

# EX-POW BULLETIN

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

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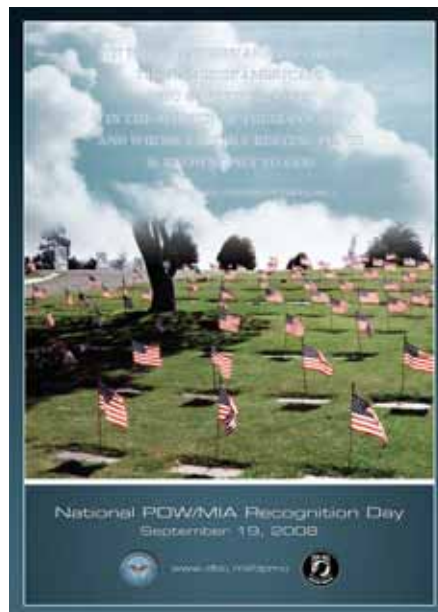
Number 9

September 2008



*We exist to help those who cannot help themselves*

*Inside...  
News, Out-  
reach,  
Events...NSO  
Success Stories  
and more*



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News, Out-  
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# The North Carolina State Department Convention



June 19-21, 2008...The Department of North Carolina held their annual convention at the Hilton Charlotte. The attendees - including Past National Commander Paul Dallas and his wife, Doris; National Commander Warren G. King, Sr. and his wife, Mary; State Dept. Commander Edward Halliburton and his wife Dorothy; Dept. Chaplain James Harrell; Billie Sue Goforth; Frank Caldwell; Earl Osborne and Louis Bounous -- all had a wonderful time as you can see in the photos ...



# and at the New York State Department Convention



On June 11-14<sup>th</sup>, the Catskills were rocking! Singer Kathy Crosby (widow of crooner Bing), PNC Zack Roberts, JVC Charlie Susino with wife Lucille, ND Frank Koehler with Mae, ND Paul Galanti, incoming Dept. Cmdr. Lee Birch, new Dept. officers and a host of department chapter members enjoyed day trips, entertainment galore as well as the business meetings at the Hotel Nevele.



## national commander



**Warren G. King, Sr.**

To all POW members:

Being the Commander of this organization has been a privilege and a challenge. I'm afraid I have not done as well as I hoped that I could. I believe I could have done better, but some of my suggestions never got off of the playing field. It was like I was in the wrong place at the wrong time. So I just slowed down a bit and left the motor running.

Good luck to the good people of the organization. I have had some very good compliments from unexpected people and other organizations. I thank them for their support. I have also had good support from corners where I expected it and I thank them very much. I learn from experience — both good and bad, yours and mine. We all don't have the "one way" mind. I consider versatile thinking to be better and that is one reason we have committees.

"A rung in a ladder was not intended to stand on, but to lift you to a higher place." We take ideas and expand on them, working toward the betterment for all in the long run. There is good thinking from the individual but better for all from the total committee. When I say "total," I don't mean just those

who think the same way and enough to say "we did or they did" something.

Mary and I have really enjoyed visiting some of the state conventions. We only were able to attend a few due to the cost and available time when there was no conflict.

I quite frequently get phone calls from out of state Ex POW relatives seeking some kind of veteran help. I know of about four in process now. Some of them require "state specific" kind of help where only individual state workers can assist them. I try to advise them.

A few words about the Fisher House — most of us have heard of the Fisher House for veterans and relatives who might need a place to stay — for one night or a few nights close to a veteran facility for a next day treatment or someone low on finances or hardship. There is one in the planning stages to be built in Murfreesboro, Tennessee near the Alvin C. York Veteran Medical Facility. At present, there are thirty-eight (38) Fisher Houses located on eighteen (18) military installations and nine (9) Va medical centers in the United States. Five more houses are under construction in the U.S. During fiscal year 2007 the two Tennessee veteran facilities provided healthcare services for over 656,000 veterans in Tennessee. Over 6,000



*To Mary and Warren King  
With best wishes,*

"Wounded Warriors" from Iraq and Afghanistan wars registered with TVHS for their care. The "Fisher House Foundation, Inc. is a 501C3 IRS Code located in Rockville, MD. The VA does not charge families to stay at a Fisher House that is built on site or near a VA facility. Local Foundations must raise the "seed money" for building a house on VA property. The Fisher House to be built in Murfreesboro, TN will have twenty-one (21) rooms in it and will also be a 501C3 IRS Code. They need \$400,000 for the site preparation. They have one (1) employed manager and the other help is volunteers. The facilities are fully furnished — kitchen, laundry, dining room, library, toys for children, etc. If you would like to make a donation for this facility for those who are or have put their lives on the line for our freedom, make your check payable and mail to: Middle Tennessee Fisher House Foundation, Inc.; P.O. Box 233; Smyrna, Tennessee 37167-0233. All donations will be greatly appreciated and they are tax deductible. If you need more information, call or write to: Harriet Howard, Chief PR; 552 Highpoint Drive; Smyrna, TN 37167-5231; (615) 355-0746.

Mary and I were in Washington, D.C. on Memorial Day. We had breakfast with President Bush at the White House, and had our picture made with him. Not too bad for an "ole Virginia farm boy now living in Tennessee with Mrs. Tennessee."

Thank you all again for your support and we wish you all good health and good luck — "long live the Kings." Please keep in touch.

Warren G. King, Sr.  
National Commander

**Ex-POW Bulletin  
September 2008**



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On the cover:

**POW/MIA Recognition Day, Friday, September 19, 2008.**

Congress has set aside the third Friday of September in each year as National POW/MIA Recognition Day. It is a time to remember those who never came home. Congress has further recognized the POW/MIA flag of the National League of Families as the official flag to represent our missing soldiers.

A Pentagon ceremony for National POW/MIA Recognition Day will be held on Friday, Sept.19, 2008. This ceremony will feature troops from each of the military services. The president will issue a proclamation commemorating the observances and reminding the nation of those Americans who have sacrificed so much for their country.

Observances of National POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities. 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.

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*Deadline for the Nov/Dec issue  
is Oct.1,2008*

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

### Important notice!

Many members have been sending in newspaper articles about themselves or other POWs. These articles can not be reprinted without written permission of the local newspapers. These articles are wonderful and as room allows, would make nice additions to the magazine. Most newspapers want to charge for reprint rights, especially if anyone other than the subject were to ask for them. Thank you. ~Editor.

### From ND Grover Swearingen, Chairman, Nominations:

We do not have nominations for JVC-Western Zone or ND-Northwest and Southeast Regions. Nominations will be taken from the floor at the National Convention in KansasCity, Missouri.

*See you in Kansas City!*

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## on capitol hill

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I recently returned from The Blind Rehabilitation Center operated by the VA Healthcare system in West Haven, CT. The VA and Tom Miller's organization, the Blinded Veterans Association, which was instrumental in establishing ten of these centers across the country, do a great job for those veterans who have been declared legally blind.

On June 12<sup>th</sup>, shortly after my return, I went on Capitol Hill to delivery testimony for HR 1197, Improved Veterans' Benefits for Former Prisoners of War, which is pending in the House Committee of Veterans Affairs. As I was unable to read the testimony, the Reverend Jack Mathison, a former prisoner of war, agreed to present it to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance & Memorial Affairs and did a fine job.

This legislation will codify osteoporosis and diabetes as presumptives for former prisoners of war. Representative Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) has once again introduced these proposed presumptives and we strongly urged the committee's support of the bill.

The subcommittee is chaired by Congressman Hall who asked Norm Bussel to testify early this year on HR 156 and we urged the committee's support for this legislation as well. The Congress is treating this as new legislation; however we consider it a correction which will provide equity for all surviving widows of POWs.

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The assembled representatives asked us several questions during the Q&A session, including: "Do you have an estimate of the number of POWs living today?" "What is the average age?" "How many do you estimate will benefit from this bill?" "Are you aware of any other conditions you can think of that deserve presumptive status?" We are encouraged by the questions asked by the subcommittee as it indicates their interest in our bill.

Now about that Blind Rehab Center the VA operates in West Haven, CT. Jack Jones told me about the rehab center he went to out west and all the wonderful things they did for him, so I looked into it here on the east coast. I started with the eye clinic at our local VA Medical Center who put me on a waiting list for an eight week course at the facility in Connecticut.

My start date was March 31<sup>st</sup>. My son-in-law took me to Union Station. I boarded an Amtrak train and sat back to contemplate what was next. I hadn't been on a journey like this since I enlisted a mere 60 years ago! Upon my arrival, I was treated with four-star hospitality, but mind you I was in a VA hospital setting. While the rehab wing was separate from the main building, the food and furnishings were every bit hospital.

Starting that first day, I went through an extensive evaluation and assessment process to determine the best course of individualized instruction. Every veteran receives personal one-on-one attention from a well-organized professional staff. A very thorough optometric examination involving sev-

eral hours of several days in the examining chair was conducted. Then using the devices, aids and situations suggested by the optometrist, a low vision specialist taught me how to get the most out of my remaining vision.

They asked me how I spend my average day and how they might help me function more effectively. I told them I was the Executive Director of the American Ex-Prisoners of War and that most of my work is done via telephone or computer and that I used public transportation to get to and from the office, the VA and Capitol Hill.

They devised a schedule for individual instruction from various specialists on things like living skills, manual skills and mobility. As I result, I came home with a white cane, a talking computer and calculator, five pairs of glasses for various uses and lots of tips for easy living. When you are visually impaired, getting the toothpaste on the toothbrush can be challenging. I asked one of my instructors if there was a trick to doing that and she said, "Mr. Jackson, just put the toothpaste on your teeth!" So you see, you can teach an old dog new tricks!

The VA goes all out for blinded veterans. These services are a wonderful benefit, for which non-veterans have limited or no access. If you know anyone with vision problems, encourage them to investigate these opportunities.

*Les*

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



**NSO Fred Campbell, Chairman**  
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**Committee member:**  
NSO Frank Kravetz (412) 824-2674

## Outreach Importance You Can Do It!

Outreach to Oregon: In the process, calls are being made to all AXPOW members in the state to make sure they have their VA benefits. So far 196 calls have produced results, with these claims in process: 5 POW widows eligible for DIC, 3 POWs for POW Protocol Exams, PLUS sending ChampVA information to POW spouses, 26 of whom were not aware of ChampVA benefits...with good help from Portland VARO POW Coordinator Cheryl Beck. It was all worth it. The widow's DIC benefit from the VA of over \$1,000 a month can truly make a difference in quality of life.

ChampVA Misunderstanding: Time after time in making the above calls, I find those who have ChampVA but do not realize the broad Medicare supplement coverage it offers. "Yes, my wife uses it for her medications." Fine, but it covers her doctor and hospital expenses too, and she does not go to the VA for medical treatment. She goes to her own doctors and hospital. And it pays everything after Medicare. Take time to read that

ChampVA manual. It's a Medicare supplement that's hard to beat.

Helping those you know: George in Muttontown, NY calls in need of advice about his VA claim, and is referred to NSO Melanie Bussel for help. Then George adds, "A fellow crewmember of mine died in 2003. His wife Jean lives in Texas; she doesn't have any VA benefits and will call you." Call from Jean in Whitesboro. "What does your husband's death certificate show as cause of death?" Cause was "massive cerebral hemorrhage due to atrial fibrillation, plus contributing causes, hypertension, PTSD (related war)." The doctor who wrote this knew his patient and cared! Jean's DIC claim got to Ginger Raney in Waco VARO on June 4, 2008, and decision was made on June 26<sup>th</sup>. DIC granted, payment start date July 1, 2007; that's retroactive for 12 months. Jean's July 9<sup>th</sup> letter: "Dear Fred, Thank you for all you did in getting my VA widow's benefit to me. A check arrived a few days ago in the amount of \$12,972. Without hearing of this award from George in NY, I would not have known to contact you. Dennis gave me the number of the organization of American Ex-Prisoners of War and I talked to Marsha. She is sending me an application to become a life member. Again, thank you. Jean." Well done, George in NY and Ginger Raney in Waco VA.

