

EX-POW BULLETIN

the official voice of the

American Ex-Prisoners of War

Volume 63

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Number 3/4

March/April 2006



We exist to help those who cannot help themselves

*Inside... first
look at
Convention
information
News...stories...*



Doolittle Raiders ~ Crew members
stand beside their planes aboard the
Hornet en route to Japan April 18, 1942

*Events... NSO
success
stories...raffle
tickets and
more*



Clockwise from top left: CT Cmdr. Ed Giering presented the Certificate of Achievement, CT Chapter, for Mr. Rick Randle, departing VARO Director. At left, Mrs. Randle, Rick Randle; "Hellships" Monument commemorating the 22,000 who perished was dedicated Sept. 2004 in Bronbeek, Netherlands; Standing - Mark Missot, San Diego Chapter, Nominee for San Diego Veteran of the Year, Chapter Commander Frank Burger, seated - Larry Cilestio, 2003 Nominee with ND and Chapter JVC Ralph Kling; The Burma-Siam Railroad Monument with 9 flags representing the Allied POWs as well as the countries of slave-laborers, dedicated Aug. 20, 2005 in Bronbeek, Netherlands; Texas Midyear attendees including ND and Dept. Commander Morris Barker, National Commander Gerald Harvey, John & Suzanne Kidd, Sina Chandler, Clydie Morgan and Mel Stevens; Florida Gulf Coast Chapter Officers for 2006 were installed January 28, 2006. Right to left: Don Denny, Commander, Paul Ditchett, Senior Vice Commander, George Tice, Director, Esther Carboni, Treasurer, Ann Still, Adjutant, Helen Allen, Director, Jean Denny, Director.



national commander



Gerald Harvey

Some of us have enjoyed a very mild winter. Those of you who live in areas that have had severe cold and lots of snow and ice are always glad to welcome spring. Because of the weather, many of you do not have chapter meetings in the winter. You're really looking forward to getting together with your POW friends.

I want to express my appreciation to all the departments and chapters who regularly send me your news letters. Reading your letters gives me a feel for what is going on, your problems, your sorrows, and your joys. Keep up the good work. If you have not been sending me your news letters, I would appreciate your putting me on your mailing list.

Most of the state departments have your annual conventions during the spring and summer months, April through August. Please send me information about your upcoming department conventions and other scheduled department board meetings, etc. I need your dates as soon as they are set. I would like to visit as many of you as I can. Without your dates I cannot plan those visits.

I learn a lot from your letters. For example, in a letter from the Texas Gulf Coast, I learned something

about strokes that we all need to know. **"Recognizing a Stroke:**

A neurologist says that if you can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours, the person has a good chance of totally reversing the effects of a stroke. Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

1. Ask the individual to smile
2. Ask him or her to raise both arms
3. Ask the person to speak a simple sentence (coherently) (i.e...it is sunny out today)

If he or she has trouble with any of these tasks, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher." **Share this information** with your family, your friends, and your chapter.

I have had letters and telephone calls asking questions about the **Eagles POWER Foundation**. This information will answer most of your questions.

The Eagles POWER Foundation has been in business for more than five years. One of their previous fund raising activities was for the construction of the POW/MIA Memorial at the Riverside National Cemetery. When this goal was reached, they had originally decided to disband. When asked to continue, they agreed and have since expressed a desire to help American Ex-Prisoners of War financially. At a meeting of their Board of Directors, they confirmed their commitment to the AXPOW national organization.

Their IRS status is 501c3 Public Charity. Donations to this foundation are tax-deductible. We do not have a contract with them and there is no organizational connection between them and AXPOW. Their bylaws state that they "provide support to former prisoners of war". Their board HAS made the determination that individual donations all funnel to AXPOW until (that entity) is financially self-sufficient. This is done by simply hav-

ing the donor make a "directed donation". The Dept. of New Jersey did just that by including a letter directing that 100% of their donation go to the NSO program at AXPOW. If you or someone you know makes a donation designated to be used for AXPOW, we are suggesting that you send a copy of your letter to our national treasurer. This will help us to know what is available

The donor can designate AXPOW to receive the funds, or may designate a particular program if he so desires. It can be designated for the National Service Officer program, VAVS, Medsearch, programs that help POWs or that educate POWs, or educate the public about POWs. We cannot ask money for anything that has to do with the government or lobbying.

As I am writing this, so far we have received from Eagles POWER \$10,000 for the National Service Officer program and \$2,000 for student scholarships.

The officers of this foundation are:

President: Thomas Gibbons; Vice President: Paul Galanti; Directors: PNC Zack Roberts, PNC John Edwards, John Hasychak; Executive Director: Martha Klumpp; Secretary/Treasurer: Cheryl Cerbone

Five of these officers are members of AXPOW. None of them are on the AXPOW Board of Directors

Donations should be sent to: Eagles POWER Foundation; 23 Cove View Drive; S. Yarmouth, MA 02664; designated to go to American Ex-Prisoners of War. If you know someone who wants to help us and wants the donation to be tax-deductible, tell him or her about the Eagles POWER Foundation.

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April 18, 1942...

Water breaking across her flat topside, the U.S. carrier Hornet plunged through a heavy sea and strong wind. A few hours earlier, as dawn broke on April 18, 1942, lookouts aboard the American ship had spotted a Japanese patrol boat. The Hornet's planes were intending to carry out their raid under cover of darkness, but Admiral William Halsey gave the order to launch at once — wind, wave, and daylight be damned. The ship swung into the wind, and at 7:25 A.M. the first of the twin-engine bombers groaned off the flight deck.

Leading the attack was an unflappable test pilot, Lieutenant Colonel James H. Doolittle; his was the first of the lumbering bombers to roll down the deck. Over the next hour, fifteen others followed. Ever since the attack on Pearl Harbor four months earlier, President Franklin D. Roosevelt had been pressing for just such a morale-boosting coup to bolster some of America's wounded pride. The Doolittle raid had been his pet project, and he was exultant with the news. Asked by reporters where the planes had come from, FDR grinned and said, "Shangri-La."

And just four days earlier...

In 1942, information was leaking out about the atrocities and subhuman treatment that American prisoners of war were receiving in Japanese prison camps in the Pacific. When wives and mothers heard about their sons and husbands who had been taken prisoner, they started contacting their congressmen in an effort to find help or get assistance for their loved ones. Two mothers, whose sons were members of the 200th Coast Artillery and had been captured by the Japanese, came up with an idea.

On April 10, 1942, Mrs. Charles W. Bickford and Mrs. Fred E. Landon persuaded other parents and relatives to hold a mass meeting. They formed an organization to get relief to the captured boys on Bataan. On April 14th, the *Bataan Relief Organization* began with Dr. V. H. Spensley, as Chairman. Their motto was "We will not let them down."

Happy Birthday, AXPOW!



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**Please send all materials to the
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on capitol hill



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Making Your Voice Heard by US Federal Legislators

NOTE: Many of these tips require a computer. If you do not have one, you can visit your public library and ask your librarian for help.

Finding Your Legislators

To find out who your US Senators are (you have two - there are two Senators per state), see the Senators-by-State list at www.senate.gov.

To find out who your US Representative, go to www.house.gov, which will allow you to look up your legislator by ZIP code and send them a message.

Sometimes it is important to target members of particular Congressional committees as well as your own "home" legislators. To do so, you may need to find out who the committee members are. If you need to, you can check the list of members by committee at www.house.gov and www.senate.gov as well.

Getting Phone and Fax Numbers

For federal legislators, you can just call the U.S. Capitol Switchboard (the phone number is (202) 224-3121 locally or toll-free 1-800-962-3524 nationally) and ask for a particular legislator or committee.

Representatives' and Senators' phone and fax numbers are available from the House and Senate Web sites.

A list of phone numbers for House committees and subcommittees, Senate committees, and joint committees is also available at those sites. The committee web pages may

provide additional contact information like special committee fax numbers or e-mail addresses.

If your legislator's fax number is not available via these means, you will have to call his/her office and ask for it. Say that you are a constituent trying to contact the legislator via fax with your opinions on an issue before Congress.

Why to Not Send Postal Letters Anymore

Because of the post-9/11 security issues, it can take up to THREE MONTHS for postal mail and package delivery services to get through to legislators and their staffs. All incoming mail and parcels are subjected to thorough analysis for bombs, poisons and biological agents like anthrax. This means that sending physical letters is practically useless for activism purposes.

How to Visit in Person

Visiting your legislator in person shows that you really care about an issue. It also lends weight to the issue - if it wasn't vitally important to you, why would you visit in person?

You should call the legislator's office to make an appointment. It may be difficult to get to meet with the legislator him/herself, so try to arrange a meeting with a key staffer such as the veterans affairs staffer. It is part of the job of these people to ensure that their boss understands his/her constituents' viewpoints, and most of them do a pretty good job at it.

Why Contacting Policymakers Is Vital

On many issues, your legislators and other elected officials hear very little feedback from their constituents. Being contacted by even a few voters is often enough to mold or shift a policymaker's stance on an issue,

especially if they have not had much voter contact on that issue before. Every letter, call and visit counts.

Dos and Don'ts

- * If you are a constituent, say so.
- * Refer to legislation (including bills, resolutions and amendments) by number and title.
- * State YOUR position on the issue (even if you "back it up" by noting that a large organization has the same stance).
- * Contact legislators regardless of whether or not their known position is in agreement with your own. If they do agree, your contact serves to support them by letting them know their constituents are behind them. If they do not agree, your contact may help change their minds.
- * Don't assume that the legislator him/herself will actually read your message. Therefore, *be very clear* about what you mean and what action and/or position you want the legislator to take, and *keep it short*.
- * When communicating with legislators and their staffers, or any other government officials, *please remember to be POLITE*. Rude language and manners, disrespect, accusations, or hostility are likely to cause your message to be completely disregarded as the frothings of a crank. You want to sound self-possessed, confident, reasonable, and alert. *NEVER* make threats. And, of course, don't curse at the targets of your letters and calls.
- * DO finish your letter with an indication that you would appreciate a direct response or at least the issuance of some kind of statement on the issue, if not a personal reply.

nso



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Many Former Prisoners of War, have elected not to pay for Medicare Part B (outpatient benefits) because they are using the VA exclusively. Unfortunately, when an emergency occurs and the Former Prisoner of War is taken to a local private hospital, because the hospital is closer than a V.A. Medical Center, the hospital bills Medicare Part A.

When this happens the veteran is responsible for the 20% co-payment. Many Former Prisoners of War do not realize they have Medicare Part A (hospital coverage) as it is free. The VA WILL NOT pay the 20% deductible of Medicare, even if you called within 72 hours of admission.

So, when a Former Prisoner of War, is admitted to a hospital in an emergency, other than a V.A. Medical Center, you must call Fee Basis within 72 hours of admission, so the VA will be responsible for the bill.

When you are admitted to a non-VA hospital, DO NOT present your Medicare card.

Present only your VA card. The hospital in most cases, would prefer to bill Medicare first, because they pay faster. You need to know that once Medicare pays, the VA is no longer liable. So DO NOT show your Medicare Card.

To be eligible for reimbursement from VA Fee Basis, in most cases, you must have arrived at the hospital by ambulance, NOT have driven there by yourself or by car by someone else.

Now, find out in advance the number of your V.A. Medical Center Fee Basis Unit and the number of the patient advocate. Give them when calling for reimbursement, the veteran's name, social security number, hospital name and date of admission. Be sure to get the name of the person you speak to in case you need it in the future.

Remember, after you call to report the emergency, if the Former Pris-

oner of War is still in the hospital, the VA will move you to the closest VA as soon as the treating doctor says you can safely be moved.

NOTE TO NSOs: I will be out of town the end of March and most of April, so perhaps you should send your March expenses to the National Commander for approval, so they will be given to the National Treasurer in a timely manner.

Thanks,

Doris Jenks

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**AXPOW
59th
National
Convention
Oct. 3-8, 2008
Nashville, TN
"Come on Down!"**

see pages 24-25
for more
information

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

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It Pays to Seek Out an AXPOW Service Officer!

If you have any hair left, these are the things that make an AXPOW National Service Officer want to pull it out. For instance:

Mrs. K. in Fall River, Massachusetts, asks for help in getting her widow's benefit. Husband died in Sept. 2005. She went to a service officer affiliated with a large VSO. He told her since her husband died of pancreatic cancer, she was not eligible for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation because cancer was not a POW service-connected presumptive.

Evidently, he did not know to ask how long the husband was rated at 100% before he died. He actually had the 100% for many years, AND if he had had it for even just one year (if he died after 9/30/99) she would be eligible. Her claim is now in process.

