AXPOW receives \$50.00. That's like making a \$50 donation to the organization when you sign up. We also get a percentage of every dollar spent if you use the card each month.

So won't you take a few minutes and apply for this new card today?

news from hq



The convention was terrific. Those who attended had a great time. We already have calls for next year! Convention dates will be the same week as this year - last week in June, 2013 - same town, same hotel.

The Midyear Board meeting will be Saturday, November 3 at the Hilton Arlington. The rates are \$105 per night and includes a complementary buffet breakfast. There will be a dinner on Saturday to relax and unwind. The cost will be around \$25. Please come and give your input on the organization's business. All meetings are open to the membership and all are welcome.

The 2013 AXPOW Calendar is out! This year's theme is the 40th Anniversary of the release of POWs from the Vietnam War; the 60th Anniversary of the release of POWs from the Korean War. This year, for the first time, all of the design work was done in-house, saving us a lot of money. We hope you like it, and we hope you make generous donations for it. The profit from all of our direct mail programs go directly to support AXPOW programs that benefit you. We've been asked about captions for the photos. We didn't have them for most, the others we thought you'd think reminded you of your own camp liberations.

Annual memberships will become due in December. Go ahead and renew to make sure you don't miss any issues of The Bulletin!

Clydie, Marsha, Donna
Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2012



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

Disability Benefits Questionnaires

With Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs) Veterans now have more control over the disability claims process. Veterans have the option of visiting a private health care provider instead of a VA facility to complete their disability evaluation form.

Veterans can have their providers fill out any of the more than 80 DBQs that are appropriate for their conditions and submit them to us. It's that easy!

DBQs also help support VA's Fully Developed Claims (FDC) Program. DBQs are valuable for claims processing because they provide medical information that is directly relevant to determining a disability rating. When submitted with a fully developed claim, DBQs ensure the VA's ratings specialists have precisely the information they need to start processing the claim.

FAQS:

Q: What are Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQ)?

A: Disability Benefits Questionnaires

(DBQs) are downloadable forms created for Veterans' use in the evaluation process for disability benefits. DBQs will help speed the processing of Veterans' disability compensation and pension claims. DBQs allow Veterans and Servicemembers to have more control over the disability claims process by giving them the option of visiting a primary care provider in their community, at their expense, instead of completing an evaluation at a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facility. The streamlined forms use check boxes and standardized language so that the disability rating can be made accurately and quickly.

Q: Why were DBQs developed?

A: DBQs were developed to streamline the collection of necessary medical evidence for the purpose of processing Veterans' claims. DBQs provide Veterans with an improved means to submit medical evidence to support their claims.

Q: Who is authorized to complete a DBQ?

A: Providers with active medical licenses must sign and attest to a medical condition on completed DBQs. The DBQ can be completed either by: Veterans' private treatment providers, or Veterans Health Administration (VHA) clinicians.

Q: How many medical conditions are covered by DBQs?

A: More than 80 DBQs cover a full range of medical conditions. While some DBQs are specific to a single condition (for example: hypertension, arthritis, and prostate cancer), most forms can be used for several related conditions (for example: heart conditions, kidney conditions, endocrine conditions). Please see the extensive list of conditions on the VA website at: <http://benefits.va.gov/disabilityexams>.

Q: Where can you find DBQs?

A: DBQs can be viewed on the VA website at: <http://benefits.va.gov/disabilityexams>

Q: What are the benefits of using DBQs?

A: DBQs simplify the documentation of medical conditions. By completing check-the-box DBQs rather than generating long narrative summaries, it is anticipated that VBA will reduce the time it takes to make a claims deci-

sion. Also, providers treating Veterans who are familiar with their conditions can speed the process by completing DBQs for their patients.

Q: How do DBQs help with VA's Fully Developed Claims (FDC) Program?

A: DBQs are valuable for Fully Developed Claims processing because they provide medical information that is directly relevant to determining a disability rating, which helps ensure the VA's ratings specialists have precisely the information they need to start processing the claim.

Q: Will VA reimburse providers' examination costs or travel costs to the Veteran for DBQ-related actions?

A: No. This information is printed on the DBQ forms and appears on the Internet website where DBQs are publicly available. Veterans have the option to take a DBQ to their private provider or Veterans Health Administration (VHA) clinician for completion, but Veteran are responsible for any related co-pay or costs, including costs for travel or testing. (A Veteran is always entitled to an examination and any required testing at no charge for a scheduled compensation appointment that has been requested by VBA.) Asking your primary care provider to complete a DBQ is no different than asking your provider to write a letter or note providing medical evidence of a medical condition in support of a claim. The same co-pay rules apply equally to both situations.

Q: How can you get further answers to DBQ questions?

A: VA has a national call center available to assist at (800) 827-1000.

Q: Are DBQs mandatory?

A: No. Use of DBQs is not mandatory.

Q: How do you submit completed DBQs to VA?

A: Veterans and/or their physicians may mail or securely fax completed DBQs to the VA Regional Office handling the Veteran's claim. To find mailing addresses, visit the VBA website at: www2.va.gov/directory/guide/Allstate_flgsh.asp To find fax numbers, visit the VA website at <http://benefits.va.gov/transformation/disabilityexams>. Completed DBQs may also be submitted directly to the VA Regional Office.

Aging & Balance

About Balance Problems

Have you ever felt dizzy, light-headed, or as if the room were spinning around you? These can be very troublesome sensations. If the feeling happens often, it could be a sign of a balance problem. Balance problems are among the most common reasons that older adults seek help from a doctor.

In 2008, an estimated 14.8 percent of American adults (33.4 million) had a balance or dizziness problem during the past year.

Why Good Balance is Important

Having good balance means being able to control and maintain your body's position, whether you are moving or remaining still. An intact sense of balance helps you

- walk without staggering
- get up from a chair without falling
- climb stairs without tripping
- bend over without falling

The part of the inner ear responsible for balance is the labyrinth. To maintain your body's position, the labyrinth interacts with other systems in the body, such as the eyes, bones and joints.

Good balance is important to help you get around, stay independent, and carry out daily activities.

When People Have Problems with Balance

As they get older, many people experience problems with their sense of balance. They feel dizzy

or unsteady, or as if they or their surroundings were in motion. Disturbances of the inner ear are a common cause.

Vertigo, the feeling that you or the things around you are spinning, is also a common symptom.

Falls and fall-related injuries, such as hip fracture, can have a serious impact on an older person's life. If you fall, it could limit your activities or make it impossible to live independently. Many people often become more isolated after a fall.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, roughly more than one-third of adults ages 65 years and older fall each year. Among older adults, falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths.

BPPV (Benign Paroxysmal Positional Vertigo)

There are many types of balance disorders. One of the most common is benign paroxysmal positional vertigo, or BPPV. In BPPV, you experience a brief, intense feeling of vertigo when you change the position of your head, such as when rolling over to the left or right, upon getting out of bed, or when looking for an object on a high or low shelf. BPPV is more likely to occur in adults aged 60 and older, but can also occur in younger people.

In BPPV, small calcium particles in the inner ear become displaced and hit the inner ear balance sensors, causing dizziness. The reason they become displaced is not known; the cause may be an inner ear infection, head injury, or aging.

Ménière's Disease

Ménière's disease is a balance disorder that causes a person to experience

- vertigo
- hearing loss that comes and goes
- tinnitus, which is a ringing or roaring in the ears
- a feeling of fullness in the ear.

It affects adults of any age. The cause is unknown.

There are many ways to treat balance disorders. Treatments vary depending on the cause. See your doctor if you are experiencing dizziness, vertigo, or other problems with your balance.

Causes and Prevention

People are more likely to have problems with balance as they get older. But age is not the only reason these problems occur; there are other causes, too. In some cases, you can help reduce



medsearch continued...

your risk for certain balance problems.

Problems in the Inner Ear and Other Health Issues

Some balance disorders are caused by problems in the inner ear. Others may involve another part of the body, such as the brain or the heart. Aging, infections, head injury, certain medicines, or problems with blood circulation may result in a balance problem.

Why Am I Dizzy?

Upper respiratory infections and other viral infections, and, less commonly, bacterial infections, can lead to labyrinthitis.

Diseases of the circulatory system, such as stroke, can cause dizziness and other balance problems. Smoking and diabetes can increase the risk of stroke. Low blood pressure can also cause dizziness.

Problems Caused by Medications

Balance problems can also result from taking certain medications. For example, some medicines, such as those that help lower blood pressure, can make a person feel dizzy.

Ototoxic drugs are medicines that damage the inner ear. Sometimes the damage lasts only as long as you take the drug; other times it is permanent. Some antibiotics are ototoxic. If your medicine is ototoxic, you may feel off balance. Check with your doctor if you notice a problem while taking a medication. Ask if other medications can be used instead. If not, ask if the dosage can be safely reduced. Sometimes it cannot. However, your doctor

will help you get the medication you need while trying to reduce unwanted side effects.

Manage Balance Problems with Diet and Lifestyle

Your diet and lifestyle can help you manage certain balance-related problems. For example, Ménière's disease, which causes vertigo and other balance and hearing problems, is linked to a change in the volume of fluid in the inner ear

By eating low-salt (low-sodium) or salt-free foods, and steering clear of caffeine and alcohol, you can make Ménière's disease symptoms less severe. Balance problems due to high blood pressure can be managed by eating less salt (less sodium), maintaining a healthy weight, and exercising.

Prevent Ear Infections

The ear infection called otitis media is common in children, but adults can get it too. You can help prevent otitis media by washing your hands frequently. Also, talk to your doctor about getting a yearly flu shot to stave off flu-related ear infections. If you still get an ear infection, see a doctor immediately before it becomes more serious.

Symptoms and Diagnosis

Some people may have a balance problem without realizing it. Others might think they have a problem, but are too embarrassed to tell their doctor, friends, or family. You can help identify a possible balance problem by asking yourself some key questions and, if necessary, having your balance checked by a doctor.

Describing Symptoms

Balance disorders can be difficult to diagnose because patients sometimes find it hard to describe their symptoms to a doctor. Patients may use words such as "dizzy," "woozy," or "light-

headed" to describe what they are feeling. For some people, the feeling can be brief, while for others, it can last a long time, disrupting their daily lives.

Finding the Correct Diagnosis

Balance disorders are serious. Sometimes they are a sign of other health problems, such as those affecting the brain, the heart, or circulation of the blood. They are also a common cause of falls and fall-related injuries in older people. For these reasons, it is important to have a balance disorder diagnosed and treated as soon as possible.

Questions to Ask Yourself

If you answer "yes" to any of these questions, you should discuss the symptom with your doctor.

- Do I feel unsteady?
- Do I feel as if the room is spinning around me?
- Do I feel as if I'm moving when I know I'm standing or sitting still?
- Do I lose my balance and fall?
- Do I feel as if I'm falling?
- Do I feel light-headed, or as if I might faint?
- Does my vision become blurred?
- Do I ever feel disoriented, losing my sense of time, place, or identity?

Questions to Ask Your Doctor

If you think that you have a balance disorder, you should schedule an appointment with your family doctor. You can help your doctor make a diagnosis by writing down key information about your dizziness or balance problem beforehand and giving the information to your doctor during the visit. Tell your doctor as much as you can.

Write down answers to these questions for your doctor:

- How would you describe your dizziness or balance problem?

medsearch, continued

- How often do you have dizziness or balance problems?
- Have you ever fallen?
- If so, when did you fall, where did you fall, and how often have you fallen?
- What medications do you take? Remember to include all over-the-counter medications, including aspirin, antihistamines, and sleep aids.
- What is the name of the medication?
- How much do you take each day?
- What times of the day do you take the medication?
- What is the health condition for which you take the medication?

Seeing a Specialist

Your doctor may refer you to an otolaryngologist. This is a doctor and surgeon with special training in problems of the ear, nose, throat, head, and neck.

The otolaryngologist may ask you for your medical history and perform a physical examination to help figure out the possible causes of the balance disorder. He or she may also perform tests to determine the cause and extent of the problem.

Treatment and Research

Your doctor can recommend strategies to help reduce the effects of a balance disorder. Scientists are studying ways to develop new, more effective methods to treat and prevent balance disorders.

Balance disorders can be signs of other health problems, such as an ear infection, stroke, or multiple sclerosis. In some cases, you can help treat a balance disorder by seeking medical treatment for the illness that is causing the disorder.

Treating Balance Problems

Some exercises help make up for a balance disorder by moving the head and body in certain ways. The exercises are developed especially for a patient by a professional who understands the balance system and its relationship with other systems in the body.

In benign paroxysmal positional vertigo, or BPPV, small calcium particles in the inner ear become displaced, causing dizziness. Your doctor or otolaryngologist can treat BPPV by carefully moving the head and torso to dislodge these particles. For some people, one session will be all that is needed. Others might need to repeat the procedure several times at home to relieve their dizziness.

Treating Ménière's Disease

Ménière's disease is caused by changes in fluid volumes in the inner ear. People with Ménière's disease can help reduce its dizzying effects by lowering the amount of sodium, or salt (sodium) in their diets. Limiting alcohol or caffeine also may be helpful.

Medications such as corticosteroids and the antibiotic gentamicin are used to treat Ménière's disease. Although gentamicin can help reduce the dizziness that occurs with Ménière's disease, it occasionally destroys sensory cells in the inner ear which can result in permanent hearing loss. Corticosteroids don't cause hearing loss; however, research is underway to determine if they are as effective as gentamicin.

In some cases, surgery may be necessary to relieve a balance disorder.

Current Research

Scientists are working to understand the complex interactions between the brain and the part of the inner ear responsible for bal-

ance. They are also studying the effectiveness of certain exercises as a treatment option for balance disorders.

In a study funded by the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), researchers created a "virtual reality" grocery store. This virtual store is a computer-simulated environment that seems to be a physical place in the real world, designed so people with balance disorders can safely walk on a treadmill as they practice looking for items on store shelves. The goal is to help reduce a person's dizziness in confusing environments.

NIDCD-supported scientists are also studying the use of a vestibular implant to stop a Ménière's attack by restoring normal electrical activity in the vestibular nerve. This nerve conveys balance information to the brain. The device uses the same technology found in a cochlear implant, a medical device that currently provides a sense of sound to people who are deaf or hard-of-hearing.

An NIDCD-supported clinical trial in benign paroxysmal positioning vertigo (BPPV) showed that repositioning maneuvers work well, and offered clinicians a range of choices in selecting the treatment best suited to each individual's unique needs.

The information in this topic was provided by the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
National Institutes of Health
31 Center Drive, MSC 2320
Bethesda, MD USA 20892-2320
E-mail: nidcdinfo@nidcd.nih.gov

AXPOW MEDSEARCH CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

Camp descriptions available from AXPOW. All are from the National Archives. If your camp is not listed, it is because the National Archives does not have it available.

