

EX-POW BULLETIN

the official voice of the

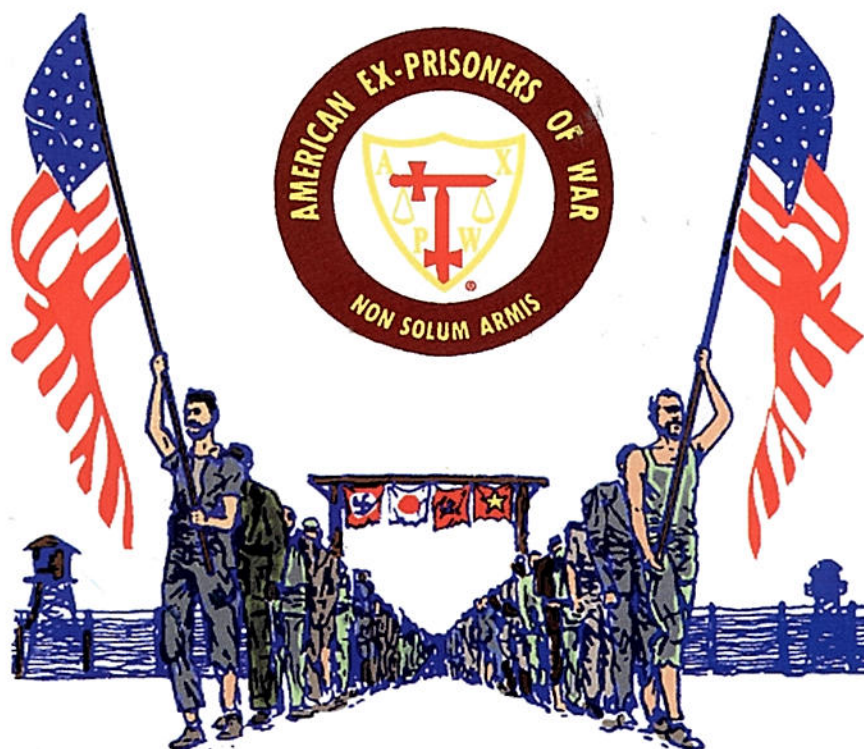
American Ex-Prisoners of War

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August 2005



We exist to help those who cannot help themselves



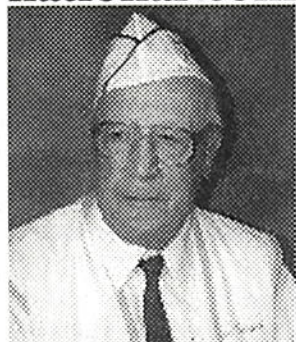
*Inside: Election 2005 candidates...national convention
information...news, events, NSO success stories...
and more*



Clockwise from top left: POW/MIA Ceremony at Leavenworth VA ~ Harry Kelley, Clarence Neitzel, John Reichley (speaker), Steve Woelk, Ben Lohman (Cmdr.) & Bob Besinger; MD-East Chapter at the dedication of the new Veterans Memorial ~ Guy Martin, Cmdr. Joseph Sangermano (with wreath) and Clifton Streat; Brooklyn, NY names street for the late Peter H. Leone of the Brooklyn "Key" Chapter. Leone's son, Charles, is holding the sign; #4&5, The Ft. Worth Chapter celebrates Independence Day. The float won 1st prize for Unique Non-Commercial Entry; Members of the Texas Panhandle Chapter on POW Recognition Day in Amarillo, TX; Forties Night, St. Paul's Lutheran School ~ Albert J. Bland MD North Chapter Cmdr. Milton Price, Sr., Veteran of the Year, Orville Hughes, Bud Huson, 6th grade teacher Denise Wright, State Cmdr. Jack Meyers, Charles Rutkowski and Walter Czawlytko.



national commander



James Cooper

I recently received a letter from Mrs. Beth Brooks who copied enough people that I thought this column would be the best forum to answer her. She stated that she was right, honorable and true and our operating standards in AXPOW do not meet these standards. I assume Mrs. Brooks' statement that she is right means correct and is not her position in the political spectrum. I was also pleased to note the comma between right and honorable. She further stated that she had thought long and hard and brought all of the knowledge she had. Excellent advice for us all. The following are some of my observations of her letter.

The writer stated she contacted her Congressman's office and was informed that we had not re-chartered our organization. That is correct. But she further states our charter restricts our membership to certain wars. Obviously Mrs. Brooks isn't familiar with our charter. The paragraph in our charters states, in its entirety: Para 2105 Membership: Eligibility for membership in the corporation and the rights and privileges of the members shall be as provided in the bylaws. Sorry, Mrs. Brooks, we are not in violation of our charter. Mrs. Brooks also reports checking with the members of the Membership committee. Our Adjutant contacted two of the three members of the committee to clarify this. They stated Mrs. Brooks had not contacted them.

In a separate, lengthier letter, she states my May column indicated I was aware of problems before the meeting. This is correct, which is why I wrote to President Norm Bussel of the Foundation on 4 March 2005 and asked him to attend our meeting to discuss Foundation finances. On 15 March 2005 I received a reply stating

they would not attend our meeting, as his closed meeting was the place to discuss their finances. Mr. Bussel did not ask why we wished to bring it up. We made no attempt to keep anyone in the dark. As a matter of fact, I had copies of my May column available at the Board of Directors meeting in Washington, DC.

The Scrooge list had been published. It was public knowledge as were the other reports criticizing the Foundation. When the vote was taken four members abstained. Mrs. Brooks presumes they were confused. Since debate was not cut off and no one had any more questions, it is possible they voted their conscience. Mrs. Brooks states that the Foundation was caught by surprise and offered no rebuttal. Not true. The President spoke and defended one point - that only 1% was spent on programs. PNC Mottern spoke and, as a matter of fact, so did Mrs. Brooks, who stated that other than the Foundation members' wives; she was the only person to attend their meetings. I congratulated her as no one else was ever invited, certainly not the members of our board even those were ex-officio members of their board. If Mrs. Brooks knew of inconsistencies why didn't she mention them? She had the floor.

The Scrooge list criticized the Foundation on two points. The second was that the fundraiser was keeping 89% of all monies raised. No one attempted to defend this. How could they? The Foundation's own 990s filed with the IRS confirmed this.

Mrs. Brooks may have thought long and hard but obviously not well. As she misquotes and belittles Director Herbert Kirchhoff by stating he was duped into voting for the Strategic Planning committee report. I don't know if he said he was confused but the record shows he voted against it. Actually Director Kirchhoff said he was duped into voting for the mail ballot. The record shows he first abstained and then voted against it when confirmed at the board meeting. Mrs. Brooks states Board members (note plural) told her the ballot contained instructions for writing committee reports. I have a hard time believing two or more members could come up with such a story including an end product from each. If true, such members should be censored. The mail

ballot contained a list of committees and under each were listed the members assigned with the chairperson designated.

The writer stated that the Adjutant and I said that contributions to AXPOW were tax deductible. Tape recording will show this to be totally incorrect. If we were tax deductible I would not have worked to establish a foundation. Mrs. Brooks also complains that we have no liability insurance for service officers. They are not employees so I don't know whether we, or any service organization, can legally do so.

The writer stated that we are in violation of our bylaws as well as our charter. The last membership category in our bylaws states "heirs-at-law". There is a possibility for various interpretations of this. Therefore I appointed, and the board approved, an ad hoc committee to consult with Washington State authorities to get a definitive ruling. When prepared, it will be presented to the board. Mrs. Brooks demanded a copy of a report that doesn't yet exist. Meanwhile she is substituting her opinion for that of the Washington authorities.

In conclusion, no one knew that a motion to rescind the AXPOW name would be presented but, after listening to all the evidence, including comments by members of the Foundation, a majority of those voting cast their ballots. Mrs. Brooks' opinions to the contrary, they were intelligent people and were not led by a few. The defenders of the Foundation used personal attacks as a smoke screen to cover the fact that they have no ammunition with which to fight the Scrooge list, the report of the American Institute of Philanthropy, the Better Business Bureau and a decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in an Illinois case. The Supreme Court decision said a fundraiser taking 85% of the money could be sued, as this was 2 ½ times the maximum acceptable amount.

I appreciate Mrs. Brooks' interest but question her reasons for sending such a poorly researched letter out to the membership.



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**Deadline for the Oct. 2005 issue is
 August 25, 2005**

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

From the Publisher:

As a Past National Commander, I am prompted to speak to the responsibilities to, and support of, our National Commander.

Upon the election by our membership of a new National Commander, it is expected that the new Past National Commander, as well as all PNC's, devote their energy to supporting the new Commander and assist him in promoting his policies. By doing so, the PNC's show support to our organization and the membership. Once that National Commander then becomes a PNC, it is now his responsibility to give his full support to the National Commander who follows him.

As PNC's, we must realize that if we do not show support of our National Commander, it sends mixed messages to our membership and may cause them to feel that we are not truly working in the best interest of the organization. To criticize or condemn our National Commander can only slow down our progress in the organization and therefore we must support and encourage him in any way we can and show him our utmost respect.

As PNC's, we must always be aware of the necessity for teamwork and strive to meet the desires of the very membership who elected us and gave us the privilege of becoming Past National Commanders. The manner in which we must do that is to constantly work together in all our endeavors so that the peace and harmony of this organization is assured and our true commitment is commensurate to our promise to the organization...

"WE SUPPORT THOSE WHO CANNOT HELP THEMSELVES."
 PNC Maurice Sharp, Publisher

Correction: Jim Zobel wrote the excellent piece for the Civilian Column which appears in the July issue of the Bulletin. Jim is the curator of the MacArthur Museum in Norfolk, Virginia. It was an oversight not having his name with his story. His contact information is: james.zobel@norfolk.gov.

Notice: If you are an NSO with the American Ex-Prisoners of War and are not listed in the July issue (or are listed incorrectly), please contact Doris Jenks. Her contact information is with her column in each Bulletin. Additionally, if you know of a listed NSO who is no longer active or has died, please let Doris know as well.

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sr. vice commander



Gerald Harvey

Summer is in full swing. How wonderful it is to have local vegetables and fruit. We keep forgetting how good the real thing tastes. Enjoy it while it is here. This is also the season for picnics, barbecues, family reunions, and vacations. We still have a great and beautiful America. Go some place where you haven't been before. If you are not up to a long trip, there are interesting places close to home.

This is also the time to plan to go to our AXPOW national convention in Denver, Colorado. Registration form and Hotel information has been in your Bulletin for several months. There are a lot of interesting and beautiful places not too far from Denver. Have you ever been to the Air Force Academy, the Garden of the Gods, Pikes Peak, or

Rocky Mountain National Park? See the Convention Registration in your Bulletin for two tours that have been planned for Tuesday before the convention begins. One time when we were in this area we went on a glider ride. In the Colorado Springs area we had a ride in a hot air balloon. You never get too old for some of the fun things.