Mrs. M. in N. Louisiana writes for help. Her husband had died in Jan. 1997, and she had gone to the Parish (county in other parts of the country) Veterans Service Officer for help in getting her VA benefit. He told her she was not eligible for anything. Someone else told her she probably had too many assets.

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I asked her what the death certificate showed as cause of death. It was congestive heart failure. Three months later, Mrs. M. has her widow's benefit and has applied for ChampVA, the free Medicare supplement.

I suggested she go to her Parish Veterans Service Officer and ask him to help her apply for the service-connected burial allowance; it's in the mill now.

Deep in the heart of Texas, a rural county whose veterans service officer had told Mrs. B. she wasn't eligible for any VA benefits after her former POW husband had died. Her son brought her 100 miles to San Angelo for help. Her husband had died of ischemic heart disease. Now she has her DIC and ChampVA.

Another widow whose 2nd husband had died. Surprised her with restored DIC, based on former POW 1st husband's heart attack death in 1973.

A third former POW's widow who is blind put in for widow's benefit; country veteran service officer applied for low-income pension (Wrong!) for her. Helped her apply for service-connected death Compensation, which country officer should have done. She has DIC and ChampVA now.

These three ladies all in one county. I know most country veterans service officers are great, but try to find an American Ex-POW National Service Officer. They can usually do the best OUTREACH for POWs.



Success Stories

NSO Success begins with COMMUNICATION

It's wonderful when folks care enough to communicate the needs of others. It all adds up to American Ex-Prisoners of War living out our slogan that can have meaning, IF we truly communicate, "We exist to help those who cannot help themselves".

ND Morris Barker, TX Dept. Commander, sends e-mail about James M. in McKinney, TX. He had no disability rating, had begun in Stalag Luft III with blizzard forced march. Claim now begun.

Former TX Dept. Commander John Kidd called about help to reopen VA claim of Edward W. to get heart malady included.

Gulf Coast Chapter Commander Leander Pflughaupt gives me reluctant John K.'s name to call about benefits; he's 84 and his kids are trying to get him to quit trimming trees from that tall ladder; says he just wants to do it on his own; was in Stalag 2B, cold northern Germany; nightmares, 4/bypass heart, colon surgery, etc., but "I'm fine. I've got to keep my little yellow tractor mowing." Social Security income only; claim begun.

Leota S. in Stringer, MS writes and sends POW husband's death certificate - service-connected cause unsure; called POW Coordinator Nancy Mullins in Jackson VARO; will seek possibilities for DIC claim for widow and will call her.

ND Ralph Kling in California asks for claim help for his POW buddy Stan G. in Houston, who has no VA benefit. Claim is in process now.

**DO YOU KNOW A POW OR WIDOW
WITH NO VA BENEFITS?**

Communicate!

pow medsearch

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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 (approximately 110 pages) may be purchased from National Headquarters. Cost of the updated packet is \$15.00~includes S/H.

From time to time, we focus on one or more of the POW presumptives. This month: Post Traumatic Osteoarthritis

Post-Traumatic Osteoarthritis

Traumatic osteoarthritis is caused from blunt, penetrating or repeated trauma or from forced inappropriate motion of a joint or ligament.

Following the joint injury, a cascading series of events, stemming from injury-related mechanical and physiological changes, lead to the development of post-traumatic Osteoarthritis.

This disability looks and is treated like degenerative arthritis (arthritis associated with age) except it is caused by severe trauma to specific joints.

Osteoarthritis is a joint disease that mostly affects cartilage. Cartilage is the slippery tissue that covers the ends of bones in a joint. Healthy cartilage allows bones to glide over each other. It also helps absorb shock of movement.

In osteoarthritis, the top layer of cartilage breaks down and wears away. This allows bones under the cartilage to rub together. The rubbing causes pain, swelling, and loss of motion of the joint.

Over time, the joint may lose its normal shape. Also, bone spurs may grow on the edges of the joint. Bits of bone or cartilage can break off and float inside the joint space, which causes more pain and damage.

People with osteoarthritis often have joint pain and reduced motion. Unlike some other forms of arthritis, osteoarthritis affects

only joints and not internal organs.

How Is Osteoarthritis Diagnosed?

Osteoarthritis can occur in any joint. It occurs most often in the hands, knees, hips, and spine.

Warning signs of osteoarthritis are:

Steady or on-and-off pain in a joint

Stiffness in a joint after getting out of bed or sitting for a long time;
Swelling or tenderness in one or more joints;
A crunching feeling or the sound of bone rubbing on bone.

No single test can diagnose osteoarthritis. Most doctors use several methods to diagnose the disease and rule out other problems:

How Is Osteoarthritis Treated?

Doctors often combine treatments to fit a patient's needs, lifestyle, and health.

Osteoarthritis treatment has four main goals:

- Improve joint care through rest and exercise;
- Keep a healthy body weight;
- Control pain;
- Achieve a healthy lifestyle.

Osteoarthritis treatment plans can involve:

- Exercise
- Weight control
- Rest and joint care
- Pain relief
- Medicines
- Alternative therapies
- Surgery.

What Research Is Being Done on Osteoarthritis?

Osteoarthritis is not simply a disease of "wear and tear" that happens in joints as people get older.

Personal Interviews, in their own words, with WWII Bataan/Corregidor ex-POWs. We are blessed to have those willing to open old wounds and share the brutal hell they endured...the truth, and I believe at some point in the future that society will want to know just that...the truth... also personal interviews with Vietnam Veterans(Just Released).

A WALK THROUGH HELL....\$14.95 plus \$2 shipping

CAPTIVITY IN SATAN'S VINEYARD

\$20 PLUS \$3 shipping

VIETNAM: A SOLDIERS PLEA FOR HONOR

(Just Released)

\$20 PLUS \$3 shipping

Send book request and check to
Deby Jo Ferguson
POB 1235 Hayesville..NC
28904



MAY WE NEVER FORGET

**Ex-POW Bulletin
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medsearch continued...

There is more to the disease than aging alone. Researchers are studying:

- Tools to detect osteoarthritis earlier
- Genes
- Tissue engineering
- A wide range of treatment strategies
- Osteoarthritis in animals
- Pain relief medicines
- Medicines to prevent joint damage
- Acupuncture
- Vitamins and other supplements
- Injection of hyaluronic acid (a natural part of cartilage and joint fluid)
- Estrogen.

How Can Self-Care and a "Good-Health Attitude" Help?

Three kinds of programs help people learn about osteoarthritis and self-care and improve their good-health attitude:

- Patient education programs
- Arthritis self-management programs
- Arthritis support groups.

These programs teach people about osteoarthritis and its treatments.

They also have clear and long-lasting benefits. People in these programs learn to:

- Exercise and relax
- Talk with their doctor or other health care providers
- Solve problems.

People with osteoarthritis find that self-management programs help them:

- Understand the disease
- Reduce pain while staying active

- Cope with their body, mind, and emotions
- Have more control over the disease
- Live an active, independent life.

People with a good-health attitude:

- Focus on what they can do, not what they can't do
- Focus on their strengths, not their weaknesses
- Break down activities into small tasks that are easy to manage
- Build fitness and healthy eating into their daily routines
- Develop ways to lower and manage stress
- Balance rest with activity
- Develop a support system of family, friends, and health care providers.

For More Information on Osteoarthritis and Other Related Conditions:

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS)

National Institutes of Health
1 AMS Circle

Bethesda, MD 20892-3675

Phone: 301-495-4484 or 877-22-NIAMS (226-4267) (free of charge)

Fax: 301-718-6366

E-mail: NIAMSInfo@mail.nih.gov

www.niams.nih.gov

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### From Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Benefits Manual M21-1, Part VI, "Rating Board Procedures"

#### (4) Post-Traumatic Osteoarthritis

(a) Due weight must be given to both the veteran's statements of trauma resulting in arthritis and the veteran's medical history so far as it is available. Do not hesitate to develop for clarification of the

traumatic incident(s) if it cannot be determined satisfactorily from the evidence at hand whether arthritis due to trauma actually is the issue.

(b) Arthritis due to trauma must be distinguished from the degenerative multiple-joint arthritis that frequently accompanies aging. The appearance of arthritis at an earlier age than would be expected normally or confinement of arthritis to the location of the alleged trauma (regardless of the age at which it appears) might provide a reasonable basis for a grant of service connection.

(c) If a veteran of advanced age with multiple joint arthritis alleges trauma as the cause at all or part of the disease sites, the importance of distinguishing between post-traumatic and degenerative arthritis that is commonly associated with advancing age is obvious. In such situations obtain the most complete account possible of the traumatic incident. Information that should be available for consideration include the nature of the trauma, a statement of the type and severity of the injuries received, and the frequency of traumatic injury (such as how often a POW might have been beaten by his captors).

(d) RVSRs must consider the value of requesting an opinion from the POW physician coordinator as to whether or not a diagnosis of arthritis resulting from trauma would be consistent with the injuries received in the traumatic incident mentioned by the former POW. The physician is not required to give an opinion, but if one is made, it merits serious consideration and cannot be ignored. The rating activity, however, has the final responsibility for determining whether a relationship exists between the arthritis and the veteran's experiences as a prisoner of war. As always, any reasonable doubt arising from the review of the evidence must be resolved in favor of the veteran.



**1.** Santo Tomas prison camp internees Lee Rogers and John Todd.



**10.** POWs at Cabanatuan Camp 3 beaten with clubs.



**11.** Bilibid POW hospital ward, Philippine Islands.



**12.** Bataan Death March, April 1942.



**2.** Pvt. Robert Collins & M/Sgt. Woodrow Haines back behind UN lines, Chechon, Korea.



**3.** Pfc. Robert Brandon rations Red Cross parcels, Stalag IX-B.



**4.** Nichols Field Detail, PI, taken at Pasay Schoolhouse.



**5.** An American POW suffering from dry beri-beri being treated in Bilibid.



**6.** A GI is liberated from a German prison camp.



**7.** Survivors of Sunchon Tunnel Massacre, Korea.



**8.** Three American POWs released by the Viet Cong near Tay Ninh City.



**9.** 100 days as a POW -- 100 lb. weight loss.

## POW Photos Order Form

These black & white 8x10" photographs are available from MedSearch. Please include a donation of \$5.00 per picture, or \$50.00 for the complete set of 12 with your order. Fill out the form below with selections.

Fill in the number of copies of each picture desired in the blank beside the picture's identification number:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_ 9. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_ 11. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_ 12. \_\_\_\_\_

Set of 12 photos \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

MEDSEARCH, AXPOW National Headquarters

3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40

Arlington, TX 76010. PH: 817-649-2979; fax 817-649-0109;

e-mail: [marsha.coke@axpow.org](mailto:marsha.coke@axpow.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Credit Card: MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed or Charged  
(\$5.00 per picture/\$50.00 for set of 12) \_\_\_\_\_

**Ex-POW Bulletin  
March/April 2006**

# Andersonville



Andersonville NHS  
496 Cemetery Road  
Andersonville, GA 31711  
(229) 924-0343  
Alan\_Marsh@nps.gov  
Kandace\_Muller@nps.gov

## Attracting More Visitors to Andersonville

by Fred Boyles, Superintendent

Throughout the year I carefully monitor visitation figures for the park. During most of 2005, I could tell that visitation was down compared to the previous year. When the final figures were revealed, visitation was down 20% in 2005 compared to the number in 2004. Park visitors in 2004 were 165,000 and in 2005 were 132,000. This is a significant drop in attendance and a cause for concern. Our budget is not directly affected by fluctuations in visitation from year to year partially because we do not charge an entrance fee. However, in the long term, continuing reductions in attendance can affect the budget for the park. Our bookstore has experienced a drop in revenue due to the lower visitation. But the greatest concern is

that we want to share the story of all POWs in American history with as many visitors as possible because it is a story that all citizens should know.

Any good detective can determine why there was a drop in attendance. Since the two largest single months with drops in visitation were April and May, it is easy to assume that the biggest drop was among school groups since that is the time of the year when school groups make up most of the visitation. School groups are not visiting as much due to the price of gas and the emphasis on testing in education that has reduced the number of field trips taken by schools. However, other months showed a decline too, so it was not just school groups. Rising gas prices has affected travel and tourism in all sectors which has also caused a decrease in visitation.

The National Park Service by policy does not promote visitation to the point of paid advertising. Many tourist attractions will place bill-



boards along highways, advertise in magazines, produce TV commercials and other forms of aggressive advertising to promote attendance. Here at Andersonville we work with the local community Tourism Council, the Georgia Department of Tourism and other entities who can promote visitation to the park. The Georgia Department of Transportation has been helpful in placing directional signs along key roads

in our region directing visitors to our site. The park also produces a special brochure that is placed in Welcome Centers encouraging visitors to come to Andersonville. With the drop in visitation that was experienced this past year, it is definitely time to encourage more visitors to come to the site.