You too may be able to do Outreach and help a widow or former prisoner of war in your Bomb Group or military unit get connected, by sending their name and address/phone/etc. to me or Doris Jenks.

TAPS Column, June EX-POW Bulletin: New widows listed are being contacted by these NSOs: Frank Kravetz, PA; Doc Unger, OH; Rudy Collins, WA; Melanie Bussel, CT; Rose Mary Meredith and Doris Jenks, FL; Louise Dunham, AZ; Nancy Mullins, MS; Marianne Roenna, IL; Beth Brooks, VA; Les

Jackson, MD; Walter Peterson, WI; Fred Campbell, TX/OR/KY.

success

From NSO Cheryl Cerbone: "Dear Cheryl, I am writing to at the time of my father's death to thank you for all the help you gave my parents. To have you sitting in Gerry S's office when my parents were in such need of help, is nothing short of a miracle and furthers the opinion that there is no such thing as coincidence. Having my father's benefits increased to 100% enabled him and my mother to enjoy their last years together. They moved to Pennsylvania to be with me in 2005 as my father's dementia increased and caring for him became too stressful for my mother. We were able to keep him home with us until December 2006 when he went into a nursing home due to declining physical, as well as mental health. He knew us until the end and suffered very little as his physical decline went quickly. As the family gathered for his funeral, we all enjoyed looking back over the memorabilia from his war service. It truly is an amazing story. Again thank you for your kind help to my parents. Fondly, Connie A Michell."

Word from NSO Bob Derrington in Centennial, CO: "While making outreach calls I talked to a POW widow whose husband died in 1988 of cardiac problems. She had no widow's benefit. But in 2004, the VA made heart condition a POW presumptive. Now she is eligible for DIC and I put in the claim with the good help of Audrey Dorry, our VARO POW officer. With Audrey's dedicated attention, the DIC was granted. During the time the claim was being processed, the claimant had major surgery. She is now reviewing the ChampVA handbook and I have given her information about Aid & Attendance she may be eligible for. Our Colorado VARO

## outreach cont'd

has well trained, professional personnel, dedicated to serving veterans' needs. We are fortunate we can rely on an excellent staff."

And from Lucille T in Rhode Island: "My son was visiting from CT and saw your article in the AXPOW Bulletin and called you. At 76 years, I was still working and was laid off over 6 months ago. My unemployment benefits had run out and this was quite a loss of income. If it hadn't been for your article in the POW Bulletin, I would never have known about the widow's benefits. Thank you so much for all the help you gave me. I could not believe what I was reading when I received a letter from the VA, awarding me DIC effective May 1, 2007! I felt with your help and my prayers it was a miracle. I cannot thank you enough. Sincerely, Lucille T." I sent her ChampVA information.

And DJ in Denton, TX writes: "Thomas was moved April 9<sup>th</sup> to the nursing facility at Bonham VA hospital. It is a first class place. We couldn't be more pleased. He can't believe it's all free. It is 80 miles north of Denton. We visit him once a week, as my children take me. We want you to know that we are eternally grateful for all you've done. We are indeed blessed! May God bless you and your ministry. DJ"

USAF information for military retirees with VA benefits:  
CRSC (210) 565-1600 voice;  
210-652-6311 fax.

USAF Disabilities Division, CRSC  
550 C Street West, Suite 6  
Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4708.

*We exist to help those who cannot help themselves*

**Ex-POW Bulletin**  
**September 2008**

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## Additional DIC Information

The VA must be notified as quickly as possible in the event of the death of a spouse. This applies whether it is the Former POW Veteran or a wife.

To do this, call 1-800-827-1000 from a phone in the state you reside in. This phone number, if called from your own state will connect you to the V.A. Regional office in your state. This phone number is the same for all 50 states, so it is imperative you use your local phone to connect you to the local VA. Regional Office.

If your spouse dies the second part of the month, there may not be enough time to stop the check for the veteran or enough time to deduct the wife's portion of the check. This would then result in an "overpayment".

In the case of a veteran, the V.A. will send a letter asking the wife to return the check. I have found many times when a paper check is returned to the V.A. by mail, often it is also electronically withdrawn from the Direct Deposit account. This, of course results in a duplicate return of the check. It takes a long time to resolve this situation, which results in a financial problem in many cases.

## nso

So, we have been advising widows NOT to send the check back.

Wait for it to either be withdrawn from the account, or deducted from the DIC payment. The V.A. will issue a Month of Death check to the widow for the full amount.

The work load for filing claims for Former Prisoners of War has slowed down somewhat, but we are busy filing Aid and Attendance applications for wives and widows and unfortunately DIC claims.

Approval of the Aid and Attendance application results in either \$129 or \$271 additional for widows in receipt of DIC. This usually will allow the widow to stay in their own home longer.

Call a National Service Officer in your area or our office to file for this additional benefit.

**Doris Jenks**

## Military Service and Social Security

Earnings for active duty military service or active duty training have been covered under Social Security since 1957. Social Security has covered inactive duty service in the armed forces reserves (such as weekend drills) since 1988. If you served in the military before 1957, you did not pay Social Security taxes, but SSA gave you special credit for some of your service.

You can get both Social Security benefits and military retirement. Generally, there is no reduction of Social Security benefits because of your military retirement benefits. You'll get your full Social Security benefit based on your earnings.

For more information and to find copies of our publications, visit our website at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) or call toll-free, 1-800-772-1213.



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

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National Convention, Kansas City, Missouri  
Guest Speaker~Medsearch  
Mark Plautz, MD, FCCP  
Chief, Pulmonary and Critical Care  
Veterans Affairs Medical Center



Dr. Plautz is chief of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Kansas City. He did his medical school training at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, his residency training in Internal Medicine at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis, and his pulmonary and critical care training at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

He is an assistant professor of Medicine at the VA and KU and is board certified in internal medicine, pulmonary medicine, and critical care. He has been at the VA for over 10 years, and participates in several drug studies which are looking to improve the care of the patient with lung disease.

---

## Pulmonary Hypertension

### What It Is

High blood pressure in the arteries that supply the lungs is called pulmonary hypertension (PHT). The blood pressure measured by cuff on your arm isn't directly related to the pressure in your lungs. The blood vessels that supply the lungs constrict and their walls thicken, so they can't carry as much blood. As in a kinked garden hose, pressure builds up and backs up. The heart works harder, trying to force the blood through. If the pressure is high enough, eventually the heart can't keep up, and less blood can circulate through the lungs to pick

up oxygen. Patients then become tired, dizzy and short of breath.

If a pre-existing disease triggered the PHT, doctors call it secondary PHT. That's because it's secondary to another problem, such as a heart or lung disorder. Congenital heart disease can cause PHT.

It's important to repair congenital heart problems (when possible) before permanent pulmonary hypertensive changes develop. Intracardiac left-to-right shunts (such as a ventricular or atrial septal defect, a hole in the wall between the two ventricles or atria) can cause too much blood flow through the lungs. This situation is sometimes called Eisenmenger complex. Heart valve conditions, such as mitral stenosis (a narrowing of the mitral valve), can also cause PHT.

### Symptoms

Shortness of breath during activity  
Chest pain  
Weakness  
Fatigue  
Fainting  
Light-headedness during exercise  
Dizziness  
Leg swelling

### Exams and Tests

A physical examination may show:  
Enlargement of the veins in the neck  
Normal breathing sounds  
Heart murmur  
Feeling of a pulse over the breastbone  
Liver and spleen swelling  
Leg swelling

In early stages of the disease, the exam may be normal or almost normal. The condition may take several months to diagnose. Asthma causes similar symptoms and must be ruled out.

### Tests may include:

ECG  
Chest x-ray  
Echocardiogram  
Pulmonary function tests  
Nuclear lung scan  
CT scan of the chest  
Cardiac catheterization  
Pulmonary arteriogram

### Treating PHT

Once PHT has been diagnosed, often more medical therapy is needed. You'll require regular fol-

## medsearch continued...

low-up with a cardiologist or pulmonologist trained in caring for patients with PHT.

There is no known cure. The goal of treatment is to control symptoms. Medicines used to treat pulmonary hypertension include:

Ambrisentan (Letairis)  
Bosentan  
Calcium channel blockers  
Diuretics  
Prostacyclin

Your doctor will decide which medicine is best for you.

It's not possible here to tell all you need to know about treating PHT. This is a serious illness, but treatment is available. You may be treated with oxygen, agents to help your heart pump better, diuretics, anticoagulants (blood thinners), and medications to lower your PHT.

A diagnosis of PHT doesn't necessarily mean you can't have an active, fulfilling life. Still, you should consider certain measures and precautions. PHT is a lifelong illness that can be made worse by a variety of factors, such as smoking or going to high altitude.

Once PHT has been diagnosed, you must seek advice about physical activity. If you have PHT, you should be as active as physically possible. Physical activity can be associated with marked increases in pulmonary artery pressure. Thus, don't do isometric exercises and activities that produce dangerous symptoms, such as chest pain or dizziness. A supervised cardiopulmonary rehabilitation program may help promote conditioning. Many patients with PHT report having "good and bad days." If you need to rest, do so.

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Most medications often used to treat coexistent illnesses are safe for people with PHT. Still, care should be taken both in prescribing medications and in using over-the-counter drugs. Any anesthetics or sedatives can be very hazardous; ask your physician which medications are safe.

Additional precautions are often taken with PHT patients. These include supplemental oxygen during air travel, antibiotic therapy for significant respiratory tract infections, pneumococcal pneumonia vaccine and yearly flu vaccines (since pneumonia can be very serious with PHT patients). Also avoid conditions in which the ambient oxygen concentration may be decreased, such as high altitude and travel in unpressurized airplane cabins. Before starting an exercise program, ask your physician what activities are appropriate for you.

### **When to Contact a Medical Professional**

Call your health care provider if:  
You begin to develop shortness of breath when you are active  
Shortness of breath worsens  
Chest pain develops  
Other symptoms develop

Finally, if you've begun medical treatment for your PHT, stopping any of your medicines without your physician's approval can be extremely dangerous. Medical therapy has significantly improved the outlook for most PHT patients, but it doesn't "cure" PHT. So don't stop medical therapies unless your physician (trained in caring for PHT patients) recommends doing so.

**For more information, contact:**  
American Heart Association  
National Center  
7272 Greenville Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75231  
American Stroke Association  
National Center  
7272 Greenville Avenue  
Dallas TX 75231

This poem was written by my granddaughter.

T/Sgt. Thomas D. McMahon, 369th BS, 306th BG (Heavy), 8th AAF. Downed: Jan. 13, 1943, Lille, France. POW #112502. St. Gilles Prison, Belgium, Dulag Luft, Stalag 7A, Stalag 17B, Stalag 3B. 707-986-7606.

## **To My Grandfather**

When I feel a cool breeze graze my skin, and plan gently with my hair, I think.

When I look at the blue sky, with birds flying high, I know.

These are the things we share. Your eyes have seen these things and your skin felt this same breeze.

I am standing free. You were in chains, with the weight of hatred scarring your body.

I am standing free. You ate the food of nightmares, and still carry the effects.

I am standing free. You felt the blow of hatred, and fascism.

I am standing free. You watched as your friends fell, the victims of terrible horrors.