JAPANESE CAMPS	DONATIONS
Akenobe #6	\$.70
Batavia, Java	.90
Beppa	.50
Bilibid Prison	1.30
Bridge House Jail, China	.50
Burma	.40
Cabanatuan #1	.50
Cabanatuan #3	2.10
Camp O'Donnell	.60
Changi, Singapore	.70
D 12, Hitachi	.90
Davao Penal Colony	.70
Fengtai, China	.50
Fukuoka #1	.90
Fukuoka #2	.90
Fukuoka #3	.90
Fukuoka #10	.70
Fukuoka #11	.50
Fukuoka #17	.70
Fukuoka #22	.70
Hakodate Branch Camp #2	.70
Hoten, Juken, Manchuria	.70
Initial Phase – Philippines	1.10
Jinsen, Korea	.50
Kiangwan, China	.70
Manila, Port Area	.40
Mitushima, Tokyo Camp #2-D	.70
Makaishima, Honshu	.70
Mukden, Manchuria (temporary)	.50
Nakhon Pathom, Thailand	.50
Naval POW Camp, Shanghai	.40
Notogawa #9-B	.50
October Ship (Hellship)	.90
Omine	.50
Osaka #3, Oeyama	.70
Osaka #5-B	.70
Osaka #12-B	.70
Osaka Group, Sakurajima, Osaka	.70
Palawan Barracks	.90
Rangoon Prison, Burma	.90
Roku Poshi	.70
Saigon POW Camp, French Indo-China	.50 .70
Sendai Camp #6, Hanawa	.50
Sendai Camp #11	.50

JAPANESE CAMPS	DONATIONS
Southeast Asia-Saigon, Port Area	.50
SS Oryuku Maru (Hellship)	.90
Sumatra	.90
Thailand (Siam)	.50
Tientsin, China	.40
Umeda Bonshu	.70
Utashinai, Hokkaido	.50
War Road Jail, China	.50
Woosung	.50
Zentsuji Headquarters	1.10
Taiwan Formosa, includes Camps 31, Taihoku: Camp V, Taihoku: Camp VI, Taihoku, Kinkaseki: Camp II, Taichu: Camp III, Heito: Camp IV, Kagi & Tako	2.10

GERMAN CAMPS	DONATIONS
Camp Conditions (general)	.70
Dulag Luft	.40
Hohemark Hospital & Luckenwalde	.90
Marlag und Milag Nord	.90
Oflag 13-B	1.50
Oflag 64	
Reserve-Lazaret Obermassfeld (the orthopedic hospital)	.70
Rumania	.50
Stalag 2-B	1.50
Stalag 3-B	1.70
Stalag 7-A	1.50
Stalag 9-B	1.10
Stalag 17-B	1.50
Stalag Luft 1	1.50
Stalag Luft 3	1.50
Stalag Luft 4	.40
Stalag Luft 6	.40
Transit Camp - Section of Dulag Luft	1.10
German Orders Governing Prisoners of War in Europe	2.30

***Shipping / Handling fees:** 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.

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

Name _____
Phone _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Amount enclosed \$ _____ (includes shipping/handling*) **MasterCard and Visa accepted (circle one)**
(\$5.00 minimum charge)
Card Number: _____
Expiration Date: _____

andersonville



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

Jessica Lynch Visits Andersonville NHS

By Alan Marsh, Chief of Resource
Management



Jessica Lynch, the American prisoner of war who made headline news during her captivity in 2003 during the Iraq War, visited Andersonville NHS on June 19, 2012. Ms. Lynch visited the National Prisoner of War Museum prior to her evening speaking engagement at the Boys and Girls Club of Americus/Sumter County. During her visit, Lynch graciously gave a 30-minute interview to park staff about her experiences. The Andersonville NHS oral history program now

consists of 958 interviews, most with former prisoners of war. Jessica Lynch was a Private First Class serving with the 507th Maintenance Company on March 23, 2003 when her convoy was attacked in Nasiriyah, Iraq. Eleven members of her unit were killed and several others including PFC Lynch were captured. Lynch suffered numerous injuries and was taken to multiple locations before being placed in Saddam Hussein General Hospital. On April 1, 2003 Lynch was rescued by U.S. Special Forces.

photo, L to R: Chief of Interpretation and Education Eric Leonard, Jessica Lynch, and Alan Marsh

Park Continues to Receive POW Donations

by Bridget Beers and Alan Marsh

One of the park's most recent donations to the museum collection came from John E. Bills III, the son of Sgt. John E. Bills Jr. who was a prisoner of the Germans in World War II. Bills served in the 460th Bomb Group, 763rd squadron. On his 10th mission over Munich the plane was hit and the crew bailed out over Lamprechshausen, Austria on November 16, 1944. He was sent to Stalag Luft IV and stayed there until January 1945 when he was moved by train to Stalag Luft I in Barth, Germany. He and his fellow prisoners were liberated by the Russians in May 1945.

Mr. Bills donated his father's POW diary, letters, telegrams, a scrapbook kept by his parents, and the Red Cross suitcase he was issued to bring his belongings home after repatriation. One item of special interest is a map of Europe in which Bills recorded troop movements with great risk to his life because if he was ever caught he would have been executed as a spy.

Another recent World War II donation was a pair of socks knitted by Laurence "Larry" Dennis. On November 16, 1943 planes with the 92nd Bomb Group flew a mission over a steel plant in Knaben, Norway. German fighters shot down Dennis' bomber and he and three crew members bailed out. Dennis was captured after a week of evasion and eventually taken to Stalag 17B in Krems, Austria. During November 1944 the POWs received a shipment of sweaters from the Salvation Army. Some of the POWs used the yarn in the sweater to knit other items. Larry Dennis quickly learned knitting and made a pair of socks. He recently donated those socks to Andersonville NHS.



In addition to the former POWs and family members mentioned in this article, Andersonville NHS would like to also thank John and Peggy Klaver. The Klavers donated a POW Commemorative coin. On December 14, 1993 legislation authorized the Secretary of Treasury to mint the coin to help raise funds for construction of the National Prisoner of War Museum.

photo: Socks knitted by Larry Dennis.

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2012



Paul E. Galanti
National Director, East Central
804.389.1668 (cell)
p.galanti@verizon.net

The Greatest Generation Loses Another Fine One

Much has been written about the Greatest Generation before, during and after Tom Brokaw's bestseller about his father's generation. Our Vietnam experience was certainly different from that generation's but many of our great leaders in the Hanoi Hilton began their leadership training as a part of that generation. In fact Vern Ligon and Pop Keirn were POWs in WWII before their stint in the Hanoi Hilton. Both commented that they really didn't need any additional training!

Those leaders had service, honor and duty embedded in them through whatever their family backgrounds or induction processes when they joined the service. Shortly after returning from Hanoi in 1973, I was fortunate to meet a man who had completed a career in the Air Corps/Air Force nearly always serving in a flying status and employed as one of the Virginia Governor's pilots. Tall, handsome with a quick smile and laconic manner, he epitomized the Jimmy Stewart/John Wayne/Gary Cooper image. His name was Ken Rowe and is one of the very few people I've ever known whom everybody liked!

His funeral included very personal notes from the five living governors he served as head of the Virginia Department of Aviation and numerous accolades from the Who's Who of Aviation in Virginia. Here's Ken's obituary from the Richmond (Virginia) Times-Dispatch:

Maj. Ken Rowe - circa 1944



Kenneth A. Rowe passed peacefully in his home on July 29, 2012 with family by his side. He was born in Kenosha, Wis., and served with distinction during two Aviation careers - one in the Military and one in Civil Aviation. His military career began in December 1942 and he became a 4-engine bomber pilot at age 19. He flew 13 combat missions from England in the Mighty 8 Air Force, was shot down twice and liberated from a POW camp at Moosburg, Germany when WWII ended in May 1945. After 21 years of active duty, he retired from the USAF in 1963 as a Major and Command Pilot with 5,451 flying hours. Upon retiring, he accepted a flying assignment with administrative duties in the Virginia Department of Aviation. His 30-plus years spanned eight Governor Administrations for Virginia's Aviation Community and was highlighted by an appointment as Director by Governor Robb. He was reappointed by Governor Baliles who included Aviation in his historic Virginia Transportation Trust Fund which increased aviation funding tenfold and continues in

existence today. After being reappointed by Governor Wilder, he retired at the end of his term at age 69. During his military career, he received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with one OLC, the Purple Heart, the POW Medal and the Air Force Commendation Medal. During his Civil Aviation career, he was honored to serve as President of the National Association of State Aviation Officials and received many awards and recognitions highlighted by the National Air Transportation Association's "Ong Memorial Leadership Award," the National Aeronautic Association's "Elder Statesman of Aviation Award" in 1993 and induction into the "Virginia Aviation Hall of Fame" in 1994 by the Virginia Aeronautical Historical Society. A Memorial Service will be held at the Virginia Aviation Museum August 10 at 2 PM., and a funeral service with honors will be at Arlington National Cemetery on a date to be determined. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Virginia Aeronautical Historical Society.

It occurred to me as I sadly read Ken's obituary how much his military training and POW background might have led him to be so successful in so many fields of endeavor. Ken was cut from the same bolt of cloth as so many of our leaders in Vietnam that I wonder if it is not coincidental. Admiral Jim Stockdale our senior Navy ex-POW from Vietnam was a philosopher who often wondered if his captivity had been pre-ordained. His tome, "The World of Epictetus" stressed that theme and Stockdale often remarked that he was meant to lead men in a POW camp.

I'm not trying to usurp my wonderful editor's obituaries as she beautifully documents the well-lived lives of our POW families and friends. But I did feel that this great man, Major Ken Rowe who led a magnificent exemplary life, deserves a last salute from an admiring observer.

With greatest respect
Paul Galanti

va outreach



**JVC Bill Jeffers
Chairman**

In the last OUTREACH article, information was given which would be useful to Outreach Ambassadors trying to assist newly widowed spouses or next-of-kin deal with the financial challenges and obligations which arise upon the death of a veteran. This article will give attention to the VA financial benefits provided to the widow or other dependent survivor of a deceased veteran as well as the eligibility requirements which apply. Keep in mind that all of these articles are primarily focused on situations relating to ex-POWs, but they do not necessarily exclude other veterans.

Before getting on with the topic for this article, it should have been mentioned in the last article that notification of a veteran's death to the VA should be made to the VA Regional Office at 1-800-827-1000, not to the local VA Medical Center or VA clinic. Also, be sure to check with the funeral director to determine if he has applied for the VA Burial Refund. If not, complete and submit VA Form 21-530. If a service-connected disability was not the primary cause of death, but was noted on the long form death certificate as a contributing factor, this will raise the Burial Refund limit to \$2000, instead of \$700 and an additional \$700 if burial is in a private cemetery.

Survivor Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) eligibility applies if the veteran was continuously rated totally disabled for a period of 10 years immediately preceding death, or continuously rated totally disabled from the date of discharge and for 5 years immediately preceding death, or a former POW who was continuously rated totally disabled for a period of at least 1 year immediately preceding death. The extent that a service-connected disability affected the onset of death does not dictate the monthly amount of DIC a widow receives. Payments will be offset by any amount received from judicial proceedings brought on by the veteran's death. The veteran's discharge must have been under conditions other than dishonorable. Application for DIC is accomplished by completing VA Form 21-534, following the instructions which accompany it. Only complete the sections applying to Compensation, not Pension where income and assets are a factor. An original or certified copy of the death certificate must accompany the application. The application should be submitted to the nearest VA Regional Office. From there, it will be sent to the appropriate VA Zone facility for processing. It would be wise to make a copy of the entire package for the submitter's personal file. VA compensation benefits are not subject to IRS income tax.

In addition to the basic DIC, there are other benefits for which a widow may be eligible. Aid and Attendance needs can entitle a DIC recipient to an additional allowance. If the widow is in a nursing home, or requires regular aid and attendance by another person, she may qualify for a special allowance in addition to the basic DIC. If housebound due to a disability, a special allowance is also granted.

The VA provides Pensions to low-income surviving spouses and unmarried children of deceased veterans with wartime service. To be eligible, a spouse must not have remarried and children must be under 18, or under 23 if attending a VA approved school, or have become permanently incapable of self-support because of disability before age 18. The veteran must have been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable and must have had 90 or more days of active military service, at least one day of which was during a period of war, or a service-connected disability justifying discharge. Children who become incapable of self-support because of a disability before age 18 may be eligible for the death pension as long as the condition exists, unless the child marries or the child's income exceeds the applicable limit. The surviving spouse may be entitled to a higher income limit if living in a nursing home, in need of aid and the attendance of another person, or permanently housebound.

A Snapshot of our Nation's Veterans

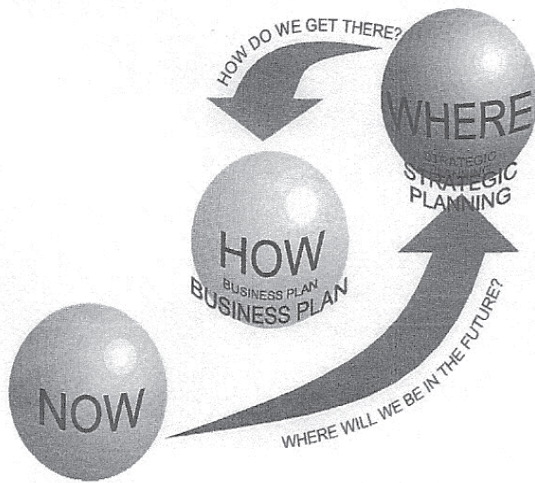
There are 21.6 million veterans in the United States...20.2 million male veterans; 1.6 million female veterans.

More than 1.3 million veterans served during multiple wars.

A veteran is more than twice as likely as a non-veteran to hold a job in a public administration industry.

Veterans own 9% of all U.S. businesses.

*Data provided by the US
Census Bureau*



THE JOINT STRATEGIC & NEXT OF KIN COMMITTEE was formed at the request of the board of directors during the annual convention in Arlington Texas in June of this year. This new committee was not to replace either of the two committees used to form it but to only work together in the commission of their joint mission which is "TO DETERMINE THE STRATEGY AND MANNER OF TRANSITION OF THE AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR INTO A LEGACY ORGANIZATION". The board also requested a short committee report at the end of the convention during the general business session. The committee met for two sessions during the convention and as requested Lew Sleeper, the chair of both THE EMPOWERED STRATEGIC PLANNING TEAM and the newly formed JOINT STRATEGIC & NEXT OF KIN COMMITTEE, gave the following report.

In recent years the Strategic Planning Committee stressed two objectives for our organization: 1) To rebuild our reserves, and 2) To recruit next of kin.

As for the number one objective, we have to congratulate Cheryl Cerbone, Bulletin editor, and Clydie Morgan and staff for reversing an ever declining reserve. We were down to less than \$100,000, and now have about \$172,000, and they are striving for \$250,000.

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2012
14

As for our number two objective, we have failed. Our number of next of kin has declined from over 600 to 550. We do not know the reason for this but we can guess they are not too excited to join an organization with the majority about 90 years old.

If, under these conditions, we look at the future, say five years for discussion purposes, and apply actuarial tables most of the WWII aged member will have passed on or be unable to participate in the management of the organization. The remaining members consisting of Korean, Vietnam, and next of kin will number only one thousand and most of them have shown little interest in being actively involved.

When the Strategic Planning Committee presented this dismal data to the membership at the recent national convention in Arlington, they took action, empowered us to create a plan to keep the organization going if indeed we do decline to 1000 members five years from now.

The suggestion was made by the board that the Strategic Planning and Next of Kin Committee be combined and thus was born the new joint committee. As a result the members of both committees comprise the new joint committee.

This composition gives the committee WWII, Viet Nam, several Next of Kin members and legal counsel from David Drummond and staff advice from Clydie Morgan with Lew Sleeper as its Chairman.

Our first task was to consider ideas given to us at our request by convention attendees. In doing we arrived at our mission statement mentioned above.

Strategic planning (long range ie: 5,10,15 years), requires that the planners decide WHERE THEY WANT TO BE in the future. The 5 year time horizon was picked because it is far enough out that the Next Of Kin will

most likely be conducting all of the business and activities of the organization, and yet near enough for us to actually project ourselves into that time frame without feeling we are dealing with fiction. The next function of planning becomes a matter of HOW DO WE GET THERE. And that becomes a matter of backing up through the 5 years to establish where we need to be each year to arrive at the desired goal at year 5. Members of the committee have already began to consider some steps that could be taken to streamline the governance of the organization and hope to have some proposals to present to the mid-year meeting of the board of directors.

And so allow me to present to whit the five year goals already established by the committee.