When you are away on vacation or traveling, what should you do if you have a medical emergency? You need to talk about this in your chapters. I am finding that many of our members do not know the importance of doing the right thing. You go straight to the nearest hospital for emergency treatment. You or the person who takes you to the hospital MUST, within thirty-six hours, report to the VA hospital that is nearest to where you are, telling them where you are and what your condition is. Give them your social security number and tell them that you are a disabled ex-prisoner of war. If you have 100% disability, tell them that. Also the hospital and the doctor where you are MUST be told that you are a veteran and a disabled ex-prisoner of war. Tell them to, within thirty-six hours, call the VA hospi-

tal that is nearest to where you are and report where you are and what your condition is. The VA doctors will decide if they will transport you to the VA hospital, or if you should be cared for in the hospital where you are. If this is reported within thirty-six hours, the VA hospital will pay for the care that you receive.

It is important that your family and whoever might take you to the hospital knows what needs to be done. One of our members has suggested that you make a card that will fit in your billfold. Use red ink and write your name, your Social Security number, and that you are a disabled prisoner of war. Include a note like this, "If I am in the hospital, please, within thirty-six hours, notify the nearest VA hospital that I am here. Tell them about my condition. This is very important. Thank you." One of our National Service Officers told me that he has this information on a piece of paper attached to the back of his driver's license. This could be very important if you were unconscious and could not speak for yourself. Have a great summer. I hope to see you at our National Convention in Denver.

national adjutant



Clydie J. Morgan
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Several months ago the software I was using to maintain the website began responding strangely. Our website is a complex site and the

software could not handle the updates and additions. The organization purchased Adobe GoLive which is designed specifically to create and maintain websites. I am still in the learning curve but the program is stable and working properly.

During the switch from MS FrontPage to GoLive some of the changes and updates that were made previously seemed to have disappeared. One of the casualties appears to be the NSO listing. This page has now been fully updated after many days and emails between me and Doris Jenks. Thank you, Doris, for your listings of NSOs and their contact info.

Please, if you are an NSO, check the website at <http://www.axpow.org/>

[nso_list.htm](#) to make sure your listing is correct. If a change is necessary, please contact Doris at dorisjenks@juno.com with the proper information. Please do not contact me. I will only make changes as directed by Doris.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. The website is a time-consuming project and keeping it updated is a priority.

Clydie, Sally, Marsha & Donna
Your National Headquarters

Early Bird Renewal Notice! Annual Members!

Take a minute and send your 2006 dues to National Headquarters. Don't miss out on all the benefits membership in AXPOW offers!

Ex-POW Bulletin
August 2005

civilian committee

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THE DAY WAR CAME by Curt Brooks

As I remember, it was a bright, mild morning, that December 8th, as pleasant as they come. My brother and I had just returned from a school weekend in Baguio, an outing to accompany the American School basketball team who had gone up there for the annual game with Brent School, our arch rival. It had been a sparkling and irreverent weekend, which we had enjoyed very much and which would be long remembered. Yet even in the midst of the fun and diversions the trip brought, the crisis in the Far East loomed over us. But war was not a known quantity to be factored into our routines should it arrive. It was a vague, amorphous (to those our age) shadowy possibility, and to that extent unreal and strangely remote.

As with all school days we got up at around 6 a.m. to get dressed and breakfast before leaving for school shortly before 7. Each morning it was our habit to turn on the radio to listen to the news. This morning the radio seemed to be malfunctioning, we could get no signal from the usual station we listened to, KZRH. All was static, and since, as usual, time pressed we did not bother with the radio further. Our parents were just getting up when we left; the company chauffeur, Fernandez, drove us in the company car and dropped us off, as he did every school day in front of the American School building, where we expected to pass the time in play and chatter until classes started at 7:30. We two were standing there, along with a few other students, when an older student, and my recollection is that it was Bill Bauman, came along and asked in a voice whose tone had something electric about it, "How do you like being at war?" We had no idea what he was referring to. And said so. He replied that the Japanese had bombed Honolulu that morning. It was hard to believe, but he seemed quite certain of his information. Hawaii, for us, was half way around the world, on the other side of the Pacific.

We believed that if war came, the Philippines would be among the first places attacked. Hawaii was many thousands of miles away, Formosa, and French Indochina, Japanese bases, were but a few hundred. We were not surprised, as I recall, that the crisis had come to a breaking point. The political situation in the Far East had grown increasingly tense, easily perceptible to all. The reports in the newspapers, and on the radio, of a Japanese convoy sighted moving through the Gulf of Siam had meant to many, including myself, that war could come at any time. But here it was, irrationally far away. The bright morning sky and the calm that prevailed around us belied any sense that war had come.

So school began and proceeded on its normal course throughout the morning hours. The teachers that morning must have found it hard to keep our attention on scholastics. Was it true? Was it real? Was it war? I can remember our home room teacher, Mrs. Youngberg, standing in front of the class, wringing her hands and telling us all, "I don't believe a word of it, it is all rumors, there is nothing to it" And so it almost seemed. At recess, around 10:30 we went as usual to the little tienda across the street for the customary snacks. The city was calm, unchanged, peaceful. Was there a war? Here? Anywhere? And so we finished that day's school, at 12:30. As was routine, my dad, in the company car, would stop by and pick us up on his way home for lunch and the sacrosanct siesta of Manila life. We got into the car, and of course our first question was, "What is this about war?" "It's true," he replied quietly, "the Japanese have bombed Baguio and Clark Field." There in the company car, on the grounds of the American School, reality struck hard. Up until that point, war had been still a far-off, perhaps non-existent event, affecting others. That wasn't so; it was here, it was upon us. We had just been in Baguio, we had just traveled past Clark Field, and watched in awe as a large 4-engined bomber came in to land. One of the famous B-17s, sent out to strengthen the American military posture in the Far East. War had come to these places already.

We drove home along Taft Avenue and we could see Philippine Army guards at the residences of some of the Japa-

nese community in Manila. We arrived home, and this time we were able to pick up news on the radio. I remember getting a very confused picture of what had happened in Hawaii and realizing that the Philippines, too was now fully involved. However, the afternoon remained calm and my dad returned to work as usual. That night there was a blackout, no lights in our house, except in my parents' bedroom, which had air conditioning and hence could be closed off, made light tight. Our home was in Pasay, near Taft Avenue extension, hardly a quarter mile as the crow flies, from Nichols Field, the Army Air Field at Manila. There was a nearly full moon that night, and the blacked out city had a ghostly, almost sinister air.

Around midnight, the sirens sounded, that dreadful wail. We had no air raid shelter at the house, and had made no provisions other than to agree to gather near the steps on the ground floor (we lived on the second as did most in those suburban Manila houses), in an almost pathetic effort to stay safe. So we gathered; the four of us, and our servants. I don't remember if there was an all clear, but after about half an hour when nothing happened, we decided to go back to bed.

At about 3 a.m., I was awakened by the drone of a number of high-flying airplanes approaching. I called to my brother, Barney, and asked if he heard them. "I think they're ours," he said. At that moment came a series of the loudest explosions I had ever heard, each one sounding closer than the last, each seemingly, terrifyingly irresistible. We rushed to get downstairs, joined by our parents. From the direction of Nichols Field we could hear anti-aircraft machine guns firing as the planes passed over. In the distance came the sound of sirens from ambulances and perhaps fire trucks driving along Taft towards Nichols; I realized people were hurt and dying and others would follow; in the sinister calm that followed I lay in terror that the drone would return. We were I felt, I knew, helpless against such violence.

War had come. It was here, it was us.

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on capitol hill



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Everybody's talkin' about it. No, not Tom Cruise's latest "foot in mouth" escapade. I mean the serious business of the VETERANS DISABILITY BENEFITS COMMISSION. We are going to jump in and give you what we know. The Commission was appointed by the President and the leaders of Congress to study the benefits and services intended to compensate and assist veterans and their survivors for disabilities and deaths attributable to military service.

At their first meeting on May 9th, Chairman Terry Scott said "We will conduct a thorough and objective analysis of the full range of programs that are intended to meet the needs of veterans. We'll have to address many issues that are complex and sensitive, and we will do so impartially. We take very seriously the fact that the level and nature of future benefits and services depends to some extent on us and on this Commission. We all believe that veterans have earned their Nation's support with their sacrifices, and we intend to be sure they are looked after."

Who are these people?

The Commission will ultimately have thirteen members, seven of whom must hold one of the three highest awards for valor - the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, Air Force Cross or the Silver Star. So far, eleven members have been appointed and five have these awards, including two who have

the Congressional Medal of Honor. Eight are retired military. Members of the Commission are:
James Terry Scott, LTG, US Army (Ret), Texas - Chairman
Nick D. Bacon, ISG, US Army (Ret), Arkansas
Larry G. Brown, COL, US Army (Ret), Oregon
Jennifer Sandra Carroll LCDR, US Navy (Ret), Florida
Donald M. Cassiday, COL, USAF (Ret), Illinois
John Holland Grady, Texas
Charles "Butch" Joeckel, USMC (Ret), Florida
James Everett Livingston, MG, USMC (Ret), South Carolina
Dennis Vincent McGinn, VADM, US Navy (Ret), Maryland
Rick Surratt, Virginia
Joe Wynn, Washington, DC

Ray Wilburn is the Executive Director of the Commission, with offices located at 1101 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 520, Washington, DC 20004.

The Commission is interested in receiving input from all veterans. Anyone may submit a written statement at any time by e-mailing it to vetscommission@va.gov or by USPS to their street address.

However, the Commission is not in a position to respond to individual claims. Questions or requests for assistance should be directed to the Department of Veterans Affairs. The website is: <http://iris.va.gov>, or call toll free 1-800-827-1000. Your local Regional Office will help you. Ask for the POW Coordinator. Our AXPOW National Service Officer in your area will work with you.

The second meeting of the Commission on June 9th concentrated on the recently released IG report on State Variances in VA Disability Compensation Payments, a discussion of PTSD and IU (Individual Unemployability) claims.

Around the first of the year, the Chicago Sun Times ran a series of articles comparing the compensation payment of Illinois veterans to national data. Illinois veterans were well below the average. The Speaker of the House, Dennis Hasser, is from Illinois. Lane Evans, the Ranking Member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, is from Illinois. The two Senators from Illinois, Richard Durbin and Barack Obama have expressed interest in this issue. Secretary Nicholson was hearing from all of them and it was not to wish him a "Happy New Year".

The Secretary responded immediately by requesting that the Office of Inspector General (OIG) determine why there are differences for veterans living in different states. The result is a report discussing the various issues and presented ten recommendations. They also got feedback from a good cross-section of Rating Specialists and Decision Review Officers.