I am standing free. You spent weeks in black misery with only your heartbeat to remind you that you were alive.

I am standing free. Your eyes are forever scarred, the image of murder imprinted on the inside of your eyelids.

I am standing free. It is these things we share, the blue of the sky, the same color over Germany.

A cool breeze, so free and unconfined, the same in a prison camp. I am standing free.

Thank you.  
Rebekah Downey

## POW MEDSEARCH PACKETS

<b>Packet 1~VA Claim Information</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>
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<b>Packet 3~After Effects of Imprisonment-</b> Covers arthritis, alcoholism, visual, ulcers, varicose veins, impotency, brain damage, etc	<b>\$8.00</b>
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<b>Packet 6~Micro-Film Index: Asiatic Theater - Japanese</b> Possible help in locating POW records	<b>\$3.00</b>
<b>Packet 7~Micro-Film Index: European Theater - Germany</b>	<b>\$3.00</b>
<b>Packet 8~The European Story, History of POWs in Germany, and after-effects</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>
<b>Packet 9~The Korea Story, History of POWs in Korea, and after-effects</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>
<b>Packet 10~The Japanese Story</b> History of POWs in Japan, and after-effects	<b>\$10.00</b>
<b>Packet 11~NSO Director Answers Your Questions</b>	<b>\$11.00</b>
<b>Presentation Set~</b> (Packets 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10)	<b>\$60.00</b>
<b>The Modern Day Tragedy~</b> medical & claims evidence in support of PL 97-37	<b>\$4.00</b>
<b>POW: The American Experience~</b> overview on POW experience; reviews vitamin deficiencies, infectious diseases and service-connected statistics	<b>\$6.00</b>
<b>Map of German POW Camps~</b> shows location of 76 camps	<b>\$3.00</b>
<b>Map of Japanese POW Camps~</b> 21" x 32" with camps featured in red	<b>\$4.00</b>

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (      ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

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# andersonville



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

## The Youth Conservation Corps A Summer of Service

By Cashea Arrington

Ever since 1971, when the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) was given a three year pilot, youth have been applying for positions before the anticipated summer vacation even arrived. The YCC program thrives to provide educational and team building skills to youth while introducing conservation ethics, through a partnership with the National Park Service.

Summer has come once again, not only with hot weather but with a need for the YCC. This year five individuals, Daniel Watson, Ashley Larkins, Jessica Mitchell, Stephen Tondee, and Shaundreika Storey, all between 15 and 18 years of age were chosen to work for Andersonville National Historic Site under the supervision of Cashea Arrington, Crew Leader from the Student Conservation Association. Andersonville YCC worked hard to preserve and protect the historical ground works within the park.

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The mission of YCC was put into action in late May, the day after Memorial Day (one of the largest events at the park). YCC's first task was to remove all flags and flagpoles within the park. If one has ever visited the park you can imagine how big and heavy the poles are. After this task was achieved YCC moved on to complete the folding of flags military style. Both tasks required speed and accuracy, which YCC proudly achieved with teamwork by May 31.

Throughout June, YCC were presented with the more difficult tasks of preserving and protecting Andersonville's historical ground works. YCC tasks included; digging up PVC pipelines, using weed-eaters on the earthworks and grounds maintenance such as removing dead flowers and washing signs throughout the park. One of their biggest accomplishments was the newly created walking trail that takes you from the picnic area to the cemetery.

Overall YCC can honestly say that this summer has been a learning and growing experience. Hard work, dedication and commitment created respect for the historical and honorable ground works at Andersonville National Historic Site. This is an experience we will never forget.

### The YCC Team

**Daniel Watson** is a 2008 graduate of Southland Academy. He will be attending Georgia Southwestern University this fall. He is also a member of a band call "Dirty Dirty."

**Ashley Larkins** is a rising senior at Americus-Sumter High School. She hopes to attend Mercer University and major in Computer Engineering. She is in the Americus-Sumter High School Marching Band, playing drums.

**Jessica Mitchell** is a rising senior at Americus-Sumter High School. She enjoys reading, writing, and learning about historical places and times. She hopes to attend Mercer University next year and from there go to Harvard or Yale University.

**Steven Tondee** is from Ellaville, Ga. He enjoys playing music. He also is a member in the band "Dirty Dirty." He's been home schooled since 7<sup>th</sup> grade and plans on attending a Technical College in the near future.

**Shaundreika Storey** is a 2008 graduate of Schley County High School. She will be entering the Army National Guard. After that she hopes to attend college and major in Accounting.

**Cashea Arrington** is originally from Goose Creek, SC, but is employed through the Student Conservation Association, a first time internship for the park. She has a year and a half left of college until she completes her Bachelor of Arts degree in Outdoor Education. She will be doing another internship for the park, working on the Junior Ranger Program. After college, she plans on working for the National Park Service.



# namPOW news



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

## Room Seven - Hanoi Hilton

This article is about what might be the most extraordinary group of men ever incarcerated in one room in the history of warfare. It is excerpted from Capt. Mike McGrath's "Mac's Facts no. 45 (Room 7, Hanoi Hilton)".

In late 2000, VADM "CAG" Stockdale, USN, Room 7 Senior Ranking Officer (SRO) asked his old friend, RADM By Fuller to provide a list of the roommates of Room 7, Hanoi Hilton as of Christmas 1970. The roommates of this room were extraordinary, both at the time of incarceration, and then later in freedom.

It seems particularly appropriate to review it now since one of the residents of Room 7, Arizona Senator John McCain, is locked in battle again - this time for the Presidency of the United States of America.

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Room 7 had the first organized church service to be held in the prisons of North Vietnam. Permission was asked for by Stockdale, and twice denied by the Camp Commander. The room was warned not to do it. Room 7 decided to do it anyway. They even had a choir. Their solemn service quickly caught the eye of the

guards and authorities. Armed guards rushed into the room to break up the "ominous" unauthorized meeting. Ringleaders, Risner, Coker and Rutledge were led out of the room with guards at each arm (they were headed for more Heartbreak Hotel, solitary confinement and lots of punishment). Bud Day was the one who then jumped up on his bed and started to sing "The National Anthem" and "God Bless America." The entire room burst into song. Then Rooms Six, Five, Four, Three, Two and One joined in succession. These songs of pride and defiance were loud enough to be heard outside the 15-foot walls of the Hanoi Hilton. As Robbie marched out the door, his back straightened with pride. He held his head high.

Robbie later recalled his thoughts as his roommates burst out in song, "I felt like I was nine feet tall and could go bear hunting with a switch." Thirty one years later, on November 16, 2001 a nine-foot tall bronze statue of Brigadier General Robinson Risner, USAF would be dedicated on the central plaza of the United States Air Force Academy. To Bud Day (principal speaker), Ross Perot (the sponsor of the project), and dozens of Robbie's Room-Seven roommates at the ceremony, it seemed more fitting to call the statue "life size."



L-R: Ret. CDR George Coker, B/G Robbie Risner, CAPT Jim Mulligan, CDR Paul Galanti

CAG, knowing what the V reaction would be, was heard to remark something to the effect, "Well, I guess we just can't stand prosperity." Our camp, yet unnamed, from that moment on became known as "Camp Unity." The guards protested, but the songs continued. Shortly thereafter, Vietnamese troops entered each room in force. They had their hats secured with chinstraps in place, they had fixed bayonets, and they were mad! They quickly backed the POWs against the walls with a bayonet in each POW's stomach. The singing immediately ceased as the troops burst through the doors.

The V later claimed that they had put down a riot. It wasn't a real riot, but it was a lot of fun - until the soldiers entered the room. Several roommates of Room 7 were jerked out the next day. The next day, Orson Swindle in Room 6 tapped the following message on the wall: "Damn, you'd have to get in line to get in trouble in that crowd!!"

Thanks to By Fuller for the gut work of putting together this Mac's Facts. Paul Galanti and Mike McGrath assisted.

This historical document is dedicated to a fearless leader, Vice Admiral Jim Stockdale.

A full roster of the men in Room 7 and much more information can be found on the web at: [http://www.nampows.org/room\\_7.html](http://www.nampows.org/room_7.html)

Here's a summary of the 48 mens' captivity:

Total days in captivity: 108,116  
Man-years in captivity: 296.21

## pow-mia



**PNC John Edwards,  
Chairman**

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

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

**AMERICANS ACCOUNTED FOR:** There are now 1,757 US personnel listed by the Defense POW/MIA Office (DPMO) as missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War. The remains of Warrant Officers Arthur F. Chaney, USA, Bobby L. McKain, listed as KIA/BNR in South Vietnam on May 3, 1968, were turned over to US officials by a US citizen on June 11, 1985, identified on March 11th 2008, but just now released by DPMO as identified. Last month, the remains of Staff Sergeant James K. Caniford, Captain Barclay B. Young, and one officer whose name was not publicly announced at the request of his family, all USAF personnel listed as MIA in Laos on March 29, 1972, were the three most recently identified. Their remains were recovered November 21, 2006. This brought to 826 the number of US

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personnel accounted for since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975. 90+% of the 1,757 still listed as missing and unaccounted-for were lost in Vietnam or in areas of Laos and Cambodia under Vietnam's wartime control.

**VIETNAM'S PRIME MINISTER VISITS WASHINGTON:** Nguyen Tan Dung, Prime Minister (PM) of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV), made a brief but significant visit to Washington, DC, June 23-25th, during which he met with President Bush, Secretary of Defense Bob Gates and other US senior political, defense and commerce/economic officials. The talks focused broadly on many issues of bilateral concern and interest, but POW/MIA accounting clearly was raised. It appears the PM was asked for unilateral action to provide archives, especially on LKA cases in Laos and Cambodia, in keeping with the March 13th Determination (Certification) to Congress.

**NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY - SEPTEMBER 19, 2008:** This year's official date will again be on the third Friday in September, and the national ceremony will be held on that date. The 2008 poster is available by calling 703-699-1131. A recording will inform the caller on needed what information to prompt a shipment of posters. A second way to order is to visit the DPMO web site at [www.dtic.mil/dpmo](http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo) and look at the link on the home page with instructions on how to order posters. Per DPMO, the posters were again ordered in both the large and small sizes.

**SOLDIER MISSING IN ACTION FROM THE KOREAN WAR IS IDENTIFIED** The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Korean War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors. He is Cpl. Steven

Lucas, U.S. Army, of Johnson City, N.Y. He was buried July 11 in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.

**MISSING WWII AIRMEN ARE IDENTIFIED** The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced that the remains of 11 U.S. servicemen, missing in action from World War II, have been identified and will be returned to their families for burial with full military honors.

They are Capt. Robert L. Coleman, of Wilmington, Del.; 1st Lt. George E. Wallinder, of San Antonio, Texas; 2nd Lt. Kenneth L. Cassidy, of Worcester, Mass.; 2nd Lt. Irving Schechner, of Brooklyn, N.Y.; 2nd Lt. Ronald F. Ward, of Cambridge, Mass.; Tech. Sgt. William L. Fraser, of Maplewood, Mo.; Tech. Sgt. Paul Miecias, of Piscataway, N.J.; Tech. Sgt. Robert C. Morgan, of Flint, Mich.; Staff Sgt. Albert J. Caruso, of Kearny, N.J.; Staff Sgt. Robert E. Frank, of Plainfield, N.J.; and Pvt. Joseph Thompson, of Compton, Calif; all U.S. Army Air Forces. The dates and locations of the funerals are being set by their families.

**MILITARY SERVICE CASUALTY OFFICE** The Department of Defense continues its efforts to obtain the fullest possible accounting for American service members and civilians missing as a result of hostile actions, specifically from World War II through the Vietnam War.