Goals:

1. Keep alive the POW legacy.
2. Celebrate the history and sacrifices of the American prisoners of war to keep America free through a social organization.
3. Foster the education of American youth about the sacrifices made by those American freedom fighters who became prisoners of war.
4. Teach the evolution of the prisoner of war experience and make available and tell stories of specific prisoner of war experiences.
5. Build and maintain a historical data base of the American prisoner of war including but not limited to those from the American revolution both loyalists and patriots, War of 1812, Civil War both federal and confederate forces, WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, middle eastern conflicts and the cold war.
6. Tell the history of the American EX-Prisoners of War organization.
7. Tell the history of experiences of individual American prisoners of war.

We seek more ideas from the membership at large. You can submit your ideas to our Strategic Planning web site legacy@axpow.org.

Lew Sleeper, Chairman
 Joint Strategic and Next of Kin
 Committee

pow-mia



PNC John Edwards Chairman

889 Randall Road
Niskayuna, NY 12309-4815
(518) 393-3907 phone & fax

Sept. 21, 2012. National POW/ MIA Recognition Day

The President issues a proclamation commemorating the observances and reminding the nation of those Americans who have sacrificed so much for their country.

Observances of National POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities. It is traditionally observed on the third Friday in September each year. This observance is one of six days throughout the year that Congress has mandated the flying of the National League of Families' POW/MIA flag. The others are Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day.

The flag is to be flown at major military installations, national cemeteries, all post offices, VA medical facilities, the World War II Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the official offices of the secretaries of state, defense and veterans affairs, the director of the selective service system and the White House.

A Pentagon ceremony for National POW/MIA Recognition Day will be held on Friday, Sept. 21, 2012. This ceremony features troops from each of the military services.

AMERICANS ACCOUNTED-FOR: There are now 1,661 personnel listed by the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) as missing and unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War. Most recently announced is Lt Col Clarence Finley "Bill" Blanton, USAF, listed as KIA/BNR in Laos on March 11, 1968 when the TACXAN radar installation (Lima Site 85) on atop a mountain in Houaphan Province was overrun by Vietnamese forces. His remains were recovered January 18, 2008 and identified July 12, 2012. The identification of PFC James Rickey Maxwell, USMC and PFC Richard William Rivenburgh, USMC, was posted on DPMO's website on July 20th. PRC Maxwell and PRC Rivenburgh were killed on May 15, 1975 during an attempted rescue of the SS Mayaguez crew when their HH53 helicopter crashed near Koh Tang, Cambodia. Their remains were recovered December 6, 1995 and identified January 23, 2012.

Also, LT Dennis W. Peterson, USN, CA, listed as KIA/BNR in North Vietnam on July 19, 1967, and SFC Gunther H. Wald, USA, NJ, listed as MIA in South Vietnam on November 3, 1969. The remains of LT Peterson were recovered on November 20, 2000, and identified October 21, 2011. SFC Wald's remains were recovered April 13, 2010, and identified January 6, 2011.

Research was conducted at the National Archives and Records Administration, the US Army Casualty and Memorial Affairs Operations Center(CMAOC), and the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) Records Center. Also, working papers collected

and maintained by the Defense POW/MIA Personnel Office (DPMO) and JPAC were reviewed. DPMO-JPAC analytic discussions provided the basis for estimates of possible / potential recoveries. Sources are shown adjacent to each set of data. There are 7956 men remain unaccounted for.

MOVEMENT ON ARCHIVAL DOCUMENTS: Vietnam turned over long-requested archival documents during Technical Talks held May 4th in Hanoi. This has been a League priority for decades during which appeals have been made for unilateral provision of such archival records. Lists prepared and updated by DPMO's Research Analysis Directorate (RA) and JPAC's Intelligence Directorate (J2) were repeatedly raised by US and League officials to Vietnamese officials at the highest level. This recent responsiveness is encouraging, reflecting a decision by Vietnam's leaders that is most welcome and deeply appreciated. The current political and security regional environment is prompting expanded military-to-military relations between the US and Vietnam, with increases in cooperation on matters pertaining to bilateral interests. Vietnam has long recognized the important role that the POW/MIA issue played as their "bridge" to expanding and broadening bilateral relations.

Missing/Captured

US Service member reported missing or captured while supporting combat operations:

Army Spc. Bowe R. Bergdahi, 25,
June 30,2009, Afghanistan

**Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2012**

vavs



PNC Morris Barker,
Chairman

Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services (VAVS) Report

History: Before my VAVS report as National Representative for the AXPOW organization, I would like to review the history, purpose, and growth of the VAVS organization since it was founded in 1946, just one year after the end of WWII. VAVS was founded for the purpose of providing services, on a volunteer basis, for veterans as they visited or were confined to VA Health Care facilities throughout the U.S. Specifically, volunteers assist patients by augmenting VA Staff with end of life care programs, foster care, hospital wards, nursing homes, and veteran outreach centers.

Many of our Board members volunteer through this program, including Charlie Susino, Ken Hanson, Bill Jeffers, and possibly more...Janice Sleeper, wife of Lew, Ann Still...all representing American Ex-Prisoners of War.

On a national basis, there are approximately 65 organizations, including our organization, providing volunteers to VA facilities such as America Legion, VFW, Gold Star Mothers, Forty and

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2012
16

Eight, Italian and Jewish War Veterans of the U.S., Military Order of the Purple Heart, and many I have never heard of...Military Order of the Cootie, Air Compassion for Veterans, Blue Star Mothers of America...on and on. One hundred forty thousand (140,000) volunteers give of their time to these 65 organizations.

VA operates 152 medical centers, and more than 800 community-based outpatient clinics. In 2011 inpatient facilities treated more than 690,000 patients while outpatient clinics registered in access of 79 million visits.

VAVS is the largest centralized volunteer program in the Federal government. Since 1946, volunteers through VA facilities have provided over 700 million (approximately 12 million each year) hours of service, equivalent to \$15 billion based on Independent Sector Value of \$22 per hour. Each year, in addition to volunteer hours, contributions in gifts and donations equal approximately \$110 million.

Therefore it can easily be seen the importance of VAVS. Laura Balun, Director of Voluntary Services, Washington, DC made this observation....."VAVS volunteers are a priceless asset to the Nation's veterans and to the Department of Veteran Affairs

On a local basis, our organization, AXPOW, is an important asset to VAVS. For many years Jean Theide represented American Ex-Prisoners of War with VAVS, and served on the National Advisory Committee as well, advising the Secretary of the VA, as to the needs of POWs seeking aid in the many VA clinics and hospitals throughout the U.S.

Upon the passing of Jean, I was recommended by Adjutant, Morgan, appointed by Commander

Bogard, and certified by Laura Balun, Director Voluntary Services, as National VAVS Representative for the American Ex-Prisoners of War. The appointment was effective in October 2011.

The responsibilities of this appointment was a mystery to me, and still is to a certain extent, especially after I started receiving stacks of reports from 69 VA facilities throughout the U.S. from which I was to review, report to our organization, and to assure we maintain an AXPOW representative at the various facilities. The reports I receive also includes all activities, attendance, business, and social, at the various facilities as an aid to veterans reporting for care.

The reporting period for National VAVS begins in October. My report today covers the period only through May 2011 of the third quarter which ends this month. Through this 8 month period, VAVS volunteers representing AXPOW in the 69 VA facilities total 209, who have served 14,956 hours. Based on the Independent Sector Value of \$21.20 per hour, this is equivalent to \$317,067 in value to the various facilities.

Bay Pines VA Healthcare System of Bay Pines Florida has the largest number of volunteers totaling 16, with 756 volunteer hours worked. The Brooklyn VA, NY Harbor, with 5 volunteers worked 2339 volunteer hours.

Recent appointment as a VAVS volunteer, representing AXPOW has been Ruby Williams as Deputy Representative at the Temple, TX VA hospital. Ruby will be working with Representative Susanne Judd, appointed by SVC Jim Lollar as Commander of Department of Texas in 2011.

I have attended one VAVS meeting which was in Harker Heights, TX in May of this year.



Oct. 2-6, 2012. The annual Mukden reunion will be held at the Hotel St. Marie, in New Orleans. Room reservations must be made thru the Hotel St. Marie, at 800 - 366- 2748, before July 30. Be sure to say you're with the Mukden Survivors Group. Contact: Ann Johnson, 52 Streamview Lane, Wynantskill, NY 12198; 518-283 -8062(land line) before August 15th. After that, call 518 -283 - 6280 (cell phone.)

March 14-16, 2013. USS Houston CA-30 Survivors Association & Next Generations Annual Reunion will be held at: Hyatt Regency Houston Downtown. Contact: John Keith Schwarz Executive Director- USS Houston CA-30 Survivors Association & Next Generations; contact@usshouston.org; 202-268-2261/703-867-0142.

June 27-July 1, 2012. The American Ex-Prisoners of War National Convention will be held in Arlington, Texas at the Hilton Arlington Hotel. We've got a great convention planned, so now it's your turn to start planning to attend. There will be more information in the Bulletin starting in November/December, 2012.

looking
for



My name is Fred O Scheer. In late Aug. or early Sept. 1944 I arrived at the **POW labor camp at Adorf, Germany**. Adorf was located approximately 60 km west of the border between Germany and Czechoslova-

kia. I was in a group of approximately 80 POWs that came to the Camp and we were the only ones there until April 1945. There was two "railroad gangs" of approximately 20 men each. The balance of the prisoners were divided between working in the railroad roundhouse and coaling station located across the tracks from the camp and the balance worked in a factory in Adorf. We were there until mid to late April 1945 when the Germans put most of the prisoners on the on the road walking toward the West away from the Russians approaching from the East. I was fortunate not to be a part of that walk as I escaped just before the Germans put our people on the road. In the last few years I have been able to locate and be in touch with five men who were at Adorf the same time that I was there. I would like to hear from anyone who was at Adorf while I was there. My telephone number is 404-841-6264. My mailing address is 2626 Peachtree Rd., NW, unit 703, Atlanta, GA 30305. My email address is foscheer@mindspring.com.

I am a member of AXPOW and Friends and Families of Stalag Luft III. The camp is famous because that is where The Great Escape happened. My father was Carl Henry Holmstrom, and he was one of the longest held POW's in that camp. He was in charge of the camp art materials, was one of the forgers, and used his talent of drawing portraits to procure needed supplies for the escape.

He was able to save about two hundred drawings, which I am donating to **The Stalag Luft III Museum in Zagan, Poland**. This museum is a great credit to the citizens of Zagan. Unfortunately, The museum's exhibit room has not been thoroughly updated in decades. This non-descript, former Communist building houses what artifacts the museum has been able to collect, but they are not in well-designed, properly-lighted, display cases. This museum is working improve its displays to showcase, honor and preserve as many of the POW's memories and talents that it can. This museum represents a place that is very personal to those who were POWs at Stalag Luft III and to

their families; it also showcases a special group of men that did what was deemed the impossible. Can you let your members know how to visit the museum? For information, please share this link: <http://www.greatescape2.net/links.html> For members of your group who were POWs in that camp, the museum director has agreed to erect a permanent plaque in the exhibit room with the names of each POW on whose behalf a donation is made. I would also like to extend an invitation to you for March 24th, 2013 to visit the museum. This is the day the museum will host the opening of an exhibit of my Dad's drawings. It is an appropriate day to show that freedom rules. In addition, it is the 70th anniversary of The Great Escape. If any of your members can attend, that would be appreciated.

I was in Italy at **Anzio Beach**, with the weapons platoon, Co. K, 179th Reg., 45th Div. On Feb. 16, I was captured, and held with several other POWs on front lines, in a barn temporarily. On the 16th or 17th, I was resting on some straw in the barn without a door in the direction of our troops. Suddenly a rifle round hit the wall beside me about 2 or 3 inches above me. I quickly moved. It was fired from Americans who may have been in the same outfit as me. The barn was then demolished with exploding shelling. Please, I want to thank you for not sending a second round about 6 inches lower! It could have been fatal.

I was evacuated after 2 days and shipped to several German POW camps farther north. I was treated better after getting into Germany. This has been on my mind for some time and it would be amazing if I could contact the person who shot at me! I am very thankful. Please contact: Ray Sherman, 7707 N Brookline Dr., #409, Madison, WI 53719; raylynns@hotmail.com.

Committee Assignments 2012-2013

ANDERSONVILLE NHS

COORDINATOR

DeMent, Ed

BUDGET & FINANCE

Lollar, SVC James
Jeffers, JVC Bill
Eslinger, JVC Pam
Moore, JVC Skip
Morgan, Adj/Treas Clydie
Bogard, PNC Carroll
Susino, NC Charles

CHAPLAIN

Harvey, PNC Gerald
Rayborn, Benny - Assistant

CIVILIAN EX-POW

Gollin, Alice
Cerbone, Cheryl
Morgan, Sally

BYLAWS & RESOLUTIONS

Drummond, Dave
Koehler, Frank
Morgan, Clydie

EDUCATION

DeMent, Ed
Moore, Skip

ELECTION JUDGES

Warner, PNC Jack
Sharp, PNC Maurice
Schmidt, PNC Bill

HISTORIAN

Myers, Gloria

JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Eslinger, Pam
McIntyre, Laura
JUDGE ADVOCATE
Drummond, Dave

LEGISLATIVE

Hanson, PNC Kenny
Lee, Judy
Susino, C. A.

MEDICAL RESEARCH

Coke, Marsha
Powell, Ruth

MEMBERSHIP

Coke, Marsha
Garrido, Ben
Galanti, Paul

GRIEVANCE & INVESTIGATION

Hanson, PNC Kenny
Koehler, Frank
Sharp, Bonnie

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Clark, John
Morgan, Clydie
Moore, Skip
Eslinger, Pam
Barker, PNC Morris

SUBCOMMITTEES

AWARDS

Jeffers, William

CREDENTIALS

Morgan, Clydie
Myers, Gloria
Ray, Jackye

NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

Moore, Skip
Garrido, Ben

NEXT OF KIN

Eslinger, Pam
Rayborn, Benny
Moore, Skip
Myers, Gloria
Claypool, David

NSO PROGRAM

Powell, Ruth - Director
Harlan, Betty - Co-Director
Jeffers, Bill

PERSONNEL

Schmidt, Deanie
Jeffers, Bill
Gollin, Alice

POW-MIA COORDINATOR

Edwards, PNC John

PROTOCOL

Roberts, PNC Zack
Clark, John
Coke, Marsha
Lee, Judy

PROTOCOL FOR NEW OFFICERS

Morgan, Sally

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Cerbone, Cheryl
Gollin, Alice

SUBCOMMITTEES

PUBLICATIONS GUIDELINES

Sharp, PNC Maurice - Publisher
Cerbone, Cheryl

EDITOR

Cerbone, Cheryl

SERGEANT AT ARMS

Claypool, David
Moore, Skip
Johnson, Jim

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Sleeper, Lew
Clark, John
Moore, Skip
Drummond, David
Rayborn, Benny
Hanson, PNC Kenny

JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING AND NOK

Sleeper, Lew
Drummond, Dave
Clark, John
Eslinger, Pam
Moore, Skip
Rayborn, Benny
Claypool, David
Myers, Gloria
PNC Kenny Hanson

