

EX-POW BULLETIN

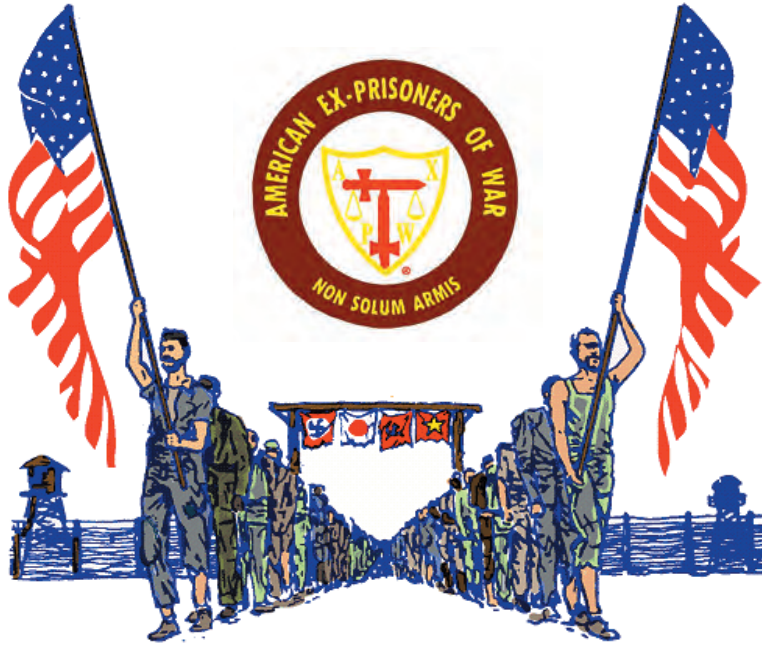
the official voice of the
American Ex-Prisoners of War

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September/October 2014



We exist to help those who cannot help themselves



National Commander Milton M. Moore, Jr.

National Convention 2014 ~ Arlington, Texas



table of contents

officers/directors	4
commander	5
nso	6
medsearch	7
legislative	12
andersonville	13
namPOW	14
pow-mia	15
civilian	16
events, looking for	17
Angel Update	18
News	19
Johnson Island	23
Committees	25
Membership data	26
Games	27
voluntary funding	31
contributions	32
new members	33
taps	34
chaplain	36
raffle	39
quartermaster	42

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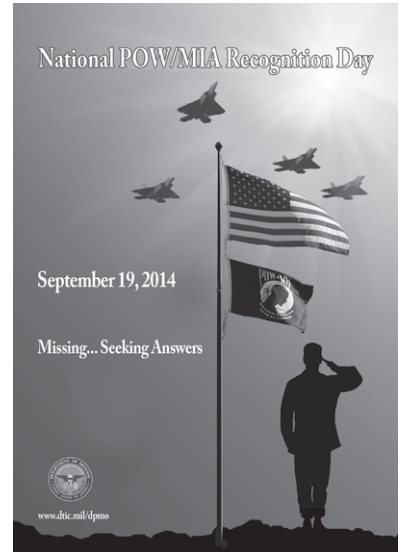
Please send all materials to the editor at the above address.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day
National POW/MIA Recognition Day will be observed on Friday, Sept. 19, 2014. This annual event honors prisoners of war and our missing and their families, and highlights the government's commitment to account for them.

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 Friday, Sept. 19, 2014. This ceremony will feature troops from each of the military services.



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. You also get benefits from using the card...there is no annual fee and at the end of the year, you'll receive a statement of your annual charges, broken down by category. Makes filing your taxes easier!

So benefits for us and benefits for you. Won't you take a few minutes and apply for this card today?

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**National Commander
Milton M Moore, Jr.**

I would like to express my appreciation for electing me as your new National Commander. I am deeply honored to have this position. I will never bring dishonor to this fabulous Organization. Cheryl Cerbone sent me a copy of one of my father's messages and it brought back fond memories. Some of you may know that my father was National Commander from 1988-1989. Unfortunately he passed away while in office. I am the first NOK to become National Commander and the first person to be in this position whose father was a Commander. It is awesome.

We have a great Organization and I want to move it forward. We need to keep moving towards making this Organization the best we can. It takes every member and not just the whole Board of Directors. If anyone has any

ideas that can make this a better and modern Organization please let me or anyone on the Board of Directors know. I know a lot of our members can not travel so our Bulletin is their only source of news. We will continue to keep the news coming to all of you. I have reduced some of the Committees and made them stronger. My main Committee is the By Laws Committee. We need to bring our By Laws up to date. We are losing too many Chapters and State Departments. This is not good for any of us. We all need to get our children involved. I know this is not easy. You, as ExPrisoners of War need to talk to your children. Let them know how this Organization works and the fun they could have being an active member. I know, when my mother got me involved, I had a lot of fun at the conventions. This is my first column for the Bulletin. I hope everyone that reads this will understand that this is the best Organization ever and I would like to keep it that way.

So I would love to have everyone keep a big smile on their faces and enjoy life to the fullest. Thank you all very much.

Milton M. Moore Jr.

news from hq



The National Convention is history now. We had lots of activities for you and they were really enjoyable. Thanks go to the following companies and organizations for their help and support.

The Daughters of World War II, who hosted our members at the Frontiers of Flight Museum in Dallas. They provided a great barbeque dinner and organized a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Andersonville POW Museum exhibit. We even made the 10 o'clock news!

The M&M Mars company for their donation of candy for our attendees.

The Liberty Property Trust of Dallas for volunteers to work our hospitality room. Gretchen Naylor, Mike Heise and Joe Trinkle had a great time visiting with you and are planning on helping out again next year! And, of course, the newly renovated **Hilton Arlington** for their help and support. They are dedicated to serving you!

If you are an annual member, you will be receiving a reminder to pay your dues for 2015. Don't miss a single issue of the Bulletin.

The 2015 calendar is in the mail. Please enjoy it. Cheryl has come up with another great design celebrating 1945~Victory!

Please support AXPOW by using your UMB POW Credit card. Information is in this magazine for you. Note of caution: Bank of America is not a sponsor for AXPOW credit cards. We receive no percentage of sales from any Bank of America credit card.

Take care,
National Headquarters

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014

Help Wanted

The American Ex-Prisoners of War is now accepting applications for the position of National Treasurer. According to the Bylaws, the applicant must be an active member of the AXPOW organization. He/she must be experienced with a strong financial background and can demonstrate the ability to handle the many responsibilities of the position. Please submit your application and complete resume to Deanie Schmidt, 1001 Parkview Blvd., #316, Columbus, OH 43219, no later than October 1., 2014. It will be presented at the Mid-Year Board meeting and be considered by the Board of National Directors.

nsO



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How VA Identifies Claims

Original Claim

An original claim is the first claim you file for compensation from VA. This can be filed by a Servicemember, Veteran or survivors of deceased Veterans.

Reopened Claim

A reopened claim is a claim filed for a benefit that could not be granted and the decision has become final, meaning that it is over one year old and has not been appealed. VA cannot reopen these claims unless new and material evidence is received. New evidence is evidence that the VA has never before considered in connection with the specific benefit claimed. Material evidence is evidence that is relevant to and has a direct bearing on the issue at hand.

Example 1

A Veteran was treated several times during service for pain in the right elbow. He filed a claim for service connection in 1989, but his claim could not be granted because no orthopedic abnormalities were found on VA

examination. Two years later, his private physician x-rayed the elbow and noted arthritic changes in the joint. The Veteran submitted the new evidence to VA. Because it suggested a residual of his in-service elbow problems did exist, VA reopened his claim.

Example 2

A Veteran was discharged from service in 1977. He filed an original claim for service connection for pes planus (flat foot) 20 years later. VA was unable to grant his claim because pes planus was never noted in the Veteran's service treatment records. In 2001, he attempted to reopen his claim by submitting a statement from his private physician confirming the diagnosis of pes planus. VA was unable to reopen the claim because, while the evidence was "new," it was not "material," in that it failed to demonstrate the Veteran was diagnosed with pes planus during service.

It's important to note the one-year window of opportunity for claims. Once the claimant receives the letter of determination after filing a claim, he or she has ONE YEAR to ADD to the claim, without filing a separate appeal if additional information becomes available. This could cut down on the number of appeals filed - and the corresponding length of time it takes to have benefits granted.

New Claim

A new claim is a claim for a benefit that may or may not have been filed before. Generally, the decision made on the claim is based entirely on new evidence. These may include claims for:

- An increased disability evaluation
- Special monthly compensation
- Individual unemployability

A new claim differs from a reopened claim in that a decision

on the claim is totally independent of any evidence submitted in connection with an earlier claim.

Secondary Claim

These are claims for disabilities that developed as a result of or were worsened by another service-connected condition. In other words, it is recognized that a service-connected disability may cause a second disability. This second disability may not otherwise be considered service-connected.

Example 1

A Veteran has a service-connected knee injury that causes him to walk with a limp. He subsequently develops arthritis in his hip. Although the arthritic condition was not incurred during or aggravated by service, service-connection may still be established if the arthritis is a result of his knee condition.

Example 2

A Veteran was in the Army for twenty years. During her military service, she was diagnosed with hypertension. After her discharge, service-connection was established for hypertension. She was subsequently diagnosed with a heart condition. Service-connection for her heart condition may be established as secondary to the hypertension.

VA encourages individuals who are applying for disability compensation to work with an accredited national service officer to assist them in completing Fully Developed Claim for submission through eBenefits. Being accredited means organizations and individuals must have VA permission to represent Veterans before the Department in their claims for VA benefits. The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that Veterans have qualified and competent representation.

Cataracts

What is a cataract?

A cataract is a clouding of the lens in the eye that affects vision. Most cataracts are related to aging. Cataracts are very common in older people. By age 80, more than half of all Americans either have a cataract or have had cataract surgery.

A cataract can occur in either or both eyes. It cannot spread from one eye to the other

What is the lens?

The lens is a clear part of the eye that helps to focus light, or an image, on the retina. The retina is the light-sensitive tissue at the back of the eye.

In a normal eye, light passes through the transparent lens to the retina. Once it reaches the retina, light is changed into nerve signals that are sent to the brain.

The lens must be clear for the retina to receive a sharp image. If the lens is cloudy from a cataract, the image you see will be blurred.

Are there other types of cataract?

Yes. Although most cataracts are related to aging, there are other types of cataract:

1. Secondary cataract. Cataracts can form after surgery for other eye problems, such as glaucoma. Cataracts also can develop in people who have other health problems, such as diabetes. Cataracts are sometimes linked to steroid use.

2. Traumatic cataract. Cataracts can develop after an eye injury, sometimes years later.

3. Congenital cataract. Some babies are born with cataracts or develop them in childhood, often in both eyes. These cataracts may be so small that they do not affect vision. If they do, the lenses may need to be removed.

4. Radiation cataract. Cataracts can develop after exposure to some types of radiation

Causes and Risk Factors

What causes cataracts?

The lens lies behind the iris and the pupil. It works much like a camera lens. It focuses light onto the retina at the back of the eye, where an image is recorded. The lens also adjusts the eye's focus, letting us see things clearly both up close and far away. The lens is made of mostly water and protein. The protein is arranged in a precise way that keeps the lens clear and lets light pass through it.

But as we age, some of the protein may clump together and start to cloud a small area of the

lens. This is a cataract. Over time, the cataract may grow larger and cloud more of the lens, making it harder to see.

Researchers suspect that there are several causes of cataract, such as smoking and diabetes. Or, it may be that the protein in the lens just changes from the wear and tear it takes over the years.

How can cataracts affect my vision?

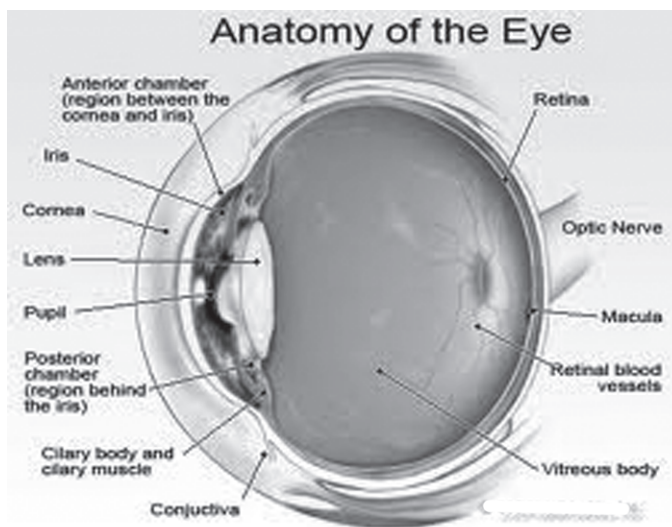
Age-related cataracts can affect your vision in two ways:

1. Clumps of protein reduce the sharpness of the image reaching the retina.

The lens consists mostly of water and protein. When the protein clumps up, it clouds the lens and reduces the light that reaches the retina. The clouding may become severe enough to cause blurred vision. Most age-related cataracts develop from protein clumpings.

When a cataract is small, the cloudiness affects only a small part of the lens. You may not notice any changes in your vision. Cataracts tend to "grow" slowly, so vision gets worse gradually. Over time, the cloudy area in the lens may get larger, and the cataract may increase in size. Seeing may become more difficult. Your vision may get duller or blurrier.