Today, more than 600 Department of Defense officials work full-time worldwide in an effort to obtain the fullest possible accounting of our missing countrymen. DNA plays a significant role in the identification effort. If you may know of a family of a missing service member or civilian lost in hostile actions, please encourage them to contact their casualty office. Specifically, we are interested in obtaining DNA reference samples critically important in the identification process.

## civilians

Ted Cadwallader - Chairman  
9501 Nut Tree Ct.  
Elk Grove, CA 95624  
(916) 685-5369  
[dcadwall@aol.com](mailto:dcadwall@aol.com)

### A Page From...



*Happy Life Blues*~the recounting of my family's having been caught in the net of the Japanese Imperial Army in its takeover of the Philippines and how we survived. After years of silence I felt it was time to tell my children, grandchildren and interested parties the story of some of those who were caught in the jaws of a rapidly advancing Japanese army.

After a period of hiding for a year in the mountains of Mindanao we were ordered to surrender to the Japanese military authorities in Zamboanga City. Together with others who were hiding with us we were transferred in the hold of a troop ship to Davao on the western coast of Mindanao. There we joined two hundred and fifty other internees gathered from all over Mindanao and imprisoned in Davao Internment Camp, its official name.

However, "Happy Life Blues" was the inscription on the plaque hang-

ing askew over the entrance to the former run-down, cockroach and bedbug-filled cabaret, now a prison camp. The first entrants to be held here adopted this moniker facetiously. In reality, however, it wasn't too far off the mark.

Our family was assigned to space on the mezzanine floor. The allotted space was four feet by seven, just about enough space to lay out our bedrolls on the dirty floor. For the entire camp there were only three coldwater taps. The availability of water was sporadic at best. When the cry went out that the water was on there was a rush to fill containers in order that the barest needs could be taken care of.

The toilets or "benjos" were at the edge of the barbed wire fencing that encircled the property. These elongated structures housed under palm fronds and bamboo were nothing but a plank with holes cut into it. Privacy in all respects was a lot commodity.

The daily meals all encompassed some sort of rice gruel called lugao. A slaughterhouse up the road sometimes supplied the heads, tails, hoofs, blood and other unsavory remains of cattle. Some internees tried to coax a few vegetables from the barren soil around the camp. Occasionally there was a banana meted out. In general, the rice was scrapings off bodega floors

A loosely organized school of two groups: junior and senior, was organized for those of school age. There were few books, pencils and little paper, yet we were all issued report cards, albeit on the backs of hookworm reports.

Everyone was assigned a job—even the children over ten years of age. Palm frond collecting was my assigned duty. A group of us left the camp with a guard and armed with bolos (machetes). We chopped down fronds in the swamps and dragged them up the hot dusty

road back to the camp to be woven into siding for buildings.

To relieve the ennui that pervaded the life in camp, homespun-type shows were produced. These were offerings of shaky renditions of old songs, poetry recitals and such. Our Japanese guards, who were drawn from the local farm community, enjoyed these Saturday night shows. At one point the internees got brave and stood to sing "God Bless America." The guards stood also. It got so that the guards, rising to honor the enemy, became the "show." That is, until the Kempeitai (military police) arrived one evening. They recognized the implications of the music. All entertainment was curtailed and guards were severely admonished.

On Christmas Eve 1943 the Japanese trucked us out to the harbor where we were ferried in lighters to a waiting battle-scarred troopship. Our quarters for the next eight days were in the blackened hold of the rat-infested *Shinsei Maru #1*.

Our destination: Santo Tomas Internment Camp, Manila.

Cecily Mattocks Marshall  
290 Goodale St.  
W. Boylston, MA 01583  
[cmarsll@aol.com](mailto:cmarsll@aol.com)

### Early Bird Renewal Notice!

#### Annual Members!

Take a minute and send your 2009 dues to

National Headquarters.

Don't miss out on all the

benefits membership in AXPOW offers!

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## events and information



looking  
for



**Bn.** I am looking for anyone who might have known him. He was my wife's uncle. David Miller, 188 County Rd. 109, Daleville, AL. 36322-4808; [Millerdaleville@aol.com](mailto:Millerdaleville@aol.com).

We are looking for any information anyone may have about **Victor (Vic) David Roth**, Lincoln, Nebraska, who was a POW in New Guinea during WWII. He was in the Army. He was stationed in Hawaii after Pearl Harbor and then sent to New Guinea. My father died in 1984 and my brother and I only came to know of his internment in 2004. Dad never spoke about the war. We do know that he was written off as not likely to survive after his release. But survive he did, and he had a rich life after the war. If anyone has any information about the camp he was sent to and any other details we would certainly appreciate hearing from them. Julie Wilcox, 5435 NW Jackson St., Camas, WA 98607; [Jwilcox1969@yahoo.com](mailto:Jwilcox1969@yahoo.com).

I'm looking for any information about **Edward Walaszek**, US Navy, during WWII. It appears he served on the Canopus until its sinking; he was captured in May, probably on Corregidor. Edward lived in Western Massachusetts; after his return he married and raised a family there. Any help would be appreciated. Does anyone have a listing of seamen on the Canopus? Was he sent by Hell Ship to Japan? Thanks for any help you can give. Edward Walaszek, PO Box 271, Mashpee, MA 02649; 508-477-1987.

I'm trying to find information on **Richard S. Barton (#35355574, 90<sup>th</sup> Div.)**. His LT is trying to locate Richard or his surviving family. Barton and the LT (Bill Silbert) were captured together in Jan. 1945. Since Silbert (then known as Silberberg) was an officer, they were split up and Silbert never saw him again. Any information would

**Sept. 3-7, 2008. 35<sup>th</sup> Division Association Reunion** will be held at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel & Convention Center, Springfield, IL. Details from Robert Dalton, 785-267-3295; [www.35thInfDivAssoc.com](http://www.35thInfDivAssoc.com).

**Sept. 24-28, 2008. The Korean War Veterans Association** will hold its annual reunion at the Embers Hotel, Carlisle, PA. All Korean War Veterans Welcome! Please contact: Charles Egresitz, 717-652-4088 or 717-497-6971; [apebble@aol.com](mailto:apebble@aol.com) for more information.

**Sept. 25-29, 2008. The 464th Bomb Group (WWII) Reunion** will be held in Tucson, AZ at the Radisson Airport-Suites Hotel, 7051 S. Tuscon Blvd, Tucson, AZ 87506. For registration or more information call: Art Rawlings, (615)876-2132. [eliseandart@comcast.net](mailto:eliseandart@comcast.net).

**Survivors of Stalags 9A,9B and Berga.** I am wondering if you would like to meet your former "Kriegies" at our reunion in Orlando this coming year. It would be great to have as many as possible join together. At the reunion in Austin, TX we had survivors, spouses, friends and some offspring. If you did not receive an invitation to join the group this year or you know of a survivor of 9A, 9B or Berga please send the name, address (E-mail address if available) to Morton D. Brooks, 7735 Cherry Blossom St., Boynton Beach, FL 33437 (or E-mail to [mortoby@aol.com](mailto:mortoby@aol.com)). You will thus be assured of an invitation to the 2009 reunion in Orlando and news of your fellow survivors.

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I have my **original list of 105 men, from Illinois. I was in Stalag Luft 6**, called the "Illinois Club". It lists names, home towns, POW number, barracks and room numbers. I was in 6 from March through July 1944; also a hand drawn map of the camp, showing streets etc. If anyone is interested I can be reached at Merl Q. Vanderhoof, 506 West End Ave, Newton, IL 62448 or [mmvand@verizon.net](mailto:mmvand@verizon.net).

My great Uncle **Leroy Wilbur Wyse Jr.** was in the 60th C.A Battery C ( AA ) CPT Godfrey R Ames Commanding, on Corregidor. He was taken to Osaka #6B Akenobie. I'm looking for either someone who was at the same camp or someone who was in the same Battery or at least the 60th C.A that maybe knew him. He was liberated at the end of the war but died in 1947 from complications of being a POW. Any help would be great. Nathan M Morgan, 404 E Elm St, Wauseon OHIO 43567; 1-419-335-6972.

Wanted: Information from someone who might have served in the Army with **Ray Edward Johnson**. He was captured in Germany, along with many other men serving at that time. They were held in a German POW camp. What camp was it? Where were they captured? What battle or on what date did this happen? Ray Edward Johnson returned to the US and lived in California until he passed away in the 1990s. Thank you. Jerry Timm, 1700 D Ave., Victor, IA 52347.

**Cpl. Mims** was a prisoner of the Japanese: POW Camp #4 - O'Donnell, Tarlac Luzon, Philippines. He was not among those listed as rescued by the **7<sup>th</sup> Ranger**



## looking for continued...

be appreciated. Norm Richards;  
[nrichards2@juno.com](mailto:nrichards2@juno.com).

I am seeking information on **Lt Col Charles Paul Andermann** (Retired, SAC USAF ). I am his niece and would definitely like to contact someone who served with him or knew him at any time during his military career.

**Looking for Charles Andermann.** I do not know when or where Uncle Chuck attended flight school (McClellan Field AL ??? 1940 ???) I do know he was a navigator with the 8<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> AF in the European Theater during WW11, in the 352/301<sup>st</sup> BG, 32<sup>nd</sup> BS. His B17 #42-39982 was shot down on Feb 25th 1944 over Regensburg Germany (MACR) #2592. All crew members were listed as having survived the crash, except Sgt Kendall KIA. CPA, along with his crew, then became POWs and were taken to Stalag Luft 1 at Barth. Uncle Chuck was a navigator with SAC in California Mather AFB the majority of his military career. He was one of the survivors of "ARC Light One" . This tragic mid-air crash that occurred in 1965 involved 2 B52s on a highly secretive mission that is written about in a book by the same title. I would also appreciate info on Reunion(s) of any group that Uncle Chuck might be invited to if he were still alive or any reunion that I, as an interested living relative, might attend for he remains my "admired Uncle Chuck" and I am putting together a memoir of him. Linda C Andermann [lamb1@quixnet.net](mailto:lamb1@quixnet.net).

I am looking for any information concerning my great uncle **Staff Sgt Harold J Brown**. I forget when he was shot down over Germany, but he was a POW in Stalag Luft IV, and he was on the march in Germany during the winter for 3 months. He was a ball turret gunner. I would appreciate any information any one has about him. Harold passed away September 2004 in

Rock Springs WY. Please contact: Becky Huffman, 2350 CR 3070, Mountain View MO 65548 or [bhuffman89@hotmail.com](mailto:bhuffman89@hotmail.com). Any information would be appreciated and I will gladly respond to anyone.

### Special Announcement!

Henninger Productions and National Geographic Channel are beginning pre-production on an hour-long prime time documentary about WWII prison camps in Europe and the recently declassified US Agency known as MIS-X, which communicated with POWs and sent escape and evasion aids into all 64 camps in Nazi territory.

The producers, based in Washington, DC are currently looking for additional untold stories from World War II POWs in Europe or other WWII vets who may have known about escape plans, secret codes, or communication with Allied forces from inside the camp. They are also looking for any great stories of hardship and survival in general from camps within Nazi territory.

If you are interested in helping out and have any stories or information that you feel would be useful to this project, please contact the producers directly at the contact information provided below.

National Geographic Channel is very proud to be involved in this landmark project and both they and Henninger Productions look forward to receiving any assistance you can provide in telling the stories of these great veterans. Thank you!