VA OUTREACH PROGRAM

Jeffers, Bill
Jenks, Doris

VA VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Barker, PNC Morris

WAYS & MEANS

Cerbone, Cheryl
Ruetsch, Ray
Sharp, Bonnie
Eslinger, Pam

SUB-COMMITTEES

DIRECT-MAIL PROGRAMS

Cerbone, Cheryl

WASHINGTON DC SPECIAL EVENTS

Susino, NC Charles
National Headquarters

first name listed is
committee chair

Committee Addresses 2012-2013

BARKER PNC MORRIS
710 CHAPEL VIEW
WACO TX 76712
(254) 732-5640

BOGARD PNC CARROLL
275 N+C28 TAFT #116
MASON CITY IA 50401
(641) 424-4870

CERBONE CHERYLA
23 COVE VIEW DR
S YARMOUTH MA 2664
(508) 394-5250

CLARK JOHN W
1201 S JOHNMEYER LN
COLUMBIA MO 65203
(573) 445-3621

CLAYPOOL DAVID
PO BOX 38
HAMPTON MN 55031
(612) 245-2247

COKE MARSHA
3201 E PIONEER PKWY #40
ARLINGTON TX 76010-5396
(817) 649-2979

DE MENT EDWARD L
8735 DORAL OAKS DR #1617
TEMPLE TERRACE FL 33617-6244
(813) 985-3783

DRUMMOND DAVID
1 CRANE CT
MANALAPAN NJ 07726-3626
(732) 446-4198

EDWARDS PNC JOHN
889 RANDALL RD
NISKAYUNA NY 12309-4815
(518) 393-3907

ESLINGER PAM WARNER
PO BOX 117
HAMMON OK 73650
(580) 473-2783

FISHER BECKY
6319 WHIMS RD
CANAL WINCHESTER OH 43110
(614) 834-7214

GARRIDO BEN
21083 S FORREST DR
TAHLEQUAH OK 74464
(951) 313-9839

GOLLIN ALICE
3650 SAVANNA WAY
PALM SPRINGS CA 92262
(760) 202-1329

HANSON PNC KENNY H
9401 LYNDAL AVE S #228
BLOOMINGTON MN 55420 - 4255
(952) 888-2703

HARVEY PNC GERALD
709 BAPTIST HOME LANE
SEDALIA MO 64601-3975
(660) 827-2178

JEFFERS WILLIAM
3522 MILLBROOK WAY CR
GREEN ACRES FL 33463-3057
(561) 969-6036

KOEHLER FRANK
243 TORREY PINES DR
TOMS RIVER NJ 08757
(732) 244-4629

LEE JUDY
PO BOX 56
MADISONVILLE TN 37354
(423) 442-3223

LOLLAR JIM
292 VZ CR 3727
WILLS POINT TX 75169
(903) 560-1734

MCINTYRE LAURA M
BOX 475
HARDWICK MA 01037
(413) 477-8260

MOORE SKIP
2965 SIERRA BERMEJA
SIERRA VISTA AZ 85650
(520) 459-7295

MORGAN CLYDIE J
3201 E PIONEER PKWY #40
ARLINGTON TX 76010-5396
(817) 649-2979

MYERS GLORIA
BOX 327
WALNUT IA 51577
(712) 784-3913

POWELL RUTH
191 FLORENCE RD
WALTHAM MA 02453
(781) 899-0726

RAYBORN BENNY
1111 HWY 29
WIGGINS MS 39577
(601) 466-1951

ROBERTS PNC ZACK
374 ROLLING ROCK
MOUNTAINSIDE NJ 07092
(908) 232-2990

RUETSCH RAY
4365 N CINDY LN
COLUMBIA MO 65202
(573) 817-9332

SCHMIDT DEANIE
1001 PARKVIEW BLVD #316
COLUMBUS OH 43219-2205
(614) 372-0789

SCHMIDT PNC BILL
1001 PARKVIEW BLVD #316
COLUMBUS OH 43219-2205
(614) 372-0789

SHARP BONNIE
9716 54TH ST CT W
UNIVERSITY PLACE WA 98467-1118
(253) 565-0444

SHARP PNC MAURICE
9716 54TH ST CT W
UNIVERSITY PLACE WA 98467-1118
(253) 565-0444

SLEEPER LEWIS
6636 E VILLA DORADO
TUCSON AZ 85715
(520) 751-9628

SUSINO CHARLES
136 JEFFERSON ST
METUCHEN NJ 08840-2847
(732) 549-5775

WARNER PNC JACK
BOX 117
HAMMON OK 73650

from the judge-advocate

July 2012

This is an attempt at clarification and explanation of the differences between Bylaws of American Ex-Prisoners of War, Codes Of Procedures, and Job Descriptions.

The three were initially issued together and some believed were all the same type of rules, which they are not. To help eliminate the confusion they were separated to help clarify the difference. This created a complaint that you had to ask for each part separately and created extra effort on the part of the requester. It was decided to combine the three elements and issue them as a single unit for the convenience of the members. It is therefore important for all to note these differences. The differences are explained below.

Bylaws of American Ex-Prisoners of War as published are the main structure under which our organization is governed. The amendment process is as described in Article XVIII. Amendments.

Codes Of Procedures fall under the category of standing rules of the body. They can be amended as put forth in Section VI - Amendments of Codes of Procedures. These are similar to the standing rules for the conduct of our meetings.

Job Descriptions are administrative rules which can be changed by the Board of Directors. They are provided so people holding a position know what their duties entail. It also allows the general membership to know whom to contact if a question arises about

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2012
20

a particular subject. The job description committee is tasked with keeping the job descriptions current and suggesting changes to the commander and the board of directors for their approval.

While the rules that govern any organization of this size are complex this is a brief explanation to help clarify the differences for our members.

David Drummond
National Judge Advocate

bylaws

All requested changes to the National Bylaws are to be submitted as follows:

Resolutions have two major parts: a preamble and a resolution. The preamble gives the reason for the resolution. The resolution gives the intent. Each can contain one or more paragraphs and the whole is read in its entirety, beginning with the preamble. Each preamble paragraph begins with "Whereas" and ends with "and" to connect it to the next paragraph. The final paragraph is joined to the resolution with a semicolon and followed by the phrase "Therefore, be it"

Whereas, (ETC); and
Whereas (ETC); therefore, be it
Resolved, that -----

One signature is required on resolutions and amendments. Members are reminded that resolutions must be submitted to the committee before Oct. 1, 2012. Those requesting changes should include a telephone number where they can be reached if more information is needed. Send requested changes to:

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

United States Postal Service Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

EX-POW BULLETIN Pub. # 0161-7451 filing date 10/12

Frequency: bi-monthly (6 issues annually)

\$40.00 annual subscription price, or as part of membership dues
Pub. Office: 3201 E. Pioneer Pkway, Suite 40, Arlington, Tarrant County, TX 76010

Clydie J. Morgan, Adjutant
(817) 649-2979

Headquarters: 3201 E. Pioneer Pkway, Suite 40, Arlington, TX 76010

Publisher: Maurice Sharp, 9716 54th Street CT West, University Place, WA 98467

Editor: Cheryl Cerbone, 23 Cove View Drive, South Yarmouth, MA 02664

Managing Editor: Cheryl Cerbone, 23 Cove View Drive, South Yarmouth, MA 02664

Owner: American Ex-Prisoners of War, 3201 E. Pioneer Pkway, Suite 40, Arlington, TX 76010-5396

Known bondholders, mortgagees, other security holders: NONE

Tax status: Purpose, function and non-profit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes has not changed during the preceding 12 months.

Publ. Title: EX-POW BULLETIN

Circulation Data: Issue July/Aug 2012
Since last file date 10/11

	Average	Single Issue
Total copies printed:	12,494	12,147
Total paid/and or requested:	12,351	12,025
Free distribution outside the mail:	45	45
Total distribution:	12,396	12,070
Copies not distributed:	98	77
Total:	12,494	12,147
Percent paid/requested circulation:	99%	99%

Publication Statement of Ownership
Form 3526 filed with the Postmaster,
United States Postal Service, Arlington,
TX. Copy held at National Headquarters,
Arlington, TX

American Ex-Prisoners of War is a non-profit corporation, incorporated in Washington state, October 11, 1949, recorded as Document No. 133762, Roll 1, Page 386-392.

News Briefs

Follow-Up to the New Vietnam Era

by Alice A. Booher



As reported in the July-August issue of the *Bulletin*, it has been 37 years since the end of the Vietnam War, but real and positive actions have not been so easy in the 17 years since the U.S. and Vietnam formally “normalized” post-war relationships. In early June 2012, for the first time since 1975, a US Secretary of Defense, Leon Panetta was welcomed for meetings in Hanoi with Vietnam Defense Minister Phuong Quang Thanh.

Both countries have committed to improved resolution of unclosed war chapters including cooperating on clearings of bomb and mine fields and mitigation of residuals of Agent Orange. On August 10, 2012, the U.S. began a landmark project to clean up dangerous chemicals left from the defoliant used to destroy enemy cover. Removing chemicals from the former U.S. airbase at Da Nang, U.S. Ambassador David Shear described



as “moving earth and taking the first steps to bury the legacies of our past”. It is a \$43 million project, expected to be completed in 4 years on the 47 acre containment site at the now active Vietnamese military base near the commercial airport. Since 2007, the U.S. has contributed about \$60 million for environmental restoration and social services in Vietnam, but this is the first direct involvement in cleaning up dioxin which has seeped into Vietnam’s soil and watersheds for generations and continues to cause cancer, birth defects and other disabilities.

This act of good faith is but one of several actions that should stimulate the resolution of the fates of American MIAs. Since 1975, the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command’s Detachment 2 based in Hanoi has conducted 107 field searches for American MIA’s with Vietnamese support. From the Vietnam War, there are now 1,666 American personnel still missing, of which a total of 1,284 are thought to be in Vietnam. Of these, 586 cases are categorized as “no further pursuit” meaning that there is conclusive evidence that the individual perished but it is not possible to recover remains - Thus, there are 698 MIAs that need to be located in-country and repatriated.

Honoring America’s Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012

President Barack Obama signed into law on Aug. 6, 2012 legislation to provide health care to thousands of sick Marine veterans and their families who were exposed to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune.

Despite its previous contention that there was insufficient evidence to prove the illnesses were related to service at Camp Lejeune, the Marine Corps said in a statement Monday that it was pleased and supported the new law. The law is expected to help thousands of veterans and their families who were exposed to drinking water that was poisoned with trichloroethylene, tetrachloroethylene, benzene and vinyl chloride. The law provides health care for 15 diseases and illnesses, including several cancers, female infertility and scleroderma, a group of diseases that causes skin and sometimes internal organs to become hard and tight. Miller, the original sponsor of the Janey Ensminger Act, which was included in a modified version of Burr’s bill, said studies are under way to learn whether there are connections between the poisoned water and other illnesses, including multiple sclerosis, Parkinson’s disease and Lou Gehrig’s disease. The Department of Veterans Affairs will determine the process for how veterans and family members can obtain health benefits under the new law.

Military

Funeral Protection

The controversial Westboro Baptist Church, best known for its noisy protests at the funerals of fallen soldiers, vowed to defy a new bill signed by President Obama that would require that they be kept at least 300 feet from a soldier’s funeral. Obama signed the Honoring America’s Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012 into law on Aug. 6. Among the 50 provisions in the legislation that range from benefits for military personnel to healthcare and education is a clause 3 that restricts protesters from gathering within 300 feet of a military funeral two hours

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2012

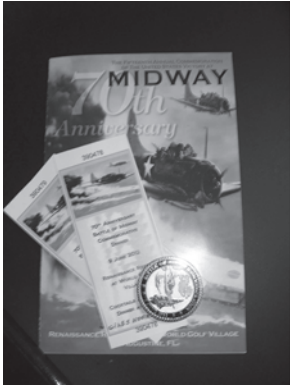
news, continued

before or two hours after a funeral service has taken place. "We have a moral sacred duty to our men and women in uniform," Obama said before signing the bill. "The graves of our veterans are hallowed grounds."

Midway at 70

by Alice A. Booher

The histories of WWII in the Pacific are often separated into *Before* Midway, when the Japanese had pretty much had their way; and *After* the battle off (the cluster of islands making up the aggregate) Midway Island, when things started to be different. According to Craig Symond's *The Battle of Midway*, and others, with a combination of tools, skill and good fortune, some of which was self-made, with Midway, the U.S. (particularly the Navy) came into its own and rendered a decisive blow.



Thus, in June 2012, many celebrations of the 70th anniversary of Midway were planned to be something special, and the community and particularly the Navy League Councils in Mayport, St. Augustine and Jacksonville, FL, set out to do it up right. At the world class Renaissance Resort Hotel at World Golf Village in St. Augustine, on June 9, 2012, a Commemorative Dinner was held at which time the keynoter was ADM Mark Ferguson, Vice Chief of Naval Operations. Admiral Ferguson, with a background of nuclear power training before entering the fleet as a surface warfare officer, brought a variety of responsible assignments

ashore and afloat. The small irony is not lost that the personable and erudite Ferguson, who holds a masters degree in computer science from Naval Postgraduate School, also completed a National Security Fellowship at Harvard, the alma mater of Japanese Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto.

Special honors at the June 2012 Florida event were rendered for Medal of Honor (MOH) recipient Hospital Corpsman Third Class Robert R. Ingram, USN, Company C, First Battalion, Seventh Marines, who had received the MOH for heroic actions against elements of North Vietnamese while sustaining four significant wounds on March 28, 1966 in Quang Ngai Province Republic of Vietnam.

Other special June 2012 honorees were Midway Veterans Melvin Bell, Marlin Crider, James Cunningham, Burrell Davis, Eugene Domienik, John Hancock, Marvin Hollis, William Howard, Ed Kmiec, Patrick Morin, Gordon Pierce, Wood "Woody" Richmond, William "Bill" Roy, Roger Spooner, Theron Touchtone, Chuck Wheeler; and Midway widows Jan Coombs, Grace Dawson, Virginia Lewis and Ruth Stewart. Special activities included extraordinary presentations of shadow boxes containing flags flown over Midway, itself a remarkable story of sustained efforts of numerous folks nationwide including in Hawaii.

Décor was red, white and blue, and featured standing panels and table booths of commemorative photos and memorabilia including PT boats, jeeps and posters. One elegant but stark touch - lobby easels cradling blown up copies of 32 exquisite and evocative hand-drawn pen and ink drawings of his captivity rendered by Vietnam POW, Naval officer and former Marine, and now Florida resident **CAPT Giles R. Norrington**.