2. The clear lens slowly changes to a yellowish/brownish



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color, adding a brownish tint to vision.

As the clear lens slowly colors with age, your vision gradually may acquire a brownish shade. At first, the amount of tinting may be small and may not cause a vision problem. Over time, increased tinting may make it more difficult to read and perform other routine activities. This gradual change in the amount of tinting does not affect the sharpness of the image transmitted to the retina.

If you have advanced lens discoloration, you may not be able to identify blues and purples. You may be wearing what you believe to be a pair of black socks, only to find out from friends that you are wearing purple socks.

When are you most likely to have a cataract?

The term "age-related" is a little misleading. You don't have to be a senior citizen to get this type of cataract. In fact, people can have an age-related cataract in their 40s and 50s. But during middle age, most cataracts are small and do not affect vision. It is after age 60 that most cataracts steal vision.

Who is at risk for cataract?

The risk of cataract increases as you get older. Other risk factors for cataract include:

- Certain diseases such as diabetes.
- Personal behavior such as smoking and alcohol use.
- The environment such as prolonged exposure to sunlight.

What can I do to protect my vision?

Wearing sunglasses and a hat with a brim to block ultraviolet sunlight may help to delay cataract. If you smoke, stop. Researchers also believe good nutrition can help reduce the risk of age-related cataract. They recommend eating green leafy vegetables, fruit, and other foods with antioxidants.

If you are age 60 or older, you should have a comprehensive dilated eye exam at least once every two years. In addition to cataract, your eye care professional can check for signs of age-related macular degeneration, glaucoma, and other vision disorders. Early treatment for many eye diseases may save your sight.

Symptoms and Detection

What are the symptoms of a cataract?

The most common symptoms of a cataract are:

- Cloudy or blurry vision.
- Colors seem faded.
- Glare. Headlights, lamps, or sunlight may appear too bright. A halo may appear around lights.
- Poor night vision.
- Double vision or multiple images in one eye. (This symptom may clear as the cataract gets larger.)
- Frequent prescription changes in your eyeglasses or contact lenses.
- These symptoms also can be a sign of other eye problems. If you have any of these symptoms, check with your eye care professional.

How is a cataract detected?

Cataract is detected through a comprehensive eye exam that includes:

1. **Visual acuity test.** This eye chart test measures how well you see at various distances.
2. **Dilated eye exam.** Drops are placed in your eyes to widen, or dilate, the pupils. Your eye care

professional uses a special magnifying lens to examine your retina and optic nerve for signs of damage and other eye problems. After the exam, your close-up vision may remain blurred for several hours.

3. **Tonometry.** An instrument measures the pressure inside the eye. Numbing drops may be applied to your eye for this test.

Your eye care professional also may do other tests to learn more about the structure and health of your eye.

Treatment

How is a cataract treated?

The symptoms of early cataract may be improved with new eyeglasses, brighter lighting, anti-glare sunglasses, or magnifying lenses. If these measures do not help, surgery is the only effective treatment. Surgery involves removing the cloudy lens and replacing it with an artificial lens.

A cataract needs to be removed only when vision loss interferes with your everyday activities, such as driving, reading, or watching TV. You and your eye care professional can make this decision together. Once you understand the benefits and risks of surgery, you can make an informed decision about whether cataract surgery is right for you. In most cases, delaying cataract surgery will not cause long-term damage to your eye or make the surgery more difficult. You do not have to rush into surgery.

Sometimes a cataract should be removed even if it does not cause problems with your vision. For example, a cataract should be removed if it prevents examination or treatment of another eye problem, such as age-related macular degeneration or diabetic retinopathy. If your eye care professional finds a cataract, you may not need cataract surgery for several years. In fact, you might

medsearch cont'd...

never need cataract surgery. By having your vision tested regularly, you and your eye care professional can discuss if and when you might need treatment.

If you choose surgery, your eye care professional may refer you to a specialist to remove the cataract.

If you have cataracts in both eyes that require surgery, the surgery will be performed on each eye at separate times, usually four to eight weeks apart.

Many people who need cataract surgery also have other eye conditions, such as age-related macular degeneration or glaucoma. If you have other eye conditions in addition to cataract, talk with your doctor. Learn about the risks, benefits, alternatives, and expected results of cataract surgery.

What are the different types of cataract surgery?

There are two types of cataract surgery. Your doctor can explain the differences and help determine which is better for you:

- 1. Phacoemulsification, or phaco.** A small incision is made on the side of the cornea, the clear, dome-shaped surface that covers the front of the eye. Your doctor inserts a tiny probe into the eye. This device emits ultrasound waves that soften and break up the lens so that it can be removed by suction. Most cataract surgery today is done by phacoemulsification, also called "small incision cataract surgery."
- 2. Extracapsular surgery.** Your doctor makes a longer incision on the side of the cornea and removes the cloudy core of the lens in one piece. The rest of the lens is removed by suction.

After the natural lens has been removed, it often is replaced by an artificial lens, called an intraocular lens (IOL). An IOL is a

clear, plastic lens that requires no care and becomes a permanent part of your eye. Light is focused clearly by the IOL onto the retina, improving your vision. You will not feel or see the new lens. Some people cannot have an IOL. They may have another eye disease or have problems during surgery. For these patients, a soft contact lens, or glasses that provide high magnification, may be suggested.

What are the risks of cataract surgery?

As with any surgery, cataract surgery poses risks, such as infection and bleeding. Before cataract surgery, your doctor may ask you to temporarily stop taking certain medications that increase the risk of bleeding during surgery. After surgery, you must keep your eye clean, wash your hands before touching your eye, and use the prescribed medications to help minimize the risk of infection. Serious infection can result in loss of vision.

Cataract surgery slightly increases your risk of retinal detachment. Other eye disorders, such as high myopia (nearsightedness), can further increase your risk of retinal detachment after cataract surgery. One sign of a retinal detachment is a sudden increase in flashes or floaters. Floaters are little "cobwebs" or specks that seem to float about in your

field of vision. If you notice a sudden increase in floaters or flashes, see an eye care professional immediately. A retinal detachment is a medical emergency. If necessary, go to an emergency service or hospital.

Your eye must be examined by an eye surgeon as soon as possible. A retinal detachment causes no pain. Early treatment for retinal detachment often can prevent permanent loss of vision. The sooner you get treatment, the more likely you will regain good vision. Even if you are treated promptly, some vision may be lost.

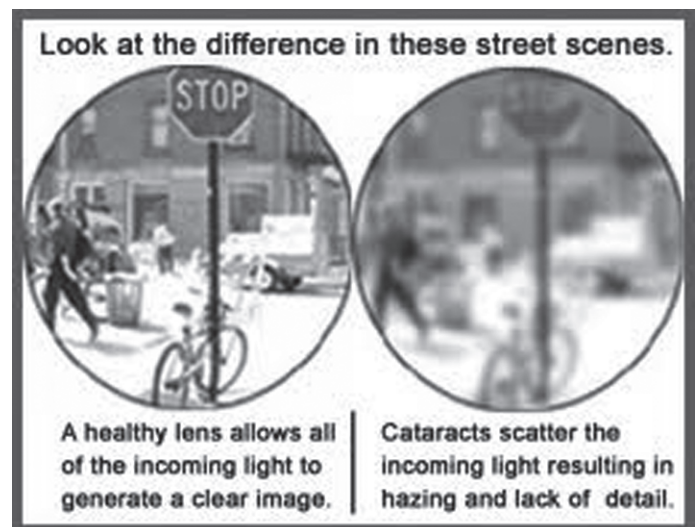
Talk to your eye care professional about these risks. Make sure cataract surgery is right for you.

Is cataract surgery effective?

Cataract removal is one of the most common operations performed in the United States. It also is one of the safest and most effective types of surgery. In about 90 percent of cases, people who have cataract surgery have better vision afterward.

What happens before surgery?

A week or two before surgery, your doctor will do some tests. These tests may include measuring the curve of the cornea and the size and shape of your eye.



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This information helps your doctor choose the right type of IOL.

You may be asked not to eat or drink anything 12 hours before your surgery.

What happens during surgery?

At the hospital or eye clinic, drops will be put into your eye to dilate the pupil. The area around your eye will be washed and cleansed.

The operation usually lasts less than one hour and is almost painless. Many people choose to stay awake during surgery. Others may need to be put to sleep for a short time.

If you are awake, you will have an anesthetic to numb the nerves in and around your eye.

After the operation, a patch may be placed over your eye. You will rest for a while. Your medical team will watch for any problems, such as bleeding. Most people who have cataract surgery can go home the same day. You will need someone to drive you home.

What happens after surgery?

Itching and mild discomfort are normal after cataract surgery. Some fluid discharge is also common. Your eye may be sensitive to light and touch. If you have discomfort, your doctor can suggest treatment. After one or two days, moderate discomfort should disappear.

For a few days after surgery, your doctor may ask you to use eyedrops to help healing and decrease the risk of infection. Ask your doctor about how to use your eyedrops, how often to use them, and what effects they can

have. You will need to wear an eye shield or eyeglasses to help protect your eye. Avoid rubbing or pressing on your eye.

When you are home, try not to bend from the waist to pick up objects on the floor. Do not lift any heavy objects. You can walk, climb stairs, and do light household chores.

In most cases, healing will be complete within eight weeks. Your doctor will schedule exams to check on your progress.

Can problems develop after surgery?

Problems after surgery are rare, but they can occur. These problems can include infection, bleeding, inflammation (pain, redness, swelling), loss of vision, double vision, and high or low eye pressure. With prompt medical attention, these problems can usually be treated successfully.

Sometimes the eye tissue that encloses the IOL becomes cloudy and may blur your vision. This condition is called an after-cataract. An after-cataract can develop months or years after cataract surgery.

An after-cataract is treated with a laser. Your doctor uses a laser to make a tiny hole in the eye tissue behind the lens to let light pass through. This outpatient procedure is called a YAG laser capsulotomy. It is painless and rarely results in increased eye pressure or other eye problems. As a precaution, your doctor may give you eyedrops to lower your eye pressure before or after the procedure.

When will my vision be normal again?

You can return quickly to many everyday activities, but your vision may be blurry. The healing eye needs time to adjust so that it can focus properly with the other eye, especially if the other

eye has a cataract. Ask your doctor when you can resume driving.

If you received an IOL, you may notice that colors are very bright. The IOL is clear, unlike your natural lens that may have had a yellowish/brownish tint. Within a few months after receiving an IOL, you will become used to improved color vision. Also, when your eye heals, you may need new glasses or contact lenses.

What can I do if I already have lost some vision from cataract?

If you have lost some sight from cataract or cataract surgery, ask your eye care professional about low vision services and devices that may help you make the most of your remaining vision. Ask for a referral to a specialist in low vision. Many community organizations and agencies offer information about low vision counseling, training, and other special services for people with visual impairments. A nearby school of medicine or optometry may provide low vision services.

Current Research

What research is being done?

The National Eye Institute is conducting and supporting a number of studies focusing on factors associated with the development of age-related cataract. These studies include:

- The effect of sunlight exposure, which may be associated with an increased risk of cataract.
- Vitamin supplements, which have shown varying results in delaying the progression of cataract.
- Genetic studies, which show promise for better understanding cataract development.

The National Eye Institute (NEI) is part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and is the Federal government's lead agency for vision research that leads to sight-saving treatments and plays a key role in reducing visual impairment and blindness.

POW MEDSEARCH PACKETS

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Packet 3~After Effects of Imprisonment- Covers arthritis, alcoholism, visual, ulcers, varicose veins, impotency, brain damage, etc	\$8.00
Packet 4~After Effects of Imprisonment Part 1 - covers the heart, arteries and veins; Part 2 covers cancer	\$8.00
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Ex-POW Bulletin
 Sept/Oct2014

andersonville



Andersonville NHS
496 Cemetery Road
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(229) 924-0343

“The Task of History is Never Done”

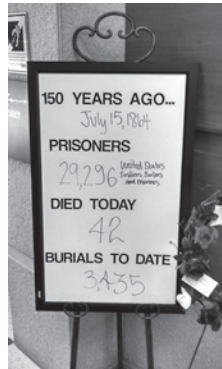
It seems like only yesterday we were planning for Memorial Day weekend. The summer went by very quickly as staff worked on a variety of projects and programs, in addition to everyday needs.



As programs and events for the 150th anniversary have continued, visitation to the park is up 20% for the year. The First Saturdays have continued to be a success, providing staff a regular opportunity to explore the complex and evolving story 150 years at Andersonville. Each month new programs are offered which speak to specific parts of the Andersonville story. These pro-

grams will continue monthly until the end of 2015.

In June, July, and August, we have been fortunate to have two different living historians, Tom Wessling and Mark Hale, portray Father Peter Whelan. Father Whelan had been captured alongside Confederate soldiers when Fort Pulaski, Georgia surrendered to U.S. forces in 1862, and held for a time as a prisoner of war at Governors Island in New York Harbor. In May of 1864, he heard of the suffering of prisoners at Andersonville, and spent four months here, meeting the spiritual needs of the imprisoned soldiers and acting on their behalf.



To mark the daily ebb and flow of the prison population, since February we have maintained a dry erase board in the museum lobby on which we document the total number of prisoners, the number that died each day, and the total number of deaths. In an age of electronic gadgets, this has been a simple solution to start conversations with visitors about how conditions varied at the prison 150 years ago.