The American Ex-Prisoners of War presented a written statement prepared by Charles Stenger in which he states the IG Report "confirms what has long been known; many deserving veterans throughout the 50 states are either denied service-connection or are inadequately compensated for their service-connected disabilities." He went on to say "VA does know how to do this

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on capitol hill continued

job right. It has already demonstrated this with respect to former prisoners of war.

No veteran with a service-incurred disability should be left out or subject to untimely, insensitive administrative processing. It is a matter of priority, commitment and determination to fulfill this objective and to do it in a fair, objective and compassionate manner. Veterans Affairs Central Office program officials should emphasize and support 'doing it right' the first time rather than relying on costly and protracted belated corrective action."

LES

The last few weeks have been extremely busy for us in our effort to obtain legislation for DIABETES & OSTEOPOROSIS in the Senate. Yes, we have a bill! S1271 was introduced by Sen. Patty Murray late on Monday, June 20th. On Tuesday, after it was numbered, we immediately sent copies to Commander Cooper, SVC Harvey and members of the Legislative Committee, followed by copies to the members of the Board.

Our time was precious as there was a lot going on, like a hearing by the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee already scheduled in just three days for the morning of June 23rd for 11 other veterans bills. If we move fast, we can get ours on that agenda. After many well-placed phone calls, our bill was included for this hearing. The witnesses to be heard had been selected. There were five VSOs.

I immediately contacted all of them - the DAV, American Legion, VFW, AMVETS and PVA and asked for their verbal endorsement for support of our bill when they testify. All of them did! After the hearing,

I personally thanked each of them for their support and favorable comments on our behalf.

Please, when you see some of the leaders of these VSOs, make it a point to thank them and ask for their continued support by asking their Senators to cosponsor by calling Senator Murray's office (202-224-0221). When speaking to the committee, Senator Murray delivered an outstanding introduction to our bill. She highly praised our PNC Fran Agnes, her "dearly beloved friend for his excellent work for all veterans" and further stated why this bill needs to become law for former POWs.

In addition to the Washington office, others who so generously contributed to the success of this legislation were Dr. Mack Orsborn of the VA Puget Sound Health Care System in Seattle, Dr. Robert E. Hain, Director of the Robert E. Mitchell Center for POW Studies in Pensacola, FL, Dr. Jerrold E. Johnson, formerly with VAMC, Reno, NV, and Dr. Jo Harbour, VAMC, Jackson, MS. Our sincere thanks for all they have done and will continue to do for former POWs.

"What can I do?" you ask. Contact your Senators and Representative now and ask them to cosponsor our bills - S1271 in the Senate and HR1598 in the House.

To cosponsor all the legislator needs to do is call the Sponsor's office to add their name as a cosponsor. Murray in the Senate - 202-224-0221, Legislative Director Evan Schatz; and Bilirakis in the House - 202-225-5755, Chief of Staff Rebecca Hyder. We ask you to do it now because we need to get it done this first session of Congress scheduled to adjourn Sept. 30. Just two months from now.

Mary

House & Senate Veterans Affairs Committee Members Representatives

REPUBLICANS

Steve Buyer (IN) Chairman
Mike Bilirakis (FL)
Terry Everett (AL)
Cliff Stearns (FL)
Jerry Moran (KS)
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INDEPENDENT

James A. Jeffords (VT)

PACKET #5 (What Every POW Wife Should Know Before She is Your Widow) includes the most recent laws and benefits published. The packet (approximately 110 pages) may be purchased from National Headquarters. The cost of the packet is \$11.00 plus shipping.

About VA Research & Development

Mission: To discover knowledge, develop VA researchers and health care leaders, and create innovations that advance health care for our veterans and the nation.

VA R&D Organization

The Office of Research and Development aspires to lead the Veterans Health Administration in providing unequalled health care value to veterans. That endeavor is made ever greater-and challenged by-the changing dynamics of healthcare, which is always evolving as consumers demand quality for their dollar, and medical technology leaps ahead of our capacity to manage it.

The Office of Research and Development is like a major "wheel" of research, and four Services are its "spokes." Each Service oversees a number of world renowned research centers nationwide;

Biomedical Laboratory Research & Development
Clinical Science Research & Development
Cooperative Studies Program
Health Services Research & Development Service
Rehabilitation Research & Development Service

Each of these services is headed by a director who is supervised by the Chief Research and Development

Officer (CRADO), who in turn reports to the Office of the Under Secretary for Health. An organizational chart is provided below.

VA R&D Designated Research Areas

While each of VA's four research services have particular foci and expertise, the new strategic plan for VA research streamlines and combines appropriate goals and objectives into one integrated effort.

Built into this plan, Designated Research Areas identify aging, chronic diseases, mental illness, substance abuse, sensory loss, trauma-related impairment, health systems, special populations, and military occupational and environmental exposures as primary research targets because of their prevalence in the veteran patient population. These Designated Research Areas cut across the traditional boundaries of VA's four research services to achieve a new synergy.

Major initiatives in the coming years will reflect the conviction that solving complex health problems requires not only specialized expertise but continuing synthesis, re-examination of important issues, and communication among disciplines.

Aging and Age-Related Changes

Normal age-related changes
Aging syndromes (e.g., frailty, immobility, falls)
Compound problems and comorbidities (e.g., coexisting diabetes and coronary artery disease, dementia and hip fracture)

Care of elderly veterans
End of life issues

Acute and Traumatic Injury

Amputation (due to injury or disease)
Bone fractures and joint injuries (including repair and replacement)
(Traumatic) brain injury
Multi-organ failure
Shock (including sepsis)

Military Occupational & Environmental Exposures

Emerging pathogens
Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
Psychological stress (including violence, sexual abuse)
Thermal exposure (burns, hypothermia)
Toxins and irritants (e.g., dermal, reproductive, and respiratory)

Chronic Diseases

Bone and joint disorders (including chronic low back pain, osteoarthritis and osteoporosis).

Cancers (adult leukemia/lymphoma, and solid tissue tumors; including cancer pain).

Cardiovascular, cerebrovascular and peripheral vascular diseases (including related acute events such as myocardial infarction, stroke, and heart failure)

Chronic infectious diseases (HIV/AIDS, hepatitis)
Chronic lung disease
Chronic renal disease
Dementia & neuronal dysfunction (including Alzheimer's Disease, Parkinson's)

medsearch continued

Diabetes & major complications
Gastrointestinal disorders (including
bowel and liver disorders)
Spinal cord injury & regeneration

Sensory Disorders and Loss

Hearing disorders
Vision disorders
Disorders of taste and smell

Mental Illness

Anxiety disorders
Behavioral disorders
Depression and mood disorders
Schizophrenia
Specialized VA mental health services (behavioral and medical interventions)

Substance Abuse

Alcohol
Drug
Tobacco
Dual diagnosis (e.g., alcohol and drugs)
Specialized substance abuse services (behavioral and medical interventions)

Special (Underserved, High Risk) Populations

Veterans with permanent disabilities (e.g., blind and paralyzed)
Veteran cohorts defined by shared military experience (e.g., prisoners of war, Persian Gulf veterans)
Historically underserved veterans (e.g., women, racial, ethnic and cultural minorities, rural veterans)
Veterans whose living arrangements pose challenges to their health (e.g., homeless or homebound)

Health Services and Systems

Supply and organization of resources & services.
Delivery/coordination of resources & services.
Outcomes of care.

VAR&D Historical Accomplishments

1946

Developed and tested effective therapies for tuberculosis following World War II. Multi-center clinical trials led to development of the Cooperative Studies Program, which has since produced effective treatments for diseases and conditions including schizophrenia, diabetes, depression, heart disease and stroke.

Established the standard for developing better-fitting, lighter artificial limbs through studies of human locomotion, enhanced surgical techniques and modernized design and manufacturing methods.

1947

Introduced the first mobility and orientation rehabilitation-training program for blind persons.

1958

Invented the implantable cardiac pacemaker, helping many patients prevent potentially life-threatening complications from irregular heartbeats.

1960

Pioneered the concepts that led to development of computerized axial tomography (CAT scan).

1961

Conducted groundbreaking work with radioisotopes that led to development of modern radioimmunoassay diagnostic techniques.

1968

Performed the first successful liver transplants and developed techniques for suppressing the body's natural attempt to reject transplanted tissue.

1970

Expanded understanding of how brain hormones interact with the endocrine system.

1984

Developed the nicotine patch and other therapies to help smokers give up the habit.

1989

Invented a computer system that provides patients on ventilators with more accurate respirator settings, fewer medical complications, and better patient outcomes.

1990

Contributed to development of the first standards for wheelchair prescriptions.

1991

Development of Functional Electrical Stimulation systems that allow patients to move paralyzed limbs.

Demonstrated that early treatment with corticosteroids reduces damage from spinal cord injury.

1993

Developed and tested a new device that has led to improved wheelchair designs by enhancing assessments of upper extremity pain in manual wheelchair users.

1994

Demonstrated that one aspirin tablet a day reduced by half the rate of death and nonfatal heart attacks in patients with unstable angina.

1995

Conducted the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program, which is instrumental in identifying ways to improve surgical care.

medsearch continued

1996

Identified the gene that causes Werner's syndrome, a disease marked by premature aging.

Developed clinical practice guidelines on cholesterol screening for the American College of Physicians.

Found that an implantable insulin pump offers better blood sugar control, weight control and quality of life for adult-onset diabetes than multiple daily injections.

1997

Identified a gene associated with a major risk for schizophrenia.

1998

Identified a gene that causes a rare form of dementia, providing a potential target for treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

Found that less expensive, conservative treatment of a common type of heart attack is superior to the standard heart catheterization and balloon angioplasty.

Demonstrated that administering erythropoietin under the skin is as effective and less expensive than intravenous administration for treatment of severe anemia in hemodialysis patients.

Started the Quality Enhancement Research Initiative that is rapidly translating research results into clinical practice for conditions prevalent among veterans.

1999

Found that a chemical messenger and a neurotoxin can shut down neurons associated with chronic

pain while leaving intact those needed for a normal pain response.

Conducted the first treatment trials for Gulf War Veterans' illnesses. One study is testing an antibiotic, and another is testing exercise and behavioral therapy for effectiveness in treating unexplained symptoms reported by veterans.

2000

Showed that colonoscopy is superior to the more widely used sigmoidoscopy as a primary screening mechanism for colon cancer.

Conducted the first large clinical trial of hearing aids, showing that the devices can help the hearing-impaired in both quiet and noisy environments.

2001

Began the first clinical trial under the new Tri-National Research Initiative. Researchers from the VA are collaborating with colleagues from Canada and the United Kingdom to determine the optimal antiretroviral therapy for AIDS and HIV infection.