In an unusual tribute, including a glorious reunion luncheon, special recognition was accorded former POWs as follows: **Col William Byrns, USAF (Ret)** [a POW for 309 days in Vietnam, who remained in the USAF to fly combat missions in the F-16F Falcon during Desert Storm)]; **RADM**

Fred Berley, USN (Ret) [a Navy doctor captured at Corregidor who worked with 3 other physicians to treat other POWs in captivity, then stayed in the Navy and later entered private practice; he is approaching his 100th birthday]; **SSGT Larry Carastro** [a left waist gunner shot down on his 35th mission in a B-17 over Anzio Beach; captured and held POW for 14 months, to return CONUS to become a successful businessman]; **Col Carl Crumpler, USAF (Ret)** [attached to the 8th Tactical Wing, flying the F-40 Phantom out of Ubon RTB, Thailand, shot down and captured, spending 1,714 days as a POW; retired from USAF in 1977 after 22 years]; **RADM Robert Fuller, USN (Ret)** [a 1951 USNA grad, as Commanding Officer of attack Squadron 76 off the Carrier *BONHOMME RICHARD* flying the A-4C, on his 110th Combat Mission, was shot down near Hun Yen in North Vietnam and held POW for 68 months, 25 months of which were in solitary; he resumed his Navy career as Commander of the *USS AMERICA*, retired in 1988]; **CPO Bill Ingram, USN (Ret)** [aboard the *USS HOUSTON* when the ship was torpedoed and sank on March 2, 1942; fished from the water, interrogated and thrown back in for not having given anything of value, he was recaptured and sent to Java to work for 3 ½ years on the Bridge on the River Kwai railroad project]; **CAPT Wilson Denver Key, USN (Ret)** [1963 USNA grad, a pilot in Attack Squadron THREE FOUR embarked the *USS INTREPID* flying the A4C on his 76th Combat Mission, was shot down by SAM's and spent 5 1/2 years in POW camps; he later retired after 27 years in the Navy]; **COL Harold Kushner, USA (Ret)** [a flight surgeon attached to the 9th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, flying on a UH-1 Huey when it was shot down; he was a POW for 5 ½ years, continuing his medical practice throughout, and served in the Army until 1986]; **CAPT Thomas Letendresse, USN (Ret)** [a pilot in Attack Squadron 55 embarked the carrier *HANCOCK*, flying the A-4F on a SAM Suppression mission in May 1972, spent 306 days as a POW, then continued to serve culminating in command of Carrier Air Wing Two, retiring after 30 years.];

news, continued

CAPT Giles R. Norrington, USN (Ret) [on his 22nd Recon flight over North Vietnam when the right wing of his RA-5C Vigilante was shot off, would spend 1,774 days as a POW, retired from the USN in 1988 after 30 years service including command at Diego Garcia] ; **MSGT Andy Ramotnik, USAF Ret)** [joined the Army Air Corps shortly after Pearl Harbor, as a B-25 radio operator on combat missions in North Africa; on his 43rd bombing raid, was shot down in Italy on a railroad mission, captured by Germans and held POW for 19 months at Stalag 17B, escaping twice; after 90 days recuperative leave, he was sent to China until the end of the war; remained on duty until 1963, retiring after 20 years of service]; **CAPT Richard Stratton, USN (Ret)** [pilot in Attack Squadron 192, embarked on the aircraft carrier *TICONDEROGA*, flying the A-4E; on January 4, 1967, on his 27th Combat Mission, flying recon over North Vietnam to destroy a ferry and ultimately destroying barges, was shot down to spend 2,251 days as a POW; continued to serve in the Navy, retiring in 1986 after 31 years]; **Randal Whetzel** [a civilian when he and his family were captured by the Japanese in 1942 in the Dutch East Indies, he was imprisoned without his family at a work camp near Makassar, Celebes, collecting fire wood for POWs and prison guards kitchen; released September 1945 and taken to Manila for a month's rehab, he returned to Indonesia in 1948 to continue his work teaching and helping the locals, and as a volunteer for the World Relief Program (1981-1991).

Rounding out the all-encompassing salute, the 70th anniversary Midway gala also hosted 16 Jacksonville Wounded Warriors (Army and Marine Corps) all from Operation Iraqi Freedom. - An exceptional, moving and memorable event for a spectrum of patriots.

VA Fully Developed Claims Program

The Fully Developed Claims (FDC)

program is just one of many new initiatives VA is implementing to ensure our nation's heroes receive the benefits they deserve through quicker and more accurate decisions. It is the fastest way of getting your compensation or pension claim processed. Participation in the FDC Program allows for more expeditious claims processing while preserving greater quality of service and your right to appeal a decision. Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQ) help support the FDC. DBQs are valuable for claims processing because they provide medical information that is directly relevant to determining a disability rating. When submitted with a Fully Developed Claim, DBQs ensure the VA's ratings specialists have precisely the information they need to start processing the claim. Participation in the FDC program is a win-win for both the veteran and the VA because:

VA, traditionally, after it receives a claim from a Veteran will only then provide the Veteran notification of what is required from him/her to substantiate the claim via the Duty to Assist letter. Under FMA you will learn exactly what evidence you need to substantiate an eligible claim when you apply, without having to wait for further instructions. Thus, no more waiting for further instructions.

By participating you will send the required evidence with your claim and certify that you have nothing further to provide. By doing this, you dramatically reduce the processing time of your claim.

VA has shortened application forms to reduce paperwork and established priority channels to process your FDC claim. This means they are able to process these claims far more quickly than claims going through the traditional process.

If you need time to gather evidence for your FDC claim, you can get started by locking in an effective date with an Informal Claim. By doing so compensation for any subsequent claim approval will be retroactive to that date. The Informal Claim includes the following statement in the form of a letter: "I intend to apply

for compensation/pension benefits under the FDC Program. This statement is to preserve my effective date for entitlement to benefits. I am in the process of assembling my claim package for submission." The Informal Claim must also be accompanied by:

The Claimant's Name (If Other Than The Veteran)

The Veteran's Name

The Veteran's Claim Number. (**Note:** When you become eligible for, apply for and receive Department of Veterans Affairs benefits, a claim or file number is established for you and your care. This claim number appears on any correspondence from the VA. Find your claim number by looking in the upper-right-hand corner for a number preceded by the letters "C," "XC," "CSS" or "XSS." In some cases your Social Security number is your claim number, and it will work as a substitute for a missing claim number in some situations. If in doubt call the VA benefits line at 800-827-1000 and inquire about your personal claim or file number.)

Participation is a 3 step process -
1) Complete your EZ Form and get it certified. Compensation Claim 21-526EZ form at <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-526EZ-ARE.pdf> can be completed on line and downloaded for submission with your package. For pension claims use the form at <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-527EZ-ARE.pdf>.

2) Gather the evidence.

3) Submit your claim.

Rural Burial Initiative

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced Aug. 1, 2012 that it is moving forward with a plan to provide burial services for Veterans in rural areas where there are no available VA national cemeteries, state Veterans cemeteries or tribal Veterans cemeteries. "VA is committed to

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2012

23

news, continued

improving service to Veterans in rural areas,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “Through an innovative partnership with existing cemeteries, we will be able to ensure burial for Veterans in more locations that meet the high standards of national shrines.” Under the Rural Initiative plan, VA will build small National Veterans Burial Grounds within existing public or private cemeteries in rural areas where the unserved Veteran population is 25,000 or less within a 75-mile radius. VA plans to open eight National Veterans Burial Grounds that will serve Veterans in the areas of Fargo, N.D.; Rhinelander, Wis.; Cheyenne, Wyo.; Laurel, Mont.; Idaho Falls, Idaho; Cedar City, Utah; Calais, Maine; and Elko, Nev. VA officials will announce further details about the eight new burial grounds as information becomes available. This new initiative will make VA burial options available to more than 136,000 Veterans and their eligible dependents.

Honor in a Special Gathering of Eagles

By Alice A. Booher



The Air Command and Staff College (ACSC) at Maxwell AFB, AL, started it in 1980 when Paul W. Tibbets, Jr., pilot of the *Enola Gay*, was invited to speak to a class of his experiences. Two years later,

from efforts by a small faculty/student group charged to develop an ongoing aviation heritage program, ACSC held the first “Great Moments in Aviation” (later renamed “Gathering of Eagles” (GOE). In 2007, the GOE incorporated and two years later, became a nonprofit, 501(c) (3). In 2012, the GOE Foundation began a partnership with the AF Historical Research Agency and the Library of Congress’ Veteran’s History Project to record oral histories for selected Eagles. The annual program evolved into a week-long of teaching interviews and various social events between aviation pioneers and ACSC class members. The GOE also gives annual scholarships, funded by donations and from selling a signed lithograph hand-signed by the Eagles for that given year.

Some early aviation honorees were “Chuck” Yeager, Curtis LeMay, Jimmy Doolittle, Neil Armstrong; later came Robin Olds, Mike Novosel, “Pappy” Boyington, Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Robbie Risner, George H. W. Bush, Frank Borman, Eugene Cernan, Susan Helms, Wally Schirra, Alan Shepard, “Deke” Slayton, James Stockdale, John Glenn, Jeremiah Denton, Michael Durant, “Bud” Day. The extraordinary “Roll Call” from 1982-2012 shows men and women, civilian and military, from all over the world. And while these aviators all carried a variety of lofty titles and ranks, aviation was the common bond. Noteworthy is the inclusion of many former POWs in the annual recognition.

The (June) 2012 Class of the GOE in Montgomery, AL, another exceptional group of aviation legends (and their concomitant aircraft) were as follows : Ed Saylor (B-25B *Mitchell*); James Harvey III (F-47N *Jug*); Leo Thorsness (F-105F *Thunderchief*); Gail Halvorsen (C-54 *Skymaster*); Robert Cardenas (YB-49 *Flying Wing*); Gloria Heath

(B-26 *Marauder*); Miroslaw Hermaszewski (*Soyuz 30* and *Salyut 6*); Rhonda Cornum (UB0-60 *Black Hawk*); Jim McCoy (CMSAF #6); Leon Frankel (TBM *Avenger*); Jim Kasler (F-105D *Thunderchief*); “Scrappy” Johnson (YF-104 *Starfighter*); Robert Gutierrez, Jr. (Combat Controller); and Hank Fowler, Jr. (F-4C *Phantom*).

Lt Gen David S. Fadok, USAF, Commander and President of the Air University, cited the 2012 GOE capstone theme, in its 31st year, as “Adversity, Victory, Legacy”, bringing together heroes in the realms of air, space and cyberspace domains.

The 2012 Gathering of Eagles event featured numerous interviews, many videotaped for the oral history project, but also dinners, brunches, a ball, a barbeque, and flight-line visits to various aircraft. Each Eagle was permitted to invite a special guest to accompany them, in addition to family and others present on-site.

The four former POWs honored as “Eagles” for 2012:

Henry P. Fowler, Jr., USAF for 27 years, F-4 pilot and Judge Advocate, had enlisted in the USN in 1961. On Easter Sunday, March 26, 1967, LT



Fowler was scrambling from Ubon, Thailand, in support of 90 F-105 Thunderchiefs in a strike over Hanoi (and the Son Tay Army Supply Area RP-V) when shot down by MiG-21 fighters. Captured with a compressed spinal fracture, marched, driven, hanged and stoned in villages, he ended up at the Hanoi Hilton (Hoa Lo) where he remained for 2,157 days, being released February 18, 1973.

news, continued

Recovering from his injuries, he completed C-141 Starlifter transition training and served as a pilot with the 86th Military Aircraft Squadron at Travis AFB. In 1974, he entered law school, graduating in 1978 and serving as JAG until retirement in 1991. His military awards include two Silver Stars.

At the GOE interview sessions, Fowler said that during his POW time, he kept the armed service's code of conduct foremost in his mind. He described how he came to grips with the challenges that brought as a captive. He refused a diplomatic offer to be sent home early on the grounds that there were others more deserving.

James H. Kasler, the only person to have been decorated with three USAF Crosses, enlisted in the US Army out of Indianapolis in May 1944 and flew combat missions over Japan as a tailgunner in a Boeing B-29 Superfortress. Released in 1946, he attended Butler University, entered the USAF as a student pilot in 1950, and was almost immediately shipped overseas to the 4th Fighter Interceptor Wing, Korea where he became an Ace; and then numerous other locations. In early 1966, he was assigned to fly combat as Operations Officer of the 354th at Takhli AFB, Thailand. On June 29, 1966, he led the 355th Tactical Fighter Wing in one of the most successful strikes of the war, with virtual destruction of the heavily defended Hanoi petroleum storage complex. Five weeks later, on his 91st mission, he was shot down in an attempt to rescue a downed wingman.



He would endure 6-1/2 years of captivity as a POW to be released in March 1973. His second USAF Cross was for the actions on his 91st Mission, his third for his heroic resistance and leadership under torture while a POW.

At the GOE interview sessions, Kasler echoed Thorsness' Four-F's, and said he knew he "had a great family to come home to, and I came home with no guilt."

Leo K. Thorsness enlisted in the USAF in January 1951 and earned his commission three years later through the Aviation Cadet Program. After flying multiple craft, this legendary



Wild Weasel's heroism during Vietnam Era is well known. On 30 April 1967, just 8 missions short of the required 100 missions to successfully complete a combat tour, Thorsness, on his second sortie of the day, was shot down and captured by the North Vietnamese after battling MiG aircraft and evading 53 SAMs. He would suffer through captivity in camps such as Hanoi Hilton, Heartbreak Hotel, Skid Row and The Zoo. On his return CONUS in 1973, he was awarded the Medal of Honor (MOH) for heroic actions on missions flown just 11 days prior his own shoot-down and capture. He retired from the USAF in 1973 with nearly 5,000 flying hours. He became a Washington State Senator (1988-1992), during which time he urged the federal government to release information about 30,000 soldiers listed as POW or MIA in conflicts dating back to WWII.

At the June 2012 GOE interview sessions, Thorsness wore but declined to discuss his MOH, but told stories of his life as POW. He said he distracted himself by monitoring the conversations of the POWs, and through this, realized that

they all had the Four-F's: family, friends, fun and faith". He said that "just knowing there were other people there kept you going".

Rhonda L. S. Cornum, started her military career in 1978 as a medical researcher with a PhD. She



completed medical school in 1986 and went into combat field and aerospace medicine arenas, completing airborne, air assault and flight surgeon training. Her medical aviation research enhanced use of helmet mounted displays in advanced attack helicopters and in pilot performance. She and her USAF pilot/physician husband Kory also built an experimental aircraft by hand (and still fly one). Assigned to the 2/229th Attack Helicopter Battalion, she was part of a combat search and rescue mission on 27 February 1991, endeavoring to recover a USAF pilot (Bill Andrews, ironically a USAFA classmate of her husband Kory) over Iraq during Desert Storm when the UH-60 on which she was one of an 8-member crew, was shot down by Iraqi anti-aircraft fire. Cornum, one of only 3 survivors of the crash, was taken captive by the Iraqi Republic Guard, with two broken arms, a severely damaged leg, and gunshot and shrapnel wounds in her shoulder/back and head, she was repatriated on 6 March 1991. After repatriation, Cornum became the first medical officer to graduate from ACSC and continued her medical training and research in the field of urology. She commanded the 28th Combat Support Hospital at Ft. Bragg, deployed as Medical Task Force commander

news, continued

in Bosnia, and became commander of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany. BG Cornum recently completed her Army career as Director of the Comprehensive Soldier Fitness Program, its' Center developing psychological strengthening and resilience training to aid military members in surviving difficult situations.

During the GOE interview sessions, Cornum briefly described her captivity but also exhibited her usual élan by noting that "suffering is stupid, but whining is worse... So make everything as good as you can make it and then move on. When you think you are going to die, you realize being a POW isn't as bad as it could be."

In Cornum's case, the GOE was an opportunity for a unique personal, professional and utterly remarkable public acknowledgment. As noted, each Eagle was permitted to invite a special guest to be hosted by the ACSC. In Cornum's case, her special guest was Dr. Mudhafar Habboush. Dr. Habboush, [with a medical degree from University of Baghdad (1961), a Licentiate in Medicine, member of apothecary societies in London, Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England (1968), Masters in Orthopedics (University of Liverpool, 1973), and Fellow of the American College of Orthopedics (1994), and designer of numerous orthopedic prostheses and tools (some of which are named for him)], was also a former Brigadier General in the Iraqi Army. At the time of Desert Storm, Dr. Habboush was the orthopedic surgeon of the Rasheed Military Hospital in Baghdad. He took care of Cor-

num and Sgt. Daniel Stemaris, two of the three survivors of the Black Hawk crash. During the interview sessions, Cornum spoke of his extraordinary skill (with nonexistent medicine, negligible regular electricity and under otherwise horrible conditions), and of his consummate professionalism during that time. She was proud to introduce Dr. Habboush as an example of former enemies now friends. He now has a home in Amman, Jordan but was on a visit CONUS. The GOE group welcomed Dr. Habboush with the chance to speak, and to introduce his wife Haifa, whom he had brought to meet his new friends and to be witness to this remarkable activity.

The *Montgomery Advertiser* newspaper, serially reporting the GOE events, articulately summed it up by saying "Honor" seemed to be the word of the week.