Partnering with different organizations, park rangers presented at two teacher workshops in July. Working with the National Ar-



chives in Atlanta, we presented a workshop that utilized the curriculum developed last year to accompany the traveling exhibit. The Civil War Trust also held their national teacher institute in Atlanta and invited the park to present programs on Andersonville and how to teach the POW story. These kinds of outreach programs are rewarding and valuable because they enable teachers to better educate students and utilize the resources the park has to offer.

Instrumental in allowing us to accomplish all of this work in the summer are college interns and a youth conservation corps (YCC) crew. Interns assist the curator in a variety of tasks with the museum collection and research programs and work the front desk in



the museum. The YCC crew assisted our maintenance staff in maintaining the grounds to the high standard appropriate for a national cemetery.

With summer winding down, we are planning for the fall school tour season and the annual National POW/MIA Recognition Day events in September, where we hope to see many of you.

legislative



PNC Charles Susino Jr
Chairman

Since the reports of misconduct at the Phoenix VA concerning veterans on waiting lists and deaths related to delays in veterans receiving medical treatment, there has been a lot of activity both within Capitol Hill and the VA across the country.

First, in Washington, Congressional committee chairmen Senator Bernie Sanders and Representative Jeff Miller have worked together on a VA Bill which passed Congress prior to the August summer recess. The key components of Bill H.R. 3230, the *Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014* include:

- Veterans ability to seek private medical treatment for cases of waiting more than a month for an appointment or 40 miles from a VA facility
- Provide for approximately \$17b in emergency funding for the VA for the next several years
- Authorization for leasing 27 new medical facilities in 18 states and Puerto Rico
- Approval to hire additional medical staff
- Changing the VA culture by providing management authority to fire VA employees who are not performing at an adequate level in serving our nation's veterans,

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

including a non-paid, 21-day appeal process

- Delivery of care to those veterans who have experienced sexual trauma

- Expands Scholarship program to include surviving spouses and allow all veterans to qualify for in-state tuition programs under post 9/11 GI bill

- An outside audit to identify efficiency improvements within the VA

With the components of this Bill addressing many of the VA needs, it is Congress' responsibility to provide the oversight to ensure the VA improvements are accomplished.

In addition to the new Bill, the Senate approved the nomination of Robert Alan McDonald for Secretary of Veterans Affairs. Mr. McDonald is the former Chairman at Procter and Gamble. Prior to his nomination, Acting Secretary Sloan Gibson has been busy visiting VA facilities, meeting with Veterans' organizations and Congress, and establishing department priorities:

- Get veterans off wait-lists and into clinics.
- Fix systemic scheduling problems.
- Address cultural issues
- Hold people accountable where willful misconduct or management negligence are documented.
- Establish regular and ongoing disclosures of information.

- Quantify the resources needed to consistently deliver timely, high-quality health care.

Acting Secretary Gibson addressed Congress on key issues and actions including:

- The Veterans Health Administration has made more than 543,000 referrals for veterans to receive care in the private sector — 91,000 more than in the comparable period a year ago.

- VHA facilities are adding more clinic hours, aggressively recruiting to fill physician vacancies, deploying mobile medical units, using temporary staffing resources, and expanding the use of private-sector care.

- VA is moving rapidly to augment and improve its existing scheduling system while simultaneously pursuing the purchase of a state-of-the-art system.

- Gibson has directed medical center and network directors to personally conduct monthly inspections, to date, more than 1,100 of these visits have been conducted.

- Gibson has directed a comprehensive external audit of scheduling practices.

- Gibson has personally visited 10 VA medical centers in the last six weeks and plans to continue this practice.

- The 14-day access measure has been removed to eliminate any motive for inappropriate scheduling practices.

- Where willful misconduct or management negligence is documented, appropriate personnel actions will be taken, including in

legislative cont'd...

cases of whistleblower retaliation.

- Gibson froze VHA Central Office and Veterans Integrated Service Network Office headquarters hiring.

- VHA has dispatched teams to provide direct assistance to facilities requiring the most improvement, including a large team now working in Phoenix.

- All VHA senior executive performance awards for fiscal 2014 have been suspended

- Gibson sent a message to all 341,000 VA employees, and has reiterated during every visit to VA facilities, that whistleblowers will be protected.

- Gibson has conducted meetings and calls with veteran and military service organizations and other stakeholder groups to so-

licit their ideas for improving access and restoring trust.

- Gibson has made a number of high level personnel changes.

- VA is initiating personnel actions to hold those accountable who committed wrongdoing or were negligent in discharging their management responsibilities.

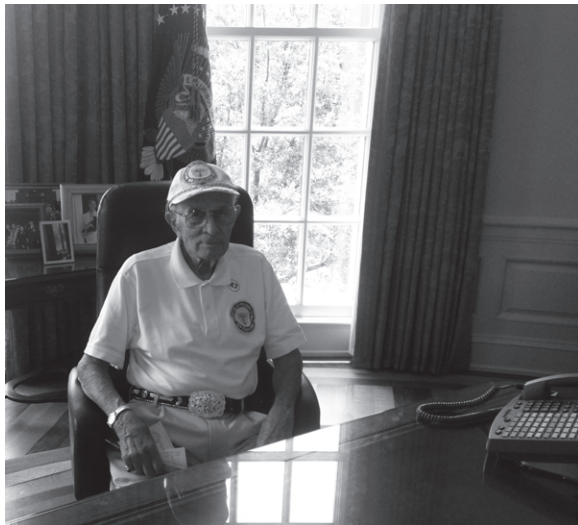
With the focus squarely on the VA, little else has been done on other legislative activities for the veterans.

Senate Bill 1982, as reported here for the past several bulletins continues to be stalled. According to Gov.track, it gives the Bill a 28% chance of passing.

Undoubtedly, the recent problems at the VA have diverted the attention of Congress to solving current issues at the expense of this comprehensive bill. Hearing directly from the voters is critical to rejuvenate Congress' attention onto passing this Bill. Please contact your Congressmen!

As mentioned in previous columns, we need your help to continue to encourage Congress to update and expand the list of "special groups" of veterans it established in 1986 who fought in foreign wars to receive medical treatment from the VA regardless of whether they are service related.

Since the special groups only included veterans up to WWI, we continue to believe the more recent warriors are deserving and in need especially as they get up in age. We want to keep this issue visible in Washington until action is taken.



Legislative Chair/PNC Charles Susino, Jr. looks at home in the Oval Office at the Bush Library and Museum, Dallas, TX

113th Congress Veterans Affairs Committees Information

House Veterans Affairs Committee

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

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

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

Senate Veterans Affairs Committee

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

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

General Contact Info:

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

U.S. Senate Committee on
Veterans' Affairs · 412
Russell Senate Bldg. ·
Washington D.C. 20510
Democratic Staff
(202) 224-9126
Republican Staff

pow-mia



**PNC John Edwards
Chairman**

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

Marine Missing From WWII Accounted For

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, lost during World War II, have been identified and was returned to his family for burial with full military honors. Marine Pfc. Randolph Allen, 19, of Rush, Ky. was buried July 29, in Arlington National Cemetery, Washington D.C.

In November 1943, Allen was assigned to the 2nd Marine Division, which landed on the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll, in an attempt to secure the island against stiff Japanese resistance. Over several days of intense fighting approximately 1,000 Marines were killed and more than 2,000 were wounded. As a result of these attacks, Allen was

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

reported killed in action on Nov. 20, 1943.

In the immediate aftermath of the fighting on Tarawa, U.S. service members who died were buried in a number of battlefield cemeteries. During World War II, U.S. Navy Combat Engineers, “SeaBees,” significantly restructured the landscape to convert the island for use by the military. In 1946 when U.S. Army Graves Registration Service personnel attempted to locate all of the battlefield interments, many of the burials could not be located.

From Nov. 12-27, 2013 a private organization, known as History Flight, excavated what was believed to be a war time fighting position on the island of Betio. During this excavation History Flight recovered five sets of remains, personal effects and military equipment. Four sets of remains were determined to be Japanese service members and the fifth set was believed to be that of a U.S. Marine. Two sets of military identification tags which correlated to Allen were also found in the fighting position.

In the identification of Allen’s remains, the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) used circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools such as dental and skeletal comparison, which matched Allen’s records.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day

National POW/MIA Recognition Day will be observed on Friday, Sept. 19, 2014. Across the country, local POW/MIA ceremonies are encouraged throughout POW/MIA Recognition Week, culminating with countless events and the national ceremony in Washington, DC, on Recognition Day. Support for these missing Americans and their families is deeply felt. America’s POW/MIAs should be honored and recognized, rather than memorialized, with the focus on the need to account as fully as possible for those still missing, alive or dead. Strong, united support by the American people is crucial to achieving concrete answers.

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civilians



JVC Alice Gollin
Chairman

Liberation of Manila Theme for the BACEPOW 2014 reunion

by Angus Lorenzen,
Commander - BACEPOW

Our reunion from April 24 through 26 was hosted by the MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk Virginia and was an enormous success, attended by over 160 people and showcasing excellent speakers and topics in two days of presentations. A break at the end of the first day took us to the International Tattoo with an inspiring program of military and pipe bands, singers, dancers, and a dedication to the veterans of the Vietnam War. Each morning before the program started, authors were available in the registration area to discuss and sell books and DVDs covering wartime history and experiences in the Philippines.

The first-day program started with a tour of the MacArthur Memorial hosted by Jim Zobel and others on the staff, followed by Presentation of the Colors in the auditorium, then welcome and explanation of the program. Our first speaker was Maita Oebanda, curator of the museum at the University of Santo Tomas

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014

16

who described her program to interest students in the WW II experience at the University. Next were three presentation about the liberation of the camps - John Ream describing the liberation of Bilibid, Lou and Michelle Gopal showing a trailer for *Victims of Circumstance* a DVD about the Santo Tomas experience, and Howard Hart, using a sketch board, outlining the different phases of the attack and liberation of Los Baños. Bonnie Rowan, a researcher at the National Archives, showed several film clips, including Japanese propaganda, Signal Corps film taken after the liberation of Santo Tomas and a documentary on the Battle of Manila.

On the second day, we started with a panel including George Fisher and Tom Dugan from the 44th Tank Battalion and Frank Mendez of the 1st Cavalry answering questions from the audience. Next Peter Parsons and Lucky Guillermo treated us to the international premier of their documentary *Corregidor: the Road Back*. A few of the heroes who were featured in the documentary were present at the reunion. John Lukacs showed a DVD based on his book *Escape From Davao* about Bataan Death March survivor William Dyess and his companions escape from the penal colony on Mindanao to join the guerillas. When he was evacuated by submarine and



From left, Tom Dugan, 44th Tank, Frank Mendez, 1st Cavalry, and George Fisher, 44th Tank, answered audience questions about the Flying column and liberation of Santo Tomas.

returned to the U.S. in 1943, he provided the first information that the Army received about the Death March, and he was told not to give any information outside of official sources. He broke protocol and talked to a reporter, which is how the American people first found out about this Japanese atrocity. Our last speaker was Lou Jurika who told about the two legendary guerillas in the Philippines, Chick Parsons and Tom Jurika, who just happened to be his father and uncle.

The evening program was a banquet at the Town Point Club, which got a bit raucous as the evening wore on. But the consensus was that this was probably the best reunion we ever had. It was a wonderful venue, the presentations were superb, and the MacArthur Memorial staff provided great facilities and kept the program rolling right on schedule.

Sally Morgan,
Maryjane Lanzibat,
Ted Cadwallader...
Santo Tomas
Internment Camp
Alumni at the
AXPOW National
Convention in
Arlington, TX





Sept. 25-28, 2014. The 6th Bomb Group, Tinian 1944-45, annual convention will be held in Baltimore, MD. Contact Glenda Richards 951-233-4516, grr41797@msn.com.

Jan. 30 - Feb. 11, 2015. Manila Liberation 1945. We are on our way again with Philippine Airlines - Rajah Tours International, and yours truly, Sascha Jansen and friends. MABUHAY! See you in Manila! For information, contact Sascha at Mabuhayma@aol.com.

looking for



Paul C. J. Brickhill: Bob Good an Australian researcher and writer is seeking reminiscences, advice, and access to any writings or photographs pertaining to the life of the late Australian author Paul Brickhill who penned the 1950s bestsellers *The Great Escape*, *The Dam Busters* and *Reach for the Sky*. Brickhill, a journalist, was a POW in Stalag Luft III, and for a few years after the war was a foreign correspondent for an Australian newspaper working in New York. This help is requested to assist in understanding Brickhill's life and facilitating a biographical work of his time from his birth in 1916 to when he became a best selling author about 1950-51. Anyone who can help is asked to contact Bob Good, 16 Timperley Drive, Highfields, Queensland, 4352, Australia, +07-46968620, or, email goodone8@bigpond.net.au

My name is Jared Young. My wife's name is Jennye Young. Her

grandfather was a POW in WWII. He never told her anything about his time in the service or the experiences he had. I am not sure of what medals or achievements he was awarded while in the service. I would like to find out as much as I can about him to share with my wife and our children. Her grandfather was a true American hero and I don't want his legacy to get forgotten in the years ahead. His name is **Wendell Brillhart Hall**. Born 27 April 1925 in Corning, Steuben, New York. Died 07 March 2002 in Hallsville, Harrison, Texas. He was in the Army with Co C, 62nd Airborne (H), 14th Div. He was captured Jan. 1, 1945. He was held in 4B until liberation. Please contact me at: jaredyoung89@gmail.com.