Initiated a landmark clinical trial that will assess the effectiveness of implanting deep brain stimulators as a treatment for Parkinson's disease. The study will be conducted at the VA's six new Parkinson's Disease Research, Education and Clinical Centers.

Recent Advances

Shingles Vaccine Proves Effective in Large VA Trial

In one of the largest adult vaccine trials ever, researchers from the Department of Veterans Affairs and colleagues have shown that an experimental vaccine against shingles prevented about 51 percent of cases of shingles, a painful nerve and skin infection, and dramatically reduced its severity and complications in vaccinated persons who got shingles.

The findings appeared in the June 2, 2005, New England Journal of Medicine.

ALS clinical trial follows promising animal study

Patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), or Lou Gehrig's disease, will be recruited starting in late March for a VA-funded nationwide study testing the safety of sodium phenylbutyrate as a life-extending treatment.

The drug, which has been used for years as a cancer therapy, significantly extended the lives of ALS mice in a recent study.

VA continues to play key role in PTSD research

Recent reports indicate that as many as 10 to 20 percent of service personnel deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan may be diagnosed with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), presenting future healthcare challenges for VA.

Until relatively recently, a diagnosis of PTSD was rarely made and generally only applied to veterans.

VA patients receive better care than non-VA patients

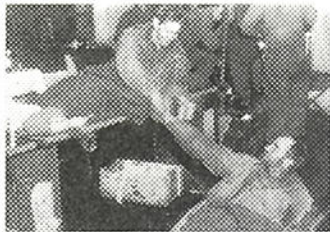
VA patients are significantly more likely than similar patients in the general population to receive recommended preventive and chronic care, according to a study released in the Annals of Internal Medicine.

Study Urges Better Blood-Pressure Control in Seniors

A review study led by Sarwat I. Chaudhry, MD, a fellow at the West Haven VAMC, backs recent recommendations from a national committee that urged doctors to be more proactive in treating systolic hypertension in older adults.



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



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



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



10. POWs at Cabanatuan Camp 3 beaten with clubs.



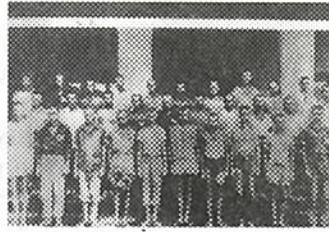
3. Pfc. Robert Brandon receives Red Cross parcels, Stalag IX-B.



7. Survivors of Suchon Tunnel Massacre, Korea.



11. Bilibid POW hospital ward, Philippine Islands.



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



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



12. Bataan Death March, April 1942.



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



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

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
August 2005



**Doris Jenks, National
Service Director- Training**

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New Port Richey, Fl. 34655
(727) 372-7238 - Home
(727) 319-5914 - Office
dorisjenks@juno.com

I have received inquiries about various subjects over the last year. I will address some of them now.

1) Dependency Indemnity Compensation (DIC): The current rate is \$993 a month. Widows DO NOT receive their husband's full 100% compensation even if the death is service-connected. An award of a service-connected death only grants a one-time additional amount for burial expenses - up to \$2,000.

Add: \$213 to the DIC payment, if at the time of veteran's death, the veteran was in receipt of, or entitled to receive, compensation for a service-connected disability (including a rating based on individual unemployability) for a continuous period of at least 8 years immediately preceding death and the surviving spouse was married to the veteran for those same 8 years.

NOTE: This means the veteran must be ALIVE and in receipt of the 100% for those 8 years.

2) When filing a claim for the presumptives in effect since Oct. 7, 2004, please remember, even though you are submitting medical evidence, you could be scheduled for a compensation examination.

Exams will be scheduled at the closest V.A. to you to determine the severity of your disability, based on V.A. criteria.

3) When filing a new claim with the V.A., list on the claim, only those Former Prisoner of War presumptives or injuries you believe you have, or you have been treated for.

4) Nursing Care: Former Prisoners of War who have a service-connected disability are eligible for V.A. health care. This includes hospital, nursing home and outpatient treatment. Former Prisoners of War who do not have a service-connected disability are eligible for V.A. hospital and nursing home care - without regard to their ability to pay.

5) Veterans living or planning to travel outside the U.S., should register with the Denver Foreign Medical Program Office, P.O. Box 65021, Denver, Co. 80206-9021. USA Phone (303) 331-7590. Veterans living or traveling in Germany, Panama, Australia, Italy, United Kingdom, Japan and Spain, can call toll free (877) 345-8179. Veterans in Mexico or Costa Rica can use the same number, but must first use the U.S. country code. Spouses or widows eligible for ChampaVA are also covered for health care outside of the U.S.

A number of NSOs were omitted from the July Bulletin listing. If you were not listed, please contact me. If someone you know was listed and is not an active NSO, please let me know that as well. Below are some of the NSOs who were not in the July issue.

Doris Jenks

Edwin W. Hays
W. 143 Ridgewood Avenue
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Tlogum1@cs.com
Robert Levine
228 Zabriskie Place

River Edge, NJ 07661
(201)342-0393
bobnede@aol.com

Vincent R. Fugarazzo
69 Prospect St.
Nutley, N.J. 07110-3153
(973) 667-5939

Melanie R. Bussel
Norman Bussel
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Monhegan Lake, N.Y. 10547
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Lorraine T. Cohn
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Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601
(845) 462-1695

Alexander LePenna
47 Thornwood Dr.
Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603
(845) 454-8875

Harold Perkins
Majorie Perkins
972 Main St.,
Clifton Park, N.Y. 12065

Eugene M Powell
Neva M. Powell
456 Christian Herald Rd.
Valley Cottage, N.Y. 10989
(845) 480-5172

Irving Schrom
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Suffern, N.Y. 10901
(845) 357-7404

Ruth Grondeck Klumpp
2817 Lera Jones Dr.
Antioch, TN 37017
(615) 367-9383
Wright Swaney
407 Pine Hill Road
Elizabethton, TN 37643
(423) 543-2189

Jack Diamond
8601 S.W. 85th Ave.
Miami, Fl. 33143-6969
(305) 595-8949
(305) 324-4455, Ext. 4709 VA Miami

Frederick G. Fink
10180 West Bay Harbor Dr., Apt. 3C
Bay Harbor Island, Fl. 33154
(305) 865-6505

(305) 324-4455, Ext. 4709 VA Miami
Annette Steres
1100 S.W. 128 Terrace, CAM-U #309
Pembroke Pines, Fl. 33027
(954) 437-7360

(305) 324-4455, Ext. 4709, VA Miami

VA Outreach

S*O*O*N

Before it's too late

NSO Fred Campbell, Chairman
3312 Chatterton Dr.
San Angelo, TX 76904
325-944-4002; fredrev@webtv.net

Committee members:
NSO Frank Kravetz (412) 824-2674;
ND Bill Richardson (910) 864-7318;
ND Bonnie Sharp (253) 565-0444.

AXPOW must be about Caring ACTION with PERSISTENT Integrity!

Of all places! In Madison, Wisconsin! AXPOW National Service Officers Walter & Violet Peterson on Memorial Day found the CONFEDERATE cemetery with Confederate flags abounding, flying in the face of all those damnyankees surrounding them. But also Walt & VI share "Our Most Heart Wrenching Claim".

"We met Jim Ballew at the Veterans Supermarket in Madison, WI. We were there to give out information on POW benefits. Jim came by and visited, finally got around to telling us that he was on the USS Houston, captured, March 3, 1942, when his ship was sunk. Finally was taken to the River Quai, as forced labor on the railroad. Was liberated Aug. 15, 1945. He had filed a claim in 1984. But there was no proof of his ever being a POW; he was told that he was denied benefits.

We talked to him, and he finally let us re-file his claim on 6/10/02. He was denied again. We had to have proof of his capture. Jim brought us a book written by James H. Fischer. All prisoners taken from the USS Houston were listed. Jim's name was among the surviving prisoners.

We took the book to the organization that had filed his first claim in 1984, asked for a copy of the

records they had previously filed and were denied. We were told they would keep his file that we had with us, that it would be filed along with his old records. We refused, and took what we had to the VA, gave them the book as proof, and were told, 'This is all we need!' We could hardly wait to get back home to call him...only to learn he had passed away and was buried the day before. His claim would have gone back to his first denial in 1984. Jim had become near and dear to us.

(Some of his background history. He was from Oklahoma, a descendent of Cynthia Ann Parker, the little white girl captured by the Comanche Indians. She was married later to a Chief. They had two children, a little girl and a son named Quanah, who would become the last great Comanche chief. He was the grandfather of Jim Ballew. Cynthia Ann was returned to her family, but escaped and returned to her Comanche family.)

A heart-wrenching claim. Not only was Jim wronged by our government, he was wronged by the country he loved so much!:

Before it's too late? Sometimes it is. Have you upgraded Your VA claim?

Success Stories

This is About W.O.M.

Word of Mouth is so important! You may be a key person for another POW or POW's widow...who has never been aware of Former POW benefits due them by the VA.

Wyoming. We don't have any National Service Officers there.

Here in San Angelo, TX, I was helping former POW Stoney who had never applied for a VA benefit. He got his 100% award, and wanted to join AXPOW. I cut the membership

application request out of the monthly Bulletin. He noticed some new members listed on the back of that cut-out. There was an old school chum, both raised together in Kaycee, Wyoming. Stoney put in a call to his old friend, Bill. Bill had 30% disability rating from his POW experience. I called Bill to see if we could get his rating upgraded. He had several presumptive conditions that cried out for an upgrade. Now Bill has 100% disability rating. And his wife should have ChampVA free Medicare supplement by now. W.O.M. can be important.

In talking to another Key person, a former POW in Oklahoma, I found he had his 100% disability rating, and he said, "My wife has ChampVA, too, and it really works good. I appreciate your calling. And maybe you could help an acquaintance of mine in Wyoming. Ed lives in Cody. I called Ed and found he had never applied to the VA for former POW benefits. He had been going to the nearest VAMC for 15 years for hearing aids and dental care, but no one had mentioned POW presumptives. AND, he was a military retiree, and he knew any POW disability compensation he might receive would reduce his military pension by a like amount. BUT, new rule. Congress has changed that old rule, so that many are now receiving their disability compensation IN ADDITION to their military pension. Now Ed has the possibility to get both, and is filing a claim to the VA for his former POW disability compensation. Finally justice for POW military pensioners. W.O.M. again!

Do you know someone who needs a push to pursue VA POW benefits? Contact your nearest AXPOW National Service Officer. Or AXPOW's NSO Director Doris Jenks; see her AXPOW Bulletin column for address and phone number.

pow-mia committee



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 or call the national office at 703-465-7432. If no one is available to take your call, please leave a message.

NOTICE: Korean War Accounting Activities in North Korea Suspended!