Congressional Medal of Honor Museum

Standing on the hanger deck of the World War II aircraft carrier Yorktown, officials with the Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum announced plans 1 AUG for a \$100 million Medal of Honor Museum honoring the recipients of the nation's highest award for valor. The museum on high ground on Charleston Harbor would replace a smaller one aboard the carrier and make Patriots Point a national destination, said Ray Chandler, the chairman of the Patriots Point Development Authority. The authority has signed a letter of understanding with the Congressional Medal of Honor Society to build a museum "honoring the highest heroes of this country," he said. No money from Patriots Point will be used. Instead, a national foundation will be created to lease the property, raise funds and build the museum. There's no specific timetable for completion, said

Patriots Point spokeswoman Ashley Smith. But retired Maj. Gen. James Livingston, a South Carolina recipient of the medal, wants to move quickly. "This is the final opportunity to establish a lasting legacy for the Medal of Honor while we still have recipients alive from World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the War on Terror," he said.

VA/DoD Collaboration

Lawmakers frustrated at years of limited collaboration between defense and Veterans Affairs officials pressed the secretaries of those departments 25 JUL to ensure that servicemembers' lives aren't lost to paperwork mistakes and red tape. "We've been talking for decades about this. ... We have to break down the bureaucracy," said Rep. Bob Filner-CA). "People are dying because these systems aren't integrated." Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki and Defense Secretary Leon Panetta made a rare joint appearance on Capitol Hill to reiterate their promise to deliver lifelong care for troops, calling it a moral and national security imperative. But lawmakers said that despite years of promise, the two agencies haven't found solutions to some of the most basic problems facing troops. In the first ever combined hearing of the House Armed Services and House Veterans Affairs committees, representatives pressed the secretaries to explain why lifelong digital military medical records are still five years away, why suicide numbers continue to mount, why troops continue to be confused by their veterans benefits, and why the departments' work together hasn't produced better results. "Collaboration and cooperation between VA and DOD have never been more important, and I think for the next two decades ... this will be the work of the nation," Shinseki said.

news, continued

The Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center is the nation's first fully integrated federal health care center (FHCC) between the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense. Established on Oct. 1, 2010, the facility integrated all medical care with a single combined VA and Navy mission, serving military members, Veterans, military family members and retirees. The center is located at: 3001 North Green Bay Road North Chicago, IL 60064; (847) 688-1900. www.lovell.fhcc.va.gov/

Stolen Freedom Re-Captured in Film

by Alice A. Booher

Those who attended the recent 2012 American Ex-POW Convention were able to view a DVD "played on a loop" in the Hospitality Suite of an extraordinary POW documentary "Prisoners of War: Stolen Freedom", featuring four former POWs: CPO William Ingram, USN; Cpl Richard Bassett, USA; COL Hal Kushner, USA and CAPT Giles Norrington, USN. The film has been widely shown throughout Florida, its state of origin, and on some PBS stations and at veterans' meetings, but will hopefully now be seen nationwide to great acclaim. [At Convention, it shared the "loop" with "The Tragedy of Bataan", a documentary by Jan Thompson who father was a POW, and narrated by Alex Baldwin.]

The 45 minute long documentary may be one of the best made to include three wars, four men and what the subheader sums up as "One Mission: Stay Alive". Credit must be given to the Director, Eric Flagg, and to the producer and cheerleader, Michael Rothfeld, the latter of whom graciously made another copy of the DVD available to the AxPOW Convention when the first one went

missing, and to many other interested parties for wider distribution and educational viewing.

There has long been abundant available footage of war, including some showing POWs being taken prisoner, in captivity, and during repatriations. But more than any other prior film, *Stolen Freedom's* programmers must have gone through hundreds of hours of film, because they have exquisitely isolated the exact moments of appropriate footage from which to illustrate the actions or circumstances actually discussed by the respective POWs. It is almost surreal to see the very raw footage taken on one of dozens of buses during Operation Homecoming, at Clark Air Base, when Giles Norrington's POW bracelet is handed through the window on a rolled paper on his exact bus.

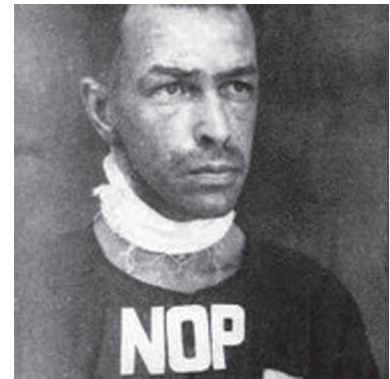
The technique and unique skill with which this marriage of film and text has been precisely implemented lends ultimate credibility to the entire process. The well edited content and articulate responses by the four POWs are utterly compelling but never over-extended. The men are seated in a professional but relaxed fashion, and tell their stories in straight-forward but never dispassionate words that may have been modestly scripted for conciseness, but if so, the content was clearly from the hearts and minds of the men themselves. With the benefit of hindsight and a good deal of time on which to reflect on their respective experiences, their observations and insights, sometimes stated with pithy idiom, are simply extraordinary. It is also rewarding to see demonstrated evidence that all four men returned with resilience to full and meaningful post-captivity lives and works.

Ingram, taken POW when the Japanese sunk the USS HOUSTON in March 1942, worked on the rail-

road project to build the Bridge on the River Kwai in Thailand for 3 ½ years. On repatriation, he discovered his brother had also been a POW. Bassett was held during the bitter winter of 1950-1951 in the North Korean POW Camp 5. He later taught high school history for 20 years.

Kushner, a surgeon and sole survivor of his helicopter crash, was befriended by a farmer who betrayed him to the Viet Cong after feeding him. Moved from camp to camp for 5/1/2 years, he ended up in the Hanoi Hilton. He returned to active practice.

Norrington, shot down during a bombing mission in May 1968,



and severely injured, was held in isolation until moved where two cellmates could help him address basic human needs, and then into a large room with 56 other navigators and pilots during his nearly 5 years captivity. He returned to active work with civilian and military communities including AIDS awareness and Red Cross. The inside covers of the DVD generously reproduce some of Norrington's 32 pen and ink drawings of captivity.

Stolen Freedom is a well spent reflective use of time for everyone, even those who are already too painfully aware of the POW experience.

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2012

27

Long Overdue Stardom

By Alice A. Booher



He was just a KY/VA/TN kid who enlisted in the USAF in 1950, flew F-84 Thunderjet Fighters and went to Korea. In 1956, he joined the CIA, which was then looking for USAF pilots to guide their new U-2, a high altitude reconnaissance plane program. Capable of flying higher than Soviet fighters of the day, CIA pilots entered the cockpit without ID and a suicide pin. However, the Soviets had enhanced their shooting capability by May 1, 1960, when Francis Gary Powers took off from Peshawar, Pakistan to fly across the Soviet Union and land at Bodø, Norway. He was scheduled to return to Incirlik AFB on a different route, again completely across the USSR. Four hours into the flight, a Soviet surface to air missile (SAM) severely damaged his U-2 near Sverdlovsk, and he was

forced to bail out and was quickly captured. The US and then President Eisenhower, thinking he had been killed, denied it has been a spy mission and called his flight weather-related, until Soviet Premier Khrushchev paraded Powers before the camera along with plane footage.

Powers was tried by the Soviets for espionage, convicted and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment. In a swap in the middle of Berlin's Glienicke Bridge for Soviet spy Colonel Rudolf Abel, Powers was released February 10, 1962, some 21 months after being taken prisoner. After extensive debriefings by the whole of Washington, in 1964 Powers was awarded the CIA Intelligence Star for Valor. The USAF however went back on an earlier promise to reinstate him to full officer status, and to credit his CIA time, and refused to award him the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) that he had earned in 1957. Power worked for Lockheed Aircraft as a test pilot (1963-1970). He died in 1977 at age 47 when his Los Angeles television traffic helicopter crashed due to a malfunctioning fuel gauge. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



In 1998, after declassified government records confirmed that he had been part of a joint Air Force-

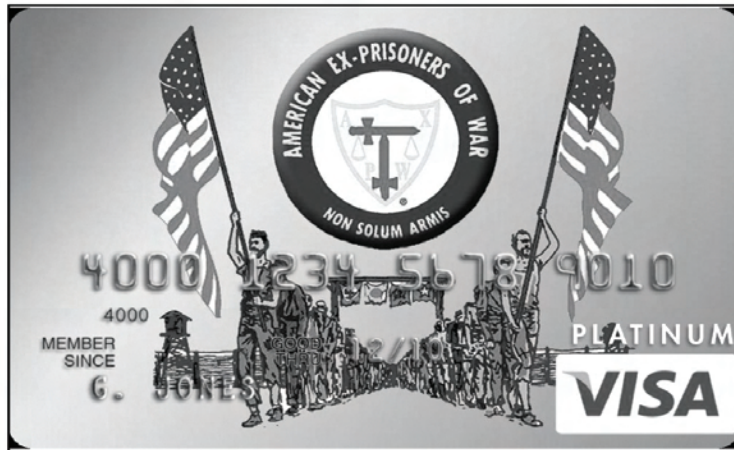


Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton A. Schwartz presents the Silver Star awarded posthumously to Air Force Capt. Francis Gary Powers to the captain's grandchildren, Francis Gary "Trey" Powers III and Lindsey Barry, during a ceremony in the Pentagon, June 15, 2012. Capt. Powers was shot down over the Soviet Union on May 1, 1960, and was honored for the heroism he displayed while held prisoner by the Soviets. The captain was released in 1962. He died in a 1977 helicopter crash.

CIA program, the USAF posthumously awarded Powers the POW Medal and in 2000, he received his overdue DFC. Finally, in mid-June 2012, 52 years after his U-2 flight was shot down by the Soviets, the Powers family received his Silver Star. His son, "Jr.", founder of the Cold War Museum in Vint Hill, VA, had petitioned the Air Force Board of Corrections to award the Silver Star, noting that the award had been given to two other recon pilots shot down by a Soviet fighter over the Barents Sea two months after Powers was shot down. The citation noted in part that for 107 days, he had been interrogated, harassed, and endured unmentionable hardships on a continuous basis...yet steadfastly refused to give up sensitive defense information or be exploited for propaganda purposes. His son notes that often in his lifetime, when asked how high he was flying on May 1, 1960, Powers would respond, "Not high enough". GBU and welcome home POW and Silver Star awardee Francis Gary Powers.

**Every credit card sends you a statement.
This card lets you make one.**

American Ex-Prisoners of War Custom Visa® Platinum Rewards Card.



- No annual fee.
- \$50 donation by the bank when you first use the card.*
- Ongoing contributions made when you continue using your card.
- Low Introductory APR on purchases and no balance transfer fees for 6 months.[†]
- Enhanced Visa Platinum benefits, including 24/7 Emergency Customer Service, 100% Fraud Protection, Auto Rental and Travel Accident Insurance and much more.
- Earn points at hundreds of participating online retailers redeemable for name-brand merchandise, event tickets, gift cards or travel reward options.

Make your own statement with your custom



American Ex-Prisoners of War

Visa Platinum Rewards Card **VISA**

Apply today at:

<http://www.cardpartner.com/app/axpow>

The AXPOW Visa card program is operated by UMB Bank, N.A. All applications for AXPOW Visa credit card accounts will be subject to UMB Bank N.A.'s approval, at its absolute discretion. Please visit www.cardpartner.com for further details of terms and conditions which apply to the AXPOW Visa card program. * Donation made when card is used once within 90 days of issuance. † After this period a low variable APR will apply.

CardPartner.com Powered by CardPartner. The #1 provider of custom affinity credit card programs.
From UMB

**To apply by mail, call
AXPOW National Headquarters
817-649-2979**

**Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2012
29**



AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR VOLUNTARY FUNDING PROGRAM

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

All contributions are to be sent directly to National Headquarters to be used for the operation of the organization. A complete accounting of contributors will appear in the Bulletin each issue.

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

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

Please circle one category:

Individual

Chapter

State Department

(If chapter or department, please give name)

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone #

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

contributions



Please send donations to:
National Headquarters, 3201 East
Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40,
Arlington, TX 76010.

Checks must be made payable to
AXPOW or American Ex-Prisoners
of War You can also make a
donation with a credit card
(MasterCard or Visa). Just call 817-
649-2979. Thank you!

GENERAL FUND

Department of New Jersey
Garden State Chapter #1
Inland Empire Chapter of California
Norman Gibbs, Banning CA
Pierre JJ Kennedy, Farmington CT
In memory of Anthony
DeBenedictis, by Susan Knapp
In memory of Dr. George
Economos, by Diane & Cosa Plantes
In memory of Fred Broussard, by
Marvin & Josephine Roslansky
In memory of George Economos,
by Laura Tierney
In memory of George Economos,
by Sharon & Clyde Faulkner
In memory of George Economos,
by Lisa Davis & John Ottenheimer
In memory of Jack Shortt, "We miss
you, Daddy", by his family
In memory of John Hutchins, by
Gordon Scheer
In memory of John Hutchins, by
Polly & Bob Snow
In memory of John Hutchins, by Vir-
ginia VerPloeg
In memory of John Hutchins, by
Susanne Jackson
In memory of John Hutchins, by
Chuck & Colleen Lautenbach
In memory of John Hutchins, by
John & Barbara Casson
In memory of John Hutchins, by
Keith Lautenbach
In memory of John Hutchins, by
Mary Jane Parkinson
In memory of John Hutchins, by
Arlyn & HC Cox

In memory of John Hutchins, by
Sally Morgan
In memory of John Hutchins, by
Christopher Cox
In memory of John Hutchins, by
James & June Englehorn
In memory of John Hutchins, by Mrs.
Joan VanWyk
In memory of John Hutchins, by Ned
Hedrick
In memory of John Hutchins, by Art
& Joy Myers
In memory of John Hutchins, by Joe
& Lillian Cucarola
In memory of John Hutchins, by Mrs.
Amy B Adams
In memory of John Hutchins, by
Joan & Lawrence Kalstein
In memory of John Hutchins, by Jill
Pankey Scheer and Scott Scheer
In memory of John Hutchins, by Dor-
othy Hicks
In memory of John Hutchins, by
Phyllis Hutchins
In memory of John Hutchins, by
Northeast Colorado Chapter
In memory of John Hutchins, by Les
& Loraine Jenkins
In memory of Joseph Cseh, by Lettie
Cseh
In memory of Kenneth Gordon, by
Randy Gordon
In memory of Lawrence 'Larry'
Dwyer, by Adeline Robinson
In memory of Leo L. Nonn, by son,
Richard Nonn
In memory of Louis J. Staudenmeier,
by Bard Davol, Inc.
In memory of Louis J. Staudenmeier,
by Keystone Mercy Health
In memory of Louis J. Staudenmeier,
by Pat & Sue Walker
In memory of Metro 'Michael'
Kitsock, by Carl Ney Jr
In memory of my pilot Samuel
Dawson Rose, by Holley Midgley
In memory of Norma Gordon, by
Randy Gordon
In memory of Richard Brown, by
Harold & Gloria Brick
In memory of Wilbur 'Sam' Dressel,
by Teresa Rolfe
In memory of Wilbur 'Sam'
Dressel, by John & Gladys
Hofmockel
In memory of Wilbur 'Sam'
Dressel, by Beth Bolton
In memory of Wilbur 'Sam'
Dressel, by Jane Hofmockel

In memory of Wilbur 'Sam'
Dressel, by Mary Hoffman
In memory of Wilbur 'Sam' Dressel,
by Jaimie D'Angelo

LEGISLATIVE FUND

In memory of John W Conway, Jr.,
by the Department of Maryland

MEDSEARCH

In memory of Florence C Smith,
by the Department of Maryland
In memory of Lt Col Garry J Anloff,
Jr., founder of the MedSearch pro-
gram, by his daughter Patricia Sand-
ers

VOLUNTARY FUNDING

Ann Autrey, Yuma AZ
Chuck & Audie Hartney, Wichita Falls
TX
Donald Cooley, Watsonville CA
Elizabeth Wilson, Sioux City IA
Gloria Myers, Walnut IA
Greater Atlanta Chapter, GA
Henry Skubik, Massapequa NY
John Gatens, Fair Lawn NJ
Kachadour Avedisian, Cranston RI
Larry Carastro, Fernandine Beach FL
Maurice Markworth, Palmyra PA
Robert Smith, Tomahawk WI
William Blaher, Flemington NJ
In memory of Louis J Staudenmeier,
by Margaret Whalen
In memory of Louis J Staudenmeier,
by Maris Abbene

The Legacy of your love can live on after...