There are several steps the park can take to respond to these visitation trends. If school groups cannot come to the park for what ever reason, then the park can make more visits to schools. Schools often ask Rangers to visit area schools to present programs but many others do not because they are not aware that our Rangers are available to perform that service. The park also has a highly successful Education Packet that can be sent to teachers for use in their classroom. The park can take another step to promote better visitation. Although government funds cannot be used to purchase advertising, the funds from park partners can be used for that purpose. This year when the park makes requests for Andersonville Trust funding, there will most likely be an appeal to assist the park in promoting the park and the National Prisoner of War Museum. The park staff is working closely with professionals in the tourism field to inquire about what is the most cost effective way to advertise for more visitors.

The Andersonville story is a great one to share. Since our park is off the beaten track, it is natural that the site needs to be promoted. With some promotion of the location of the park through the appropriate channels, visitation should rise in the coming years.

*Photo caption: Park Ranger Don Pettijohn is seen here giving a tour to an elementary school group just outside the National Prisoner of War Museum.*

# NamPOW news



Paul E. Galanti  
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## Thoi Story

It's not often that love stories appear on the pages of the Ex-POW Bulletin. It's even rarer when one of the parties was of a different nationality – one that for years induced some bad memories for those of us American POWs held in Vietnam.

This love story concerns one man, former South Vietnamese Army officer, Nguyen Van Thoi, and his unlikely “Band of Brothers” who were held for very extended stretches of time in that country.

After the U.S. Congress “pulled the plug” on South Vietnam in 1974, the Communists, aided by their much more reliable allies, Russia, China and assorted “peace groups” in the United States effected a rapid crushing of South Vietnam. For all, but particularly for one South Vietnamese, Nguyen Van Thoi, the world came crashing down.

Captured and forced to endure years of deprivation and stark, brutal treatment by his countrymen/captors in a manner similar to their treatment of American POWs, Thoi used every means at his disposal to escape from the “re-education camp” (sic).

Thoi and his wife and two sons managed to procure a boat and the four of them, along with 36 other

South Vietnamese, managed to make it to sea and leave Vietnam.

Thoi had never been on a boat before yet he and the others managed to keep it afloat and eventually ended up in a refugee camp in Thailand – where he immediately started making plans to emigrate to the United States. It was the only logical destination for Thoi, who'd befriended many Americans in South Vietnam during the war.

In 1979, a CIA officer and good friend of Thoi's managed to get Thoi and his family to Bangkok and, eventually, to the United States. After several false starts, Thoi opened his “Nam Viet” restaurant in Arlington, Virginia. Vietnam POW Orson Swindle met with Thoi and worked on a “Tet Reunion” with some of the local ex-POWs. It first happened in 1986 and has occurred like clockwork every year since.



The number of ex-POWs from Vietnam who live in the DC area has remained fairly constant over the years. Our annual Tet Reunion draws nearly half to the gathering and it's a wonderful time of camaraderie, catching up and good old-fashioned fish stories of their lives as prisoners in Thoi's old country.

Thoi, more than any other restaurant owner in Northern Virginia could totally identify with the former POWs and a chord was struck that produced a twenty-year harmony. The walls of his restaurant are filled with photos of DC glitterati. Presidents, generals, admirals, local politicians are shown smiling and glad-handing Mr. Thoi in the foyer of Nam-Viet.

But, in a position of honor, centered on this celebrity Rogues' Gallery sit several photos of a smiling Mr. Thoi and his newly-found Band of Brothers – Vietnam POWs. Last years' photo shows the same Mr. Thoi with a large ear to ear grin and the skull cap used to cover his chemo-induced baldness. He took the cap off several times during the evening and said, “No problem. Now I don't need a comb.”

Thoi died in December 2005. His Buddhist funeral drew hundreds and he was eulogized by four American Generals and Thoi's closest American friend, Orson Swindle, then a Federal Trade Commissioner.

As Joe McCain, the Senator's brother and close friend of Thoi, wrote following this year's Tet Reunion at Nam Viet, “Starting with pumping gas in Arlington, two years in Texas, and more struggle back in Arlington, ‘The American Dream’ finally started to become reality for Nguyen Van Thoi. Three Nam-Viet restaurants, four children, and a spectrum of friends, in whose hearts he is grafted, that astonishes.”

“Thoi is here with us,” said Swindle in his eulogy. “And as long as any of us are above ground, we'll celebrate Tet with him.”

We Nam-POWs were fortunate and privileged to have known our fellow American, Nguyen Van Thoi. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife and family.

It's not just a Thoi story. It's a love story about a happy, optimistic, too-young-to-die Vietnamese man who refused to let adversity slow him down. He serves as a shining example of what can be accomplished through hard work, determination and living in a free society.

**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.

## Acting DPMO Director Named

On January 9th, Mr. Bob Newberry was named Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (DASD) for POW/MIA Affairs, replacing Jerry Jennings who tendered his resignation on December 2nd following an absence from his office of over seven months. At the same "all-hands" meeting, DPMO personnel met three added transition officials, including Col George Gagnon, USAF, Senior Military Assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy (USDP), Mr. Wade Ishimoto, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Defense

(ASD) and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (PDASD) for Special Operations and low Intensity Conflict (SO/LIC), and Ms. Rose Fairnot, Administrative Assistant for the Defense Policy Board. All were assigned to assist Mr. Newberry in preparation for the appointment of a permanent DASD for POW/MIA Affairs. No time has been given, but it is anticipated that this transition team will work to address problem areas within DPMO for the next 60-90 days while the appointment works through the White House Personnel system.

## Army Personnel Announced as Accounted For

The Defense POW/MIA Office announced December 19th that as a result of US-Lao cooperation, all four Americans listed as KIA/BNR March 20, 1971 are now accounted for. The four Army helicopter crew members were MAJ Jack L. Barker of GA, CAPT John F. Dugan of NJ, SP4 William E. Dillender of FL and PFC John J. Chubb of CA. Recovery date was December 5, 2002, ID date was August 30, 2005, and all four families recently accepted the results. The accounting for these four Americans brings to 1,808 the number of US personnel listed by DoD as missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War - 1,382 in Vietnam, 364 in Laos, 55 in Cambodia and 7 in PRC territorial waters. Over 90% of the 1,808 were lost in Vietnam or in areas of Laos and Cambodia then under Vietnamese control.

## JPAC Operations

JPAC/CIL field operations in Southeast Asia resumed January 12th in Laos, extending to February 14th. Split operations are taking place in Cambodia January 12 - February 13th, and February 14 - March 18th. From December 12th - 23rd, unilateral investigations in Laos

took place as scheduled. In Vietnam, unilateral work began December 15th and will conclude on January 15th, with field operations to resume later. Congress finally passed the Defense Appropriations Bill for FY06, but all Defense Department organizations and agencies are being closely scrutinized for potential reductions. Some POW/MIA-related budgets and personnel, including DIA's Stony Beach Team and DPMO, are fenced - restricted from use for other purposes. JPAC's budget under the US Pacific Command (PACOM) is not protected, and the reality is that JPAC, and its predecessors JTF-FA and CIL, were consistently funded too low to meet requirements.

## Laos Takes Positive Step

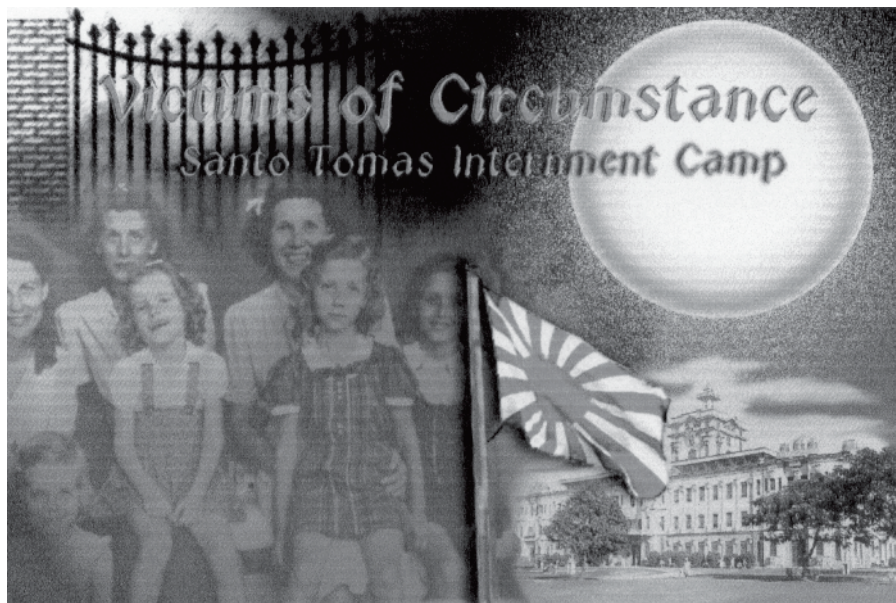
In response to requests from JPAC, reinforced by US Ambassador Patricia Haslach, the Lao Government has officially notified the US of agreement to permit two-year, accompanied tours for JPAC's Detachment Three personnel. That is a positive development and, hopefully, reflects improving military-to-military relations that will lead to exchanging Defense Attaches, the norm for most countries around the world. Vietnam permitted two-year tours some time ago, and both governments have improved relations across the board. The SRV Prime Minister visited Washington, DC, last June, a visit preceded by the November and December 2003 visits of Vietnam's Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defense. It is anticipated that US Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld will soon visit Hanoi, and the President is expected to do so by the end of next year, a track that should be pursued to continue improving bilateral relations between the US and Laos. Of course, Detachment One in Bangkok, Thailand, has long been led by an Air Force Lt. Col. for a three-year accompanied tour; Thailand is a treaty ally, and the military-to-military relationship is close.

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## civilians

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### Film Premiere of *Victims of Circumstance: Santo Tomas Internment Camp*, and Mounting of the Liberation Plaque to be held at MacArthur Memorial, April 1, 2006



A year's worth of activities connected with the MacArthur Memorial's special exhibit *Behind Barbed Wire: Japanese Internment Camps in the Philippines* will come to a close with a grand finale on Saturday, April 1, 2006. Originally set as the date for the mounting of the *Liberation Plaque* on a granite base provided by the family of Santo Tomas veteran Earl Carroll, the MacArthur Memorial has expanded the program to include the film premiere of Lou Gopal's long awaited *Victims of Circumstance: Santo Tomas Internment Camp* in the MacArthur Memorial Theater.

Since it's opening in April, 2005, *Behind Barbed Wire* has attracted over 45,000 visitors to learn about life as a civilian prisoner of the Japanese in World War II. The premiere of Lou Gopal's film, followed by the permanent mounting of the *Liberation Plaque* on the grounds of the MacArthur Memorial is the perfect way to close out this important exhibit with lasting impact.

Space is limited for the film premiere so please contact the MacArthur Memorial today and reserve your seats. We look forward to seeing you all in Norfolk, VA on April 1, 2006.

James Zobel  
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MacArthur Memorial  
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# Members'

## forum



Dear Cheryl,

*You may publish my letter to Senator McCain regarding lobbyist influence. Efforts by lobbyists to provide special influence to obtain favorable votes in our US Senate and House may have affected our efforts to get compensation from the Japanese.*

*On January 15, 2006, PNC Chuck Towne and I shared space on our trip to Subic Bay, PI to dedicate a memorial to POWs that were lost on Hellships being transported to Japan, 1942-1945. Approximately 10,000 were lost - 1100 officers in Dec. 1944 and Jan. 1945.*

Senator McCain:

I am a former POW held by the Japanese from May 1942 to Sept. 1945. I arrived in Osaka, Japan from the Philippines on Nov. 11, 1942 and was put in Osaka Camp #1, commonly known as the main camp in the Chikko waterfront area of Osaka.

I, along with others, became slave laborers for the Japanese. As you know, there have been attempts to get compensation from the Japanese for our labor. It came close to passing by our US legislative bodies, but as I understand it, it was Bob Stump (my own congressman)

who prevented the bill from passing. I am concerned that the Japanese government may have had some help from lobbyists such as Jack Abramoff or others to defeat the bill and derail our long-deserved compensation.

I would like to find out if there was special influence used by lobbyists for the Japanese Government (such as Jack Abramoff or others) which may have induced Congressman Bob Stump or others to derail our efforts for compensation from the Japanese.

I was listed in the 1987-1991 editions of the Guinness World Book in regard to an incident relating to my torture while under Japanese control. I was told by a Guinness Book editor in New York not to be surprised if the Japanese government finagled to have the item removed. Sure enough, it was removed in 1992.

On Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>, I will be returning to the Philippines to help dedicate a memorial in Subic Bay in memory of the approximately 1100 officers who lost their lives in Dec. 1944-Jan. 1945 on the Hellships. They were being taken to Japan near the end of the war to prevent the Americans from recovering them.

A total of approximately 10,000 American servicemen lost their lives on unmarked Hellships while being transported to Japan for slave labor between 1942-1945.

After the official dedication of the memorial on Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>, I will travel on to Japan and, with the help of our Osaka-Kobe Consulate, will be allowed to visit Osaka Sakai prison where I was held in solitary the last year of the war.

I also plan to return to the area of my POW camp #1 in Osaka, which was destroyed on March 18, 1945 by American bombers.

I have just recently reviewed documents from the War Crimes trials conducted after the war relating to Osaka POW Camp #1 and Osaka Sakai prison. Most of the information must have been provided by the Japanese, as it is full of fabrications.

I have rebutted some of the misstatements in the documents, and have supplied factual information in several instances of which I had personal knowledge - the lack of medical treatment and necessities; the work hours, brutal treatment and torture, etc.

In closing, I thank you for your stand on torture. I also appreciate your stand on campaign funding. Except for normal campaign funding, all gifts should be declined.

There should be a rule set in stone - as it was when I was a supervisor for National Steel and General Motors. We were not allowed to accept gifts from our employees or from vendors. Anyone who did not abide by the rule was subject to dismissal. There is a saying: "What's good for General Motors is good for the country." This rule should apply to our government representatives.

Thanks for your service,  
Everett D. Reamer

PS. I will be sworn in as National Commander of the American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor (ADBC) at our annual meeting to be held in April, 2007 in Washington, DC. I would like for you and your family to attend and will provide details later.

Everett D. & Bernice C. Reamer  
2301 South Jamaica Blvd.  
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404  
928-855-0010

# events and information



**ONE MORE TRY** to find two or three guys who are ready, willing and able to re-trace by vehicle the long walk from Luft IV to the Bitterfeld or Fallingbostal areas this coming spring. For details contact Claude Watkins at 703 437 3939, e mail [clauwtk@aol.com](mailto:clauwtk@aol.com), Fax 703-437-1097 or at 11318 Fairway Court, Reston, VA 20190.

**April 7-9, 2006. Dept. of Tennessee Annual Convention** will be held at the Carnegie Hotel, Johnson City, TN. Contact: Commander Ruth M. Lewis, 105 Hughes Road, Watauga, TN 37694; 423-543-4391.

**April 26-27, 2006. The Dept. of Missouri State Convention** will be held at the Radisson Hotel, Branson, MO. For more information, contact Cmdr. Charles Crandell, 417-546-4634; or Adj/Treas. Delta Endicott, 816-657-4422.

**May 9-11, 2006. The Department of Minnesota will hold its 20th annual State Convention** at the Kelly Inn, St. Cloud, MN. For registration/reservation information contact Kenny Hanson at 1-952-888-2703.

**May 14-21, 2006. 505<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group - 313<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing "B-29" WWII Reunion** will be held in King of Prussia, PA. Contact: Samantha Kemp, 1-800-367-2577.

**May 16-20, 2006. The American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor National Convention** will be held at Embassy Suites Phoenix North; for hotel reservations, 800-527-7715. A registration form was printed in the Aug. 2005 Quan. Contact editor: Joe Vater, 18 War-

bler Drive, McKees Rocks, PA 15136; 412-771-3956.

**May 5-7, 2006. The Dept. of South Carolina convention** will be held at the Clarian Hotel Charleston, SC. Hotel reservations may be made directly by calling 843-572-2000. Ask for POW convention discounted rate. Contact Commander Reginald B. Salisbury, 2097 Cypress campground Rd, Ridgeville, S.C. 29472 or phone 843-688-5372.

**May 20, 2006. The Biggest POW and Purple Heart Luncheon** in our Nation will be held again at Hoban Hall, Barksdale AFB, Louisiana. Contact Steve dePyssler, 318-456-3520; [RAO@Barksdale.AF.mil](mailto:RAO@Barksdale.AF.mil).

**MAY 25-26, 2006. The Dept. of Georgia will hold their Annual State Convention** at the New Perry Hotel in downtown Perry, Georgia. For further information, contact Cmdr. Ray Reiersen at 912 925-7073 or Lloyd Pate at 706 556-9413.

**June 9-11, 2006. The Dept. of West Virginia State Convention** will be held at the Holiday Inn, Bridgeport, WV. Contact Dept. Cmdr. Charles Brown, 145 Seemont Dr., Kingwood, WV 26537; 304-329-1382, or Chapter Cmdr. Annette Smith, 621 Front St., Brownsville, PA 15417; 724-785-8536.

**June 21-22, 2006. The Dept of Iowa 2006 state convention** will be held at the Best Western Starlite Village located at the intersection of Highways 169 and 7 in Fort Dodge, Iowa. Motel reservations may be made directly at 1-800-903-0009, ext. 5. Contact Adjutant Pat Ludwig, P.O. Box 246, West Bend, Iowa 50597, 515 887-7409 or [patlesone@yahoo.com](mailto:patlesone@yahoo.com).

**July 20-24, 2006. The WWII PT Boats, Bases, Tenders 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Reunion** will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, Spokane, WA. All

Hands who served in the US Navy PT Boat Squadrons, Bases, Tenders, Supply, Communications, FEMU, Medical, as well as family and friends are welcome. Information may be obtained at PO Box 38070, Germantown, TN 38183; 901-755-8440; [ptboats@ptboats.org](mailto:ptboats@ptboats.org).

**August 24-27, 2006. The Department of Ohio State Convention** will be held at the Holiday Inn/Fremont, Ohio. Contact: "Doc" Unger, 1316 Sloane Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107 or call (216) 521-1889.

**August 27-30, 2006. The 1<sup>st</sup> Gathering of Bataan & Corregidor and Former Prisoners of War of the Far East (including Wake and Midway Islands)** will be held this year in Pigeon Forge, TN. Family, friends and guests are welcome. For reservations: Smoky Shadows, 1-800-362-1188. For information, call Wayne Carringer, 828-479-6205.

**Sept. 5-10, 2006. The Third Infantry Division Society** and attached units will hold their 87<sup>th</sup> reunion in Nashville, TN at the Sheraton Nashville Downtown Hotel; 1-800-325-3535. For reunion information, contact: John Shirley, 925-447-2256; [jbs Shirley@comcast.net](mailto:jbs Shirley@comcast.net) or Linda Irvine, 360-663-2521; [info@theReunionBrat.com](mailto:info@theReunionBrat.com).

**Sept. 28-Oct. 1, 2006. The 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Thunderbirds** will hold their annual reunion. Please contact: Raul Trevino, 2145 NE Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111; 210-681-9134.

**Sept. 20-23, 2006. 80<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division's 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion** will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Columbus, GA. Reservations call, 706-660-1000. Chairman Robert H. Burrows, Box 453, Broomfield, CO 80038; 303-439-2198.

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# looking for



My father was wounded in the **battle of the Meuse River in Belgium**. He was captured at that time and held in **Stalag VIIA**. He was nursed back to health by another POW; later he worked on the road crew that went into Munich after bombings to clear debris and fill in the craters. I'm looking for anyone who may have been in the battle, the camp or may have known my father or another soldier, Matt Urban, who was in the same battalion and battle. Thank you. Liz Rowland, 79 Cliffedge Way, Red Bank, NJ 07701.

I have been trying to locate a **Marine in Massachusetts**. The last I heard, he lived at 10 Arthur Park, Cambridge, MA. His name is **Roy McGuire**; his father's name was Edward. His grandmother was Marguerite Beaton. I haven't heard from him since 1946. I just wanted to know if any of his family is still with us. Sure appreciate any help. Thanks. Mrs. Beulah Selman, PO Box 142, Cowen, WV 26206.

I am the granddaughter of **Martel Hardy**. I know at one point he was in Camp 2. I also know he was part of the Death Valley march. He was captured Nov. 11, 1950 and was a POW for 36 months. I have a picture from a newspaper where he is with Lt. H.R. Carman, Major R.O. Shirlaw, Lt. G.W. Beale, Lt. Carl R. Lundquist and Ensign Gerald C. Carman. If you knew my grandfather, or were in Camp 2, please contact me. Dee Fortier, 702 New Bern Ave., Hampton, VA 23669.

We are looking for **POWs who were in Taiwan during World War II** and it is hoped they will come forward with their stories and any facts which will aid us in our research. We would appreciate help from anyone who might have information about surviving POWs or the former POW camps on Taiwan. If you can be of any assistance to us in any of these areas, we would like to hear from you. For information on the Kinkaseki Memorial and the POW camps on Taiwan, please contact the **TAIWAN POW CAMPS MEMORIAL SOCIETY** at the following address and phone/fax numbers: P.O. Box 665, Yung Ho, Taipei 234, Taiwan, R.O.C. Email: [society@powtaiwan.org](mailto:society@powtaiwan.org).

I'm looking for anyone who may have known **Bob Graham** in prison camp in Korea. I'm a childhood friend of his. He was captured February 11, 1951. He was a member of Co. A, 13th Eng, attached to 7th Division. Thank you. Stewart Flynn, 1223 12th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122.

I'm looking for information on my late grandfather, **Roy Austin Green**, (Serial No. 38697317) from Oklahoma. He was a rifleman in **Company "G", 109th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division**. He served with "G" company in the Battle of Hurtgen Forest, the Battle of the Bulge in the Ardennes, and was captured in the Colmar Pocket of France on January 27, 1945. My grandfather's rank at time of capture was Private First Class. He had been captured with two others: PFC Gregory F. Oleksak (Serial No. 31350096) and T-Sgt. Edward H. Serafin (Serial No. 35562168). My grandfather was held at **Stalag 5B** in Villingen, and later at **Stalag 5A** in Ludwigsburg. From the camp at Ludwigsburg, he and his fellow POWs took part in a forced march across Germany, until they were liberated outside of Ettringen, Germany on April 26, 1945. They had been liberated by the 23rd Tank Battalion, Combat Command R,

12th Armored Division. I'd greatly appreciate hearing from anyone who might have known my grandfather, or anyone else who had been held in the same camps or had also made the march from Ludwigsburg. Thank you. Ben Evans, 1404 E. James Ave. #204, Sapulpa, Oklahoma 74066.

I'm writing for my father, **Willie Alphonse**, who was a POW from Dec. 16, 1944-April 2, 1945. My dad was captured in Belgium, while he was assigned to the 333rd Infantry (Field Artillery Battery C). He was sent to Stalag 9B. I have been trying to help him locate four of his friends. Raymond Abney, Silvester Fisher, Wesley Forehand, and Theo Johnson. Thank you. Gloria J. Barrow, PO Box 1913, Daphne, AL 36526.

If you were in **Stalag Luft VI** and attended the burial of either **T/Sgt William Teaff, S/Sgt Walter Nies or S/Sgt George Walker**, please contact Claude Watkins at 707 437 3939, e mail [clauwtk@com](mailto:clauwtk@com); Fax 703 437 1097, or at 11318 Fairway Court Reston, VA 20190. This is connected with an effort to be made in the spring of 2006 to recover their remains.

I am looking for information from anyone who may have known or served with my dad, born 13 Aug 1907 in the Army during WWII. His name is Army PFC **Jose Delores Leyba**, born 13 Aug. 13, 1907; he died Dec. 22, 1961. He was inducted at Santa Fe, NM on Nov 16, 1943 and assigned to **Company L, 112th Inf., 28th Div.** He was captured in Germany and held from Nov. 8, 1944-May 1, 1945 at Stalag 2A Neubrandenburg, and Mecklenberg. He was liberated and returned to Hoff General Hospital, Longview, TX; also 312th Station Hospital, APO 652 (Not sure where located). Anyone who may have knowledge or information, please contact me at: Isabel Leyba Ballard, 2043 W 4975 S, Roy, UT 84067-2505; [rballard8825@msn.com](mailto:rballard8825@msn.com).

# Y our Stories



## Escape and Rescue

By Nathan Bassevitch  
1080 Arcadia Ave., Apt. 251  
Vista, CA 92084



On June 6, 1944, after spending 13 months in Camp Shelby, MS, I was sent to the 29<sup>th</sup> Division, 115<sup>th</sup> Reg. We landed June 6, 1944 in Normandy, France on Omaha Beach. I was a BAR man and scout. We hit the beach and were pinned down with lots of casualties. When we were able to move, we went to St. Lo. We took St. Lo three times before we were able to hold it. We were able to hold it only because General Eisenhower sent over 1500 bombers. With the loss of our battalion commander and our company commander, we were then taken to a rest area. On July 10, 1944, General Eisenhower praised us, and we were given the Croix de Guerre with the Palm and Croix de Guerre with the Silver Star.