I am looking for anyone who might have known, or served with, or flew with, or who was in prison camp with **Lt. Sam Gossen**. Sam was from Texas and was a B-17 co-pilot with the 379th Bomb Group. He was shot down on the June 11, 1943 raid on the submarine pens at Wilhelmshaven. He was on Capt. George Hamrick's crew, was the only survivor, and was in Stalag 7A, and work camps 3324-46 and 3368. If anyone has information concerning Sam please contact me, Mrs. Pat Kessler, at sistermailmo@yahoo.com or 314-655-8816. Thank you.

I'm looking for information about my grandfather, **JC Garrett**. (Some records show him as JD Garrett). He was captured on Corregidor, May 7, 1942, serving with the 192nd Tank Battalion. He was first held in Bilibid, then transferred to Japan on the Hellship Clyde Maru in July, 1943. There he was held in Fukuoka #1 and #17. He returned to San Francisco on the Simon Bolivar Oct. 21, 1945. I appreciate any help you can give me. Aaron L. Dupuy 225-777-3410; aaronldupuy@yahoo.com.

committee notes

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, 2014. Those requesting changes should include a telephone number where they can be reached if more information is needed. Send requested changes to: David Claypool, Chairman, PO Box 38 Hampton MN 55031

awards

Do you know a member who has done an outstanding job for AXPOW? Or a non-member who always gives that extra bit to help ex-POWs? Submit their names and give a short explanation of why you think they should receive an award. Send in your requests to Bill Jeffers, 3522 Milbrook Way Cr., Green Acres, FL 33463. 561-969-6036.

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014

Angel Update

by Alice A. Booher

For all too many with stories to share, the telling of their story comes too late in life for them, if not everyone else, to benefit.



Henry Wadsworth Longfellow said; “Nothing is too late, till the tired heart shall cease to palpitate” and perhaps that is best way to consider the new data available on one special person. Her name was Mildred Dalton Manning, and most called her Milly. She joined the Army in September 1939, arriving in the Philippines six weeks before Pearl Harbor. A 2nd LT when captured, she spent May 1942 to February 1945 in Santo Tomas during which time she had beriberi, dengue fever and malnutrition, and soon lost all her teeth. Millie rarely discussed her own experiences except in the *Atlanta-Journal Constitution* (2001) and *Jacksonville Times* (2004), recalling a lifelong memory of the Corregidor tunnels and thus a horror of enclosed spaces; and later, of building extra shelves at home to horde staples for fear of running out of food for her family. Nevertheless, she also manifested a core resilience that was hard to ignore; notwithstanding a broken hip, decades of respiratory problems and a stroke, as time swept into the 21st century, Milly lived alone and drove short distances in her tomato-red compact car with the vanity plate “EX-POW RN”.

Fortunately for historians, in 1998, Dr. Elizabeth Norman learned through the POW grapevine that Milly had recently moved to NJ from Florida. Dr. Norman had finished work (without Manning’s input) on *We Band of Angels*, the seminal 1999-issued book on the POW women of WWII in the Pacific, but wanted to meet her and hear Milly’s story.



Thus began a decade long friendship, some initial meetings, letters and phone calls and a last treasured visit in late 2012. Milly may have been confined to her wheelchair and breathing through a cannula, but she had made sure her lips were painted a bright red gloss that matched her jacket. Milly was also interviewed along with Dr. Norman (and Norman’s mother, Dorothy Riley Dempsey, WWII, BM1, USCG) in the fall of 2012 by the folks who made *Unsung Heroes: The Story of America’s Female Patriots*. The documentary, whose running was delayed until May 2014, included a brief excerpt from that 2012 interview. Sadly, in March 2013, Milly died of pneumonia shortly before her 99th birthday. The funeral was based on Milly’s dictates, witnessed by friends, family and military brass; and Milly’s life and demise was duly then celebrated in prestigious media, but in the short quips and sound bites of such things.

Fortuitously, Milly’s story got legs when *We Band of Angels* was reissued and Dr. Norman was able to update the book with an additional chapter “Last Woman Standing”, devoted solely to Mildred Manning. In it, she records that on return from captivity, Milly had some difficult times but eventually seemed to her family to be at peace; while she had her share of chronic nightmares, avoided the closeness and din of shopping malls, and became impatient with whiners and bellyachers - on the other hand, “a fresh bar of soap and a bathtub full of hot water were enough to make her happy”. After the death of her husband of more than 49 years, she moved north to be near family. Throughout, she was well aware that she was the Angel’s legacy. Norman quotes Manning: “We spent our lives helping people, and we did it with honor and love, and never looked back”. That could be said of all of those American women trapped on Bataan, and now the story of one more Angel has been more equitably and compassionately recorded.



[For more information, see *The Last Angel*, Vol. 70, Issue #5-6, *Ex-POW Bulletin*, May-June 2013; *Unsung Heroes Alert*, Vol. 70, #11-12, *Ex-POW Bulletin*, Nov-Dec 2013; *Capturing Bataan Perspectives*, on Beth and Michael Norman’s bestseller on the men on the Bataan Death March, *Tears in the Darkness*, Vol. 66, #9/10, *American Ex-POW Bulletin*, Sept-Oct. 2009; and *We Band Of Angels*, Random House Trade Paperback Edition, 2013)]. We thank Dr. Norman for graciously sharing her personal photos from her last visit with Angel of Bataan Manning.

News Briefs

WWII vet Levine visits memorial in D.C. for D-Day



Bob Levine is wearing his POW red uniform. He is with Susan Eisenhower, granddaughter of The Supreme Allied Commander General Dwight D. Eisenhower, at the World War II Memorial on June 6, 2014.

Credit: Teaneck Suburbanite, July 10, 2014

Two dozen veterans were present June 6 at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., to remember the 70th anniversary of D-Day. Among the veterans asked to lay a wreath at the memorial was Bob Levine, a Teaneck resident and a member of The Ethical Culture Society of Bergen County.

Levine, who survived WWII because a German doctor valued humanism over nationalism, had just turned 19 when the Allied

troops invaded Normandy. As a member of the 90th Infantry Division, Levine was wounded by a grenade and was taken prisoner. He was met by a German doctor who saw his dog tags marked "H" which identified Bob's religion as Hebrew. When Bob emerged from anesthesia the lower part of his right leg was amputated and the surgeon was gone including the dog tags. However, the surgeon left a note in Bob's pocket explaining why he had to amputate in order to save his life. In later years, Bob realized the doctor's actions could be summed up in one word, "humanism." Bob Levine is wearing his POW red uniform. He is with Susan Eisenhower, granddaughter of The Supreme Allied Commander General Dwight D. Eisenhower, at the World War II Memorial on June 6. In the early 1980s by chance, Levine and his wife Edith were introduced to a Normandy historian who helped them locate the German doctor almost 40 years ago. Although the good doctor had died of cancer in the 1950s, his wife and three children were still living in Munich and welcomed a visit. The doctor's family was moved that the veteran after all these years was willing to travel to Germany to acknowledge the doctor's humane treatment of him when he had been a wounded enemy soldier with an "H" on his dog tags. The two families remain in touch and have visited often in each other's home. During the last 30 years, Bob has taken a much larger interest in veterans' affairs, attending support groups for amputees, meeting weekly with a group of former prisoners of war at a veterans hospital and helping other veterans cope with post-traumatic stress. Four years ago, Bob was appointed chevalier in the French Legion of Honor. This prestigious award is France's salute to veterans in helping to liberate the country from German occupation during WWII. The

Levine's are currently living at Five Star Residence in Teaneck, NJ.

A Brilliant POW/ Midway Event by Alice A. Booher



On an annual basis in June, there are three galas hosted by the U.S. Navy League of America, (San Diego, Washington, DC and St. Augustine) to commemorate the U.S. victory at the Battle of Midway. The largest of those galas is held at the Renaissance World Golf Village Resort, hosted by the Mayport (FL) Council and including more than 600 attendees. On June 7, 2014, the 72nd Anniversary evening started with a stimulating bagpiper, drum pipes and 6-service Armed Forces color guard (including Merchant Marine); by the time local radio personality Arthur Crofton announced the POW/MIA ceremony, the evening was evolving into something quite extraordinary on myriad counts.

A classy tone was set at the seats by copies of the articulate, foot-noted 500 word winning essay of the 3rd Navy League/The Report Card Midway essay Scholarship Contest. Winner Madison Stenzel, who is heading into the Yale NROTC program, assessed the shock felt by the outcome of the Battle of Midway and reflected on the leadership qualities of CDR Joe Rochefort as he sat in "The

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014

news, cont'd...

Dungeon” breaking Japanese codes.

After dinner, Jacksonville native RADM Ricky Williamson, USN, Commander Navy Region Southwest introduced the exceptional keynoter, Vice Admiral Michelle Janine Howard, USN, Deputy CNO for Plans, Policy and Strategy (N3/N5). Howard, a US Naval Academy graduate (1982), served on the ships USS HUNLEY, USS LEXINGTON, and USS MOUNT HOOD (as chief engineer in Operations Desert Storm/Shield), moving to USS FLINT in 1992, [having served in Norfolk with another LT., Eileen O’Hickey (now Norrrington, who greeted her at the gala; subsequently married to Vietnam POW Giles Norrrington, Eileen, a chaplain, retired from the USN as a CAPT)].



Howard became XO of the USS TORTUGA, deployed to the Adriatic in support of Operation Joint Endeavor; returned CONUS from the Med, and redeployed in 60 days for a West African training cruise, where the ship’s Sailors, embarked Marines and U.S. Coast Guard detachment, operated with the naval services of 7 African nations. In March 1999, she became the first African-American woman to command a U.S. Navy ship, the USS RUSHMORE (LSD 47).

She was commander of Amphibious Squadron Seven (May 2004-Sept. 2009), deploying with Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) 5, with operations ranging from In-

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014
20



onesia tsunami relief to Arabian Gulf maritime security. She commanded Expeditionary Strike Group Two (April 2009-July 2010). In 2009, Howard deployed to CENTCOM theater where she commanded Task Force 151, Multi-national Counter-piracy effort, and Task Force 51, Expeditionary Forces. In 2010, she was the Maritime Task Force commander for BALTOPS under 6th Fleet. Her shore assignments included J-3, Global Operations, Readiness and executive Assistant to the Joint Staff Director of Operations; deputy director N3 on the OPNAV staff; deputy director, Expeditionary Warfare Division, OPNAV staff senior military assistant to the SecNav, Chief of Staff for the Director of Strategic Plans and Policy, J-5, Joint Staff, deputy commander, US Fleet Forces Command, and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Operations, Plans and Strategy (N3/N5)

Ironically, while Washington and the fleet may know Howard for her wide spectrum accomplishments, many civilian moviegoers know her activities as commander of the Navy task force involved in the Maersk ALABAMA rescue involving pirates off Somalia, which became the plot of the film Captain Phillips, played by Tom Hanks, in which film an actress depicts Howard’s voice.

At the time of the Florida gala, Howard was Deputy CNO, but within the month, on July 1, 2014, at a ceremony at the Women in Military Service to America (WIMSA) Memorial in Arlington,

VA, she pinned on her 4th star to become the highest ranking woman in the 236 years of U.S. Naval history, and the 38^h Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

Prior to Admiral Howard’s elevation to her 4th star, there had been only two other American military women to wear 4-stars, GEN Ann Dunwoody, USA (Ret), named head of U.S. Army Material Command in 2008 (retiring in August 2012); and Gen Janet Wolfenbarger, USAF who has headed up Air Force Material Command since June 2012. On July 3, 2014, three days after Howard’s pinning, President Obama nominated Lt Gen Lori Robinson, USAF for her 4th star, to head up Pacific Air Force (PACAF), making her the first female 4-star commander of combat forces, and potentially putting two 4-star active duty women in one service at the same time.



The 2014 Midway Commemoration recognized with program biographies and was honored by the remarkable presence of Midway veterans Melvin Bell, Marlin Crider, Eugene Domienik, John Hancock, Marvin Hollis, Gordon

news, cont'd...

Pierce, Wood Richmond, Roger Spooner, Wendell Thrasher and Chuck Wheeler; and Midway widows Jan Cochran, Virginia Lewis, Vivian Roberts and Martha Powell.

Also honored and present was Pearl Harbor enlisted veteran Hal (Sully) Sullivan, USN (Ret), assigned to the USS PERRY as she escorted the USS ARIZONA to Hawaii, and moored in Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941; she managed to get underway, and took up patrol and minesweeping activities in the harbor approaches and then set sail to the Aleutians. Sully gained his commission and commanded 5 surface ships, retiring as a CDR after 30 years service.

Other honored guests present were Jacksonville Wounded Warriors of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom: Daniel Rice (OIF), William Schnarr (OIF), Leonard Goodson (Desert Storm. OIF), Philip LaMonica (OIF), Derek Green (OEF, OIF), Brett Bell (OIF) and Jerome Krammes (OEF, OIF).