An important way you can help en-
sure that the American Ex-Prisoners
of War is always there for returning
POWs, their families and their depen-
dents is through your will or living
trust. It's very simple to make a be-
quest to the American Ex-Prisoners
of War. Just add the following to your
will or living trust: "I give, devise and
bequeath to the American Ex-Prison-
ers of War, 3201 E. Pioneer Parkway,
Suite 40, Arlington, TX 76010, the sum
of \$_____ or _____percent of the rest,
residue and remainder of my estate."

Please take a few minutes of your
time to help.

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2012

new members

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



New Members "Welcome Home"



EMMANUEL A LANDICHO
PANGASINAN PHILIPPINES
GRANDSON OF TOMAS R
LANDICHO

ROBERT LANGNER II
JACQUELINE
TUCSON AZ
SON OF ROBERT LANGNER, ETO

RICHARD NONN
NORTHRIDGE CA
SON OF LEO NONN, ETO

DUANE 'BUCK' BROTEN
MONICA G
PRINCETON MN
ARMY CO A 17 INF REG 7 DIV
IN THE TRENCHES 7/6/53 TO 7/
10/53

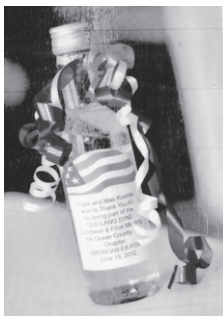
JAMES T 'JIM' JOHNSON
JENNIFER L
SAYRE OK
GRANDSON OF PNC JACK
WARNER

PAUL EDWARDS
CARROLLTON TX
GRANDSON OF LYMAN P
EDWARDS, POW IN SPAN/AMER

The Last Great Hurrah

Farewell Luncheon for the Ocean County Chapter in New Jersey

Shown: Commander Charlie Susino, PNC Zach Roberts, NC Susino with Chapter Commander Frank Koehler, the bottle of wine given to each guest, Mae Koehler, Joan & Vince Sacco with Dave Drummond and the Chapter flag on display





taps



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

PNC Herman Eugene Molen
August 14, 1923-June 28, 2012
Mabank, Texas



Herman graduated from Merit High School in Merit, TX. He then went to college in Decatur, TX to study to be a Baptist preacher. WWII started while he was in college and he felt called to serve his country—and this he did unselfishly for the rest of his life. He served in the European Conflict and on his last, 25th mission before coming back to the States, he was shot down on October 14,

1943 in the Famous Schweinfurt, Germany Raid where we lost 60 B-17 Bombers with ten of our men on each plane. He was taken prisoner and was incarcerated for 19 months except when he escaped twice and lived to tell about it. The movie Stalag XVII B with William Holden playing Herman's part was about his escape. After the war, he came back to the USA living in Las Vegas and continued his mission to help his fellow veterans and Ex-POW's.

Herman wrote a memoir of his experiences while a WWII POW, with a collection of pictures that is treasured by many. He was well known and requested often to speak at schools, churches, VFW's and organizations that were interest in the history of WWII and their missions. He gave interviews to many TV and newspaper people.

He was National Commander for AXPOW in 1979-1980. As Commander, he represented AXPOW at the POW/MIA Recognition Day Memorial Service held at the

Washington National Cathedral. He was instrumental in working to get the National Charter and was a signatory on it. Over the years, Herman went to Washington DC to meet with several Presidents and members of Congress to help get better benefits and recognition for their bravery in the different wars they served.

He was a member of several organizations, SSMA, 305th Bomb Group, Texas Barb Wire Chapter, American Ex-Prisoners of War, VFW's in several locations, Stalag XVII B, Mighty 8th Air Force and East Texas Ex-POW's.

Surviving are daughter, Sharon & Joe Warren of Eureka, CA, daughter, Jeannie Munoz of Fontana, CA, daughter, Marsha & Mark Pennartz of Mechanicsburg, PA, daughter, JoAnn Molen of Mabank, TX, 7 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, brother, Ford Molen of Greenville, TX, sister, Billie Mayo of Arlington, TX, sister, Mary McCullough of Arlington, TX., many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

ANGLEN, Mary Alice 86, formerly of Columbia, MO died March 12, 2012. She married George Wesley Anglen on Sept. 16, 1950, and, after 59 years of marriage, he preceded her in death. He served with the 413th BS, 96th BG, and a POW in Stalags Luft 3, 7A and 13.

ANGLETON, Stanley E. of Sun City West, AZ passed away on May 8, 2012. Stan was a long time member of the Agua Fria Chapter. During World War II, he served in the Army Air Corps European Theater Operations, 376th BG, 514th BS. After his capture, he was held in 17B. Stan is survived by his wife Hazel.

BARENKAMP, Walter, passed away May 15, 2012. Walter served with the 1st Battalion (also known as the "sacrificed battalion"), 377th Regiment, 95th Infantry Division. He was captured in heavy fighting around the French town of Metz, and was a POW in Stalag 12A. His beloved wife, Mary, survives him.

BARNDT, Irene N., of Dillsburg, PA, widow of ex-POW Elmer J. died Aug. 3, 2012. She was 86 and a member of the Camp Hill Chapter, AXPOW. She leaves 2 sons, 1 daughter, 7 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

BAUCOM, Cyrus Howard, of Pinehurst, NC passed away April 18,

2012. During WWII, he served with the 379th BG; his plane was shot down and he was captured and held until liberation. His loving wife, Nancy, survives him; he also leaves 2 daughters, 2 grandchildren and their families.

BLUMENSCHNEIN, Herman M., age 93, of Marysville, OH died Jan. 30, 2012. He was captured while serving in the Army during WWII...held as a POW for 8 months until liberation. Survivors include 3 nieces, 3 nephews, grand-nieces and -nephews and great-grands.

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2012

taps continued...

BOEGER, Erving, of Gridley, CA, died Dec. 23, 2011. Erving was in Cannon Co, 110th Reg., 28th Div. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and held in Stalag 4B. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann.

BOWSHER, Walter Allen, Jr., of Mountain Home, AR passed away Aug. 9, 2012. He served with the US Marine First Defense Battalion on Wake Island in 1941. After attack by the Japanese, the garrison was forced to surrender. Walter was a POW for 44 months in China and Japan. He was a life member of AXPOW. Survivors include 1 granddaughter, 2 grandsons and a host of extended family and friends.

BOYETT, John E., of Amarillo, TX passed away July 23, 2012. In WWII, he was in the Army Air Corps stationed in Foggia, Italy. His plane was shot down over Austria; he was captured and held in Stalag Luft 4 until May 1945. He married Mary in June 1943. He and Mary were active members of Texas Panhandle Chapter of the American Ex Prisoners of War. He leaves his wife, Mary, and 2 daughters, 1 son and 1 "adopted" son; also 3 sisters, 6 nieces and 7 nephews, all of whom will miss him greatly.

BROUSSARD, Frederick, member of the Barb Wire Chapter (WI) died July 29, 2012. Fred served in the Army (120th Reg., Co A) during WWII; he was captured after being wounded in Bardenberg, Germany. Survivors include two daughters, extended family, and friends.

CARLISLE, Nancy, of Houston, TX passed away July 16, 2012. She was 86. Nancy as the wife of ex-POW James for 58 years; she is survived by 2 sons, 1 daughter, 1 brother, 1 sister, 9 grandchildren, 7 great-grandsons and many nieces and nephews.

CASH, Dorothy, of Fairview, Texas, died July 12, 2012. An AXPOW life member since 1989, she was also a member of the Dallas Metroplex Chapter. She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Robert, an ex-POW held in Germany.

CONNELLY, Dora of Gothenburg, NE, died September 30, 2011. Dora was the wife of Albert. Both AXPOW life member since 1988, they were also members of the Cornhusker Chapter of Grand Island. She is survived by her husband of 69 years, Albert.

DAIGLE, Maurice, 86, of Auburn, ME died July 9, 2011. He served in the Army with the 104th Inf. Reg., 26th Div. He was held until liberation. He leaves 2 daughters, 1 son, 9 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and a large, loving extended family.

DANIELS, John F. age 91, of Mt. Vernon, MO passed away February 15, 2012. John retired from the Air Force after 20 years of service serving in Europe, Vietnam and Korea. John was preceded in death by his wife, Margaret.

DOWDING, Robert L., of Seward, NE died July 5, 2012, at age 93. He was captured while serving with the Army Air Corps Footlocker 5th (HQ), on the island of Mindano, Philippines Islands. He was a prisoner for 3 ½ years in the P.I. and Japan. Bob credited his survival to his faith in God. Bob also was the co-author of "*A Few Survived*". He is survived by 2 children and 3 grandchildren.

DRESSEL, Wilbur Samuel, of Monroe, WA, died May 19, 2012. He was a B-24 bombardier, shot down over Italy on his third mission. He was held in Stalag Luft 3.

DuBOISE, Albert, of Webster, WI, died in August, 2012. An AXPOW life member since 1988, he was with Co A, 192nd Tank, and was held by the Japanese in Camp O'Donnell, Cabanatuan and Camp 17. He is survived by his wife, Susan.

DUENKI, Carl W., 89, of Sun City Center, FL passed away March 14, 2012. He was captured during the

Battle of the Bulge and was held until liberated by Russian forces. Carl was a member of the Manatee Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his wife, Ruth, 2 daughters, 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

DWYER, Lawrence J., of Muscatine, IA passed away June 20, 2012. During WWII, he served with the 28th Division, US Army. He was captured and held in 4B until liberation. Larry was an active member of AXPOW, serving in state offices and most recently as National Director. He leaves his loving wife, Mary.

ECONOMOS, George, 92, of Bethesda, MD died June 30, 2012. While serving with the AAF during WWII, his plane was shot down; he was captured and held in Stalag 17B for just over one year. Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Bessie "Kassie", 2 children, 1 sister and 3 grandchildren.

ELLIS, John Dean, of Elk Park, NC died July 25, 2012 at the age of 88. During WWII he served with the 106th Inf. He was captured at St. Vith during the Battle of the Bulge. His wife of 62 years, Annie Ruth, survives him; also 3 daughters, 1 son, 2 sisters, 10 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

ESSIG, Albert R., of Waco, TX died June 18, 2012. He was 85. He joined the Army at age 16, serving with Co I, 504th Parachute Infantry Reg., 82nd Airborne Div. Al was captured during fighting in Holland; he was held for 7 months. Survivors include his loving wife of nearly 49 years, Rosemarie, 2 daughters, 1 son and 9 grandchildren.

FLETCHER, Ben Payne, of Lynchburg, TN passed away March 24, 2012. He was captured while serving with the 106th Inf. Div. during the Battle of the Bulge and held until liberation on May 6, 1945. Ben is survived by his wife of 64 years, Mary Jo, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. He was a member of the Alvin C York Chapter, AXPOW.

taps continued...

FRIBIS, John, age 93, of St. Louis, MO passed away March 16, 2012. He served in the Army (L Co., 157th Reg., 45th Inf. Div.) during WWII, and was a POW in Germany in Stalags 12-A and 11-B after being captured during a battle in France. John was a past commander of the St. Louis Chapter, AXPOW.

GANZ, William R., 91, of Pineville, NC died July 21, 2012. He was a member of the 486th BS, 340th BG, 12th AF. He was shot down over Italy, captured and spent the rest of the war in Stalag Luft 1 near Barth in Northern Germany. He is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Bettye, 1 son and 2 daughters.

GRAHAM, Richard B., age 89, of Columbus, Ohio died July 18. He was in the 106 Div, 423rd Reg. Anti Tank Co. captured in the Battle of the Bulge. His wife Doris, two sons, four grandsons and a great-grandson survive him.

GREGG, L. Len, age 88, of Warrensburg, MO passed away December 18, 2011. He served with the 15th AF, 483rd BG during WWII and was shot down three times over Germany in 12 missions. He was captured on his 12th mission, and held at Stalag 7A in Germany. He is survived by his wife Louise and other family members.

GUTHRIE, Marvin, of Sun City West, AZ passed away May 20, 2012. He was a member of the Agua Fria Chapter, Sun City, AZ. During World War II, he was in the Army Air Corps 459th BG. Marvin is survived by his wife, Faye, and two children.

HAMPTON, Elsie G., 88, a very active member of the Greater Greensboro Chapter, AXPOW, passed away July 1, 2012. She was the wife of 70 years of ex-POW Raymond (US Army, 1st Div., 26th Inf.). In addition to her husband, she leaves 1 daughter, 1 son, 8 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren and their families.

HAUSKINS, Doris "Darlyne", 85, Jonesburg, MO passed away April 25,

2010. Her husband, ex-POW Thomas, preceded her in death.

HAYES, Roy Edgar "Gabby", of Winter Haven, FL died March 8, 2012. He was 92. A member of the 4th Marines (North China Marines, Old Shanghai Marines) he was sent to defend the Philippines; he was captured on Corregidor and held for 3 ½ years, surviving POW camps, the hell ship Mati Mati Maru and slave labor. His beloved wife of 65 years, Vera, 2 daughters, 4 grandchildren 7 great-grandchildren and 1 sister survive him.

HOUGHTON, Harold J., 87, of Parish, NY passed away March 4, 2012. He served with the 15th AF, 450th BG, 721st BS; he was shot down over Hungary and captured. He was held in Luft III until liberation. Survivors include his wife of 66 years, Barbara, 4 children, 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

HUFF, James E., of Napoleon, OH died May 31, 2012. He was 92. He was stationed in the Philippines with the AAF when WWII began; he survived the battle of the Philippines, the Bataan Death March and spent the entire war in Japan in slave labor camps. Jim was a life member of AXPOW and ADBC. He leaves his wife, Anella, 3 daughters, 2 sons, 10 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren.

HUREAUX, Carol M., of Roseville, CA, passed away July 9, 2012. She was 85, a life member of the Alaska Chapter, and was the wife of Wm. E. (Bill) Hureau. He was a member of the 35th Inf. division, 320th Reg. K Co. She is survived by her husband, 2 children, 6 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren.

HUTCHINS, John S., of Centennial, CO died July 3, 2012 at the age of 88. He was captured while serving with the

8th AF, 339th BS, 96th BG. He was held in Stalag Lufts VI and IV until liberation. John was the current commander of the Dept. of Colorado (6 years), Adjutant of the Mile High Chapter (26 years) and Adjutant/Treasurer of the Mile High Chapter for 14 years. He leaves his beloved wife, Phyllis, 1 son, 1 daughter and 5 grandchildren. He was a good friend and will be missed by all who knew him.

JACOBS, O'Neal Jr., 90, a member of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter, died July 8, 2012. He served in the European Theater of Operations—2nd Armored, 17th Armored Engineers. He was held in Stalag IIB. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Eileen, and three sons.

JACOBSON, Florence, of Plano, Texas, died August 13, 2012. She was the wife of Harold Jacobson, POW of the Germans and a member of the Dallas Metroplex chapter.

JACOBSON, Lyle E., 87, of Canon City, Colorado, passed away April 23, 2012. He served in WWII with Company "F" - 179th Infantry, 45th Division in the European Theater. Lyle was wounded by gunshot in action on September 1, 1944, captured by the German Army and held until liberation. Lyle is survived by his wife of 66 years, Edna, 1 daughter, 2 granddaughters, and 4 great-grandsons.