The enemy was counter-attacking and we were called back into action. General Eisenhower sent 1000 bombers; then we were able to take Mt. Piercey. Again the enemy attacked, and we were taken prisoner. We only had eight men left. We were taken to several prison camps for interrogation, then sent to Mulberg in Sudetenland to work in three coal mines - Williamshaw, Henrickshaw and Marionshaw. We lost 60 men because there was very little coal - only slag.

After eight months, we were taken on a death march to the hills of Bavaria. My buddy, Bill Smith, and I decided that if we got the chance we would try to escape. When we got to Heiligen Christ, we were given a break. There was a big farmhouse not too far from where we were. If we could get there, we could go under the farmhouse and would be free.

During the night, my buddy and I fled to the farmhouse. When the Germans took head-count the next day, they were missing two men. We stayed under the farmhouse for two days without food or water. We came out from hiding and ran towards a large field. We spotted a jeep with two American soldiers in it. After drawing their attention, and telling them we were American prisoners, we asked them to take us to the company commander. General Patton's son was their battalion commander. We told him how we escaped. There were 250 American, Canadian and English prisoners in the camp, who were going to be executed if they were not rescued. We asked him to come back with us but he couldn't, so we asked for a jeep with a mounted machine gun, so we could go ourselves. After that, he decided to contact his father for further orders. General Patton gave the order to free the prisoners.

The rescue was a success and every soldier in the camp was freed. They took us to Army Intelligence

and then we went home. Later, I received the Bronze Star.

In 2002, my wife and I went back to Omaha Beach in Normandy. We saw how the town had been built up since the war. Everything was rebuilt, just like it never happened. The memories were all around me, as that day in 1944 came back to me. I was glad to see that the town looked so great. When we told some of the people who we were, we got hugs and kisses. Those people remembered that day in 1944 and they were grateful to the American soldiers for giving them back their freedom and their country. They spoke with us and showed us around their town. I was very touched and proud to be one of those Americans.

Since then, the French honored American soldiers from every military branch that was at Omaha Beach, Normandy in 1944. We were presented the Freedom Medal of France. Sixty-one years have passed since that day, but I was very proud as the medal was pinned to my chest.

## Why not Me

Edward Thomas  
6233 Mission Viejo Dr.  
Zephyr Hills, FL 33540

I drop into the icy sea, no time to think of what might be.

The shock of cold takes away my breath, how long before the hug of death?

My legs grow numb, as if they were not there.

I call for Mom, I saw a desperate prayer.

"I am your sheep, give me a glance.

Without your help, I have no chance.

If you should call, I cannot stay.

---

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## stories, continued...

But please dear Lord; not today."  
Tracers flying overhead as I bob  
here among the dead.  
Alone and scared, and yes I cry;  
Wanting to live, afraid I will die.  
I have no feeling in my hands, the  
waves I do not feel,  
As they wash the tears from my  
frozen face,  
My last senses to steal.  
My eyes they close, and from I  
know not where, a warm feeling  
begins to bloom,  
Like a feeling that I had felt once  
before, within my mother's  
womb.  
I am no ghost, I am alive, was I  
spared so I could write?  
How it felt, to give up my soul,  
One rough and winter night.

## Climbing Up the Downside

Bea Smith  
708 Stonecreek Circle  
Friendswood, TX 77546

Old age is like a melon  
Left too long in summer's sun;  
Grapes that start getting mushy  
When their centers are all gone;  
It's like the flowers of autumn  
When colors fade away;  
Like the energy of workmen  
At the end of a hard-work day.  
It's like the great sun setting  
After time of shining bright  
It dips its' glory westward  
Preparing for the night.  
It's all the busy critters  
That seek a resting place.  
It's like small children crying  
Too tired to show their face.  
Old age is like a lot of things  
But one sure thing it "ain't"  
Is youth in all its vigor  
When old bones cry out,  
"I cain't"!

---

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## Crash Landing

By Eugene Wiley  
10523 Beas Lane  
Conifer, CO 80433

On August 12, 1943, "Kansas City Killer", B-17 #230081, crippled and on fire, crashed in a field near Alstatte, Holland near the German border. The pilot, Gene Wiley, and nine crew members survived and were taken as POWs.

Herbert Temhagen, who was 17 years old at the time, witnessed the landing. He remembers, "I ran for my life when the big airplane came directly at me under a high voltage line a few meters above the highway and across the road. It was burning when it hit the ground. Moments after it belly landed, ten men climbed very fast out and sought a fast getaway."

In a nearby house, the two Vohrman sisters also watched the crash and still talk about it today. One tells that a member of the crew lost his boot as he ran from the burning aircraft and she found it later.

A schoolmaster took students to see the bomber, but did not stay long at the site for fear that there could still be bombs in the plane.

Other eyewitnesses told of seeing the smoking plane prior to the crash and how the local civil guard, civilians and border patrol surrounded the airmen with "pointed guns, pitchforks and clubs? Until the German Army men came and took charge and made us help put out the fire.

The nose was burnt off back to the wing and my "Kansas City Killer" was no more. That afternoon, we were all being held in a nearby fire department tool shed. That night we were taken to an air base and eventually on a two-day train ride to Frankfort and then to Dulag Luft nearby.

We were guests of the Luftwaffe and the British POWs ran the mess hall. We even had beer that Saturday night. When there were enough POWs to fill freight trains to Stalag Luft III and Stalag 17B, we would be shipped out.

## Soliloquy

Judy Klare  
8800 Johnson Road, #108  
The Plains, OH 45780

At last, free, he could then recall  
When, or if, he thought he'd live,  
Or die, in that German prison  
camp -  
A place called Stalag Luft One.  
"I think, at first," he says to  
himself,  
"I think we *hoped* we would live."

He closes his eyes for a  
moment...  
Day there began in early light,  
And cold...cold...cold; breakfast  
Might happen, or might not.  
The guards, indifferent, slow.  
Lunch, occasionally, a small  
potato.

Soon, he and the others thought  
Of little but food - dreaming  
food  
At night, daydreaming food by  
day.  
He now knows he will never  
forget  
That cold. Even the wintry sun  
Could not, did not, warm them.

When word had come, in April,  
Of President Roosevelt's death -  
A German broadcast,  
No one sure of his own  
translation -  
He remembers he thought  
It might be a grim deception.

Bewildered and abandoned, all  
Wondered what might  
happen next,  
But the end came noisily.  
He's heard Russian artillery;  
The Nazis seemed to sense  
downfall,  
And he had hope again.

# News Briefs

## CRDP

A dozen military and veterans associations met with Rep. Mike Bilirakis' staff on Jan. 25, 2006 to discuss concurrent receipt strategy for 2006 in light of last year's very modest progress. All present shared the same concern that the ongoing deliberations of the Veterans Disability Benefits Commission (whose reporting deadline was just extended until October 2007) give Congress a ready-made excuse to put off action on Bilirakis' broad concurrent receipt bill (H.R. 303). There was general agreement that the best potential for progress lies in incremental actions to help disabled retirees suffering the clearest inequities. The organizations reached consensus that the causes with the most compelling arguments for immediate implementation are:

- 1) The need to provide immediate payments for retirees designated by the VA as "unemployable."
- 2) The need to extend eligibility for Combat Related Special Compensation to Chapter 61 (medical) retirees who were forced by their disabilities to retire short of attaining 20 years of service.

The FY2006 Defense Authorization Act makes unemployables eligible for full payment in 2009 (vs. the previous 2014), but that still discriminates against this group, considering that all other members paid at the 100% disabled rate have full concurrent receipt now. Rep. Bilirakis has introduced H.R. 1366 to include Chapter 61 retirees in CRDP. Please urge your represen-

tative to cosponsor H.R. 1366 and H.R.303.

## Veterans Disability Benefits Commission

The purpose of the Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission (VDBC) is to carry out a study of the benefits under the laws of the United States that are provided to compensate and assist veterans and their survivors for disabilities and deaths attributable to military service, and to produce a report on the study.

The Commission members are appointed by the President and leaders of Congress, and the Commission is independent of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense. They can be contacted at (202) 756-7729/0229 Fax or by writing the Commission's Executive Director at 1101 Pennsylvania Ave NW, 5th Floor, Washington, DC 20004.

The Commission made public its anticipated field-hearing schedule on January 20th. The first city to be visited will be Tampa/St Petersburg, Florida on 15 -16 FEB 06 and will include participation by the entire commission. The Commission plans two sessions that will be open to the public. A town hall meeting at the Hilton Hotel scheduled the evening of the 15th from 1900 to 2100. The public meeting is scheduled for the 16th from 0845 to 1645. If you would like to make a formal presentation to the commission on the 16th, send your request to the Commission Chairman: James Terry Scott, LTG, USA (Ret) at the aforementioned address.

The Commission then plans to visit one city per month over the next eight months. At each of their stops, commissioners will meet with VA representatives, military treatment facility personnel, and interested veterans. The schedule includes visits to San Antonio

(March) followed by Chicago (April), St. Louis (May), San Diego (June), Seattle (July), Boston (August), and Atlanta (September). Interested veterans, retirees, survivors, and currently serving members are encouraged to attend and be heard. Additional information on the Disability Commission and upcoming field hearings can be found at: <http://www.vetscommission.org/index.htm>.

## New Museum Seeks Purple Heart Recipients

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is currently under construction in New York's Hudson River Valley at the New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site. Its mission is to collect and preserve the stories of Purple Heart recipients from all branches of the service and across the generations in an attempt to ensure that all recipients are represented. Their stories will be preserved and shared through exhibits, live and videotaped interviews with the veterans themselves, and the Roll of Honor, an interactive computer program preserving the stories of each individual.

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor the first in the nation to recognize the more than 800,000 Americans wounded or killed in action while serving in the United States Military. For more information or to have your story preserved as a Purple Heart recipient, contact Michael J. Clark, Project Coordinator, National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site, P.O. Box 207 (374 Temple Hill Road), Vails Gate, NY 12584-0207, telephone 845-561-1765, or via e-mail at [michael.clark@oprhp.state.ny.us](mailto:michael.clark@oprhp.state.ny.us).

## news briefs cont...

### BRAC Panel Wants More Time

The commission that recently helped decide which U.S. military bases to shutter wants another year of life - and \$1.2 million in taxpayers' money - to study a plan that may streamline the process of closing those facilities.

The nine-member commission is supposed to go out of business in April. But according to documents obtained by The Associated Press, it is proposing to spend an extra year investigating whether Congress should create a new public body that would oversee the closings.

Under current law, the Pentagon is in charge of shutting bases, a task it has performed in the four previous reorganizations of the military's domestic base network. The commission would examine whether a new public corporation and a foundation should take over the job.

### New Online Military Records System

The National Personnel Records Center is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to get copies of documents from their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents, including Discharge Documents DD 214.

Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur will be

minimized. The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records center's mailroom processing time. Former military personnel and their dependents can get more information at the National Archives website <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/get-service-records.html>.

### VA Appoints New Veterans' Liaison

Kevin B. Secor, of Woodbridge, VA., has been appointed as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs senior advisor on issues relating to major veterans groups. In his new role as special assistant to the Secretary, Secor will serve as the primary liaison between the department and veterans organizations, informing veterans groups about VA's efforts on their behalf while communicating the concerns of the veterans groups to Secretary Nicholson.

Secor is a retired from the Marine Corps Master Gunnery Sergeant, having served 29 years. His last active-duty post was as a military assistant and senior enlisted Marine with the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon.

### Wheelchair Fishing Boat

eFloridaVetsNews writes: MacDill AFB Marina in Tampa, Florida has available a pontoon fishing boat modified for veterans who use wheelchairs. Vets and their families have free use of the boat as long as they pay for the gas. The 24 foot 'Miss Beverly' is equipped with a wheelchair ramp, a 75 HP Mercury outboard motor and additional safety features for mobility-impaired individuals. Volunteers are available to meet and greet and escort users through the MacDill Entry Gate and pilot the boat.

For boat reservations, call the Marina at: (813) 828-4983. For a list of volunteers and their phone numbers, call the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), Florida Gulf Coast Chapter in Tampa at: (813) 935-6540. This boat was donated to MacDill by the PVA. MacDill maintains the boat and allows veterans and active duty personnel to use the boat, free of charge. The only criteria for free use is that one or more members of the boating party MUST have a mobility impairment, i.e., must be a wheelchair-user.

### Initial GAO findings Announced

The Government Accountability Office (GAO), reporting initial findings from an investigation requested by House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Chairman Steve Buyer (R-Ind.), and members of the Senate, has found that unrealistic assumptions, errors in estimates, insufficient data, and an unresponsive budget model contributed to health care funding shortfalls at the Department of Veterans Affairs in fiscal years 2005 and 2006.