On May 25, following the exit of all U.S. personnel from North Korea, for security reasons, joint recovery operations in that country were temporarily suspended. The suspension continues at this time. Joint Field Activities (JFAs) 39 and 40 have been cancelled by Pacific Commands' Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC); JFA 41, the final JFA that has been planned for 2005, remains on hold. If the temporary suspension of operations is not lifted by July 26, it too will be cancelled. There are no U.S. personnel in North Korea at this time.

Following the completion of JFA 38 and the exiting of all associated U.S. personnel from North Korea, a tem-

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porary suspension of recovery operations was placed into effect. JPAC indicates JFA recovery teams recovered more than one set of remains from North Korea during this JFA, the first in 2005.

On June 24, at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, the U.S. Pacific Command and JPAC conducted a reparation ceremony for probable American remains recovered during JFA 37 in North Korea and remains recently recovered during JFAs in Laos, China, and Palau.

2005 Annual Government Briefings for Vietnam War Families of Missing Americans

The Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) hosted 263 family members representing 115 loss cases at the 2005 Annual Government Briefings for families of Americans missing from the Vietnam War from June 15-17, at the DoubleTree Crystal City Hotel, in Arlington, Virginia. Annually, Congress has authorized the Secretary of Defense to have the military services fund the transportation for up to two family members of an American missing from the war who reside outside of a 350-mile radius of Washington, D.C., to attend the briefings.

U.S.-Russian Commissioners Meet on POW/MIA Issues

The U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs concluded a series of meetings in Moscow as part of a worldwide effort to account for more than 88,000 Americans missing from past conflicts.

The Commission, established in 1992 by Presidents Bush and Yeltsin, held its 19th plenary session Tuesday and Wednesday. Chaired by Commissioner A. Denis Clift on the U.S. side and General Major (ret.) Vladimir Antonovich Zolotarev on the Russian side, the Commission explored open questions in working groups that focused on the Vietnam War, the Cold War, the Korean War, and World War II. Clift, presi-

dent of the Joint Military Intelligence College, served as U.S. chairman for this plenum.

In the two days of discussions, the U.S. pressed the Russian side for assistance on four Cold War shoot downs in the Russian Far East. The Vietnam War group discussed ways in which the Russians could facilitate interviews with former KGB officials and other military and diplomatic personnel who served in Southeast Asia during that war. This group also discussed U.S. access to documents now classified that are believed to hold information about Americans who were held prisoners of war and who did not return from Vietnam.

During the plenum, Mr. Clift also met with General Major Aleksandr V. Kirilin, Chief of the Memorial Center of the Russian Federation Armed Forces. General Kirilin, who represented General Lieutenant Vladimir A. Shamanov, the new Chairman of Russia's newly-established Inter-agency Commission for Prisoners of War, Internees, and Missing in Action, assured Mr. Clift that the Joint Commission's work will go forward, and General Kirilin's organization will provide the staff to support the work of the Russian side.

The U.S. participants, including the senior staff of the Joint Commission Support Directorate (JCSJ) from the Defense Department's POW/Missing Personnel Office, also asked for Russian assistance in arranging expeditions to the Far East in search of WWII downed aircraft.

The U.S. side cited the value of continuing archival access granted by the Russians to DoD researchers in the military archives at Podolsk. Since 1997, JCSJ researchers have retrieved more than 45,000 pages from that archive, clarifying the fates of more than 250 U.S. airmen who were shot down during the Korean War. Soviet pilots flew more than 75 per cent of the MiG-15 missions against U.S. pilots during that war.

news, events and information



August 18-21. Ohio Department AXPOW convention will be held at Comfort Inn (740-775-3500) in Chillicothe. Registration \$30. Registrar DJVC Eleanora Morrow; 134 Kanawha Rd.; Lancaster, OH 43130-3476.

August 24-27, 2005. The 86th Annual Convention of the 80th Division Veterans Assn. will be held at the Marriott North, 6500 Doubletree Ave., Columbus, OH 43229; (614) 885-1885. Chairman: Walter Spangler, 8275 Hagerty Rd, Ashville, OH 43103; (740) 474-5734.

August 26-28, 2005. Department of North Carolina Annual Convention will be held at the Woodlawn Inn and Conference Center, 212 W. Woodlawn Road, Charlotte, NC 28120. Room rate is \$55.50 plus tax. For reservations, call 704-525-8350. Contact Roy Hudnall, Dept. Commander, 704-841-2174.

Aug. 27-31, 2005. The 42nd and final Annual Reunion for Survivors of Bataan, Corregidor and Former Prisoners of War of the Far East will again be held at the Fontana Village. Reservations: 800-849-2258. For information, please contact Wayne Carringer, PO Box 46, Robbinsville, NC 28771; (828) 479-6205.

Aug. 27-30, 2005. The 84th Infantry 'Railsplitter' Division 60th annual reunion will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 3000 S. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62703; ph: 217-529-7777. For information, contact: Troy Mallory, Chairman, 217-223-9062; fax: 217-223-9065.

Aug. 31-Sept. 4, 2005. The 59th Annual Reunion of the 106th Infantry Division Association will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, 300 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA; 800-562-5110. Contact: Armed Forces Re-

unions, Inc., 322 Madison Mews, Norfolk, VA 23510; attn. 106th Inf.

Sept. 7-11, 2005. The Mukden Survivors Annual Reunion will be held in Kingston, NY, at the Ramada Inn. We are working on a visit and possibly a seminar at West Point, as well as a Boat ride up the Hudson and a tour of Historic Kingston, First Capitol of NY state during the Revolutionary War. Our banquet dinner will be Saturday evening. For additional information- please contact: Sheldon Zimble 845-339-9960; email address: Shelzanne@aol.com, or write to: 90 Fairview Avenue, #7-8, Kingston, NY 12401.

Sept 8-12, 2005: the 157th Regiment of the 45th Infantry Division will hold its annual Reunion in Washington, DC at the Hilton Crystal City Hotel, Arlington, VA. For further information contact Gordon Kinley, Pres., 7227 W 23rd Ave, Lakewood, CO 92919. Tel (303) 233-2369, e-mail Gordonlk@cox.net.

Sept. 15-18, 2005. The Third Infantry Division Society and attached units will hold their 86th reunion at the Red Lion Hanalei Hotel, 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108; 800-882-0858. Contact: Bruce Monkman, 818-343-3370; brucemonkman@earthlink.net, or Linda Irvine, 360-663-2521; info@TheReunionBrat.com.

Sept. 20-25, 2005. 390th BG (H) Veterans Association annual reunion will be held in Washington DC. Contact: Ken Rowland, PO Box 28363, Spokane, WA 99228; 509-467-2565; rkenrow@msn.com.

Sept. 21-25, 2005. USS Abanki AFT 96 Reunion will be held in Bowie, Maryland. Contact: Adolph Channell, R.R. 1, Box 246A, Marlinton, WV 24954; (304) 799-6442; achannell@marlintonwv.com.

Sept. 27-Oct. 2, 2005. AXPOW National Convention will be held in Denver, CO at the Doubletree Hotel,

3203 Quebec St. Registration forms and additional information will be in the Bulletin until convention.

Sept. 30, 2005. The annual Stalag Luft IV & VI Reunion Night will be held at the Denver Convention, Doubletree Hotel. 7:00PM. You all come. Contact Leonard E. Rose.

Sept. 28-Oct. 2, 2005. The 48th FS, FIS & FTS Association annual reunion will be held in San Antonio, TX. For information, contact: Joe Onesty, 455 Galleon Way, Seal Beach, CA 90740; 562-431-2901; jonesty2@adelphia.net.

September 29-Oct. 1, 2005. The New England Chapter of the Chosin Few Annual Reunion will be held at the Radisson Hotel, Milford, MA. For more information, contact John Gutermuch, 23 Kettering Road, Norwood, MA 02062; 781-769-5656.

Sept. 29-Oct. 5, 2005. The 45th Infantry Division Association (Thunderbirds) Reunion will be held in Oklahoma City, OK. Please contact: Raul Trevino, 2145 NE Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111; (210) 681-9134.

October 2-5, 2005. The Korean War Veterans Association Annual Reunion will be held at the Isle of Capri Hotel, Bossier City, LA. Hotel reservations: 877-465-3711. For more information, contact Steve dePyssler, RAO@barksdale.af.mil; 318-456-5976.

October 11-15, 2005. The Second Schweinfurt Memorial Association Inc.(SSMA) will be hosting their 62nd Anniversary Reunion of "Black Thursday" at the St. Petersburg Hilton, St. Petersburg, Florida. The SSMA membership includes men of the 8th Air Force who flew

news, events, information continued...

Mission 115 or "Black Thursday" to Schweinfurt, Germany on October 14, 1943. Contact HB Associates, 419 N. Ring Ave., Tarpon Springs, FL 34689 (727) 937-3232 or email: info@hbassociates.net.

Oct. 19-22, 2005. 35th Infantry Division Reunion will be held in Springfield, MO. Contact: Bob Dalton, 785-267-3295. Children and orphans of 35th Division members are invited to join and spend time with their fathers' WWII comrades.

Ongoing. Happy 75th Anniversary, VA!

President Herbert Hoover signs Executive Order 5398 "Consolidation and Coordination of Governmental Activities Affecting Veterans" implementing legislation passed July 3 by Congress placing under one "administration" federal pension and other benefits program and veterans medical facilities.

This consolidated the U.S. Veterans' Bureau, the National Homes for Disabled Soldiers and the Bureau of Pensions, Interior Department, into the Veterans Administration (VA). At the end of the fiscal year, VA operated 48 hospitals and 54 regional offices with a work force of more than 30,000. - Veterans Administration Annual Report, July 21, 1930

Secretary Nicholson has made observance and celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs a priority for the Department.

On July 21, 2005, VA Headquarters began the celebration with a kick-off program at the D.A.R. Constitution Hall near the White House. The President was invited, along with an audience of 3,000 VIPs, veterans and

VA employees. A major Capitol Hill event observing the VA 75th anniversary followed and special 75th anniversary programs will be held in conjunction with Veterans Day 2005 and Memorial Day 2006.

A 75th anniversary logo has been approved and a special 75th anniversary poster will be ready in multiple formats very soon. Stay tuned for more news and activities as it becomes available.

looking for



This letter is a request in the name of my husband, **Harold W. Dorschner**, who was captured during the Battle of the Bulge and was held prisoner in four different locations in Germany. The last location, from where he was liberated at war's end, was **Stalag 10-B**, located between Hamburg and Bremen.

We have been receiving the EX-POW BULLETIN for many years and almost never see any mention of this location. My husband was very ill, near death, at the time of his liberation and never had a chance to become acquainted with any of his fellow American prisoners. We have visited the scene of the Battle of the Bulge where he was captured and also each of the four locations where he was held as a prisoner. I even have photos which I took at the site of Stalag 10-B. However, in spite of all this we have never received knowledge of any other Americans who were held prisoner at Stalag 10-B. If you can supply us with any additional information, it will be greatly appreciated. Betty/Harold W. Dorschner, 10701 N. La Reserve Drive, Apt. 335, Oro Valley, AZ 85737-9145; 520-575-0120.