Honorees also included POWs, some accompanied by their spouses: **Donato Junio Abalos** (WWII, PTO); **Patrick Ganio, Sr.** (WWII, PTO); **CPO Bill Ingram, USN (Ret)**, POW off sinking USS HOUSTON for 3/12 years working on the Bridge on the River Kwai (Thailand); **CAPT Wilson Denver Key, USN (Ret)** (POW Vietnam off USS ENTERPRISE, escaped, recaptured and POW 5 ½ years); **COL Harold Kushner, USA (Ret)** (Vietnam, flight surgeon flying on a UH-1 Huey, POW for 1,933 days, remained on active duty until 1986); **CAPT Henry Lesesne, USN (Ret)**, (Vietnam POW, off USS HANCOCK for 261 days, retired after 30 years; **CAPT Giles R.**



Norrington, USN (Ret), (Vietnam, pilot, RA-5C Vigilante shot down , 1774 days as POW, retired as CAPT in 1988); **CAPT Dale Raebel, USN (Ret)**, (Vietnam, A-7 Corsair pilot off USS SARATOGA, POW for 8 months, retired as CAPT after 32 years; **Andy Ramotnik, USAF (Ret)**, (WWII, ETO, POW in Stalag 17B for 19 months, remained on active duty until 1963, retiring as Master Sergeant with 20 years' service; **CDR James Souder, USN (Ret)**, (Vietnam, Vietnam, F-4 Phantom in combat, left to be civilian pilot, reentered USN; POW off USS CORAL SEA, 335 days, retired after 20 years; **CAPT Richard Stratton, USN (Ret)** (Vietnam, A-4E off USS TICONDEROGA, behavior provided evidence to DoState of torture of POWs, retired after 31 years in 1986. It is noteworthy that of those present, POWs **Norrington, Kushner and Stratton** are all members or former members of the VA Secretary's Former POW Advisory Committee.



In her stimulating presentation, Admiral Howard noted that it was an honor to recognize those who truly represented the (Navy) core values of honor, courage and commitment. To those representing the Battle being commemorated, Howard said: "We cannot be offered a more precious opportunity to express to the Midway veterans what their contributions mean to us". And to all those veterans present and acknowledged: "We are in the presence of defenders of American freedom, democracy and the America way of life". The event was topped off by toasts and patriotic music, with each honored guest being recognized and personally greeted by Admiral Howard in what was described as an extraordinary evening for all

concerned, and a very difficult act to follow. On the other hand, as SecNav Ray Mabus



quipped at Admiral Howard's pinning event held on 1 July, "If you don't believe today was first, when I called to order four-star shoulder boards for women, they didn't exist". However, Mabus further stated what those at the June gala already knew, namely that while there was significance in her promotion, he downplayed its news value because, quite simply, "the Navy picked the best officer for the job".

Photos provided by and used with permission of Giles & Eileen Norrington, Michael Rothfeld, and Garry Cohn, CS1 USN (Ret), St. Augustine Council, Navy League of the US.

Veterans Benefits Administration Processes One Millionth Claim in FY 2014

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today announced that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) has completed its one millionth disability claim in fiscal year 2014, and is on track to complete more than 1.3 million claims this year - ensuring that nearly 200,000 more Veterans will receive decisions on their disability claims than fiscal year 2013. Since 2011, VBA has been implementing the largest transformation in its history, fundamentally redesigning and streamlining the way it provides benefits and services to Veterans, their families and survivors.

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014

news, cont'd...

from Fresno Chapter #1...

New VA Secretary Robert McDonald

On July 29, 2014, in a 97-0 vote, the Senate confirmed Robert "Bob" McDonald to serve as the next Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

In a statement, President Obama applauded the Senate for the confirmation, noting that McDonald is "uniquely equipped" to lead the Department:

I applaud the overwhelming, bipartisan confirmation of Bob McDonald as our next Secretary of Veterans Affairs. As a veteran himself and a proud member of a military family, Bob is deeply committed to serving our veterans and their families. And as an executive with decades of private-sector experience, he is uniquely equipped to lead the Department of Veterans Affairs, and to help change the way the VA does business.

As a country, we have a solemn duty to serve our veterans as well as they have served us. I know Bob will help us honor that commitment and make sure every veteran gets the care they deserve, the benefits they've earned, and the chance to pursue the American Dream they've risked so much to protect.

McDonald graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. After graduation, he served in the U.S. Army for 5 years, primarily in the 82nd Airborne Division. He will replace acting VA Secretary Sloan Gibson, who has led the department since Obama accepted the resignation of former VA chief Eric Shinseki. His wife, Diane, is the daughter of a WWII ETO POW.

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014
22



Fresno Chapter #1 celebrated April birthdays with TV coverage and cake. The four honorees - Pasqual Reyes, Rudy Giannoni, Gerry Eckenrod, Jack Schwartz - range in age from 91-99. A week later, Jack Schwartz, the oldest, took the Honor Flight to Washington, DC. (not shown: 91- year-old Pasqual Reyes).



Donation to Fisher House...Minneapolis, MN

In November of 2013, Caribou Coffee offered the employees the opportunity to choose a worthy organization for a coffee donation collection. Anna Hruby, Caribou Team Leader, step-daughter of Dept. of MN AXPOW Commander David Claypool, contacted Dick Carroll, Senior Vice Commander and made arrangements for the collection. More than \$500.00 of coffee was donated by patrons and delivered to the Fisher House near the Minneapolis VA Medical Center along with a coffee grinder. Anna Hruby is presently in Okinawa with her husband Nate, who is a Navy Corpsman.

Shown: Dick Carroll, SVC, Karen McCollum Fisher House, Anna Hruby, David Claypool, Commander



Any AXPOW Chapter near a Caribou Coffee store should inquire about such a collection and donation. These collections typically follow their donation drive for breast cancer awareness in October.

Johnson's Island POW Camp: Confederates and Pirates

by Alice A. Booher



It was a short, intriguing news brief - The *Navy Times* reported, "Civil War history hides under a grassy field tucked amid barren trees on

Johnson's Island, Ohio, a patch of land in Sandusky Bay". At the time of the May 5, 2014 story, it was said that there was little visible trace of the 17-acre former prison on the island's eastern side near the Marblehead Peninsula on Lake Erie which had housed more than 10,000 Confederate POWs during 40 months from 1862-1865. Anticipation was great, however, for the annual summertime influx of school children, college and graduate students and other volunteers who would set up their white tents, and restart the painstaking 20-year old archaeological excavation about 3 miles from the city of Sandusky.

On further research, it turns out that the place has a considerable provenance, there are legends galore, and it is simply quite astonishing for a variety of reasons other than its current state of semi-abandonment. Johnson's Island was originally called Bull's Island as it was owned by Epaproditus Bull who left Connecticut with his family in 1809. Three years later, they fled to Cleveland, Ohio because of Indian attacks, and he died of disease in 1812, but his family returned to the island until 1852 when Leonard B. Johnson purchased it.

The leading expert on this special location appears to be forensic anthropology and historic archaeology professor, Director of the Heidelberg University's Center for Historic and Military Archaeology, Dr. David R. Bush, whose academic background includes Miami, Kent State and Case

Western Reserve Universities, and who also Chairs the nonprofit historic preservation organization, Friends and Descendants of Johnson's Island Civil War Prison. According to other sources as well as Dr. Bush's numerous articles and books [*I Fear I Shall Never Leave This Island, Life in a Civil War Prison*, Univ. of Florida Press, 2011; *Johnson's Island US Civil War Military Prison*, Chapter 4 in *POWS: Archaeology, Memory and Heritage of the 19th and 20th Century Mass Internment*, 2013], the location was chosen in 1861 as the site for the Union depot of captured Confederate POWs because of its convenient accessibility for construction supplies and maintenance; it was thought to be more easily protected and secure than other islands on the open lake; and it was cheap, the whole island could be leased for \$500 a year with the government having control over access. With an allotment of \$30,000 to build and equip, the original prison had about a dozen 2-story barracks, a hospital, three wells, a pest house, and two large mess halls; it was built to house 2,500 but quickly overcrowding to 3,200, they had to construct new latrines and expand. They advertised for local volunteer guards, (the 128th Ohio Volunteer Infantry), known as the Hoffman Battalion (for their commander), to be paid a \$100 reward. A 15' wooden stockade fence surrounded the area, and outside that enclosure were barns, stables, a limekiln, forts, barracks and a powder magazine.



Since 1989, Dr. Bush has worked hand, glove, pick and toothbrush with the annual summer volunteers, all endeavoring to learn more. He was a panelist in March 2013 at Georgia Southern University's Civil War Symposium (Statesboro, GA, which has

regular joint activities with the Andersonville POW Historic Site). Bush is also Curator of an exhibit which opened in April 2014 titled "*Johnson's Island since Charles Frohman's Rebels on Lake Erie, - 1965*", at the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, Spiegel Grove (Fremont), OH. [Formerly of Cincinnati, Hayes was a Major General during the Civil War, and was the only President to sustain a severe combat wound while at Antietam, MD; nominated for Congress in 1864, he refused and served with his regiment until war's end. A Republican who served in Congress as a Radical Reconstructionist, he resigned in 1866 to run for Ohio Governor, served 3 terms, and then ran against Tilden in a hotly contested Presidential Race; his term was not smooth and he honored his pledge for a single term, after which he returned to Spiegel Grove where he died in 1893].

Already a great deal has been gleaned about Johnson's Island POW camp/depot from contemporary writings including POW's logbooks, and from artifacts retrieved from the site itself, including from the latrines, medicine bottles, nails, mugs, hard rubber carved by POWs. Dr. Bush's book, *I Fear I May Not Leave This Island*, is also unique in that it tells the story of the POW camp through a treasure trove of exchanged letters between one POW [who had earlier been housed as a POW at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio], Captain Wesley (Nessa) Makely and his wife Catherine (Kate) Appich and their 2-year old daughter Mary Louise (Lillie) of Virginia; and with annotations to other documents and photos (including some secret treasures taken of fellow POWs by LT Robert Smith in the garret of Block 4). These were some of the many archival remains actually uncovered at the ongoing recovery site, an illustrative technique applauded by Eric Leonard, the current Acting Superintendent at Andersonville National Historic Site,

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014

23

as being very effective. The Johnson's Island Museum, opened in the summer of 2001 and later relocated to the Ohio Veterans Home, also contains letters written by POWs; the Commandant would keep any money in letters received, and POWs could buy goods at a sutler's store for a deducted amount.

In order to obtain more data, the volunteers' work for summer 2014 includes Block 8 where 250 POWs were housed; a 2-story wooden 125'x 29' structure, through whose floor-board gaps (now collectible) debris fell. The area was farmed after the war, hosted a quarry with an associated small community, briefly flirted with two unsuccessful pleasure resorts in the 1890's, had brief times as a Coast Guard Training Center and an Army training ground for the Ohio National Guard, then lay fallow after about 1950, so the POW camp remnants remained mostly in place.

Other knowledgeable historians on the site include Charles E. Frohman, who wrote a book, *Rebels on Lake Erie*, for the Ohio Historical Society (1965); and those associated with a documentary movie of the same name, which premiered in 2012. Filmed on location at Johnson's Island and Governors' Island, NYC, with musical score in original Civil War arrangements, it was written, directed and produced by Kathleen Endres of the School of Communication of The Univ. of Akron and underwritten by the Ohio Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. They (including Endres' blog) agree that Johnson's Island was unique among Civil War prisons: (1) because of its volunteer recruited military garrison, (2) because it was built especially to house former soldiers (as opposed to most Union prisons which were converted former jails or military installations), and (3) because it eventually held only officers (and a few folks sentenced by courts-martial and spies). According to the curriculum guide for the film

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014
24



east of the Mississippi River, but particularly those brought by boat and train from the Battles of Gettysburg and Vicksburg.

Rebels on Lake Erie tells a collateral story that is astonishing to say the least: in 1864, John Yates Beall, the college-educated law-trained son of a slave-holding Virginia plantation owner, launched a new avocation as a pirate. He sailed out onto Lake Erie in the ship *PHILO PARSONS*, a Detroit-Sandusky steamer seized as a part of the "Canadian Commissioners" working a Confederate two-part attempt to (1) capture the *USS MICHIGAN*, the only U.S. war vessel on the Great Lakes, and to (2) free the Johnson's Island POWs. Acting Master's Mate John Y. Beall, CSN, is described as having served under General Stonewall Jackson when he was seriously injured and could not go back to the Army. The injuries did not stop his becoming a privateer on the Chesapeake Bay, and later, in the Confederate Navy, he cultivated a willingness to participate in what would be known as the "Northwest Conspiracy" to undermine the war effort. Beall's adventure went less than swimmingly. As discussed at length in *U.S. Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*, his crew literally "bailed" and the mission was aborted. On a later mission, he was captured, jailed at Governors' Island, NYC, charged as a guerilla and spy, found guilty, and sentenced to death; a petition from 90 members of Congress to President Lincoln to commute the sentence failed, and he was executed in February 1865, 3 months before the end of the war. He was said to have been the first spy to be executed since the American Revolution.

and other data, the prison held generals and other officers from every Confederate army community with amateur theatrical performances, publishing and crafts. A handful of escapes from the POW camp were successful including some who walked across a frozen Lake Erie to Canada. About 200 POWs died there as a result of the harsh winters, food and fuel shortages and disease; however, it had one of the lowest mortality rates of any Civil War prison. Now surrounded by private residential property and accessible by a causeway, the only two areas open to the public are Ft. Hill (which along with Ft. Johnson was constructed over the winter 1864-5 but not operational until the March 1865, a month before the War's end); and the Confederate cemetery where there are a few memorials including the names of POWs. The latter, not surprisingly, has the reputation for being haunted (e.g., lots of Rebels wandering the island, and a statue, "The Lookout", erected there by the Daughters of the Confederacy, Cincinnati Chapter, stands watch over the remains and is said to change positions at midnight).