GAO officials in their briefing said that VA is working hard to avoid repeating these errors. They stated that they had been told by VA officials that the department now receives monthly casualty reports from the Department of Defense, but had not yet confirmed that was the case. Such reports could enable VA to plan for war-related care requirements.

The funding shortages, which were discovered by VA officials in the spring of 2005, were ultimately addressed with supplemental funding.

The GAO will continue its review of the process used by the Administration to formulate the VA budget.



59<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION  
Oct. 3-8, 2006  
Nashville, TN  
Convention Registration



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

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Unit When Captured \_\_\_\_\_ Theatre \_\_\_\_\_ Camps \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION (per person) until September 1 ~ \$65.00 after Sept. 1 - \$70 no refund after Sept. 5

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1015 Mitchell Road

Nashville, TN 37206

*Saturday Night Banquet Choice:*

*Total Registration: \$* \_\_\_\_\_

**American Ex-Prisoners of War**  
**59<sup>th</sup> National Convention**  
**October 3-8, 2006**  
**AGENDA**

**Tues. Oct. 3**

National Service Officer Training  
Tours

**Wed. Oct. 4**

National Board of Directors Meeting

**Thurs. Oct. 5**

Opening Ceremonies  
National Legislation Program  
Medsearch Seminar  
Commander's Reception

**Fri. Oct. 6**

Men and Women's Workshops  
Education Seminar  
Ladies/PNCs Luncheons  
National Convention Call to Order  
Reunion Night

**Sat. Oct. 7**

Continuation of General Assembly  
Banquet & Installation of Officers

**Sun. Oct. 8**

National Board of Directors Meeting

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**Nashville, TN 37206**

**ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

We're planning a number of tours and other activities. Right now, we're still making plans, but more information will be in the May Bulletin.

Current tours are planned for Opryland and Jack Daniels. Others may be added. They will be on Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2006.

The Ladies Luncheon is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 6.

The PNC Luncheon is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 6.

Reunion Night will be Friday, Oct. 6.

Check the May Bulletin and/or Registration at the hotel once you check in.

**Ex-POW Bulletin**  
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59<sup>th</sup> National Convention  
October 3-8, 2006  
HOST HOTEL ~ Millennium Maxwell House Nashville  
2025 MetroCenter Boulevard, Nashville, TN 37228-1505  
tel: 615 259 4343 fax: 615 313 1327 reservation: 866 866 8086  
email: [maxwell@mhrmail.com](mailto:maxwell@mhrmail.com)

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Circle One: Visa      MasterCard      American Express      Discover      Diners Club  
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**ROOM RATES: \$79 PER NIGHT**

Please make your reservations prior to Sept. 1, 2006.  
Check in time is 3:00PM ~ Check-out time is 12:00 Noon  
complimentary continental breakfast, parking, airport shuttle,  
as well as complimentary shuttle within a 5 mile radius of the hotel  
Traveling I-40 (West) through downtown Nashville to exit #208 which is 65 North. Take 65 North,  
exit #85, MetroCenter Boulevard. Turn left, and at the second stoplight turn left again.



**American Ex-Prisoners of War  
Candidate for National Office  
2006**



Candidate for office of:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Member Chapter:

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

Date and Place of Capture:

Places of Internment:

Date and Place of Liberation:

Biography (Please attach, including picture):

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

Submit To:  
Jim Clark, Chairman  
214 Oakdale  
Bastrop, LA 71220  
(318) 281-5505  
[jaclark@bayou.com](mailto:jaclark@bayou.com)

**Ex-POW Bulletin  
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## contributions



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

### GENERAL FUND

Arthur Tilley, Bangor, ME  
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Thanks to Frank Kravetz and John Parkhurst, by F J Brunner  
In honor of Alexander Jefferson "Tuskegee Airmen", and David Westheimer "Von Ryan's Express" by Molly & Lou Loevsky  
In memory of Betty Wanhala, by Earl & Renee Miller  
In memory of Charlotte Mae Galloway, by Anna Agerbeck

In memory of Clarence Roggensack, by Bernice Roggensack  
In memory of deceased members of Ohio Chapter #1, by William & Mary Wentz

In memory of 'Gordy' Clark, by PNC Maurice & Bonnie Sharp

In memory of Hal Potts, by Bill & Nancy Fornes

In memory of Harry Carroll, Sr, by Amelia Inman

In memory of Thomas Byrnes, by Earl & Renee Miller

### LEGISLATIVE FUND

In memory of William Porter Lawrence, by the Department of Maryland

### MEDSEARCH FUND

Henry & Agnes Ullmer, Green Bay, WI  
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In memory of Blanch Caldwell, by Wichita Falls Chapter

In memory of Danny Dalyai, by the Department of Maryland

In memory of Harry Agro, by the Department of Maryland

In memory of Mildred 'Millie' Workman, by the Northwest Central Ohio Chapter

In memory of Steve Boros, by James Mariano

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### N.S.O. FUND

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### BULLETIN FUND

In memory of Charlotte Mae (Putnam) Galloway, by Robert Bearisto

In memory of my uncle, Richard Putnam Bearisto, by Robert Bearisto

## chaplain's corner



### National Chaplain

**John Romine**

1609 S. 23rd Street  
Rogers, AR 72758  
(479) 636-2287

It has been awhile since I have talked about prayer in our lives. Most of us forget that the true and living God has promised to reward in Heaven what we do here on earth. All we have to do is go to him in prayer and we can expect an answer. Maybe not as we hoped

for, but with thankful hearts we will be blessed with an answer. A prayer for a loved one who is dying, or for someone who is in a far off land facing mortal combat. Or perhaps just a simple prayer for some simple thing. Just ask any veteran and you will be told of hellish situations and there was no way to avoid being killed. But God, somehow, protected him and brought him home - maybe because of a mother's prayer. May we take time to praise God for being with us and loving us and showering His blessings upon us in so many ways.

**Let us pray:** Almighty and our True and Living God, as we pause to offer up to you praise and glory as well as our wants and needs, we do ask that You hear our prayers and answer them in Your own most holy way. We do give thanks for the blessings that come to us each and every day. For the caring and shar-

ing of Your love and the life that You have given to us and our great nation. Help us to know when and how to pray for others. May the sick and afflicted find - in Your care - comfort and assurance that better times will be given to them through Your way and will. In His blessed and holy name we pray. AMEN.

**Thought for the month:** Keep praying, but be thankful that God's answers are much wiser than ours.

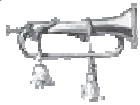
**And a little humor:** A boy was watching his father, a pastor, write a sermon." How do you know what to say?" he asked.

"Why, God tells me."

"Oh, then why do you keep crossing things out?"

---

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# taps



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

**AGRO, Harry C.**, 81, of Baltimore, MD passed away Jan. 13, 2006. Her served in the Navy during WWII and was a POW of the Japanese for nearly three years. Harry was a life member of AXPOW and a member of the Albert J. Bland Maryland North Chapter. He was the beloved husband of Marlene and the late Madeline Agro.

**ARNOLD, Forrest B.**, 86, of Ocala, FL died June 11, 2005. He served in the 36<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. during WWII. He was wounded in Italy; once he recovered, he returned to his unit. Shortly afterward, he was captured and held until liberation. Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Betty, 1 son, 2 daughters, 9 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and 1 sister.

**BAILA, Earl E.**, 81, of Pittsburgh, PA passed away Dec. 31, 2005. He was a proud member of the Pittsburgh Chapter, AXPOW. Earl was serving with the Army, Co., B, 23<sup>rd</sup> Reg., 2<sup>nd</sup> Inf. Div. during WWII. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and held in Stalag 13C. Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Edith, 2 daughters and 1 grandson. Extended family and friends remember him as a great man and a real joy in their lives.

**BENFORADO, Joseph**, of Cary, NC died Nov. 24, 2005. He was 82. He was wounded and captured during the Battle of the Bulge while serving with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Army during WWII. He was interned in Stalag 12A. He is survived by his wife, Judith, 2 sons, 2 daughters and 6 grandchildren.

**BODE, Peggy A.**, 76, of Okeene, OK passed away Jan. 14, 2006. She and her late husband, Ex-POW Edward, were active members of the American Ex-Prisoners of War, Central Oklahoma Chapter. She will be missed by her four daughters, six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and a host of friends.

**BYERS, Lloyd R.**, 84, of Magna, UT passed away recently. During WWII, he served with the 515<sup>th</sup> Coast Artillery in the Philippines. He was captured April 8, 1942 and survived the Bataan Death March and 3 ½ years in Philippine and Japanese POW camps. He was a life member of AXPOW. His wife, Ruth, 3 sons, 5 granddaughters, 4 great-grandsons and 1 great-granddaughter survive him.

**CALDRONE, Thomas W.**, of Youngstown, OH died Nov. 14, 2005. Tom was in the Army during WWII, serving with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Inf., 9<sup>th</sup> Reg. He fought in four major battles before being captured in the Battle of the Bulge. He was a member of the Steel Valley Chapter #13, AXPOW. He leaves his wife, Ida, 1 son, 1 granddaughter, 4 sisters and 1 brother.

**CORBETT, Hubert D.** passed away Oct. 11, 2005 in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada at the age of 84. He served in the Army with the 88<sup>th</sup> Div., 350<sup>th</sup> Inf., Co. A. He was a POW in Germany. He was a member of the former Maine Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife of 58 years, Ruth, and three children.

**CREECH, Melvin Rudolph**, of the N. C. Coastal Plains Chapter, AXPOW died January 5, 2006. He served his country during the Battle of the Bulge in WWII, and he was taken a prisoner there. Mr. Creech is survived by his wife of 60 years, Ruby, two daughters, one son, two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**DALYAI, Danny**, 84, of Frederick, MD passed away July 26, 2005. During WWII, he served in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Army, 394<sup>th</sup> Inf., Co. B., 99<sup>th</sup> Div. He was held prisoner in XIIC, XIID and VIIA. Danny was a life member of AXPOW and member of the Chuck Williams Mid-Maryland Chapter. He is survived by 1 son, 1 daughter and 3 grandchildren.

**ELLIS, Joseph D.**, of Raleigh, NC died recently. Joe was serving in the Air Force on a B-17 when he was shot down over Nuremberg, Germany on Feb. 20, 1945. He was captured and held until liberation at Stalag 7A. He is survived by his wife, Rusty, and crewmate/campmate/good friend, Boots Mayberry.

**ENGLAND, Lem L.**, 83, of Mountain Brook Village, Kentucky died May 25, 2005. Lem was a POW in Germany during WWII. He leaves his wife, Arleane, 3 daughters, 1 son, 13 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, 2 sisters and numerous nieces and nephews.

**FAGER, James (Jim)**, 82, of Crosslake, MN died Dec. 25, 2005. He served with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 351<sup>st</sup> BG, 509<sup>th</sup> BS as a B-17 tail gunner. His plane went down over Belgium and he was captured and held prisoner in Germany until liberation. Jim was a member of Lakes Region Chapter, AXPOW. Surviving are his wife, Myrna, 1 son and 1 daughter.

**FLICKENGER, Edward M.**, of Lowellville, OH passed away Sept. 16, 2005. He served in the Army, 320<sup>th</sup> Inf., 35<sup>th</sup> Div. He was taken prisoner during the Battle of the Bulge. He was a life member of AXPOW and member of Steel Valley Chapter #13. Ed is survived by his wife of 50 years, Lila May.

**FULLMER, Junior P., "Sparky"**, 88, of Stewartstown, WV died Jan 4, 2006. He was captured while serving in the Army during WWII. Sparky was a member of the Barbed Wire Mountaineers Chapter, AXPOW. His wife, Loretta, predeceased him; he is survived by 1 daughter.

**HANEY, John William**, 83, of Tucson, AZ passed away Jan. 4, 2006. While serving with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, his plane was shot down and he was captured. He spent the duration of the war at Stalag Luft 1, Barth. John was past Chapter Commander and

# taps continued

past Arizona Dept. Commander. He leaves his wife, Prudence, 1 daughter, 1 son, 3 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**HATFIELD, Virginia Elizabeth**, of Wichita Falls, TX died Jan. 8, 2006 at the age of 83. Virginia, along with her late husband, John, was an active member of the Wichita Falls Chapter, AXPOW. Virginia was past chapter commander and John helped organize the TX State Dept. She is survived by 1 daughter, 3 sons, and 4 grandchildren.

**HOLLINGSWORTH, Holly**, 81, a former Colorado Springs resident, died Sept. 7, 2005 in Boulder, CO. During WWII, Holly flew missions out of Tunis and Foggia, Italy as a gunner on a B-17. After being shot down, he was interned in Lufts VI and IV before being marched across Germany. He is survived by two sons and one daughter.