I have been researching the 307th AEB Co B men. My uncle was one

of them and was killed on June 6, 1944. In the course of my research, I came across an intelligence report about another member of B company, Robert Hause. He was captured on June 6, 1944 and ended up in Stalag 4B in Muhlberg (of Grasseth, Czech Republic). On October 26, 1944 there was a mine cave-in that killed one POW. The next day Robert House had an argument with the Captain Brawn head of the POW Camp and said the men were not going back into the mines. He said you can shoot me, but we aren't going back down. The Captain drew his pistol and shot Hause dead. I am looking for anyone who remembers this incident. One of his buddies from the 307th was in another camp never knew that Robert had not made it through the war. In fact he was the one who gave me the phone number to your organization. If anyone could help me with this from your group it would be greatly appreciated. Brian Siddall, P.O. Box 3897, Ithaca, NY 14852; bsiddall@twcny.rr.com.

I am searching for info on **POWs from Anzio beachhead**. Do you happen to know or know where I can find information? I am looking for how many were taken prisoners from the 45th division on the Anzio beachhead during the 4 months of battle there. If you know where I can search or maybe get answers please let me know. Your help is much appreciated; Cordino Longiotti, 522 E. Valley View Rd., Ashland, Or. 97520; corlon@charter.net.

I have a request of help from the family of **Gustave Frederick Anchorstar**, 423 Inf. Reg. of the 106th Inf. Div. He was in Stalag 9B (his name doesn't show in the list that was given to me by Pete House), and according to the person inquiring, he - Anchorstar - was also at "Berga." I also cannot locate an "Anchorstar" on any of the CIB orders that I have. Does anybody recognize that name and can you tell me what "Company" he was with in the 423rd Regiment. John Kline jpk@mm.com.

Ex-POW Bulletin

August 2005

Andersonville



Andersonville NHS
496 Cemetery Road
Andersonville, GA 31711
(229) 924-0343
Alan_Marsh@nps.gov
Kandace_Muller@nps.gov

Submitted by
Mark A. Stibitz, President
Friends of Andersonville

The staff at Andersonville National Historic Site was kind enough to ask that The Friends of Andersonville submit an article for your publication this month. Given that we have recently achieved our goal of growing the Andersonville National Historic Site Endowment Trust to one million dollars, I thought that I would relate to your membership, as best I can, how that goal was attained. For some, this will be re-hashed information. Hopefully, for all it will be as exciting as it is for me.

The Friends of Andersonville is a non-profit Internal Revenue Service recognized 501(c) (3) organization that provides support to Andersonville National Historic Site. Past projects the Friends have helped fund include interviews with former POWs, exhibits in the National Prisoner of War Museum, and the annual Andersonville Prison Living History Weekend - a program that interprets the events and conditions associated with the Civil War Prison. The Friends have also participated in several cost sharing projects in partnership with the National Park Service including production of a new video that highlights the Andersonville Prison story.

The latest cost sharing project will result in the transcription of over 800 interviews with former POWs that the Park has collected over the years [over 100 interviews were already transcribed thanks to the efforts of Don (deceased, AXPOW member) and Jean Jurgs. The Friends of Andersonville was also instrumental in the purchase of 20 acres of land adjoining the Park. The donation of the parcel of land to the National Park Service made it possible to relocate a very unsafe county road that crossed the new entrance road into the Park.

As you can imagine, this support of the park takes a lot of effort and money. The majority of the funding for these efforts comes from the Andersonville National Historic Site Endowment Trust, more commonly known as the Andersonville Trust. The Trust is managed by The Friends of Andersonville and was an outgrowth of the efforts to build the National Prisoner of War Museum. The Trust was established during 1995 with the purpose of providing The Friends with a permanent source of income with which to carry on its mission as prescribed by the Memorandum of Agreement with the National Park Service. The goal of the fledgling Trust was to some day achieve a corpus of one million dollars. I am proud to say that day has come. As of this month the Trust now has a corpus of over \$1,024,000!

So how did we get to where we are today? With much sweat and work by numerous people. During the 1990s Friends President Carl Runge worked tirelessly and successfully to seek grants and donations from various foundations. American Ex-Prisoners of War also played a large role and lobbied to have the U.S. Mint issue a commemorative POW coin to raise funds for the museum. Coin sales accounted for three million dollars toward POW Museum construction. After the money was secured to build the Museum, work started on obtaining funding for establishing the Trust. Through Superintendent Fred Boyles a letter was sent to the director of the National Park Service explaining our

goal. At that point, \$20,000 in pledges was in hand and the Lettie Pate Evans Foundation gave us a grant of \$150,000. AXPOW added \$100,000 left over from museum construction to the endowment. Another large donation was made by the Magnolia Chapter in Mississippi. With these efforts, the Trust was born and started growing.

Since that time we have received a few major donations. A \$390,000 donation came from the estate of former POW Mr. Oscar H. Thielen. Thielen was a Staff Sergeant in the 15th Air Force, 737th Bombardment Squadron and served as a nose gunner in a B-24 Liberator during WWII. Just this past month we received a \$50,000 donation from the estate of Mrs. Lillian Comeau, the widow of the late Philbert Comeau. Mr. Comeau was a former POW held captive by the Germans in WWII. It was this donation of \$50,000 that put the value of the Trust in excess of \$1,024,000.

It is the donations made in honor of someone that are most important to me. Many individuals have made Memorial gifts to the Trust in honor of former POWs who have passed away. It is these donations that remind me that the Trust is here because of the lives of many men and women who endured innumerable atrocities and persevered to live full and complete lives. It reminds me that with Freedom come sacrifices and we should not forget the men and women who helped in the past, and those who do so today, to preserve that Freedom. This is what the Trust is all about...to be able to continue to educate the public about the plight of the POW long after you and I have gone. I look forward to the continued growth of the Trust so that we are able to do even more to assist the National Park Service with its charter to educate the public about the POW story.

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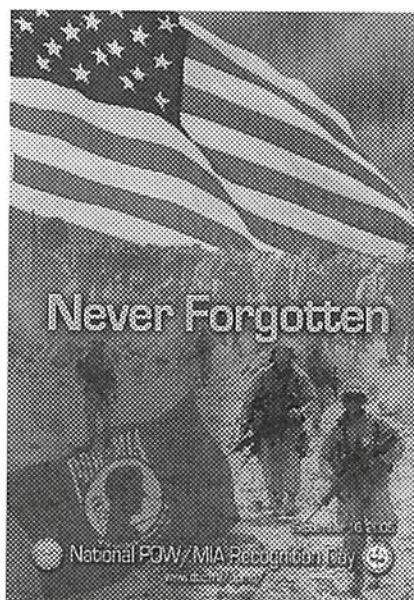
News Briefs

Bill Aims to Connect Vets, Benefits

Officials in the Department of Veterans Affairs and major veterans' advocacy groups recently threw their weight behind a bill that would boost efforts to find veterans who are not getting disability and other benefits due them. The legislation would require the VA to detail its plans to identify veterans who are not enrolled for VA benefits or services. It also would require the VA to coordinate with veterans' groups and state officials who conduct such outreach. The bill is: S. 151 ~ To amend title 38, United States Code, to require an annual plan on outreach activities of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

POW/MIA Recognition Day Poster Unveiled

The 2005 POW/MIA Recognition Day poster was unveiled in Washington, DC, on June 15 in honor of the sacrifices made by prisoners of war and servicemembers still unaccounted for, spanning World War II to Operation Iraqi Freedom. The unveiling was a highlight of the Defense Department's annual government briefings in Washington, and more than 270 family members of servicemen still missing in Southeast Asia are gathered for the three-day conclave. The briefings give MIA family members a chance to speak with casualty officers, review their loved one's case file, and meet with other



families. By custom, POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed in Pentagon ceremonies on the third Friday of September. It will be observed on Sept. 16 this year. The Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office will ship about 140,000 copies of the poster to all the ships at sea and military units around the world as well as to veterans organizations, VA medical facilities, and organizations that represent the interests of the families of the missing. Pointing out that "art is always in the mind of the beholder," said Larry Greer, spokesman for the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, "It's pretty clear that what this poster is saying is, 'We Remember.' And we as a nation are committed to bringing these guys home."

For more information on the 2005 POW/MIA Recognition Day, visit its website at <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/powday/index.htm>. Information on the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, visit its website at <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/>

Veterans Medical Care Act Update

The House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight & Investigations held a markup last week of the Veterans Medical Care Revenue Enhancement Act of 2005 (H.R.

2988), which authorizes a two year demonstration project to improve business practices within the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) relating to third-party billing collections. The bill was also sent to full committee for markup. The bill will address operational issues within the VHA that create weaknesses in the billing and collections processes. These weaknesses prevent the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) from efficiently collecting third-party reimbursements for medical care and medications for treatment of nonservice-connected conditions. Let your representatives know how you feel about this important legislation!

POW's Vision Helped Adapt Hospital to a War

by Alice A Booher



Stars and Stripes of 14 June 2005 described it as follows: "Departing commander's vision helped Landstuhl adapt to war: Cornum revamped procedures for receiving, treating wounded".

On 16 June 2005, COL Rhonda Cornum, USA MC, relinquished command of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center (LRMC) to COL James Francis. Persian Gulf POW Cornum

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has been at LRMC for 2 years, during which time the hospital has been the military's major hub for wounded troops from OIF and Afghanistan, plus all the regular patients from all over Europe. A flight surgeon and board certified urologist, in addition to running the 500+ bed hospital, she pitched in with surgery, played diplomat with all of the non-American patients and their representatives, and guided one after another batch of visiting firemen, i.e., congressmen, service secretaries and ministers of defense, and shepherded virtually every media person and entertainer of any sort known to man.



Innovative LRMC upgrades in care during her tour were widespread to include instigating and effectuating a volunteer program with stateside private neurosurgeons. Another recent innovation involved the use of a rather unique medical device, an interventional lung assist, a simple slender box the size of a portable CD player that performs the work of a lung without the drawbacks of a traditional ventilator. Plugged into the femoral blood vessels and powered by the patient's own heartbeat, the box provides oxygen to a patient by passing blood through a special membrane passively doing the work of the damaged organs. The borrowed machine managed to keep at least 3 soldiers alive who would not have otherwise survived.

Cornum's Change of Command ceremony on the Landstuhl Parade Field was combined with one for her husband, Col Kory Cornum, USAF, an orthopedic surgeon who has been serving as 435th Medical Squadron commander at Ramstein AFB, and thought to be the first of its kind, i.e., joint USA-USAF Changes of Command (thus the unusual combinations of flags, USA, German, Air Force, Army, LRMC and 435th MS, shown in the photo).