Johnson's Island was added to the U.S. National Register of Historic Places in March 1975, and designated a National Historic Landmark in June 1990, placing it under the governance of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

To delve further into this topic: See <http://www.heidelberg.edu/academiclife/depts/polsci/faculty/bush>; <http://www.heidelberg.edu/search>; <http://rebelsonlakeerie.com/civil-war-prisoner-of-war-camps/johnsons-island-prisoner-of-war...>; <http://www.history.navy.mil/danfs/cfa7/philoparsons.htm>; <http://www.deadohio.com/JohnIsl.htm>; <http://www.history/navy.mildanfs/cfa7/philoparsons/htm>; <http://greatlakeshistory.homestead.com/files/georgian.htm>; <http://rebelsonlakeerie.com/>; <http://www.johnsonsisland.org/visiting.htm> (also, same address, suffix history, documents, etc.); http://www.nps.gov/nr/tavek/presidents/hayes_spiegel_grove.html.



The Johnson's Island POW camp had what is described as a lively com-

axpow committee assignments 2014-2015

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Eberly, David

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Lee, JVC Judy
Eslinger, JVC Pam
Gollin, JVC Alice
Morgan, Executive Director
Clydie
Moore, NC Milton
Lollar, PNC Jim

CHAPLAIN

Rayborn, Benny

CIVILIAN EX-POW

Gollin, Alice
Cadwallader, Ted

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Cerbone, Cheryl
Eberly, David
Eslinger, Pam
Williams, Jan

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LEGISLATIVE

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Susino, Charles A

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Executive Committee

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Harlan, Betty - Co-Director

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

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Gollin, Alice

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Cerbone, Cheryl

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Cerbone, Cheryl

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Susino, Charles A
Edwards, Paul
Garrido, Ben
Rayborn, Benny
Claypool, David

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Susino, Charles A

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DIRECT-MAIL PROGRAMS

Cerbone, Cheryl

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National Headquarters

POW MEMORIAL WASH DC

Susino, Charles A
Susino, PNC Charles

SPECIAL LIAISON TO MILITARY & VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

Garrido, Ben

*First name listed is
committee chair

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014

axpow membership count ~ 6/20/2014

Alabama	224	Texas	1,004
Alaska	14	Utah	45
Arizona	323	Vermont	43
Arkansas	131	Virgin Islands	2
California	979	Virginia	296
Colorado	158	Washington	364
Connecticut	129	West Virginia	89
Delaware	33	Wisconsin	448
District of Columbia	6	Wyoming	13
Florida	1,065	Foreign	33
Georgia	267	Address Unknown	210
Guam	2		
Hawaii	30	TOTAL:	12,990
Idaho	52		
Illinois	402		
Indiana	236	ETO	4,221
Iowa	182	PAC	552
Kansas	210	KOREA	438
Kentucky	130	USS PUEBLO	17
Louisiana	152	VIETNAM	101
Maine	84	IRAN	3
Maryland	211	IRAQ	5
Massachusetts	364	SOMALIA	1
Michigan	275	FARS/CHINA/2001	2
Minnesota	240	CIVILIAN	145
Mississippi	219		
Missouri	305	SPOUSES	2,511
Montana	47	SURVIVING SPOUSES	4,458
Nebraska	104	NOK	536
Nevada	69		
New Hampshire	71	ANNUAL	561
New Jersey	360	LIFE	12,429
New Mexico	143		
New York	582		
North Carolina	302		
North Dakota	48		
Ohio	695		
Oklahoma	262		
Oregon	170		
Pennsylvania	544		
Puerto Rico	6		
Rhode Island	51		
South Carolina	248		
South Dakota	41		
Tennessee	277		

Games, Cards, Escape and Chocolate

by Alice A. Booher

The modern warrior, particularly one whose job involves a high risk for capture, may undergo specialized training for evading and escaping capture. While Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape (SERE) training was formally established by the USAF in the 1950's and is now conducted by all services, the concept was not then new but merely a more modern equivalent. During WWII, with a deadly serious purpose, some awesomely clever ideas predated the SERE formalization - incorporating briefing if not actual training, and a most formidable assortment of games, gadgets and ingenious ideas.

The Brits had undertaken similar efforts by creating Military Intelligence (MI)-9 at the end of 1939 in direct response to trying to help the 50,000 POWs taken captive at Dunkirk. They set up daily communications with the POWs through secret letter codes and had some escape success. In early 1942, as preparations were made for America's Army 8th Air Force command to go to England, briefings included these efforts. Late in 1942, the CONUS operational site became Ft. Hunt outside Washington, DC. Located on land previously part of the Mount Vernon estate, a grassy riverside buffer during the Civil, Spanish-American and 1st World Wars, then a CCC camp, WWII brought interesting activities to the unpretentious locale. According to multiple sources, many things happened there, including a Temporary Detention or Detailed Interrogation Center through which passed 3,400 Axis POWs. That area of Fort Hunt, known only by the address "PO Box 1142", is still subject to intense Intel silence and

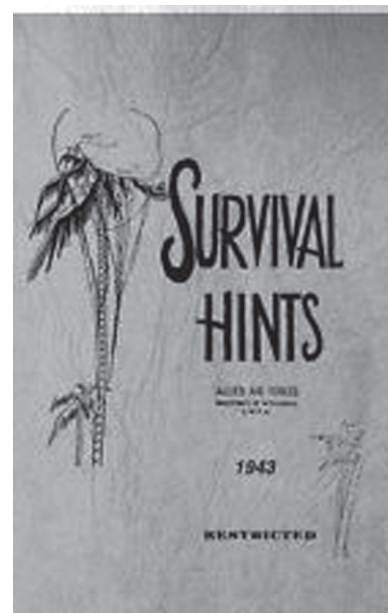
minimal declassifications. A program for instance that might have included interviewing 500 key Allied POW scientists as part of *Operation Paperclip*, is a tale to be deciphered another day.

On the other hand, a spellbinding shadow history has recently emerged from another formerly super-secret Ft. Hunt activity, the creation and assemblage of "escape kits" for American POWs, primarily those held in Germany, but also in some Italian camps and a few instances in the Far East/South West Pacific.

This War Department Section designated as MIS-X, was ultra-clandestine with staff, buildings, materiel, finances and activities concealed from virtually everyone. According to *The Escape Factory*, it had five subsections: interrogation, correspondence (cryptography), POW locations, training/briefing and technical (production and shipping). The purpose was twofold: to aid service personnel to (1) evade capture and (2) escape once captured (thus known as E&E). All those who worked for or within the program were sworn to secrecy, and at war's end, most artifacts and records were destroyed and MIS-X disbanded. (Shoemaker's *The Escape Factory* includes observations of the remarkable nearly magical actual dismantling process). Only a few original tools now exist including a deck of playing cards housed in the International Spy Museum. Moreover, the immediate post-war destruction of the particulars of the site was so immediate and complete that when the Air Force tried soon thereafter to recreate portions of it for the pending Korean Conflict, virtually nothing of import could be found.

The program concerned two distinct parts: (1) creating the tools for evasion or escape and (2) secure delivery thereof. According to "*Fort Hunt in WWII: MIS-X*", by

Stauffenberg and Anderson (June 2013), to alert POW camps of pending deliveries, etc., elaborate radio codes were devised to dovetail with BBC broadcasts preceded by a bell tone, and messages were hidden in outgoing letters including using numbers for letters. Each set-up within and without the POW camps was intricate and involved several key players, many identified and selected by Washington from lists of known POWs. Participants on both ends of the "con" would include code users/senders/interpreters, parcel handlers, the intricacies of which were taught by briefed fellow officers. Obviously, if the manufacturer of the devices CONUS had to be entirely secure, the organization within the POW camps had to be even more so.

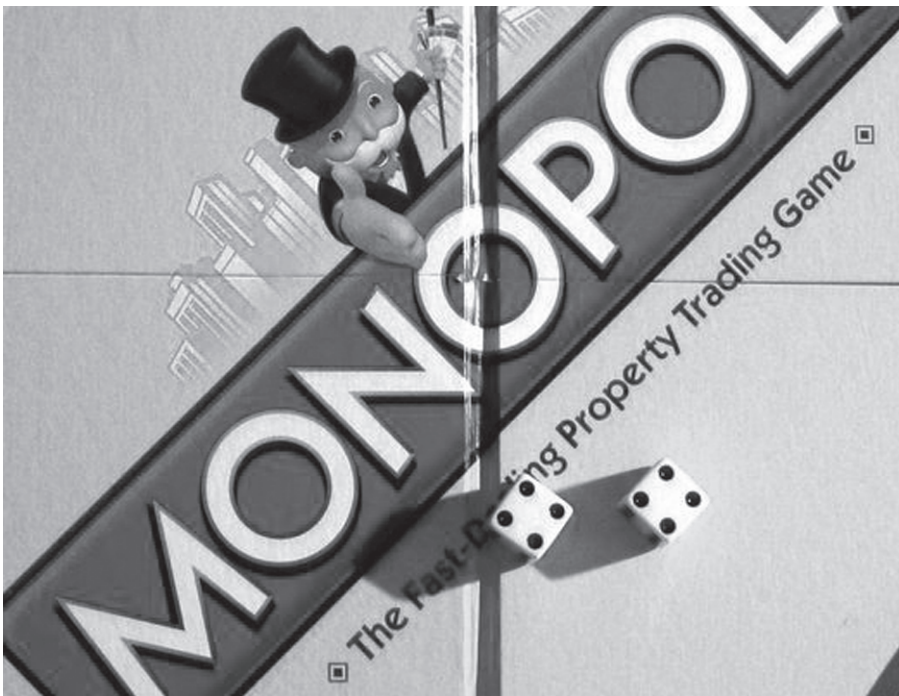


One of the first products created by MIS-X for US Allied Forces HQ Directorate of Intelligence, SWPA (1943, reprinted 2013), and utilized by the US, Australian, Free Dutch, New Zealand and British aircrews in the Southwest Pacific, was a pamphlet called *Survival Hints*. Included in the aircraft survival kits along with an Australian Army pamphlet "*Friendly*

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014

games, cont'd..

Fruits and Vegetables", this pocket booklet, printed in waterproof ink, focused on New Guinea (considered the most difficult terrain in which to live and make your way but comparable to similar areas of the PTO), covered clothing, equipment, crash-landing and bailing out procedures, contacting natives, jungle travel and camping, sea, jungle and beach foods (e.g., crocodile, kangaroo, wild fowl birds, cassowaries, rats, bats, cuscus, land snails, large lizards, bandicoots, hornbill, wild pigs, etc.), first aid (bites by snakes, leeches, scorpions, centipedes, ants, ticks, etc.), and survival at sea.



With regard to escape tools, as part of their training, air crews would be informed before takeoff as to how to identify "special games". For instance, in a Monopoly set, the clue would be a tiny red dot (looking like a printer's error) located in the corner of the "Free Parking" square. According to a 2009 *South African Military History Journal*, "special" editions of the Monopoly games included tiny wads of silk or tissue maps, cast metal playing tokens containing a magnetic compass; a two-part metal file that could be screwed together; and useful amounts of

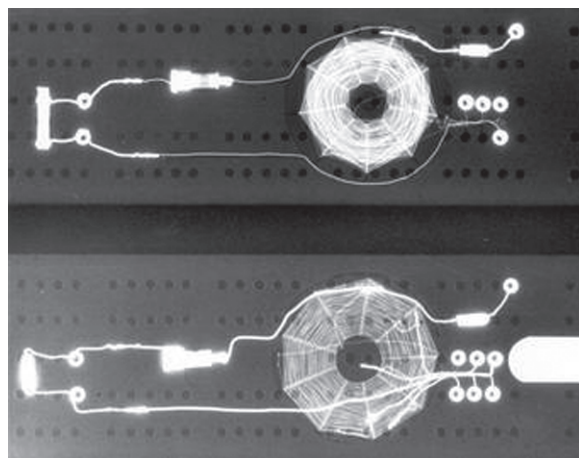
genuine high-denomination German, Italian and French currency, all hidden within piles of phony Monopoly money.

At the time, Lloyd R. Shoemaker wrote his spellbinding and thorough book, *The Escape Factory: The Story of MIS-X* in 1990, he was one of only four living former American opera-

tives, having served as a pivotal cog in the potent, inventive wheel. The techniques applied for getting the "aids" into the camps past the watchful Gestapo guards involved daring, stealth, cunning, distraction and a practiced sleight of hand, invoking "magical" elements in both theory and practice. MI-9 had sought the advice of British master stage magician Jasper Maskelyne to design hiding places; tools in a cricket bat, saw blades within a comb, maps in backs of books and gramophone records in addition to forged German ID cards, ration coupons and travel war-

rants. Alternatively, in America, the deadly serious but often circuslike project carried the name Ringling, Barnum and Bailey; by whatever moniker, Brits and Yanks shared the tradecraft tools and tactics.