**HOLLINGSWORTH, Leon**, 81, of Blue Springs, MO passed away Nov. 15, 2005. He served in the 36<sup>th</sup> Infantry during WWII in Italy. He spent 15 months as a POW in Germany. Survivors include his wife, Colleen, 1 son, 1 daughter and 3 grandchildren. He was a member of the Kansas Chapter, AXPOW.

**JACKSON, Charlotte (Peters)**, of San Mateo, CA, died in January, 2006. Charlotte was captured at age eight, along with her parents Frank and Esther Peters, and spent over three years in Santo Tomas. Her sister, Sadie, was born in the internment camp. Charlotte is survived by Roger, her husband of 47 years, and two sons. She was a member of BACEPOW Chapter.

**KERN, Richard L.**, of Topeka, KS died Nov. 2, 2005. During WWII, he served in the Air Force. He was shot down on "Black Thursday" over Schweinfurt, Germany and became a POW, held in Stalag 17B. He was past commander of the Kansas Chapter, AXPOW. His wife, Marcella, predeceased him; survivors include 1 son,

1 brother, 1 sister, 3 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

**KIERNAN, Joseph**, 81, of Rhinebeck, NY died Jan. 1, 2006. He served in the Army during WWII. He was a POW in Germany from Sept. 17, 1944-April 29, 1945. He leaves his wife, Irene, 5 children, 13 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren and 2 sisters.

**LAWRENCE, William Porter**, 75, of Crownsville, MD died Dec. 2, 2005. During the Vietnam War, he served in the Navy. He was captured on June 28, 1967 and was held prisoner in the notorious "Hanoi Hilton" until March 1973, enduring torture and solitary confinement. Once, when a high-ranking general was being punished for organizing a religious meeting, he led the POWs in singing "The Star Spangled Banner". He was a member of AXPOW and the Dept. of Maryland. His wife of 21 years, Diane, 1 son, 2 daughters, 1 stepson and 5 grandchildren survive him.

**LITTLEJOHN, Roy Kenneth**, of Gadsden, AL died Jan. 8, 2006. During WWII, he served with the 313<sup>th</sup> BS. He was captured and held POW for one year. He was a member of the Cheaha Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife, Maxine, 1 son, 2 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren and 1 sister.

**LOCKE, Lorraine C.**, 82, of Hooksett, NH died November 22, 2005. During WWII, she worked for Textron, sewing parachutes. Her husband, Ex-POW Arthur, survives her; she also leaves 2 daughters, 6 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and 1 sister. She and her husband were active members of the NH Chapter, AXPOW and ADCB.

**McCALLA, Charles**, of Oklahoma City, OK passed away Jan. 8, 2006. He served with the 100<sup>th</sup> Div., 397<sup>th</sup> Inf. (H). He was captured in France and interned at Moosberg. He is survived by his wife, one son and two daughters.

**MENG, Dorothy "Dot"**, of Herculancum, MO died Dec. 10, 2005. She was the beloved wife of

Ex-POW Elmer "Red", who served with A Co., 301<sup>st</sup> Reg. 94<sup>th</sup> Div. Both Dot and Red were life members of AXPOW.

**MURPHY, Jack W.**, 88, of Hummelstown, PA passed away Dec. 20, 2005. Jack was a veteran of the AAC, flying with the 97<sup>th</sup> BG out of Foggia, Italy. He was shot down and captured. He was originally held in the death camp at Mauthausen; later he was moved to Luft 1, Barth. Jack was a member of the Capital City Chapter, AXPOW. He is survived by his wife, Edythe, 1 son, 1 daughter, 1 sister and 4 grandchildren.

**MEYER, Luella E.**, of Holland, Indiana, beloved wife of Ex-POW Vernon Meyer for 59 years, passed away on September 23, 2005 at age 86. Vernon served with Company E, 331st Regiment, 83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division. He was captured near Carentan, France on July 4, 1944. She is survived by her husband, two daughters, one son and a sister. She was preceded in death by one daughter. She was a member of the Southern Indiana Chapter, AXPOW.

**MOERKE, Robert**, 81, passed away Sept. 21, 2005. He was a life member of AXPOW and JVC of Brevard Space Coast Chapter. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Patricia, 3 children, 5 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and 2 brothers.

**NEWCOMB, Harry, Jr.**, 83, of Springfield, VA passed away Sept. 16, 2005. He was a bombardier on a B-17 which was shot down over Germany. He was captured and held in Stalag Luft 1, Barth. Harry was a member of the Bill Rolen Memorial Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include one sister, Jane Straubinger.

**NGUYEN, Van Thoi**, 57, a former Vietnamese prisoner of war who forged a close bond with U.S. servicemen who fought in his homeland, died Dec. 15, 2005 in Arlington, VA. Mr. Nguyen was drafted into the

## taps continued

South Vietnamese army in 1966. With the fall of Saigon in 1975, he was placed in a re-education camp for two years before securing his release through negotiations and the payment of a ransom. Upon his release, he smuggled his family out of Vietnam and eventually ended up in Washington, D.C. Survivors include his wife, Ngoc Thi Tran, 4 children and 1 granddaughter.

**PARSONS, William H**, 85, of the Vermont Chapter AXPOW, passed away on Nov. 25, 2005. He lived in Brattleboro, VT, formerly in Cooperstown, NY. He served in the AAC, 546<sup>th</sup> BS, 384<sup>th</sup> BG. He was shot down during his first combat mission. He was a POW for 17 months at Stalag Luft I in Barth. He is survived by his wife of 17 years, Betty, two sons, his wife's children, several grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**PATTERSON, Robert A.**, of Mt. Vernon, VA, formerly of Pittsburgh, PA. During WWII, he served with the 384<sup>th</sup> BG, 8<sup>th</sup> AF. He was shot down and held in Stalag 17B, Krems, Austria. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Kathryn Elizabeth.

**RAWLINS, Russell N., Sr.**, age 85, of Lumber City, GA passed away Nov. 30, 2005. He served in the Navy on the USS Langley, the Navy's first aircraft carrier. In the spring of 1942, his plane was shot down; he was held by the Japanese for 3 ½ years. Survivors include his loving wife, Patricia Ann, 2 sons, 2 daughters, 1 stepson, 1 stepdaughter and several grandchildren.

**RENDALL, William A. "Scottie"**, of Texas, passed away September 19, 2005. He was serving as a navigator on a B-24, with the 44<sup>th</sup> BG, when he was shot down. He worked with the French resistance for six months

before the Gestapo caught up with him, eventually taking him to Stalag Luft III. He is survived by his bride of 63 years, Mildred, a son, two daughters and a host of extended family and friends.

**RICHARDSON, Ward R.**, of Traverse City, MI died Nov. 13, 2005. He was 81. He served in the Military Police and Escort Guard in Alabama and North Africa before volunteering for the Infantry. He fought with the 106<sup>th</sup> Division in the Battle of the Bulge, was captured and held prisoner until liberation. He leaves behind his wife of 60 years, Doris, 2 daughters, 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

**RICKARD, Muriel**, widow of Ex-POW William, passed away in Sept. 2005 in Hubbard, OH. She was a member of the Steel Valley Chapter #13. Three children survive her.

**SLETTA, Lester James**, of Colorado Springs, CO died June 21, 2005. Les served with Co. A, 9<sup>th</sup> Inf. Reg., 2<sup>nd</sup> Div. in the US Army. He was wounded and captured during the Battle of the Bulge. He was interned in Oflag 79. His wife, Jeanne, 1 son and 1 granddaughter survive him.

**UNIC, Walter J.**, 86, of Rumford, RI passed away Jan. 23, 2005. He was serving as a T/Sgt. with Battery A, 60<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Artillery when he was captured in the Philippines. Walter was a life member of AXPOW and ADBC. He is survived by his beloved second wife of 14 years, Amelia, 2 stepchildren, 6 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

**WANHALA, Elizabeth Caroline "Betty"**, of Hibbing, MN passed away Jan 14, 2006. She was 81. Betty was an active member and current commander of the Arrowhead Chapter, AXPOW. She was the widow of Wiljo (Bill) Manhala, original commander of the chapter. Betty is survived by 1 son, 1 daughter, 7 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

**WEBER, Richard D.**, of Newport News, VA died Nov. 14, 2005. He was captured in December 1941 while serving with the State Dept. behind

the lines in China. He was held prisoner until Aug. 1945. He was a member of the James L. Hale Memorial Chapter, AXPOW. His wife, Ruth, 2 daughters, 3 sons and 8 grandchildren survive him. He will be missed by family, friends and POW buddies.

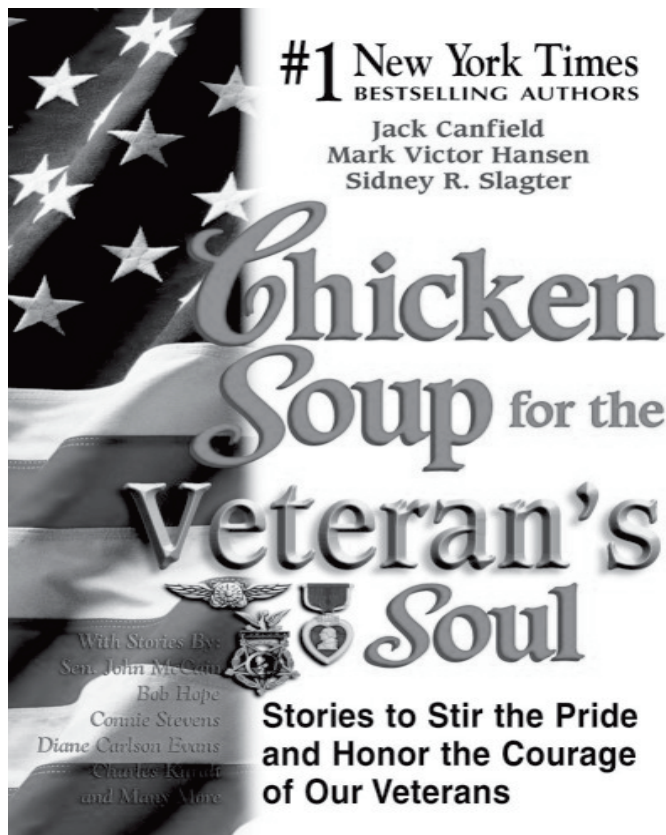
**WEBSTER, Pauline**, age 78, of Toledo, OH died Jan. 7, 2006. She was the widow of Ted Webster, who served with the 95<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. (Iron Men of Metz). Ted passed away in April, 2005. Both were active members of the Maumee Valley Chapter, AXPOW. She is survived by 1 daughter, 3 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

**WHITBY, Harry**, of Halifax, NC, passed away January 22, 2006. He served with the 83<sup>rd</sup> Div., 331<sup>st</sup> Reg. during WWII. He was a POW in Stalags 12A and 7A. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Lucille, one daughter, two sons, two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**WOODRUFF, Cecil**, 88, of Overbrook, KS passed away Sept. 2, 2005. He was captured while serving with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 457<sup>th</sup> BG, flying out of England. He was a member of the Kansas Chapter, AXPOW. He left his love of farming and country living to his children and grandchildren.

**YOUNG, William M.**, of Dixon Springs, TN passed away Aug. 17, 2005. He served in the Air Force, 480<sup>th</sup> anti-submarine, 36<sup>th</sup> FG. He was shot down and imprisoned in Sagan, then marched west to Moosberg. He leaves his wife, Faith, 1 son, 1 daughter and 4 grandchildren.

**ZION, William (Bill)**, 84, passed away March 8, 2005. While serving with the 5<sup>th</sup> Engineers Regiment, he was shot and captured at the Battle of the Bulge. He remained a POW until the end of the war. Bill established and served as the Commander of the Central Savannah River Area Chapter, AXPOW in Aikin, SC. He is survived by his bride of 59 years, Stella, 3 daughters, 2 sons, 10 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.