Col Kory Cornum now goes to Langley AFB, VA; and COL Rhonda Cornum will serve as Commander Surgeon at Ft. McPherson, GA. In her farewell to LRMC, she said "I'd like to be remembered as someone who took good care of patients and took good care of the people who worked here."

Some Ailments More Likely in Veterans of 1st Gulf War

A detailed comparison of the health of veterans who were deployed to the first Gulf War in 1991 and veterans who served elsewhere has found that the Gulf War veterans are more likely to have chronic fatigue syndrome and fibromyalgia syndrome. The Department of Veterans Affairs funded the study of 2,200 veterans that was conducted at sixteen VA medical centers across the nation over a period of approximately 3 years.

Long-sealed Military Files Made Available

The National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, MO, has opened and made available numerous military records that have not been available before now. This is because millions of old personnel records no longer belong to the armed forces. They are now the

property of the National Archives, which runs the records center. The Pentagon and the National Archives decided to keep the records of veterans sealed until 62 years past the date an individual left active service, so that means most World War II records will remain out of reach for several more years. The records that have just been made available are those of (1) Navy enlisted men from 1885 until Sept. 8, 1939, (2) Marine Corps enlisted men from 1906 until 1939, in general, and (3) the first 150 of about 3,000 Americans identified as "persons of exceptional prominence" including those of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton Jr., Lt. Jackie Robinson, and Pfc. Elvis Presley. For more information on how to obtain these and other available military personnel records from the center, visit the National Personnel Records Center webpage at www.archives.gov/facilities/mo/st_louis/military_personnel_records.html.

Social Security COLA 2006

Seniors will get little help from their Cost-Of-Living Adjustment (COLA) next year to cover the expected jump in Medicare costs. The Social Security Trustees recently estimated that the COLA paid on 1 JAN 06 would be about 2% to 2.6%. This is hardly enough to keep up with a planned 15% Medicare Part B premium and deductible increase from \$78.20 to \$89.20 per month. Nevertheless, despite the low COLAs in recent years some Social Security reform proposals that include provisions to cut COLAs are being considered by Congress. Although most supporters of proposals to add private accounts to Social Security have promised that the benefits of current retirees would not

news briefs cont...

be cut, Comptroller General David Walker recently testified before the House Committee on Ways and Means, that some of the proposals to reform Social Security do include COLA cutting options. The proposals include cutting COLAs so they are less than the CPI, limit the COLA to a specific threshold, or delay COLAs as was done in 1983 as part of reforms under the Greenspan Social Security Commission. Senator Maria Cantwell (WA) has introduced legislation which, if approved, would nullify SSA COLA reduction proposals. S.275 would provide a more fair COLA by computing the annual increase using a seniors only index (i.e. Consumer Price Index for the Elderly). Seniors concerned over this issue have the option of contacting their legislators to sign on to this bill as sponsors.

Prestigious Semper Fidelis Award to Vietnam POW



by Alice A. Booher

Giles Norrington's initial 11 years in the military were served with the U.S. Marine Corps, both as an enlisted man and officer, as an infantryman and pilot. He had served another 3 years in the U.S. Navy and was awaiting selection to LCDR by the time he took off on May 5, 1968 from the deck of the USS ENTERPRISE, then some 80 miles off the coast of North Vietnam, on his 22nd

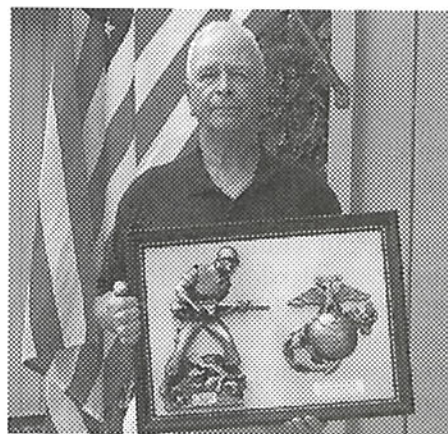
so-called routine photo-reconnaissance mission. With him in the Vigilante on that flight was navigator LT Dick Tangeman. The preliminary details of that trip are candidly assessed in the October 2003 issue of Vietnam magazine.

Once shot down, they eluded capture for about 45 minutes. They would not return to the Navy for some 1,775 days, much of that time spent in Hanoi Hilton. [In fact, Norrington would not return to the deck of the ENTERPRISE for decades, until he was taken there in a special event out of Norfolk when the Navy decided to make his flight log's incomings and outgoings match]. After his release from POW imprisonment on March 17, 1973, he discovered that their escort had reported the plane shot down with no survivors. Norrington retired as a Captain in 1988 after 34 years in the service. A decade or so later, he donated his POW clothing and certain other artifacts from captivity to the Andersonville POW Museum.

Since then, he has hardly been idle. Moving with his then still active duty wife, CAPT Eileen O'Hickey Norrington, USN, a chaplain who served with the Marines at Camp Pendleton (1986-88), and with whom he shared the same office space in the same building 30 years later), Norrington worked with AIDS groups in Norfolk and community activists educating school kids on safety in Washington and New Orleans, always maintaining close ties with Rotary International and their community efforts from golf tournaments to hosting a bunch of Russians for a week to learn realty. Moving to Cleveland in 2002 on his wife's military retirement, Giles became involved in local politics, even handling the campaign for former a mayor running for Congress. He has spoken often, in each locale, on his experiences and to veterans. He has served several terms on the VA Secretary's National Advisory Committee on Ex-POWs and is now that Committee's Executive Secretary.

This life of ongoing work was recognized by the Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation in its 3rd Annual Semper Fidelis Award on 20 June 2005. It coordinated with an successful fund raising Golf Tournament and community contributors including everyone from The Cleveland Browns to Wal-Mart-Avon, to USO, service organizations and veterans groups. The event was hosted by the Northern Ohio Chapter. The non-profit Foundation awards scholarships to kids of active duty, reserve, and former USMC members and children of Federal Law Enforcement Agency personnel who have lost their lives in the line of duty. The Federal Law Enforcement Agencies represented include FBI, DEA, US Secret Service, US Marshal, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, US Customs and INS.

There were two 2005 awards given out, the other being the Law Enforcement's "Donnie Brasco Award", given to John Ligato, FBI (Ret), who spent 8 years undercover and was a USMC Lance Corporal at Hue during Tet 1968 for which he received a Bronze Star and 3 Purple Hearts. The meal function included the POW Table of Honor, and CAPT Eileen Norrington giving the invocation. Guests included numerous Marines and law enforcement agency representatives.



This Third Annual Semper Fidelis Award was given to Norrington as a former Marine whose service distinguished him both in the Corps and afterwards.

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Nominees for National Office

For National Commander Gerald Harvey



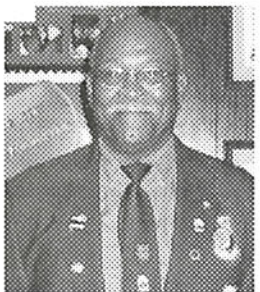
Gerald volunteered for the AAF and trained as a Radio Operator-Gunner. Assigned to the 8th AF, 401st BG at Deenethorpe, England, he was shot down and crashed into the North Sea. He was held in prison camps in Oberusel, Wetzler, Stalag XIIID and VIIA before being liberated by General Patton on Apr. 29, 1945.

During college and theological seminary, Gerald served as pastor of churches in Missouri and Kentucky before serving for 25 years as a missionary in Zimbabwe, Africa. After returning, he worked as Media Specialist and teacher at State Fair Community College.

Gerald has been an active life member of AXPOW since 1988. He served as Sr. Vice Commander, Commander and Chaplain of the Missouri State Fair Chapter; as Chaplain, Jr. Vice, Sr. Vice and Commander of the Dept. of Missouri. He served as a National Director for 4 years, two years as Junior Vice Commander, one year as Sr. Vice Commander. He is looking forward to becoming your National Commander.

Gerald and his wife Eunice live in Sedalia, Missouri.

For Sr. Vice Commander Robert Fletcher



Fletcher joined the Army in 1950. He was sent to Japan in June; then his unit, Company C of the 24th Inf. Reg., 25th Div. was sent to Korea on July 12. He and the surviving members of his Company were forced to surrender on Nov. 27th. He was held in Pyuckdong until his release on Aug. 7, 1953.

About 10 years ago, he was appointed to the Advisory Board for Ex-POWs, which pushes strongly for legislation supporting former prisoners of war. During this time, he became active in his chapter, Michigan Wolverine #1, serving as Chapter Commander. Fletcher was appointed National Director for the Mid-Central Region in 2001; he is completing his first year as NJVC for the Central Zone. He serves on several committees in VISN 11, and has participated in two VA training films.

Fletcher and his wife, Carol, live in Ann Arbor, MI.

For Sr. Vice Commander Richard Manners



In the more than 15 years since Rich became active in AXPOW, he has held many positions -- on local, state department and National levels. Rich served as National Director -- Northeast Region -- for four years; he was elected as your Jr. Vice Commander three years ago. Rich also served on a number of committees at the National level, including Chairman of the Grievance and Investigation Committee and member of the By-laws & Resolutions Committee.

He served as Sr. Vice Commander of the Dept. of New Jersey for 8 years (again holding that position currently); State Dept. Commander for 2 years. He also held the post of Sr. Vice Commander of Garden State Chapter #3 for 7 years. Rich is a Charter Member of the Management Assistance Committee and Charter Member of Stakeholders for VISN #3 -- NY and NJ VA Healthcare System.

During WWII, Rich served in the Army. He was captured in 1944 and held in Stalag XIII-C and XIII-D until his escape on April 13, 1945. He finally reached US Army lines on April 22.

Rich and his wife Angie live in Clark, New Jersey.

For Jr. Vice Commander Eastern Zone Dudley Riley

Dudley was captured in North Africa, while serving with the Army during WWII. He spent his captivity in Stalags VIIA, IIIB, IIIA and Capoui, Italy from Feb. 17, 1943 to April 22, 1945.



He has been an active member of AXPOW since 1990; instrumental in the formation of the Western Kentucky Chapter, AXPOW (he served four years as the commander.) He assisted in organizing the Kentucky Dept. Convention and made the appeal to host the 2000 National Convention in Louisville. Dudley served as National Director for the East Central Region for four years.

Dudley and his wife, Ruth, live in Dawson Springs, KY



**For
Junior Vice Commander
Eastern Zone
Charles M. Hill**

Charlie is a veteran of WWII and Korea. He was shot down on Nov. 8, 1952, captured by Koreans, then turned over to the Chinese who kept him in solitary confinement in several villages before repatriation in Sept. 1953.