Nils R. Cowan  
Producer  
"The Escape Factory"  
Henninger Productions/National Geographic Channel Special  
Email: [ncowan@henninger.com](mailto:ncowan@henninger.com)  
Phone: (703) 908-4175

# News Briefs

From Paul Reuter, American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor:

On June 10, 2008, S3107 was introduced in the Senate by Sen. Bingaman and Sen. Hatch. A companion bill, HR6497 was introduced July 15, 2008 in the House of Representatives by Rep. Hooley.

**To require the payment of compensation to members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees of the United States who were forced to perform slave labor by the Imperial Government of Japan during World War II, or the surviving spouses of such members, and for other purposes.**

Paul writes: This measure has been passed overwhelming by the Congress on two occasions but was removed from the carrier bill by the Administration. The number of affected recipients reduces each year by the hundreds. If this bill is not enacted and funded only the United States and Communist China will stand in opposition to the long overdue partial resolution of the problem. Please contact your Congressman and Senators to request their support for these bills.

## Stalag 17 Revivals Around the Country

In Cincinnati, Ohio, the non-profit theatre group Mariemont Players Inc. announced the performance schedule for "Stalag 17", directed by Garry Davidson. The show dates are March 20 through April 5, 2009 with preview date March 19, 2009.

**The show is headed for Broadway in 2009 as well...**

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**Ex-POW Bulletin  
September 2008**



**Convention Registration**  
**American Ex-Prisoner of War 61<sup>st</sup> National Convention**  
 September 16-21, 2008  
 Kansas City, Missouri "The City of Fountains"



Registrant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_, Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_, Phone: \_\_\_\_\_, e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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

Special Needs (wheel chair, etc): \_\_\_\_\_

Unit When Captured: \_\_\_\_\_, Theatre: \_\_\_\_\_,  
 Camps: \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION** (per person) until August 5 - \$80, after Aug 5 - \$85, no refund after Aug 5 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ladies Luncheon is Thurs. Aug 18 from 11:45 to 1:30. Come enjoy a healthy light and luscious lunch then delight at songs by the "Gospel Lovin 4" for a mere \$30 per lady attending. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payable to: 2008 Convention Fund, Delta Endecott, P.O. Box 362, Drexel, MO 64742 **Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday Night Banquet:**

Entertainment will be provided for your listening and dancing pleasure.  
 Please select a banquet menu choice: Oven Roasted Breast of Chicken \_\_\_\_ or Kansas City Striploin \_\_\_\_

**American Ex-Prisoners of War 61<sup>st</sup> National Convention**

**Hotel Registration Form**

Sheraton Kansas City Sports Complex  
 9103 East 39<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO 64133  
 Toll Free 800-325-3535, or web site: [sheratonkcsportscomplex.com](http://sheratonkcsportscomplex.com)

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

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

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle Room Desire: King Bed Queen Bed 2- Double Beds

Special Needs (wheelchair, handicap room, etc) \_\_\_\_\_

Circle One: MasterCard Visa American Express Discover (one night deposit required)

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**ROOM RATES: \$83 PER NIGHT SINGLE or DOUBLE, ASK FOR AXPOW CONVENTION RATE**

Check-in time is 3:00 PM, Check-out time is 12:00 Noon

Transportation to hotel from airport is on your own

No Cancellation Refund After 72 Hours Prior to Arrival

Mail Form to Sheraton Kansas City Sports Complex,

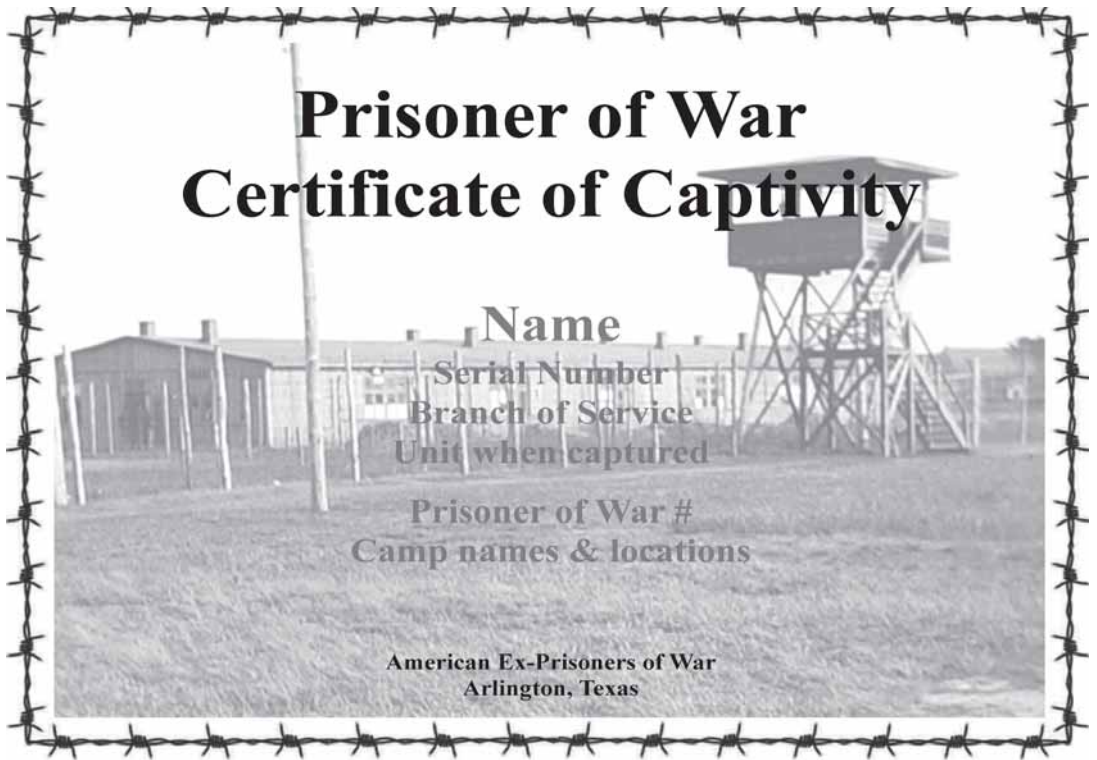
9103 East 39<sup>th</sup> St., Kansas City, MO 64113

This is a non-smoking hotel

There are smoking rooms available at the

Holiday Inn, 4011 Blue Ridge Cut-off 816-353-5300.

Suitable for framing, this certificate of captivity, printed on 8½" x 11" quality paper, proudly displays your history as a prisoner of war. Each certificate background is personalized to the theater of operation. To purchase this certificate from AXPOW, send your name, service number, branch of service, unit when captured, POW number (if known), camp names and locations, along with your payment of \$25.00. You may include a picture with your order. Please order from National Headquarters.




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## National Convention Agenda Sept. 16-21, 2008

### Tuesday Sept. 16:

National Service Officer Training  
Registration Desk Open in PM

### Wednesday Sept. 17:

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

### Thursday Sept. 18

Opening Ceremonies  
Registration Desk Open/Hospitality Room Open/Credentials Room Open  
Ladies Luncheon  
Legislative & MedSearch Seminars  
Commanders Reception with Entertainment

### Friday Sept. 19:

Past National Commanders Breakfast  
Credentials Closes  
General Business Session  
Camp Reunions/Hospitality Room/Evening Entertainment

### Saturday Sept. 20:

General Business Session & Balloting  
Banquet and Installation of Officers

### Sunday Sept. 21:

Devotional  
National Board of Directors Meeting

**Note: If you are staying for the banquet, you will be checking out on Sunday, Sept. 21. If you are planning to attend the new Board of Directors meeting, please make plans to depart later in the day on Sunday.**

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# Andersonville

## POW Traveling Exhibit Project

Ed DeMent,  
National Director Southeast Region

April 9, 2008 was our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the National Prisoner of War Museum. It took an outstanding effort, by many people, along with time and money to realize our new museum.

Now a new program has been started to raise funds for a traveling museum that will travel across the country to tell our story. We will leave a legacy for future generations.

WE DID IT ONCE BEFORE,  
LET'S DO IT AGAIN.

To have this happen, help is needed by our membership and beyond. Three years is our target. Three years will go by very fast.

A committee has been formed and has met three different times under the direction of Fred Boyles, Superintendent of ANHS and the National Prisoner of War Museum in Andersonville, GA.

There are three different phases for the project:

Project A is Project Description 2008-2009

Project B is Hosting the Exhibition 209-2010

Project C is funding sources and costs 2010-2011.

Funds are being received and a savings account has been established. \$24,000 has been donated from the Andersonville Trust for Project A. The estimated cost for all three phases is approximately \$400,000.

Checks should read "POW Traveling Legacy" and send to "Friends of Andersonville, PO Box 186, Andersonville, Georgia 31711".

Ed DeMent, Coordinator  
National Director Southeast Region  
8735 Doral Oaks Dr., 1617 -  
Temple Terrace, FL 33617  
Tel: (813) 985-3783 - Fax: (813)  
989-8871 - [deme8805@aol.com](mailto:deme8805@aol.com)

**United States Department  
of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Andersonville National Historic  
Site  
496 Cemetery Road  
Andersonville, Georgia 31711  
(229)924-0343**

### NATIONAL POW MUSEUM TRAVELING EXHIBIT PROJECT

The National Prisoner of War Museum was opened in 1998 fulfilling the historic site's legislative mandates to enhance the awareness and understanding of the sacrifices of American prisoners of war throughout history. This learning opportunity however, is provided only to a very small percentage of the general public, in particular those 132,000 yearly visitors to the park, who would want the opportunity to learn more about the American POW experience. Despite the success of the museum, few people know that Andersonville is the national memorial to all POWs in American history.

The historic site proposes to produce a major traveling exhibition based on the current thematic exhibit halls of the National POW Museum. This new exhibition would be comparable in concept, style, and design of the exhibits currently in the museum. The traveling exhibit will not replicate the current POW museum but rather complement and offer visitors a glimpse of what could await their visit to Andersonville. The exhibition would include cases, wall pan-

els, freestanding display unite, and computer and audiovisual equipment that would highlight the site's oral history collection.

The design of the exhibition would permit its hosting by military museums, historical societies, schools and universities, galleries, community libraries, and other cultural institutions. The hosting institution would have to meet the required levels of security and environmental conditions of the National Park Service standards. However, objects selected for display would be those items least vulnerable to damage or deterioration. Receiving museums would pay the cost of shipping to next location. The exhibit would be hosted for three month periods.

The park would use this exhibit to reach a larger audience who are either unaware of or not able to travel to Southwest Georgia. This exhibition would also encourage the American public to visit the only NPS site established "...to interpret the role of prisoner-of-war camps in history and to commemorate the sacrifice of Americans who lost their lives in such camps..."

The overall cost of an exhibit of this type is difficult to determine at this time. A rough estimate for planning, design and construction would be \$500,000. A proposal has been funded by the Andersonville Trust for \$24,000 to fund the planning phase of the project. It is anticipated that the NPS will match this grant through the Challenge Cost Share program. For this cost, an exhibit planner (contractor) will produce a conceptual plan for the exhibit and a presentation piece that can be used for fund raising and developing support for the project. It is anticipated that the park will return to the Trustees in one year to request funding for the design phase of the project. The park will request additional matching funding through the Presidents

## traveling museum continued

Centennial Challenge Initiative in 2008 and 2009.

The plan for the project is to do planning in FY-2008, project design in FY-2009 and fabrication in FY-2010. The exhibit would be available for display at four locations per year for 10 years.

The project would be developed by the staff of Andersonville National Historic Site in cooperation with the Friends of Andersonville and the American Ex-Prisoners of War. The Friends of Andersonville are a 501 [c] [3] organization and would receive donations and hold for the project. All donations to the project would be tax exempt.