KENNEMER, Dorothy, loving wife of ex-POW Otis (2nd Inf. Div., 9th Reg., Co. C) died March 26, 2012. She was a long-time member of AXPOW. In addition to her husband, she leaves 2 children and 3 stepchildren.

KENNY, Peter, of Valencia, PA, died March 1, 2012. While serving in the 306th BG as a navigator, he was shot down March 27, 1944, captured at sea by the Germans, and held in Stalag Luft 1 until liberation. He is survived by his wife of 74 years, Genevieve.

KIRBY, Shirley, 84, of Terre Haute, IN passed away May 28, 2012. She



taps continued...

was the widow of Eugene (ex-POW, captured in Italy). Shirley was the historian for the Dept. of Indiana, charter member of the West Central Indiana. She leaves 4 sons and their families.

LITTLE, Edward of Webster Groves, MO passed away in June, 2012, at the age of 96. He was a POW in Lufts 4 and 1 from May 12, 1944-May 13, 1945 while serving with the 93rd BG. He is survived by his spouse W. Jean and other family members.

LOVELL, Paul J, Sr., of Bridgeport, WV died July 7, 2012. He was 101 years old and is believed to be the oldest living WWII POW in the US. He was a member of the Barbed Wire Mountaineer Chapter #1. During WWII, he served in the Army; he was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. He leaves 1 brother, 1 daughter, 1 son, 2 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

LOWE, Evelyn, formerly of Texas, died July 14, 2012. Evelyn was the widow of Charles Lowe. She had moved to Colonial Heights, VA. She and Charles were active members of Texas' Capital City Chapter.

McCARTY, Marian, age 99, passed away in February 10, 2012. She was the wife of Howard McCarty (106th Infantry) who preceded her in death. She was an active member of the Grand River Garden Club, Shakespearean Circle, Heritage Club, Retired Teachers Association and American Ex-Prisoners of War. Survivors include her grandson, Casey.

MOORE, Virgil, 89, of Columbia, MO passed away June 12, 2012. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during WWII with the 305th BG, 8th AF. He flew 19 missions before being shot down and becoming a German prisoner of war for 14 months in Stalags Luft 1 and 4. He is survived by wife, Hilda and other family members.

MURRAY, Leonard T "Bud", 87, of Plainville, CT died July 19, 2012. He served with Co. K, 320th Reg., 35th Div. He was captured in France and held in Stalags 12A and 7A. Bud was a life member of the Connecticut Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves 1 son, 1 sister, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

PALMER, Barbara of Fresno, CA passed away in July 2012. She was a member of the Fresno Chapter, AXPOW.

PALMERTON, Elwyn F., of Ransomville, NY died June 27, 2012. He was 91. During WWII, he served with the 8th AF, 448th BG. He was captured in Germany and held in Stalag VIIA. His wife, Lois, survives him; he also leaves 2 sons, 2 daughters, 5 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

PARDUE, J C, 94, survivor of the Bataan Death March, died June 25, 2012 in Monroe, Louisiana. He joined the Army Air Corps in 1939. When Pearl Harbor was bombed, he was sent to the Philippines to defend the Bataan Peninsula as a member of the 17th Sq. of the 27th BG. He spent three years in Japanese POW camps, O'Donnell and Cabanatuan. When Hiroshima was bombed in 1945, J C was a slave laborer in the mills in Kyushu Japan. J C is survived by his wife of sixty-six years, Demaris, two daughters, four grandchildren, three great grandchildren, two brothers and five sisters. He was a member of the N/E LA Chapter, AXPOW.

PARROT, BURDETTE "SHORTY", of Atlantic, IA died June 30, 2012 at the age of 91. He was captured while serving in the Army during WWII. He was held in three German prison camps - Lukenvald Stalag 3A, Moosberg Stalag 7A and Furstenberg Stalag 3B. He was a member of the Southwest Iowa Chapter, AXPOW. He is survived by a son, a daughter, 6 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

PATRICK, James E., of Lumberton, NJ passed away July 6, 2012. He was 87. Jim was captured while serving with the 106th Div., 422nd Inf. in the Battle of the Bulge. He was held in

various camps until liberation. He leaves his devoted wife of 65 years, Helen, 1 son, 2 grandchildren, 1 brother and their families. He was a member of Neglected Heroes Chapter, AXPOW.

PEIFFER, Ernest H, of Millstadt, IL died May 3, 2012. During WWII, he served with the 8th AF, 390th BG. He was captured on his 25th mission and held in Stalag Lufts IV and VI. Survivors include his daughter.

PERNU, Wilha, of Visalia, CA passed away in July 2012. She was a member of the Fresno Chapter, AXPOW.

QUINN, Patrick V., 87, of Burbank, IL died July 8, 2012. He served with L Company, 38th Infantry, 2nd Infantry Division in Korea. He was captured by the Chinese in February 1951 and repatriated in August 1953 from Camp 1, North Korea. He was a volunteer at Hines VAMC in Chicago with over 4000 hours of dedicated service and a member of the Korean War Ex-POW Association and AXPOW. Patrick is survived by his wife Ann, a son, daughter, a brother, and their families.

RAY, Jewell, of Woodstock GA, died August 9, 2012. An AXPOW life member since 1991, she is survived by her husband of 66 years, James "Rookie" Ray, a POW held by the Japanese.

SCOTT, Dorothy of Walla Walla, Washington passed away recently at the age of 102. She was the widow of ex-POW Richard Jackson (Bilibid, Cabanatuan, Fukuoka). Dorothy was very active in both local, state and national AXPOW affairs. She served as National Director for two terms until travel became difficult. Survivors include her daughter, Judi.

TODD, Lester Richard, of Gallion, Alabama died July 3, 2012. He was wounded while serving with the 2nd Inf. Div. when captured by the North Koreans in May 1951. He was released during Operation Little Switch in 1953. He is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Shirley, 6 children, 15 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

taps continued...

USSERY, Alvin 85, of Ridgedale, MO passed away April 25, 2010. Alvin served with C Company, 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division in the ETO during WWII. He was a POW in Stalag 6A.

VERONICA, William J., of Cheektowaga, NY died July 19, 2012 at the age of 96. He was shot down over Frankfurt while serving in the AAF; he was held in Stalag Luft IV. Survivors include 1 son, 1 daughter, 5 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

WALDRUM, Everett "Ears", of Frankston, TX passed away Jan. 4, 2012. During WWII, he served with the 4th Marines; he was captured on Corregidor and held in Mukden, Manchuria for 3 ½ years. He leaves his wife, Ruby, 2 sons, 2 daughters, 10 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

WATTS, Audrey L. (nee Harder) passed away May 18, 2011. Beloved wife of the late Willard Bob Watts Sr.; a Marine with the 1st Marine Defense Battalion, captured December 23, 1941, on Wake Island and a POW of the Japanese for more than 3-½ years.

WEGENER, John J. of Hamilton, Ohio died May 14, 2014 at age of 91. He was shot down near Auschwitz, Poland on September 13, 1944. He crash landed his plane, was captured by the German Army, and spent the rest of the war in Stalag Luft 1, Barth, Germany. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Maj-Greth, three children and three grandchildren.

ZALE, John S., of North Tonawanda, NY passed away Jun 17, 2012. He was 90. During WWII, he served under Gen. MacArthur in the Philippines. He was captured and sent to Manchuria for 3 ½ years. John was a member of the Western NY Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves 1 daughter, 1 son and 2 grandchildren.

national chaplain



PNC Gerald Harvey

Happiness

Our nation declared Independence two hundred and thirty six years ago. We wrote these statements:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

Happiness has become the supreme quest of most of the people in America today. Many look for happiness in material possessions, or the newest thrills in life, but it seems that this search is in vain. For happiness is not found in things or places.

David, the psalmist, gives a description of a happy man in Psalm 1:1-6. "Blessed (Happy) is the man who

walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of the sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night. He is like the tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish." (ESV)

Here David shows us the way to real happiness and joy. It could be translated saying "Oh how very very happy is the one" or "Oh the happiness of the person who lives like this." God is seeking to make us happy, and we should in turn strive to make other people happy by sharing our joy.

Here is God's prescription: "Oh the joy of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers."

David's prescription of the happy person is found in a God centered life. This stands in sharp contrast to the way of the ungodly. The lives of the Godly and the ungodly are characterized by a totally different way of living. A happy person of God has determined to walk by the coun-

sel of God's word, not by their emotions, or circumstances of life, neither by tradition nor people's opinions.

The psalmist in using the word "wicked" means to be unable or loose, they are without restraint or control. They are people who go throughout their lives without God. They can be good people, nice people, but one thing they always do is leave God out of their lives. They live a life saying "Me first" or "Go for it" and "Get it now", "Nothing bad will happen", and "There is no right or wrong".

Jeremiah 17:7 "Happy is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose hope is in the Lord."

So today if you pursue happiness, it can be found. We can be happy, our lives can be fruitful and meaningful. The secret is to plant our lives in God's righteousness and grow in him. We choose what kind of people we are going to be.

Seeking God's way, we will have joy, peace, contentment, and happiness. Let us keep God first in all things.



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

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

IN MEMORY OF:

GIVEN BY: _____ Date of Death _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, state and zip code _____

To be contributed to the _____ Fund.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO BE SENT TO:

Name _____

Address _____

City, state and zip code _____

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

(rev. 02/07)



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

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

IN MEMORY OF:

GIVEN BY: _____ Date of Death _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, state and zip code _____

To be contributed to the _____ Fund.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO BE SENT TO:

Name _____

Address _____

City, state and zip code _____

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

(rev. 02/07)

Bean Camp to Briar Patch
Life in the POW Camps of Korea and Vietnam
 by John N. Powers

The majority of books about POWs concentrate on the experience of one individual. However, there were thousands of prisoners during the Korean and Vietnam Wars and over thirty major sites which they were held. Conditions varied from camp to camp and even within sections of a single camp. Bean Camp to Briar Patch is unique in that it describes all the major POW camps from both the Korean and Vietnam wars. In one single source, EX-POWs and family members now have information on the location of the camps and the conditions in those camps. The book has 214 pages with over thirty maps, photos, and diagrams.



\$17.20 including shipping. Can be ordered at www.croninbooks.org or by sending a check to Cronin Publications, Box 151, Wittenberg, WI 54499

50/50 drawing

June, 2012
Arlington, TX

1st Place	Helen B Petri, WV	\$227.80
2nd Place	Joseph Zetti, OH	\$170.85
3rd Place	Rose Tedesco, NJ	\$113.90
	donated back to AXPOW	
4th Place	Jason Petri, NC	\$56.95

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

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



request for
membership application
American Ex-Prisoners of War

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____

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

Do NOT send dues with this request for an application

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



The 106th Infantry
Division Association

Organized at
 Camp Lucky Strike 1945 active
 since 1946

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

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

Harry F. Martin, Membership Chairman
 121 McGregor Ave.
 Mount Arlington, N.J. 07856
 973-663-2410
 E-mail-hmartin19@optimum.net

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2012

**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 American Ex-Prisoners of War
 and entry to: 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. (10/12)

**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 American Ex-Prisoners of War
 and entry to: 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. (10/12)

**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 American Ex-Prisoners of War
 and entry to: 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. (10/12)

**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 American Ex-Prisoners of War
 and entry to: 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. (10/12)

**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 American Ex-Prisoners of War
 and entry to: 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. (10/12)

**Ex-POW Bulletin
 Sept/Oct 2012
 40**

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

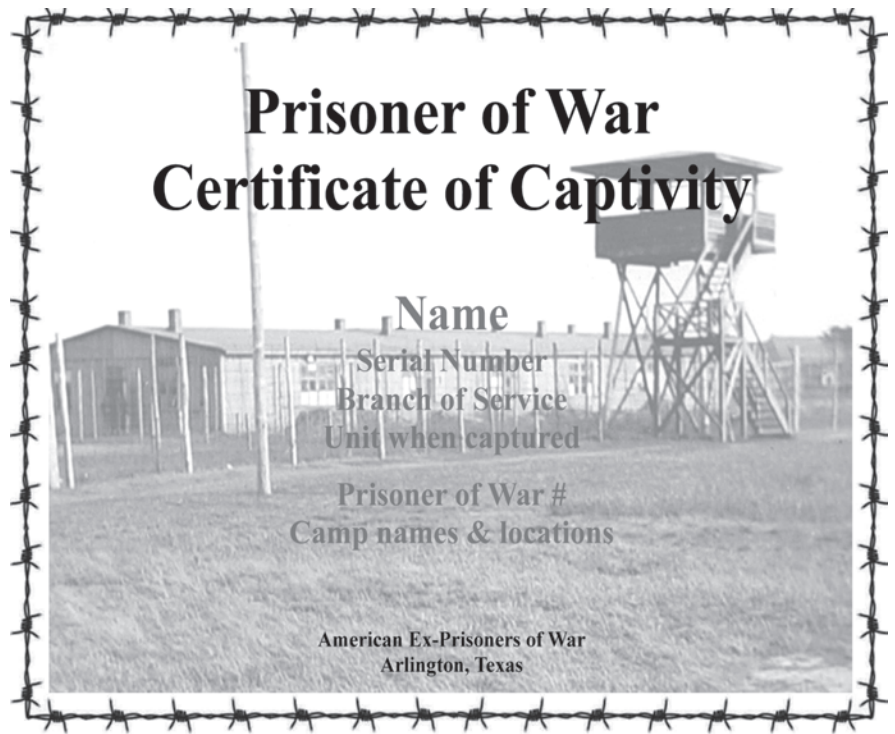
PLEASE PRINT
 Name: _____ Telephone: () _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____

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 American Ex-Prisoners of War
 and entry to: 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. (10/12)

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 receive this certificate from AXPOW, please order from National Headquarters. If you are ordering at Convention, you can place your order in the Merchandise Room. We will need your name, service number, branch of service, unit when captured, POW number (if known), camp names and locations. You can call 817-649-2979 or email: axpow76010@yahoo.com. You may include a picture with your order.



The National Museum of the United States Army, scheduled to open at Fort Belvoir, Virginia in 2015 will be the nation's one and only Museum to present the complete Army's history since 1775. Its immersive exhibits, soldier artifacts, and dynamic venues will tell the stories of selfless service and personal sacrifices of the 30 million American men and women who have worn the Army uniform.



For more information on how to support the National Army Museum, visit us online today!

www.armyhistory.org
1-800-506-2672

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 (offwhite or 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
(regular only)		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	CLOTH STRIPES (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 DVD - 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
Magnetic Ribbons	5.00			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

AMERICAN EX PRISONERS OF WAR



LIGHT JACKET

Wind & water-resistant Cratex™ Microfiber, navy with stone collar
Mesh-lined body for breathability and nylon-lined sleeves for easy on/off
Vented front capes with Velcro® closure perfect for breathability
Stand-up collar with stylish contrast-color on inside
Zippered side pockets & inside valuables pocket. Cuffs with snap closure
S-XL \$79.00 (Call 660-627-0753 for pricing larger orders)

Add \$1.50 per line for added lettering such as “State Commander” or “Next of Kin” (14 characters/
spaces per line)

Plus \$2.00 for each size above XL

\$6.95 shipping each within Continental U. S.

Shipments to Missouri add 5.6% sales tax

A portion of the price is returned to American Ex-Prisoners of War

Jacket Size_____

Desired lettering under logo (\$1.50/line; 14 characters/spaces per line)_____

Check enclosed or VISA/MasterCard/AmEx_____

Card security code(4 digits on front of AmEX card, three digits on back of others)_____

Expiration Date_____Signature (CC only)_____

Ship to: Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Mail to Lone Pine Embroidery, 32245 Lone Pine Way, Greentop, MO 63546

Or E-mail to Roger@lonepineridge.com

Or call us at 660-627-0753





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 individu-

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

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