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**Ex-POW Bulletin**  
**March/April 2006**

**29**

# new members

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



## New Annual Members Welcome Home!

Dean Gehring  
Pearlena  
Port Orchard, FL  
38 Reg. 2 Div.  
KOREA

Catherine F. Colonnese  
Miami Beach, FL  
Daughter of Frank Colonnese, ETO

Richard A. Winters  
Holly Hill, FL  
Shantong Peninsula  
Goosebay School  
House, 1947

Bernard E. Hill  
West Liberty, KY  
15 AF  
Chomur, Bulgaria  
6/44-9/44

John M. Maxwell, Jr.  
Erla C  
Greenville, PA  
8 AF, 401 BG H  
Luft 1  
3/28/45-5/5/45

Richard D. Carter  
Henderson, TX  
AAF  
17B, BKS, 29B  
4/25/44-5/7/45

## New Life Members Welcome Home!

**\*denotes new member to AXPOW**

Robert E. Boulware  
Zhuohua "Wendy" 18605 39095  
Oklahoma City, OK

96 BS 2 BG H  
Luft 4, Frankfort, Wetzlar

David J. Fleischer 39096  
Camp Hill, PA  
Son of Neil E. Fleischer, ETO

Ann Borneo 39097  
Ocean, NJ  
Widow of John R. Borneo  
Luft 3, 11B  
5/27/44

Robert L. St. Louis 39098  
Stuart, FL  
83 Div. 331 Inf. K Co.  
12A, 7A  
7/13/44-4/29/45

William F. Meller, Sr. 39099  
Columbia, SC  
28 Div. 110 Inf.  
9B, Zeigenheim  
12/16/44-3/31/45

Sadie Mares 39100  
Albuquerque, NM  
Widow of Raymond Mares  
Manila

Edward A. Deaton \*39101  
Cody, WY  
BTRY F 17FA 2 CORP  
Camp 66 Italy, Stalags 7A, 3B, 3A,  
3D, 11A  
2/14/43

Phyllis Scott 39102  
Milton, DE  
Widow of  
Gilbert H. Scott  
Bucharest, Romania

David Earle Baker \*39103  
Mitchellville, MD  
21TAC Air Sp. Sqd.  
Cambodia  
6/27/72-2/12/73

Walter E. Burns  
Ann R \*39104 39105  
Frankfort, IL  
Army  
Germany

James H. Bricker  
Ruth Anne \*39106 39107  
Port St. Lucie, FL  
Army  
9B

Ross Clark  
Liz \*39108 39109  
Billings, MT  
Son of Gordon Clark

Eugene Reagan Heartfield  
Margaret \*39110 39111  
Fredericksburg, TX  
397 BG 597 BS  
Luft 3, 13D, 7A  
8/7/44-4/29/45



Ex-POW Bulletin  
March/April 2006

# 50/50 drawing

**Latest winners drawn in Denver, CO  
October, 2005**

1st Place, \$1140.00 - Fred Frey, Montgomery, AL  
2nd Place, \$855.00 - Joe Tannehill, McAlester, OK  
3rd Place, \$570.00 - Victor Breite, St Louis, MO  
4th Place, \$285.00 - John Petruska, Pittsburgh, PA

These drawings help raise money needed for our operating expenses. They allow our members to participate in a very worthwhile project, while giving them a chance to win. 50% of the donations will be given to the General Fund and the other 50% are awarded as prizes.

The amounts are determined after all donations are received. You do not have to be present to win. Please make copies of the tickets on the other side and offer them to your Chapter members, family and friends. We are asking \$5.00 for 6 tickets. These donations are not tax deductible. Fill out the tickets and send them and your donations to:

**National Headquarters ~ 50/50 Drawing  
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Arlington, TX 76010-5396.**

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Brigadier General, USA (Retired)  
Commissioner,  
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**Ex-POW Bulletin  
March/April 2006**

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

**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

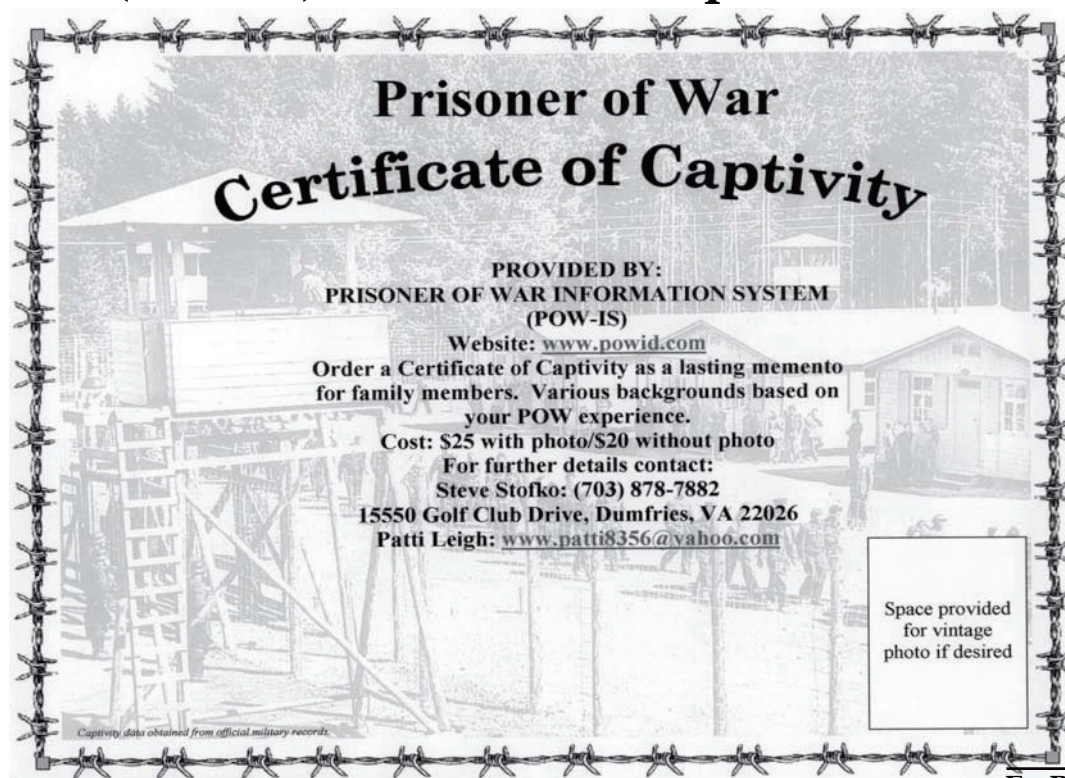
(817) 649-0109 fax

e-mail: [hq@axpow.org](mailto: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       | \$ 30 |
| Husband & wife          | \$ 40 |

| Under 35                | \$360 |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 36-50                   | \$300 |
| 51-60                   | \$180 |
| 61 & over               | \$120 |
| Spouse of life member   | \$ 40 |
| Annual Membership Rates |       |
| Single Membership       | \$ 30 |
| Husband & wife          | \$ 40 |

**Provided by: Prisoner of War Information System  
(POW-IS) Website: [www.pow-is.com](http://www.pow-is.com)**

A template for a "Prisoner of War Certificate of Captivity". The certificate is framed by a border of barbed wire. The background is a faded image of a POW camp with wooden buildings and a guard tower. The text on the certificate includes: "Prisoner of War Certificate of Captivity", "PROVIDED BY: PRISONER OF WAR INFORMATION SYSTEM (POW-IS)", "Website: [www.powid.com](http://www.powid.com)", "Order a Certificate of Captivity as a lasting memento for family members. Various backgrounds based on your POW experience.", "Cost: \$25 with photo/\$20 without photo", "For further details contact: Steve Stofko: (703) 878-7882, 15550 Golf Club Drive, Dumfries, VA 22026, Patti Leigh: [www.patti8356@yahoo.com](mailto:www.patti8356@yahoo.com)", and a box labeled "Space provided for vintage photo if desired". At the bottom left, it says "Captivity data obtained from official military records."

Ex-POW Bulletin  
March/April 2006



## Magnetic Ribbons \$5.00

### AXPOW Vest Order Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

Price: \$50.00, includes shipping/handling

Please allow 8-10 weeks for delivery.

Mail orders to:

**AXPOW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**

**3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40**

**Arlington, Texas 76010-5396**

|                                        |       |                                                    |       |                                                      |       |
|----------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Official AXPOW Cap (specify size)      | 25.00 | Vest Chainguard w/eagles                           | 7.00  | AXPOW Metal License Plate Frame                      | 6.00  |
| Maroon AXPOW Sport Cap                 | 8.00  | Travel Alarm Clock with case                       | 10.00 | Aluminum License Plate                               | 3.00  |
| Eagle Sport Cap                        | 9.00  |                                                    |       | 3" Vinyl Decal                                       | 1.00  |
| Vinyl Cap Bag                          | 3.00  | 3" Blazer Patch                                    | 3.50  | 3" Inside Decal                                      | 1.00  |
| Barbed Wire pin                        | 2.50  | 4" Blazer Patch                                    | 3.50  | 8" Vinyl Decal                                       | 5.00  |
| Life Member pin                        | 4.00  | 8" Blazer Patch                                    | 10.00 | 12" Vinyl Decal                                      | 10.00 |
| Crossed Flags Lapel pin                | 4.00  | <b>CLOTH STRIPES</b> (specify which title)         | 2.00  | Bumper Sticker "Freedom Is Happiness"                | 1.50  |
| Brooch pin                             | 4.00  | Life Member • Chapter Commander                    |       | Bumper Sticker "Freedom – Ask us"                    | 1.50  |
| EX-POW pin (goldtone)                  | 4.00  | Past Chapter Commander • Chapter Adj/Treas Chapter |       | Magnetic Ribbons                                     | 5.00  |
| Logo pin                               | 4.00  | Adjutant • Chapter Treasurer                       |       | Memorial Seals                                       |       |
| POW Stamp pin                          | 2.50  | State Department Commander                         |       | 3 sheets, \$1.00; 10 sheets, \$3.00; 20 sheets, 5.00 |       |
| Past Chapter Commander pin             | 4.00  | Past State Dept. Commander • Department Adjutant   |       | AXPOW Daisies (dozen)                                | 1.50  |
| Past Department Commander pin          | 4.00  | Department Treasurer • Sr. Vice Commander          |       | In lots of 12, (ie , 24, 36, 48, etc.-per dozen)     | 1.25  |
| Eagle pin w/Barbed Wire                | 7.00  | Jr. Vice Commander • Chaplain • Historian          |       | Wall Clock (battery included)                        | 20.00 |
| (specify gold, silver or antique gold) |       | Service Officer • Legislative Officer              |       | AXPOW Notecards (pkg of 25)                          | 5.00  |
| Necktie w/logo woven in fabric         | 20.00 | Past Chapter Officer • Past Department Officer     |       | Special Prayer Cards (pkg of 25)                     | 5.00  |
| (specify regular or pre-tied)          |       |                                                    |       | AXPOW Prayer Book                                    | 2.00  |
| AXPOW Logo Bolo Tie                    | 15.00 | 12x18 inch American Flag                           | 5.00  | Ladies Prayer Book                                   | 1.00  |
| U.S. Flag Bolo Tie                     | 18.50 | 12x18 AXPOW Graveside Flag                         |       | POW Medal Poster Print                               | 5.00  |
| Mini POW Medal Bolo Tie                | 20.00 | 10.00                                              |       | AXPOW By-Laws                                        | 5.00  |
| Goldtone Bolo Bezel w/cord             | 9.00  | 3x5 ft. AXPOW Flag w/3-color logo                  |       | POW Videotape – ETO or Pacific                       | 11.00 |
| Logo Necklace & Pierced Earrings       | 10.00 | with fringe, indoor use                            | 60.00 | "Speak Out" Education Packet                         | 6.00  |
| 2" Medallion (for plaque)              | 4.00  | with grommets, outdoor use                         | 60.00 | Canvas Totebag w/4" logo                             | 15.00 |

**We accept Master Card/Visa**

| QUANTITY | ITEM | SIZE / COLOR | PRICE |
|----------|------|--------------|-------|
|          |      |              |       |
|          |      |              |       |
|          |      |              |       |
|          |      |              |       |

For orders up to 7.99, add \$3.00; For orders 8.00 to 24.99, add \$7.00

For orders 25.00 to 49.99, add \$10.00; For orders 50.00 to 99.99, add \$13.00

For orders over 100.00, add \$18.00 Checks/Money Order/Credit Card Accepted.

**Shipping/Handling/Insurance:**

**Total: \$**

**For credit card orders:** Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

(Check one) Master Card \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

*As they've done for years, on January 28<sup>th</sup>, Vietnam Ex-POWs met at the Nam Viet Restaurant for good food and camaraderie. This year, they also met to pay tribute to Nguyen Van Thoi, restaurant owner and good friend, who died in December, 2005. They were joined by Mr. Thoi's family.*



## Welcome American Heroes POW Reunion & Families

REUNION OF TET 2006



# AXPOW Travel Alarm Clock

## New Item!

AXPOW Travel Clock with alarm  
Comes complete with battery and gift box  
Face of clock measures 2" diameter  
Clock folds to 3 3/4" square and 1" thick

**\$10.00** plus s/h/i



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

change of address form

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

Please print:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Please allow 4 weeks to make address corrections.

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

Subscription Rates -- non members  
\$20.00 per year

Foreign subscriptions  
\$30.00 per year

Now accepting MasterCard/Visa

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

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