### National Prisoner Of War Museum Traveling Exhibition

Project: Design and fabrication of "National POW Museum Traveling Exhibition"

#### I. Background:

The National Prisoner of War Museum was opened in 1998 and it fundamentally fulfills the historic site's legislative mandates and provides visitors with the opportunity to increase their awareness and understanding of the sacrifices of American prisoners of war. This learning opportunity however, is provided only to a very small percentage of the general public, in particular school age children, who would want the opportunity to learn more about the American POW experience.

Producing a modified traveling version of the current thematic exhibition halls housed at the National Prisoner of War Museum can eliminate this shortcoming. This traveling exhibition would include exhibits on each of these nine thematic halls:

- Who is a POW
- News and Morale

- Capture Communication
- Freedom
- Journey to Camp
- Those Who Wait
- Living Conditions
- Privation

Andersonville National Historic Site in 2005 reported an overall visitation to the site, using standard NPS statistical formulas and methods, of 132,465 visitors. This figure represents a -41% drop in visitation from the high year of 1998 (225,650), the year the POW Museum opened. Through the generosity of the "Friends of Andersonville" Trust Fund, the historic site has embarked on a new proactive marketing campaign to increase awareness of Andersonville National Historic Site, the National Prisoner of War Museum, and the story of the American POW experience. The circulation of this traveling exhibition by Andersonville NHS and the American Ex-Prisoners of War, can be viewed as an innovative means of fulfilling a critical mandate of both institutions, "fostering... an appreciation, commemoration, and an understanding of the sacrifices and shared common experiences of American Prisoners of War."

This exhibition would also encourage the American public to visit the only NPS site established "...to interpret the role of prisoner-of-war camps in history and to commemorate the sacrifice of Americans who lost their lives in such camps.."

#### II. Proposed Project:

##### A. Project Description

The historic site proposes to produce a traveling exhibition based on the current thematic exhibit halls of the National POW Museum that would include: a design concept, design specifications/drawings, complete exhibit fabrication, crating/packaging, and installation procedures. This new exhibition would be comparable in concept, style, and design of the exhibits currently in the museum. However,

the traveling exhibit will not replicate the current POW museum but rather complement and offer visitors a glimpse of what could await then-visit. This design could incorporate the use of traditional wall panels, large murals and graphics, text panels, and display cases.

Through either in-house production or contract to an exhibit production house the site would design, create, and fabricate three dimensional, full scale exhibition "package" containing objects, photographic images, and interpretive text. The exhibition would include cases, wall panels, freestanding display units, and computer and audiovisual equipment that would highlight the site's oral history collection and audio-visual programs.

The exhibition "package" would also provide curatorial and registrarial information; shipping, handling, and installation instructions. As part of the total production package, the site would also develop and produce new educational enrichment materials and resources and publications that would accompany the exhibit. Some of these materials could be produced as sale items with profits used solely for the purpose of maintaining and refurbishing the exhibition.

##### B. Hosting The Exhibition

This exhibition will serve as the perfect vehicle to reach an audience that might never come to Andersonville and the museum and would be an effort to extend the historic site's outreach programs that currently serve only those communities within a 50-mile radius of the park. The exhibit would be designed so that it can travel as a whole or in a specific number of parts to meet a facilities' housing requirements, ensuring that the ex-

## traveling museum continued

hibit can be accessible to more than the traditional venues for this type of exhibit. The design of the exhibition would permit its hosting by military museums and institutions, historical societies, schools and universities, galleries, community libraries, and other cultural institutions. As is the nature of this type of exhibition, the hosting institution would have to meet the required levels of security and environmental conditions as demanded by National Park Service standards. However, objects selected for display would be those items least vulnerable to damage and/or deterioration. In conjunction with the exhibition an opportunity exists for the site to coordinate with local AXPW chapters a "Lecture Series" at every opening and to call upon individual POWs to volunteer and serve as docent hosts for the exhibition. As is traditional with this type of exhibit, shipping and travel costs would be borne by the hosting institution and total length of time exhibition is housed in one venue would be negotiable - not to exceed two months. Exhibition would be marketed and promoted through all museum member organizations, such as the American Association of Museums.

### C. Project Funding Sources and Costs

The total proposed budget planned for this exhibition will be in the range of \$200,000 to \$500,000. The large disparity between this cost figures is primarily due to the way the project is managed and funding obligated. The primary difference lies in whether the project is handled completely as a turnkey job bid out to an exhibit production house or whether parts are bid out or produced in-house. It is the consensus of the

staff that the design concept and design specifications/layout drawings are contracted out, which will in turn determine final production costs. In conjunction with AXPW the historic site will pursue funding through the submission of grant proposals through "Friends of Andersonville," Georgia Humanities Council,

NFS - Cooperating Association, and NPS Challenge Cost Share Program. An addendum - "Fund Raising" agreement would need to be added to the current "Memorandum of Agreement" that is in effect between AXPOW and the National Park Service — Andersonville NHS. This agreement would have to be drafted and signed prior to any soliciting of any funds.

### LATEST NEWS ON TRAVELING EXHIBIT PROJECT

By Fred Boyles

For the last year there has been a lot of discussion about plans to produce a traveling exhibit based on the stories in the National POW Museum at Andersonville. Thanks to the help of several valued partners, the project has taken its first important steps to becoming a reality.

For those who may not know, the project is simply to make a mobile display of the POW story that would travel to other museums around the country for those who cannot come to Andersonville. In the museum field traveling exhibits are a widely accepted way to bring in new exhibitions to attract more visitors. The project is planned to be a three phased process of Planning, Design and Fabrication. Ed DeMent and Bill Price have been appointed by the National Commander to work with the park and represent AXPOW on the project.

The project has officially entered into the first phase this summer which is the planning phase. A grant from the Andersonville Trust

for \$24,000 has been matched by National Park Service funds for a total of \$48,000 to initiate the project. With the help of the Harpers Ferry Design Center, the park will enter into a contract with an Exhibit design firm to develop a conceptual plan for the project. The contract will take about six months to complete. Mitch Zetlin of the Harpers Ferry Design Center has been assigned to coordinate this project. Mitch made a preliminary trip to the park in July.

Once the first phase of the project is completed, the next step will be the design phase. The Friends of Andersonville have already granted \$25,000 for that portion of the work and the park has applied for funding from the Challenge Cost Share program of the National Park Service.

Many AXPOW Departments, Chapters and individuals have contributed to the project already for which I am extremely grateful. Those funds are being held for the fabrication phase of the project. That is by far the largest element of the project. Once the planning phase is completed we will have a much better idea about what the exhibit will look like and what stories will be told that can be shared with AXPOW members. Our plan is to raise money through donations for the fabrication phase and to match it with funding from the Centennial Challenge Program initiated last year by President Bush.

The good news from all of this is that the project has officially kicked off. As the old saying goes, the train has left the station, so it is time to get on board. As of the end of June \$4,480 has been donated to the fund so we still have a long way to go. Contributions can be made to the POW Traveling Legacy and sent to the Friends of Andersonville, P. O. Box 186, Andersonville, GA 31711. All contributions are tax deductible.

# contributions



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

**Contributions are not tax deductible**

## **GENERAL FUND**

Mahoning Valley Chapter

In memory of Leo Dyga, by  
Marjorie Dyga

In memory of Betty Bennett, by  
Mitch & Donna Miville

In memory of Don Zupan, by  
Richard & Martha Carroll

In memory of Homer L Reynolds,  
by Andrew & Laura Clearie

## **OUTREACH**

In memory of Donald Enslow, by  
Eleanor Enslow

## **LEGISLATIVE FUND**

In memory of Joseph Charles  
Engers, by the Department of  
Maryland

In memory of Beatrice Marie Blair,  
by the Department of Maryland

## **MEDSEARCH FUND**

Mahoning Valley Chapter

In memory of James W Estep, Sr.,  
by the Department of Maryland

## **VOLUNTARY FUNDING**

Esterline, Milton, Casper WY  
Lovisa, Louis, Orange City FL

In memory of Chaplain John  
Romine, by PNC Gerald & Eunice  
Harvey

B J Arney, Richardson TX

In memory of Manuela Andow, by  
David Eckberg

In memory of Hubert Griffith, by  
Sally Morgan

In memory of Hubert Griffith, by  
Clydie Morgan  
John W. DeVere  
Ruth Benton in M/O Willie L.  
Benton

Jack L. Browder

Leo & Marjorie Dyga

William K. Colls

Marguerite Moore

Bob & Jan Knobel

Marvin & Naomi Lindsay

Eulalie & Anna Arzaga

Edward & Angela Kirschstein

Warren & Bette Eoris

Donald & Sallie Durant

Max & Florence Bergen

Robert & Ann Bare

Mabel E Bertram

Rubin Townsend

M Arthur Weinstein

Mr. & Mrs. Buddy Duckworth

Lu Anna Pritchard

Frank & Anne Kravetz

Mitchell Cwiek

Philip Wagner

David Orkin

Leonard & Carolyn Fattic

Walter Petersen

Walter & Eleanor Huss

Salvatore Crivelli

Mary Chittick Gardner

Joe Coke

Lila Ruth Rieve

Adeline Robinson

Rosemary Foy

Edward Waters

Jack Curtis

Ursula Rich

Marshall Samms

Sidney Koble

Gerold Tucker

Raynold Carlson

Elliott Gadd

Lanier & Donnell King

Louis Bridda

Edna & Daniel Frankel

A.B. & Betty Southall

Iris & Orlando Friesen

E.P. & L. M. Podlaski

Patricia Martin

Richard Francies

Billy & Ruth Reinbeau

Marguerite Gagne

James & Maudie Elder

Mr/Mrs R.J. Fulco

Carolyn & Dick Sk

Rudy Giannoni inM/O Jeanne

Giannoni

David A Topping

Grae & Henry Wilburn

Marvin Roslansky

George Sheehan

Bernard & Ruby Hill

In memory of Ray & Elsie Morin,

Nick Dalesandro, Walte & Vi

Kwiesien, Alex & Rose Orzolek,

Emil Raimondi, Malcolm Turner,

Tony LaRosa and Tony Casanova

In memory of Richard

Throckmorton, by Dan & Coleen

Chapman

B.M. Page

Patton Family Trust

Pauline F. Reckner

John W. & Vera Gallimore

Virginia C. Fitzgerald

Edgar R & Shirley Kreft

Glen and Lorraine Naze

Alice R. Davis

Buck Turner

Florencia Rafanan

Francis Miller

Franklin R Koehler

Bernard & Mary Travers

Frank Annis

Victor & Maria Escamilla

John Marchese

John E Wolf

Theresa Astarita

Holly & Sue Midgeley

Robert C Schild

Virgil D & Phyllis Steele

Bayard & Violet Horn

Angelo Borruano Sr.