One basic premise of course was that a map in the hands of a POW could serve many benefits such as showing alternate routes to freedom; and identifying potential help within the surrounding areas (e.g., food, clothing, shelter while escaping); however, special care had to be taken not to compromise safe houses in case the maps fell into Axis hands. The Brits of MI-9 (like the OSS of the Americans), seeking a substitute for printed paper maps to elimi-



games, cont'd..



nate the inherent downside of paper, (e.g., paper dissolved in water, was noisy when folded and wore out quickly), starting making maps of silk. Printed silk (or on occasion, Rayon or tissue) could be used for many things (e.g., parachutes, scarves, glove linings, spectacle cleaners, handkerchiefs, sewn into flyers' uniforms, saboteurs' jackets and linings of a few women spies' dresses.)

The English source at the time for virtually all printing on silk was John Waddington Ltd., which happily joined the war effort. In a development that was pure providence, after 1935 Waddington had concomitantly been the UK licensee for the popular American board game, Monopoly (as fully recounted in a history of their American partner, Parker Brothers). The secret wartime Parker/

Waddington collaborative "special games arrangement" was not officially recognized until declassification in 2007, although there had been much quiet talk about the projects in the 1970-1980's. The British creator of many of the "tools" was Christopher Clayton Hutton who eventually built himself a bunker in a field where he could work in peace.

An apparent role model for the "Q" of Ian Fleming's James Bond novels and later films, Hutton dreamed up compasses hidden inside pens or tunic buttons; aircrew boots with detachable leggings to convert to civilian shoes; hollow heels containing packets of dried food; spare uniforms that could be converted to civilian suits or dyed (dye pellets secreted in tins of chocolate). (See: <http://samilitaryhistory.org/vol145cm.html>). Hutton himself did not have a happy life and died in 1965 with little recognition. However, according to an excellent and very detailed January 2014 article by Christian Dorlan at Eurogamer, the somewhat eccentric Hutton (who made a liv-

ing at his uncle's lumber yard manufacturing boxes), had written to the magician Harry Houdini in 1913 challenging him to escape from a box built in front of an audience on a stage. Houdini won the bet by bribing a carpenter into making him an escape hatch, but he also impressed upon Hutton that "*when it comes to escape, every trick counts*".

(See <http://www.eurogamer.net/articles/2014-01-12-inside-monopolys-secret-war-against-the-Third-Reich>.)

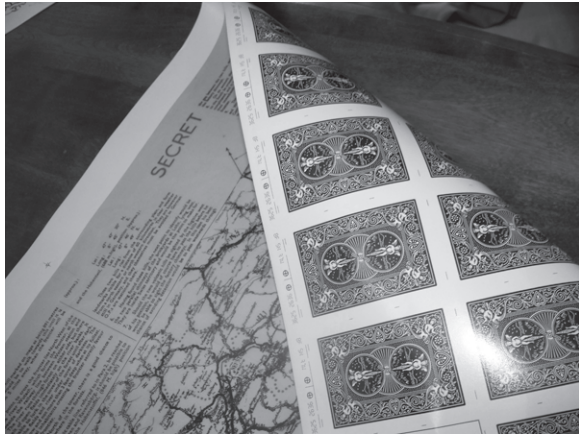


Shoemaker provides exquisite details (and some photos taken inside POW camps) of the comparable American operations including (with other authors), a sample list of "tools": shoe heels carried a map and ID photos; escape silk map segments hidden between the two sides of a deck of playing cards, and when pieced together making a full map; chess pieces carrying money or a compass. A gigli medical saw could be concealed in a hollow button to cut through steel bars and other miscellaneous barriers; a button could be unscrewed to retrieve a compass and according to the USAFA library, 10,000,000 were distributed. Baseballs and softballs were manufactured to hide radio components; Kaywoodie pipes carried pencil-clip compasses; the "G" on a mag-



Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014

games, cont'd..



netized razor blade by Gillette pointed north when balanced on a string. Cribbage boards were loaded with radio parts. Gameboards, such as but not limited to Monopoly, were used to hollow money and maps (giving new meaning to a “get-out-of-jail-card”). All sorts of items were concealed in the innocent looking handles of shaving and shoe brushes or packs of cigarettes. Larger items were also incrementally sent, e.g., a printing press used by POWs to create travel passes and work permits was sent in pieces by MIS-X; a toothbrush was used to ink the type.

Under “rules of war”, charitable organizations were permitted to deliver pivotal supplemental food parcels and other items to POWs. One category of items that qualified for insertion into legitimate “Care Packages” such as those reciprocally delivered by the International Red Cross to POWs, was “recreational devices”, or “Games and Pastimes”. The decision was made to “load” these packets with E&E devices. However, from the outset, great care was taken by MIS-X to avoid contaminating or compromising legitimate relief agencies such as the Red Cross, so numerous en-

tirely bogus organizations were created for shipping the “aids” to Allied POW camps. Shoemaker describes the collective “thunderbolt” that had hit the Brits and was passed on to the Americans of a complaint via the International Red Cross in June 1944 regarding contraband found in parcels addressed to British POWs. The “senders” feigned ignorance, the Germans banned shipments from the three

offending named bogus “relief agencies”, and the matter was dropped. But given the timing so close to D-Day, everyone was extra nervous as the Americans were about to escalate their efforts by covertly shipping much needed but difficult-to-ship cameras (including as required for POWs making fake IDs). In time, the POW camp guards learned of the items and some of the ways to detect them, eventually with X-rays, but not until much value had been achieved to the POWs. One book describing this particular espionage perspective is *Between Silk and Cyanide* by Leon Marks (Harper Collins, 2000).

For some years after the war, movies such as Steve McQueen’s 1963 *Great Escape* gained anecdotal inspiration from the fascinating and clever contraband, but overall, specific facts about any structured program remained a bit vague other than what was told by word of mouth by former POWs. In 2009, a spectacular exhibit opened at the British Imperial War Museum North with artifacts such as the maps/playing cards, the dye/chocolate tin, and a broom head hiding a radio.

As they began to have multiple-decade reunions, many of the former American POWs began to talk more openly about the elaborate escape ruses including the smuggled items. For instance, a

keepsake from the 45th POW Reunion of Stalag Luft III, April 26-29, 1990, was a full sized, uncut sheet of the camp’s pertinent playing cards/map; concurrently, a limited edition of the cut deck was released. So much interest has been since expressed in these remarkable items that some of the companies who secretly manufactured them for the War Department have recently reissued them in commemorative form. For instance, in 2013, the U.S. Playing Card Company, makers of Bicycle cards, issued “commemorative map decks” including history cards. Bicycle’s standard commemorative decks highlighted the maps by bringing them to the surface of the faces of the card, and include a bonus card showing the layout to fully assemble the map.



A tip of a magicians’ top-hat to those POWs who remember and may have used the special parcels in camp; for those who do or did not but were cheered by their very presence; for those who participated in conceiving them or effectuating them or otherwise adapting them - we might use the term “gamesmanship”. In the vernacular, that word may connote chicanery and shrewdness, winning a contest by doing things that seem unfair but that are not actually against the rules. It must be argued to the contrary in this instance, that the MIS-X and associated efforts were clever, creative and the ultimate in an upright and noble gamesmanship, and a collective endeavor for which we are all deeply indebted.



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.

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Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014

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In honor of Joe & Vivien Shabez,
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Rzeszotarski, by Donna Martel
In memory of Arthur J Latcha, by
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Latchaw, by Betty J Miller
In memory of Arthur James
Latchaw, by Nancy Young
In memory of Curtis Campbell,
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In memory of Dale Shebilsky, by
V Jean McLane and Family, Spike
& Kathy McLane, Gary & Shannon
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In memory of Daniel Maus, by
Thomas Savage
In memory of Donald Koch, by
Marion Koch
In memory of Frederick
Markham, by Cynthia & John
Lasker

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014
32

In memory of Frederick
Markham, by his "Comfort Keep-
ers" family
In memory of Frederick
Markham, by Jim & Nancy
Masterson
In memory of Frederick
Markham, by John Clinton &
Donna Martin
In memory of Frederick
Markham, by PNC Bill & Ethel
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Susan Schaefer
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Tom Muldoon
In memory of Joe Cucarola, by
Wilma Jean Nix
In memory of Lt Col Norbert
Gotner, by Walt Stischer
In memory of Margie Moore, by
Allen Waller
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Ruth Hickman
In memory of Margie Moore, by
the Department of Arizona
In memory of Marvin Bailey, by
Margaret Bailey
In memory of my dad William J
Stephenson, by Gail Baker
In memory of Paul Wienke, by
Lavonne Wienke
In memory of Richard 'Dick' Beck,
by Norma Beck

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An important way you can help
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It's very simple to make a be-
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"I give, devise and bequeath to the
American Ex-Prisoners of War,
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new members

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Son of Bruno Trocciola, ETO

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Jessie Lee
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Stalags 3B and 7A



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

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Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014



taps



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

BACA, Joe R., of Santa Fe, NM passed away May 6, 2014. Joe was captured while serving with the 461st BG, 764th BS. He was held in Luft IV, then marched across Germany to Halle where he was liberated by the 104th Infantry. Joe leaves one sister and many nieces, nephews and friends.

BRANCH, James "Tiger", of Lakeland, Florida, died June 12, 2014. He was 90. "Tiger" served in the 91st BG in the Europe/Africa campaign; after capture he was held in Stalag Luft 3, Luft 1, Stalag 7A and Stalag 17B. He was chapter commander and life member of AXPOW. He is survived by his wife, Rose, 1 daughter, 2 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

BUELL, Earl Edward, of Seattle/Puyallup, WA passed away April 13, 2014 at the age of 97. He was captured on Corregidor and held in Japan for 3 ½ years before liberation. Earl was a member of the Seattle Chapter, AXPOW. His daughter, Helen survives him.

CAPRON, Edward C. Jr., of Baton Rouge, LA died June 4, 2014. He was captured at the Battle of the Bulge while serving with HQ Batt., 73rd Arm. Field Art. Btn. 9th Div. Ed was a life member of AXPOW and the Red Stick Chapter. He leaves his wife of 71 years, Willery, 1 son, 2 daughters, 3 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren and a large and loving extended family.

CAVAIANI, Jon R. Vietnam POW and MOH recipient, died July 27, 2014 in Stanford, California. As a

platoon leader, he came under heavy fire at Hickory Hill. In the midst of an intense barrage of artillery and small-arms fire, he helped organize an evacuation of 15 wounded men while also leading efforts to defend the small base as it was overwhelmed by a much larger enemy force. He avoided capture for 11 days before being captured by North Vietnamese soldiers after trying to signal a U.S. helicopter; he spent 661 days in captivity. Survivors include his wife, Barbara.

COON, Philip, US Army, survivor of the Bataan Death March, passed away June 23, 2014. He was 95 and a resident of Tulsa, OK. After capture, he was held in POW camps in the Philippines, then taken to Japan to work in the copper mines. After 3 ½ years, he was liberated. He was a full blooded Creek Native American was so proud of being an American. He was the first of 3 generations of his family to go and fight for his country, covering WWII, Viet Nam and the Gulf War. He was preceded in death by his wife of 67 years, Helen; survivors include his son, Michael, seven grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

COYLE, John J, 89, of Euless, TX died Mar. 16, 2014. During WWII, he served with the 36th Div., Co. H, 143rd Inf. After capture, he was held in Stalag 3A and work camps. Johnny is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Jean, 1 daughter and 1 granddaughter.

CLEW, Carol, of Dana Point, CA passed away March 18, 2014. She was 89.. She was the widow of Harry F. (B-17 bombardier, 8th AF, 385th BG, 551st BS, POW in Stalag Luft I) and a member of the San Diego Chapter, AXPOW.

CRISMON, Ilam L, of Harrison, AR, died April 27, 2014. "Cris" was captured while serving with the 117th Recon. and was held in Stalag 4B and Munich. He is survived by his wife, Reba.

CROSBY, John Allen, of Jackson, MI, 96, passed away February 5, 2014. As a B-24 pilot, he flew numerous missions over Italy and Germany, was shot down, held as a POW in Germany for 18 months, and then liberated by the Russians. He is survived by Mary, his loving wife of 66 years, 1 son, 2 daughters, 2 grandchildren and 2 great-granddaughters.

DEAN, Verner, of Old Hickory, TN, born July 21, 1919, passed away May 11, 2013. He was captured while serving with the 106th Inf. Div. during WWII. He was held in Stalag 4B until liberation. Vern is credited with the saying: "Have you hugged a POW today?" His friends in AXPOW will miss him.

ENDECOTT, Thomas A., 93, of Drexel, Missouri, died June 17, 2014. He enlisted in the Army Air Force in 1942, and was stationed in England as a gunner on a B-24. His plane was shot down and he became a POW. He was a life member of the Heart of America Chapter, AXPOW. Thomas was preceded in death by his wife Delta who was long-time State Adjutant for the Department of Missouri. He is survived by 1 daughter and 2 sons, 9 grandchildren, and 19 great-grandchildren.