Gerald Tucker

Tut & Dorothy Tawwater

John Gatens

John & Eileen E. O'Brien

Sephus C. Tucker

Joseph & Stella Ornalik

Frank A Raila

Robert & Katherine Rodenbaugh

Ernest & Janice Bidmead

W. Sewall Macferran

Kazmer & Elsie Rachak

John & Betty Sullivan

Arthur & Ruth Rubenstein

Homer & Jo L. Jones

Anita & Paul Greenman

Lawrence & Constance Marx

# Past National Commanders

|                                  |                                   |                                  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Virgil McCollum 1948-1949        | Chuck Towne 1968-1969             | Albert Bland 1987-1988           |
| Kenneth Day 1949-1950            | John Lay 1969-1970                | Milton Moore, Sr. 1988-1989      |
| John Walker 1950-1951            | Grady Inzer 1970-1971             | John Edwards 1989-1990           |
| Ray O'Day 1951-1952              | Juan Baldanado 1971-1972          | Francis W. Agnes 1990-1991       |
| Robert Geis 1952-1953            | Harold Page 1972-1973             | John Krejci 1991-1992            |
| William A. Berry 1953-1954       | Walter Pawlesh 1973-1974          | Charles Minietta 1992-1993       |
| James S. Browning 1954-1955      | DC Wimberly 1974-1975             | William E. Bearisto 1993-1994    |
| Roger Bamford 1955-1956          | Joseph Perry 1975-1976            | Charles Prigmore 1994-1995       |
| Walter Yosko 1956-1958           | Melvin Madero 1976-1977           | Lawrence S. Moses 1995-1996      |
| Leo J. "Moose" Maselli 1958-1959 | Joe Schisser 1977-1978            | Wm. "Sonny" Mottern 1996-1997    |
| Paul Richter 1959-1960           | Joe Upton 1978-1979               | Wayne Hitchcock 1997-1998        |
| George Coates 1960-1961          | Herman Molen 1979-1980            | Richard Throckmorton 1998-1999   |
| Jack Warner 1961-1962            | Stanley Sommers 1980-1981         | Zack Roberts 1999-2000           |
| Alex Salinas 1962-1963           | Charles Morgan 1981-1982          | William "Bill" Schmidt 2000-2001 |
| Pat Wheat 1963-1964              | Charles Miller 1982-1983          | John W. Klumpp 2001-2002         |
| Ralph Rodriguez 1964-1965        | C. Earl Derrington, Jr. 1983-1984 | Maurice Sharp 2002-2003          |
| Rufus W. Smith 1965-1966         | Alfred "Joe" Galloway 1984-1985   | F. Paul Dallas 2003-2004         |
| Calvin Graef 1966-1967           | Orlo Natvig 1985-1986             | James Cooper 2004-2005           |
| DC "Bull" Massey 1967-1968       | William Curtis Musten 1986-1987   | Gerald Harvey 2005-2006          |



## AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR VOLUNTEER FUNDING PROGRAM



The AXPOW Volunteer 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 the National Treasurer to be used for the operation of the organization. A complete accounting of contributors will appear in the Bulletin each month.

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

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

Please circle one category:

**Individual**

**Chapter**

**State Department**

(If chapter or department, please give name)

Signed

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone #

Please make checks payable to American Ex-Prisoners of War - Voluntary Funding

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Mail contributions to: Sonnie Bill Mottern  
National Treasurer, American Ex-Prisoners of War  
279 Huckleberry Road, Bluff City, TN 37618; 423-341-4213



# new members

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



## Annual Members "Welcome Home"

Satiris Galahad Fassoulis  
New York, NY  
348 BS 99 BG  
Italy, Germany  
9/2/43-5/5/45

Betsy Anne Watt  
Croydon, PA  
Daughter of Charles Harvey, ETO



## Life Members "Welcome Home"

**\*new members to  
AXPOW**

Harry R Crane  
Cynthia 26426 39466  
Las Cruces, NM  
509 Para BN  
2B Potato Factory  
2/29/44-4/15/45

Adma Ross 39467  
Suffern, NY  
Widow of Ernest Ross  
Sudeten Mountains  
11/44-5/45

Gloria Rose 39468  
Downey, CA  
Civilian - Born in Captivity

Santo Tomas  
1942-1945

Elaine Freeman-Miller \*39469  
Pinehurst, MA  
Daughter of Lawrence Freeman,  
PAC

Elizabeth Rose Waaler \*39470  
Indio, CA  
Civilian  
Santo Tomas 1942-1945

Dorothy Rose Jiron  
Salvador \*39471 39472  
Glendale, CA  
Civilian  
Santo Tomas 1942-1945

## 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

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



# taps



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

Donald Eshleman of Salem, OR let us know that reports of his death are greatly exaggerated. His local chapter requested forms be filled out and somehow his was sent to the editor for publication. If your chapter has the policy of TAPS forms, please hold on to them until needed.

Thank you ~Editor.

**BEAUCHEMIN, Albert**, of Adams MA died June 18, 2008. During WWII, he served in the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, 455<sup>th</sup> BG, 740<sup>th</sup> BS, flying out of Italy. He became a POW on his 25<sup>th</sup> mission, parachuting over Hungary. He is survived by his wife Dolores, 1 son, 1 daughter, and 3 grandchildren.

**BOCKSTANZ, Bruce K.** of Grosse Point Woods, MI died June 26, 2008. He was 96 and a member of the Wolverine Chapter, AXPOW. Bruce was captured while serving with the Air Force during WWII. Survivors include five children, twelve grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

**CAVELLI, Edmond** of Daytona Beach, FL died June 18, 2008. During WWII, he served with the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, 460<sup>th</sup> BG. He was shot down on his 15<sup>th</sup> mission and held at Luft IV. He leaves his wife, Mary.

**CHINN, Lewis Edward**, 86, of North Charleston, SC died July 13, 2008. He was a life member of the Lowcountry Chapter, AXPOW. Lewis served as a waist gunner on B-17s during WWII; he was shot down over Germany in 1944. He leaves his wife, Gerry, one daughter and two grandsons.

**CONNER, William E.** of West Melbourne, FL passed away June 5, 2008. He was shot down over Remini, Italy and held in a German POW camp, then marched across Germany. Bill was a past commander of the Space Coast Chapter, AXPOW and a life member of National. His wife, Mattie, 3 children, 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren survive.

**COTTRILL, William P** of Land O'Lakes, FL passed away July 23, 2008. After graduating high school, he entered the Army and served with the 29<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div., 115<sup>th</sup> Reg., Co. K. He was a POW in Germany along with 82 of his company. Bill was a life member of AXPOW. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Rhea, one son and one daughter.

**DeSHAZER, Jacob**, bombardier on the Doolittle Raid over Japan, passed away March 15, 2008 at his home in Salem, OR. He was 95. The five crewmen on his plane bailed out over China and were quickly captured. Two crewmembers were executed after capture. After liberation, Jacob became a missionary and returned to Japan with his wife, Florence. He gained a remarkable convert three years later when Mitsuo Fichida, the naval flier who had led the attack on Pearl Harbor. In addition to his wife, he is survived by 3 sons, 2 daughters, 1 sister, 10 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

**DYGA, Leo**, 90, of Dubuque, Iowa, formerly of Temperance and Muskegon, Michigan, died July 11, 2008. A Tech Sgt with the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, 301<sup>st</sup> BG, 419<sup>th</sup> BS as a B-17 bombardier in Foggia, Italy, he was captured Dec. 17, 1944, and held in Stalag 3A until his escape from Russian liberators in May, 1945. An AXPOW life member since 1981, he is survived by his wife, E. Marjorie,

one son, one daughter, four grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. **FOX, Robert D.**, 84, of Topeka, KS passed away June 11, 2008. He was a B-24 gunner and flight engineer with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 466<sup>th</sup> BG, 785<sup>th</sup> BS. He was shot down over France and captured. He escaped with the help of the French Underground and made his way to the Allied sector. He leaves his loving wife of 60 years, Marjorie, 1 son, 1 daughter, 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**FRYE, Norwood A.**, age 84 of Glastonbury, CT died May 16, 2008. During WWI, he served with Co. B, 81<sup>st</sup> Comb Eng., 106<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. He was captured during the Battle of the Bulge and was a POW at Stalag 4b. He then went to "Slaughterhouse Five", Dresden. He was a life member of AXPOW and the Connecticut Chapter. He is survived by his wife, Hazel, 1 son, 4 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

**GEISERT, Dorothy**, 85, of Oregon, OH passed away on May 24, 2008. She was a member of Maumee Valley Chapter, AXPOW, along with her husband, Robert. Bob was a pilot in the 449<sup>th</sup> BG and a POW in Stalags III and VIIA. In addition to her husband, Dorothy is survived by 1 son, 1 daughter and 4 great-grandchildren.

**GODFREY, John "Jack"** age 87 of Reynoldsburg, Ohio died July 12, 2008. An Air Corps radio Operator and gunner on B-24, he was shot down near Budweis. and imprisoned at Gros Tycho, then on the 80 day forced march. He was a member of Ohio Chapter #1 AXPOW. He is survived by his wife Irene, 2 daughters, 6 grandchildren and one great grand-child.

**GRIMM, Furman A.**, of Temple, TX died June 25, 2008 at the age of 85. He served in the 99<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div.

## taps continued...

and fought in the Battle of the Bulge where he was captured. He was later held prisoner in Stalag XIII C. He leaves his wife of 59 years, Frances, 1 son and 2 grandchildren.

**HAYNES, Ivan E.**, of Snohomish, WA passed away May 28, 2008. During WWII, he trained in Scotland and Ireland, served in Africa and was captured at Faid Pass in Feb. 1943. Ivan spent the remainder of the war as a POW at Stalags IIIA, IIIB and VIIA. He was a life member of AXPOW. Survivors include his wife of 67 years, Helen, one son, two daughters and five grandchildren.

**JERNIGAN, Edward H.**, 85, of Greenville, AL. passed away July 13, 2008. He served as 2nd LT, Navigator on B17s, assigned to the 463<sup>rd</sup> BG., 15<sup>th</sup> AF, flying out of Foggia, Italy. After being shot down, wounded and hospitalized, he was imprisoned and liberated from Stalag VIIA, Mooseburg. He was predeceased by his wife of 42 years, Lillian, and survived by his wife of 17 years, Alice.

**KARP, Irving**, 82, passed away Feb. 3, 2008 after two years in the VA hospital in AZ. He was a veteran of WWII and Korea; he was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and held in Stalag 12A until liberation. Irving was a member of East Valley Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife of 59 ½ years, Adele, 2 sons and 1 daughter.

**KENNEDY, John 'Jack', and KENNEDY, Mary Ann**, died February 24, 2007, and June 11, 2008, respectively. 'Jack' served with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 489<sup>th</sup> BG. He was held in Luft 3, Stalags 13D and 7A. They were married 61 years.

**KIMMEL, Charles E.**, of San Antonio, Texas, died July 26, 2008. He was a US Army artilleryman. He was captured December 19, 1944, held in Stalag 7A and liberated on April 29, 1945. An AXPOW life

member since 1989, he was a member of the San Antonio Chapter.

**KLANK, Walter Conrad Jr.**, of Dayton, OH died July 4, 2008. He was 85. Walter was captured while serving in the AAF. He was shot down over Germany on Christmas Day; he was captured and held until liberation. Walter was a member of the Dayton Chapter #6, AXPOW. Survivors include his loving wife of 61 years, Marie, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 3 grandchildren 1 brother and cousins, nieces and nephews.

**KORNETT, Edward D.**, 85, member of the James L. Hale Memorial Chapter (Hampton, VA), AXPOW, died May 23, 2008. He was captured while serving as a bombardier on a B-24; he was held for 8 months. He is survived by his wife, Agnes, 2 sons and their families.

**KOURY, George, Jr.**, of Bandera, Texas, died July 11, 2008. A survivor of the Bataan Death March, he served with the 19<sup>th</sup> Air Base and was held at Camp O'Donnell and Cabanatuan.

**LAWRENCE, John R.**, 84, passed away May 14, 2008. He was a life member of AXPOW and member of the James L. Hale Chapter, Hampton, VA. He served in WWII, Korea and Vietnam; he was a POW in Korea. John was preceded in death by his wife, Rosario. A son and daughter survive him, as well as a sister and numerous relatives in the Philippines.