GARNER, John D. of Gainesville, GA, passed away May 18, 2014 at 89, one day short of the 70th anniversary of his capture by the Germans. POW in Poland for 9 months, then part of the longest

taps cont'd...

forced march of American POWs in our history: 88 days, over 600 miles in winter. Survived by his wife of nearly 65 years, Leona. 2 daughters, 5 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren.

GOODSON, James "Goody", a WWII Army Air Corps veteran and former POW died May 1, 2014 at the age of 93. He was buried at the national veterans cemetery, Bourne, MA. He was credited with 15 aerial kills and 15 ground kills during his service.

GOODWIN, Violet, of Woodway, TX, died June 9, 2014. She was the wife of Jack Goodwin, POW in Korea Camps 9 and 1. Both were AXPOW life members since 1980 and members of the Waco Chapter. In addition to her husband of 60 years, she is survived by 1 daughter, 2 granddaughters, 2 great-granddaughters and their families.

GORDON, Paul R., of Reading, PA passed away May 27, 2014. He was 94. He was captured while serving with the 92nd BG, 327th BS, flying B-17s out of England. He spent 31 months in a series of POW camps, including 17B. Survivors include his wife, Ruth, 2 sons, 1 stepson, 5 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild.

HEEKIN, Francis X., 95, founding member of the O-K-I Chapter, AXPOW, passed away May 25, 2014. He served in the Army Air Corps, 8th AF, 357th BG; he was shot down on his first mission, captured and held in Luft IV, then marched across Germany until he managed to escape right before the end of the war. He is survived by 1 son, 1 daughter, 1 granddaughter and their families.

HILDEBRANDT, Frank, 94, died July 1, 2014 in Bradenton, FL. During WWII he served with the 379th

BG, 524th BS. Returning from his 9th mission on July 25, 1943 to Hamburg, he was forced to ditch in the North Sea. After a night in their life raft, they were captured by the Nazis. Frank was interned in Stalag Luft 3 until liberated by Gen. Patton. He leaves 2 sons, 1 daughter and 1 granddaughter.

HOUSE, William Wade, former member of the N/E Chapter AXPOW, Monroe, LA, died June 13, 2014. He served in WWII with the 101st Parachute Div. He was captured and held until liberation. The love of his life, Mildred Posey, predeceased him; he leaves 4 children and their families, 15 grandchildren and 1 brother.

LESLIE, Nancy, of Lebanon, Tennessee, died May 15, 2014. She and her husband, Howard, were civilian prisoners of war held in Santo Tomas. Howard died in 1961. They are survived by their two sons, Bill and Tom, who were also in Santo Tomas.

LIBRETTI, Pasquale J., of Staten Island, NY passed away Feb. 10, 2014. He was captured while serving with the 15th AF, 824th BG; he was held in Stalag 7A. He was an active member of the Brooklyn Key Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his wife, Marianna, 1 son and 1 daughter and their families.

LOCKRIDGE, Thomas H., of Los Angeles, CA died June 3, 2014 at the age of 92. During WWII, he served with the 15th AF, 444th BG. He was shot down, captured and held in 7A, Moosburg. He was a member of the San Diego Chapter, AXPOW.

MARANO, Alfonso, age 91, active member of the Brooklyn Key Chapter, AXPOW died April 28, 2014. He was a member of the 133rd Inf., Co 3, 34th Div. when he was captured and held until liberation. He leaves his wife, sons, daughters and grandchildren.

MAREK, Robert J., 96, of Kaufman, TX passed away Mar. 7, 2014. He entered the Army in 1940, serving with the 36th Div., Co H, 143rd Inf. in North Africa and Europe. He is survived by 1 brother, nieces, nephews and their families.

MARKHAM, Frederick A. Jr., of Plymouth, MA, passed away June 12, 2014. He was predeceased by his beloved wife of 68 years, **Mabel (Liz)**. She passed away on April 20, 2010. Both were life members of AXPOW. They are buried together at Bourne National Cemetery. He is survived by 1 daughter, 2 sons, 2 grandchildren and their families. During WWII, Fred served with the 610th Tank Destroyer Battalion. He was captured and held in Stalag 3C until liberation. Fred's quick and subtle wit was always present, and he was never known to turn down a plate of spaghetti and meatballs with Chateau bread. He will be missed by all who knew him.

NICHOLS, Vivian Elaine Wagner, 93, of Roanoke VA, passed away June 8, 2014. She was the widow of Ex-POW Derise L (WWII B24 tail gunner, 8thAF, 44thBG, 66th BS, captured and held in Stalag Luft 4 Gross Tychow). She was a member of the Roanoke Valley Chapter AXPOW. Survivors include 3 daughters and their spouses, 3 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild.

NICKLES, Chartos Jr., of Aberdeen, MS died June 27, 2014. He was 92 and a member of AXPOW and the Tupelo, MS Chapter. During WWII, he was captured and held for 15 months while serving in the Army Air Corps. He leaves his wife, Jane, 2 daughters, 1 brother, 5 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren.

PLECKER, McPherson "Mac", 92,
Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014

taps cont'd...

of Palm Harbor, FL passed away July 10, 2014. He served in the Navy, Pacific Theater, and was held in Woo Sung China and Fukaoka Japan. He was a long-time member of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter. Mac had 8 children, 3 of whom pre-deceased him; grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He will be missed.

RAY, Vernon, 83, of Venice, passed away July 16. Vernon served in the 1st Marine Division in Korea, where he was captured and held as a POW for 9 months. He served as National Sergeant at Arms, Commander of the Peace River Chapter for 2 years, Commander for the Tri-County Chapter for 2 years, and Commander of the Department of Florida. He is survived by Delorise, his wife of 59 years, a daughter, a son, 4 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren.

SHABEZ, Joseph Sr., 89, of Henderson, NV, member of the Las Vegas Chapter, AXPOW, died May 10, 2014. During WWII, he served with the Texas 36th Div., Co

G, 141st Inf. He was captured and held in Stalags 7A and 2B. He leaves his wife of 65 years, Vivian, 5 children, 7 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

SLATER, Edward N. "Fast Eddie", 84, of Independence, MO passed away July 22, 2014. He joined the U.S. Army at the age of 17. Ed was a rifleman in the 24th Inf. Div., 1 Company, 21st Reg. serving in Japan when the Korean War broke out. He was one of the few survivors of the Suncheon Tunnel Massacre. For 22 years he volunteered at the VA Hospital in Kansas City to help veterans get the benefits they so rightfully deserve. During that time he served as Missouri State Commander for the ex-POW. He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 52 years Phyllis. He is survived by two children, six grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, several nieces and nephews, his beloved dog Sugar, and many good friends.

VENEGONI, Mary, of St. Louis, MO, widow of Ex-POW Vince (106th Inf. Div., Stalags 4B & 8A) passed away in July 2014.

WILLOUGHBY, George, 88, of Columbia, TN passed away Feb. 28, 2014. He was captured while serving with the 82nd Airborne, Co 504; after jumping over Holland, he was taken to a German hospital, then transferred to Stalag IIB. He escaped twice and was captured; the third time he made it to his company. He leaves his wife of 65 years, Shirley, 2 children, 1 grandson and 1 great-granddaughter.

ZAMPERINI, Louis, an Olympic runner who, as an airman during WWII, crashed into the Pacific, was listed as dead and then spent 47 days adrift in a life raft before being captured by the Japanese died July 2, 2014 in Los Angeles. He was 97. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps shortly after the United States entered the war in 1941. He was a bombardier in a B-24 that was flying a rescue mission on May 27, 1943, when his plane, named the Green Hornet, malfunctioned and fell into the sea. His wife, Cynthia died in 2001. Survivors include 1 daughter, 1 son, grandchildren and their families.

chaplain



ND Benny Rayborn

A few minutes before I sat down to write this article I received news that one of the Ex-P. O. W. s of my local chapter passed away. This man told me that he found the Lord while reading the Bible in "the camp" and that he never

left the Lord. He further stated "the good part is that God never left me."

My friend went on to say, " Ever since I have done what I thought was right according to God's standards."

In Proverbs 16:9 we read "A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directed his steps."

As we go through life there are many things that we encounter that seem to defy logic and we have no idea how to handle that situation. It does seem that at times we have no exact direction from God. In those times we walk by faith. We trust God for the proper knowledge to handle that problem.

Many of us already know from our Scripture readings many of the proper things or steps as modern writers like to call the Scriptural teachings.

I make plans and no matter how good my plans seem to me God's plan for me is much better than anything I can devise. Simply said: I make mistakes. God does not make mistakes.

My prayer for this issue is: May God direct your steps so that at the end of life, you hear "Well done my Good and Faithful Servant" In the Name of God's Son Amen.

Benny





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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.

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Memorial donations should be sent to:
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3201 East Pioneer Parkway #40
Arlington, Texas 76010-5396

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Website Biography
www.axpow.org



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

Name:

Nickname:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Telephone:

Spouse:

Email:

Conflict and Theater of Operation:

Branch of Service:

Unit:

Where were you captured?

Date captured:

POW camps you were held in:

How long were you a POW?

Date liberated:

Medals received:

Job in the military:

After military service:

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

Send to:

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Ex-POW Bulletin

Sept/Oct 2014

38



The National 4th (IVY) Division Association

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

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

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

"Steadfast and Loyal"

50/50 drawing

June 28, 2014 Arlington, TX

- 1st Place JEANNE BREESE, AZ \$202.20
- 2nd Place MARIE CARLSSON, TX \$151.65
donated back to organization
- 3rd Place MARIE CARLSSON, TX \$101.10
donated back to organization
- 4th Place ELLEN BLOCKER, MS \$50.55

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.**

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

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014

**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. (6/15)

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Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014
40

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

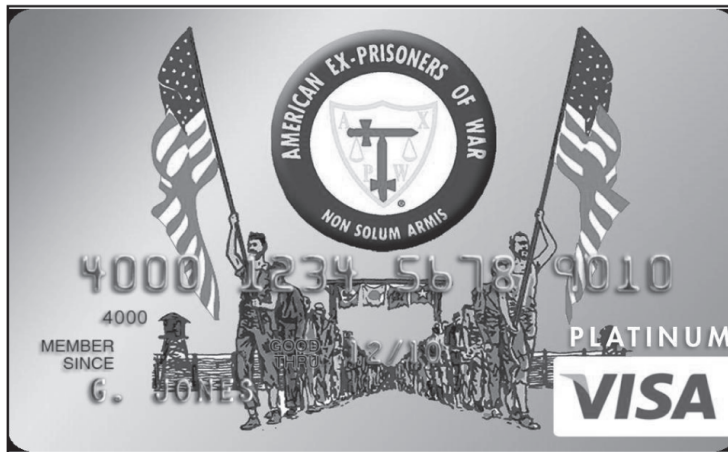
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**Every credit card sends you a statement.
This card lets you make one.**

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

**Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2014**

41

AXPOW Gravesite Medallion



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

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

\$75.00

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

AXPOW Vest Order Form

(For members only)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Size (Men/coat, Women/chest measurement)

Long, Regular or Short _____

Name on front of vest

Chapter Name (back of vest)

Price: \$55.00, includes S/H

Please allow 8-10 weeks for delivery.

AXPOW Challenge Coin



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

\$10.00ea

Official AXPOW Cap (specify size)	40.00
Vinyl Cap Bag	3.00
Necktie w/logo (regular only)	30.00
U.S. Flag Bolo Tie	20.00
Mini POW Medal Bolo Tie	30.00
Brooch pin	5.00
EX-POW pin (goldtone)	5.00
Logo pin	5.00
POW Stamp pin	3.00
Past Chapter Commander pin	5.00
Past Department Commander pin	5.00
Magnetic Ribbons	5.00
Challenge Coins	10.00
Eagle pin w/Barbed Wire (specify gold, silver or antique gold)	8.00
Vest Chainguard	8.00
4" Blazer Patch	4.00
2" Medallion (for plaque)	6.00
Canvas Totebag w/4" logo	15.00
AXPOW Notecards (pkg of 25)	6.00
Special Prayer Cards (pkg of 25)	6.00
AXPOW By-Laws	5.00

Name Badge Order Form

(for members only)

Actual size of badge is size of a credit card



PLEASE PRINT:

Name _____

Line 1 _____

Line 2 _____

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

Ship to: Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

We accept Master Card/Visa

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

QUANTITY	ITEM	SIZE / COLOR	PRICE

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

Shipping/Handling/Insurance:

Total: \$

For credit card orders: Card # _____ Expiration: _____

(Check one) Master Card _____ Visa _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

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

AMERICAN EX PRISONERS OF WAR



Lightweight Windbreaker

Colors Available

Navy/Stone (shown)

Stone/navy (reverse)

Black/stone

Wind and water-resistant Cratex™ Microfiber, mesh and nylon lined. Elasticized side hems.

Cuffs with snap closures. Vented front capes with Velcro® closures. Contrast color inside stand up collar and cuffs. Outside storm flap. Zippered pockets. Inside valuables pocket. Men's (shown) has 3 button placket; women's has six

Unisex sizes S—5XS-XL \$75.00 (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

\$7.95 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 _____ Color _____

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





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

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

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

Bronze Grave Medallions



\$75.00 plus \$15.00 S/H/I

Shipping costs on two or more is \$20.00.

change of address form

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

Please print:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone () _____ Email _____

Please allow 4 weeks to make address corrections.

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