**LINGREN, Gordon C.**, of Warm Beach, WA died May 15, 2008. He was 86. Gordon was captured while serving with the 451<sup>st</sup> BG, 15<sup>th</sup> AF, flying out of Italy. His plane was shot down, he was captured and held in German prison camps. Surviving are his wife of 62 years, Lois, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 1 brother, 1 sister, 2 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

**McCULLOUGH, George W.**, 93, of Canton, CT, formerly of Kingston,

WA died May 9, 2007. He served in the Navy, was a CPO at Corregidor and a POW of the Japanese, held in Cabanatuan. George was a life member of AXPOW and the CT Chapter. He was predeceased by his wife, Eurah. He is survived by one niece.

**MILLER, (Volkers) Tanya**, 99, of West Sacramento, CA passed away April 18, 2008. Tanya was born in Manchouli, China. She later lived in Shanghai where she married Hayden Miller, a prominent British architect. Tanya and her family were interned by the Japanese for over three years during WWII in the Chapei civilian internment camp in Shanghai. She was a life member of AXPOW and a member of the 49ers Chapter, Sacramento, CA. One son preceded Tanya in death. She leaves two surviving sons, two grandchildren, plus two great grandchildren

**MUMPER, Richard W.**, of Upper Allen Township, PA died March 18, 2008 at the age of 88. He was captured while serving in the Army during WWII. He leaves his wife Velma, 1 son, 1 daughter, 3 grandchildren, 1 great-grandson and numerous extended family.

**OCHINERO, Joe**, a member of Fresno Chapter # 1 passed away on June 5, 2008. Joe was a Combat Infantryman in the 8<sup>th</sup> Div., captured by the Germans in July of 1944 in France. He escaped from Stalag 1VB and was liberated by the 104<sup>th</sup> Div. on April 13, 1945. Joe was a very active member of our chapter and will be remembered as a man of small stature but of great integrity.

**PARYS, Joseph**, 89, of Melvindale, MI died June 17, 2008. He was captured while serving as a medic with the 136<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. during WWII in Southern France. He was held until he and another prisoner escaped at the close of the war. Joe actively gave back to the veterans

## taps continued...

community. He was VAVS for the DAV, accumulating more than 15,000 hours. He was the first commander, finance officer and chapter organizer for the Wolverine Chapter, AXPOW. He was a familiar face and a friendly smile at National Conventions. Joe is survived by 2 sons, 2 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**PLANCK, Robert L.**, 86, of Waynesville, OH passed away July 11, 2008. During WWII, he was captured while serving in the Army Air Corps. He was held prisoner until liberation in the European Theatre of Operations. Robert was a member of the Dayton Chapter #6, AXPOW. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Vivian, 1 brother and several nieces and nephews.

**POWERS, Harry** died Tuesday, June 17, at Bay Pines Hospice, FL. He served with the 390<sup>th</sup> BG, 571<sup>st</sup> BS. He was held in Stalag XVIIIB, barracks 34B. Survivors include Virginia (Ginny), his wife of 63 years; two daughters, and two sons. Harry was active in Florida Gulf Coast, serving in many capacities, most recently as Chaplain.

**SCHLEGEL, Norvella**, widow of Eugene "Gene" Schlegel, of Beatrice Nebraska, passed away July 11, 2008. Gene had been a member of the 28<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, 110<sup>th</sup>, and a prisoner of war in Stalag 9A and 9B.

**SCHROER, Charles J.**, of Lakewood, CO passed away May 18, 2008 at the age of 87. During WWII, he served with the 422<sup>nd</sup> Reg., Company F. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and held in Stalag IVB until liberated by General Patton's troops. Charles was a charter member of the Mile High Chapter and life member of

AXPOW. He leaves his wife, Louise and numerous nieces and nephews.

**SCHWEIZER, Earl G.**, 97, of Cardiff, CA died June 12, 2008. In 1939, Earl was serving in the Navy. He was ordered to Canacao, Cavite, PI. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, he was captured on Corregidor and held at Bilibid Prison for the next 3 years. Earl leaves Florence, his beloved wife of almost 72 years, 2 children, 10 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and a large and loving extended family.

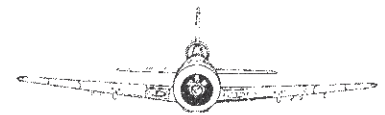
**WASHBURN, Mary Margaret**, of Warner Robins, GA passed away June 24, 2008. She was a member of the Middle Georgia Chapter, AXPOW. Margaret was the wife of John E. Washburn (Army Air Corp./POW in Europe during WWII). She is survived by her husband, four children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**WESTLEY, Clarence G.**, member of Florida's Peace River Chapter died March 15, 2008. During WWII, Wes served on a B-24H as Flight Engineer and Top Gunner in the 15<sup>th</sup> AAF, 464<sup>th</sup> BG, 779<sup>th</sup> BS. He was shot down over Hungary July 7, 1944 on his 32<sup>nd</sup> mission. He was imprisoned in Stalag Luft 4 and survived a nearly 3 month march to Stalag 357. He is survived by Helen, his wife of 62 years, daughters Dianne and Gayle, and 2 grandchildren.

**WILKINSON, Charles**, of Model, Colorado, died June 21, 2008. A veteran of WW II, he was captured at Cassino, Italy, on Jan. 27, 1944 when his tank was knocked out behind the German lines. He escaped two days later and survived six weeks in the Italian countryside before being recaptured. He was held as a prisoner at Laterina Italy, Moosburg, Oflag 64 in Poland and Luckenwalde, Germany, where he was liberated by the Russians on April 21, 1945. He was preceded in death by his wife, Josephine.

**YTTRI, Vilas R.**, of DeSoto, Wisconsin, died April 5, 2008. He served with the 455<sup>th</sup> BG, 742<sup>nd</sup> BS, based in Italy during WW II. He was a member of a B-24 Bomber crew and a 1st Lt and pilot. He, and the rest of the crew of "The Ramp Rooster", were shot down over Romania and were POWs in Bucharest for several months. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Marie; one son; one daughter; five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

**ZUPAN, Don**, past Jr. Vice Commander of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Chapter, AXPOW passed away recently. Don was with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF during WWII and was a POW there. He was 85 years old and is survived by his wife Barbara.



### *High Flight*

Oh! I have slipped the  
surly bonds of Earth  
And danced the skies on  
laughter-silvered wings;  
Sunward I've climbed, and  
joined the tumbling mirth  
of sun-split clouds, — and  
done a hundred things  
You have not dreamed of—  
wheeled and soared and swung  
High in the sunlit silence.  
Hov'ring there,  
I've chased the shouting  
wind along, and flung  
My eager craft through  
footless halls of air....  
Up, up the long, delirious,  
burning blue  
I've topped the wind-swept  
heights with easy grace  
Where never lark nor  
even eagle flew—  
And, while with silent  
lifting mind I've trod  
The high untrespassed  
sanctity of space,  
Put out my hand, and  
touched the face of God.

*John Gillespie Magee, Junior  
(June 9, 1922 - December 11, 1941)*



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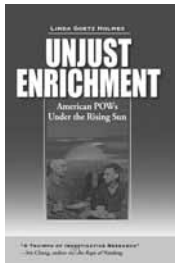
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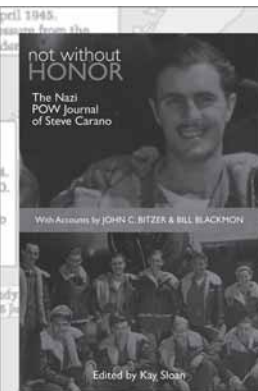
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Ex-POW Bulletin  
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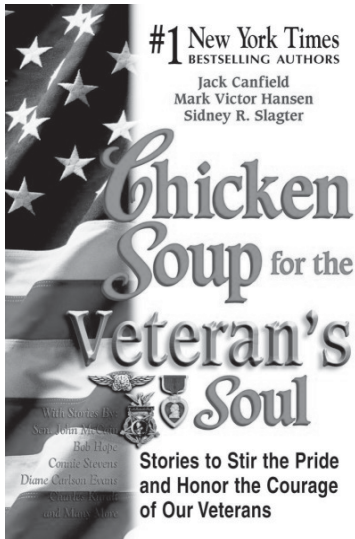
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**Ex-POW Bulletin**  
**September 2008**

## Name Badge Order Form

(for members only)

Actual size of badge is  
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(For members only)

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Size (Men/coat, Women/chest measurement) \_\_\_\_\_

Long, Regular or Short \_\_\_\_\_

Name on front of vest \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Name (back of vest) \_\_\_\_\_

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| Barbed Wire pin                        | 3.00  | Past Chapter Commander · Chapter Adj/Treas Chapter |       | Bumper Sticker "Freedom - Ask us"     | 2.00  |
| Life Member pin                        | 5.00  | Adjutant · Chapter Treasurer                       |       | AXPOW Wall Clock (includes battery)   | 20.00 |
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| Past Chapter Commander pin             | 5.00  | Past Chapter Officer · Past Department Officer     |       | POW Videotape - ETO or Pacific        | 11.00 |
| Past Department Commander pin          | 5.00  |                                                    |       | "Speak Out" Education Packet          | 6.00  |
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## BG Cornum's "Wetting Down" Party, July 12, 2008



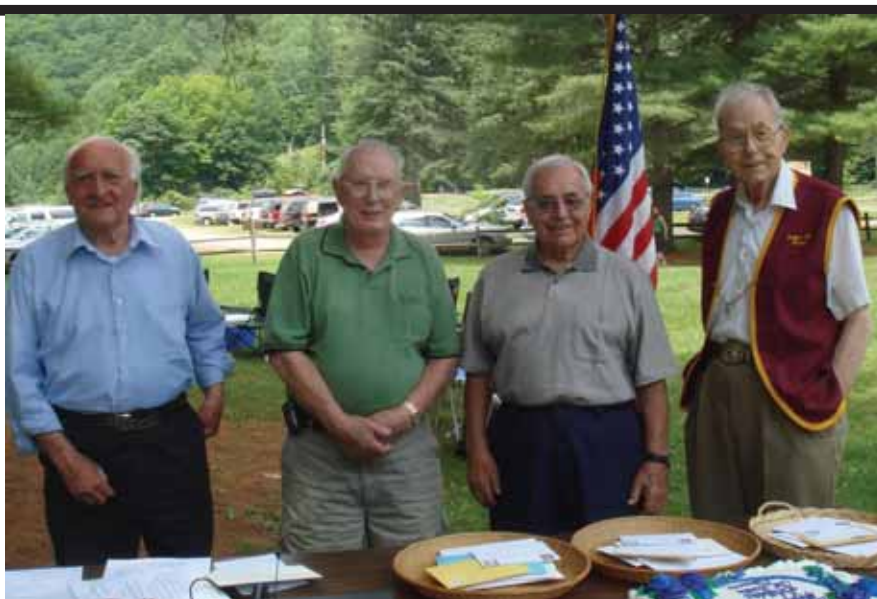
### Wetting Down

In the old Navy, an officer's commission was hand-written on heavy parchment. According to some sources, the newly commissioned or promoted officer held a dinner for his shipmates and friends. During the course of the evening, the new commission was rolled into a cone, the small end folded up to form a cup. This paper cup was passed around the table for all the guests to toast the new officer. Thus, the new commission was "wetted down." A Wetting Down is still an honored and expected tradition, however, and this one was no exception. Rhonda's friends were there to congratulate her achievements and wish her well. (And enjoy the great food at Nam Viet!)

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Ex-POWs of Vermont Chapter #1 celebrate age 90 plus at their annual July potluck picnic at Camp Plymouth State Park in Plymouth, VT.

From L/R: Tullio Zampieri, 92; Clarence DeGrave, 90; Bill Busier, 90; Arthur Peper, 90.



**Bronze Grave Medallion  
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AXPOW LOGO**

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

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