After becoming active in AXPOW, Charlie has held local and national chairs. He is currently completing his fourth year as National Director. He and his wife, Merilee, are active NSOs, working constantly to help POWs and their families. Charlie is a life member of AXPOW, MOPH and VFW.

Charlie and Merilee live in Columbia, SC.

**For
Junior Vice Commander
Central Zone
James Clark**



Jim has been a workhorse at both the local and national levels of AXPOW for the past 24 years. He organized the N.E. LA Chapter and has been Commander for almost 10 years. He is also the current Dept. of LA Commander – a post he's held since 1987. Jim is completing 12 years as National Director, and one year as Jr. Vice Commander. He and his wife, Jerri, hosted the successful Baton Rouge Convention in 1998. He has also been chairman of three national committees.

Serving with the Air Force during WWII, Jim was captured at St. Lo and held in Stalag Luft III, XIIID and VIIA.

Jim and his wife, Jerri, live in Bastrop, LA.

**For
Junior Vice Commander
Western Zone
Isaac V. Ornelas**

A member of the Cessna Sargent Chapter, Isaac was captured on April 22, 1953 while serving in the Army in Korea. He was held in North Korea until Aug. 1953 when he was liberated at the 38th Parallel Line in Korea.

Isaac has served as Legislative Officer, Jr. Vice, Sr. Vice and Commander of the chapter. He was Department of California Commander for 3 years.

He is currently serving his first year as Jr. Vice Commander.

Isaac lives in Bakersfield, CA.

**For
National Director
Northeast Region
Laura McIntyre**



Laura is a life member of AXPOW and current National Director — since 1999. She served two terms as Chapter Commander of the Western MA Chapter, and is past State Dept. Commander for Massachusetts, past Adjutant and Treasurer.

Laura is also a life member of DAVA, and served as Chapter Commander DAVA 75 for 19 years. State Dept. offices include Ways and Means, Membership, Finance Committee, Patriotic Instructor. She is a life member of the VFW Auxiliary; served 3 terms as President of the local unit, serving as Jr. Vice and Chaplain.

24 years VAVS Northampton VAMC; 14 years Council on Aging, Hardwick, MA, Chairman COA for 10 years.

Laura and adorable husband Philip live in Hardwick, MA

**For
National Director
East Central Region
Warren G. King, Jr.**



Warren, long-time commander of the Alvin C. York Chapter, AXPOW, was serving with the 4th Division, 22nd Infantry Medical Detachment when he was captured, then held in Stalags 2A and 4B until liberation.

He has remained active on a local and state level with the American Ex-Prisoners of War, and was a regular attendee at the Board of Directors meetings each year in Washington, DC, even before being elected to the Board in 2003.

Warren and his wife, Mary, live in Nashville, Tennessee.

**For
National Director
Mid Central Region
Leonard E. Rose**



Leonard became a life member in 1979, and has been active since that time, serving as National Director and/or Jr. Vice Commander, Ways & Means, Budget & Finance, Job Descriptions, Awards, Credentials and Nominations & Elections.

Leonard assisted in organizing the Indiana State Department, Hoosier Chapter, and Luft IV Association, which sends out a quarterly report for all members. Published the state dept. newsletter and the Hoosier newsletter every month. Assisted in getting Ex-POW license plates in Indiana and removal of registration fees for those plates.

Leonard lives in Lawrence, Indiana.

**For
National Director
North Central Region
Carroll Bogard**



Carroll enlisted in the Air Force in 1942, serving with the 8th AF, 466th BG, 785th BS. He was captured in August, 1944, then held in Stalag Luft VI and Luft IV. He participated in the 87 day march across northern Europe before being liberated by the British 7th Army.

He joined AXPOW in 1986 and quickly became an active member. He has been NE Iowa Chapter Adjutant, Vice Commander and Commander; at the Dept. level, he worked the chairs, culminating with a three-year stint as Commander when the Dept. hosted the 1995 National Convention in Des Moines.

Appointed to the National Board of Directors last winter, Carroll is seeking election for a two-year term.

Carroll and his wife, Barbara, live in Mason City, IA.

**For
National Director
South Central Region
Morris P. Barker**



While serving with the 15th Air Force – 451st BG, 726th BS – Morris was shot down over Hungary and held in Stalag Luft IV.

After returning to the US, he attended Texas A&M; his MA is from the University of Texas. Morris retired as personnel manager from General Tire & Rubber. He has been an active member of AXPOW, serving as Commander of the Permian Basin Chapter and Texas State Department Commander.

Morris lives in Odessa, TX.

For
National Director
Southwest Region
Lucien George Bergez

(no bio submitted)

For
National Director
Northwest Region
Bonnie Sharp



Bonnie is pleased to announce her candidacy for re-election for National Director, Northwest Region.

She writes: "I am seeking re-election for the two-year term of Northwest National Director. I am a life member of AXPOW and a member of the Tacoma Chapter, where I recently completed a three-year term as Chapter Commander. I now proudly serve as Chapter Adjutant. I have been a National Director for the past five years and have served on various committees of the Board of Directors ~ currently serving on both the Outreach and Ways & Means committees. My continuing goals are to keep chapter commanders informed of national news and to be aware of concerns of our members. I also very much look forward in continuing to assist our ex-POWs and their widows in efforts to obtain their deserved disability and DIC benefits."

Bonnie and her husband, Maurice, live in University Place, WA.

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Behind the Sawali: Santo Tomás in cartoons, 1942 - 1945. By Teedie Cowie Woodcock. ISBN: 0-9662860-3-0. Trade Paperback, 7" x 10". 130 cartoons of day-to-day life in a civilian prison camp. A great remembrance for all the family. 176 pages with footnotes. Available from CENOGRAPHIX or directly from the author. \$16.50 includes US and Canadian postage.

Teedie says of her book, "I drew these cartoons in Santo Tomás to bolster mother's spirits (mine, too)---not to depress or poke fun.... Please don't look for your portrait. I hope instead that you will see a little of each of us on every page."

All publisher profits from this book go to POW museums, libraries, and not-for-profit organizations.

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Y our Stories



Stalag IV soulmates

It took six decades for Sam Frank and John Jacoby to meet, though both were shot down in WW II and were POWs at the same camp. Sunday marks V-E Day, the war's end in Europe.

By Bill Lindelof
Copyright, *The Sacramento Bee*, 2005

The mutual loathing of a big, slump-shouldered guard in a German prisoner of war camp has brought together - six decades later - two Sacramento men who met when introduced by their barber.

As the 60th anniversary of the Allies' victory in Europe - V-E Day - is remembered Sunday, Sam Frank, 82, and John Jacoby, 81, are united in their experiences at Stalag Luft IV. They were held in the same POW camp at the same time.

And both remember Big Stoop.

A legend exists that former prisoners caught Big Stoop and killed him after Germany's surrender.

"He was a sadistic individual," Jacoby remembered. "He would try to kill you."

Frank and Jacoby had never met until they were introduced not long ago by their barber, Mike Howe, owner of the four-chair Manor Barber Shop in Arden Arcade.

Jacoby, a customer for four years, was in the shop when conversation about the Air Force came up. Howe asked about Jacoby's time spent in a German prisoner of war camp.

Of that time, Jacoby jokes that he spent the war as a "guest of the German government."

When Jacoby said he spent time in Stalag IV, Howe thought that sounded familiar. Howe mentioned that he knew another man who was shot down and spent time as a POW in Germany.

Jacoby told him the way Howe would know if the other customer also was incarcerated in Stalag IV was if the other customer had ever mentioned "Big Stoop."

"Yeah, he did," Howe remembered saying.

"Big Stoop was a large German guard who was terrible to the Americans," Howe said. "Sam had mentioned him, too."

The day Jacoby was in the shop, Howe picked up the phone and told Frank that there was a man in the barber chair who had also been in his stalag.

"No!" Frank said. Howe has been cutting Frank's hair for 20 years.

Frank asked Howe for Jacoby's phone number. The two met over lunch, traded stories and became friends.

May 8, 1945, marks the Allies' victory in Europe during World War II. Germany offered an unconditional surrender the day before.

Frank and Jacoby, separately, were evacuated from Stalag IV by their German guards before V-E Day, like most of the other 10,000 prisoners at the POW camp.

The airmen were brought to the camp after both were shot down at separate times in B-17 airplane bombing runs over Germany. Frank flew out of Italy while Jacoby was based in England.

They both endured weight loss because of meager rations of bread and cabbage soup.

The other day, while seated next to each other in chairs at the barber shop, they reminisced about their wartime experiences.



Jacoby, who grew up in Oakland, became a gunner. On his fifth mission he was shot down over Berlin on a bombing run in 1944.

"There was a lot of flak over Berlin," Jacoby said. "That place had a couple of thousand guns down there and they knew where we were. We lost three engines on a four-engine airplane." The

stories, continued...

plane lost air speed and altitude. When the plane started going down fast, the crew bailed out. All 10 crew members survived.

Taken to the POW camp, he and his fellow fliers were among the first arrivals at Stalag IV, about 50 miles south of the Baltic Sea at Stettin, Germany, around June 1, 1944.

"We were charter members," he said. A Web site for World War II's 446th Bomb Group posts the words of a Red Cross visitor to the camp in October 1944:

"The camp is divided into five distinct parts separated by barbed wire fences. Camps (compounds) A, B and C contain Americans only.

"Camp D contains American and British. The main camp (vorlagar) includes the infirmary, food and clothing storerooms. Today, Stalag Luft IV has twice too many inmates.

"The men are housed in forty wooden huts, each hut containing 200 men ... There is not a single bed in camp C and 1900 men sleep on the floor. 600 of them have no mattress, only a few shavings to lie on. Some have to lie right on the floor. Each prisoner has two German blankets."

Jacoby was in Camp B and Frank in D. Jacoby said conditions seemed rough.

"However, that is a relative term," he recalled. "When compared to the con-

ditions suffered by guys held prisoner by the Japanese, it was darn good."

Frank, born and raised in Sacramento, enlisted just like Jacoby. He wanted to be a pilot, but washed out of flight training. Instead, he became a radio operator and aerial gunner.

Frank, shot down on his 13th mission on Dec. 13, 1944, remains superstitious. "About a minute or two from dropping our bombs on an oil refinery in Germany, they were shooting at us," he said of his last mission.

The flak from the ground hit an engine and burst into flames. "They say: 'We gotta bail out!'" Frank recalled. "Well, it was actually a little stronger language than that."

Frank injured his back and spent several weeks in a German hospital before being sent to the POW compound. Six out of nine airmen on his plane survived. He credits his POW survival to excellent conditioning.

The young airman was not much removed from running exploits for the C.K. McClatchy High School and Sacramento Junior College track teams.

Some of the most arduous time as a POW occurred when he and 6,000 other U.S. and British airmen were forced to march from the camp.

"You could hear the Russian guns," he said. "The Germans did not want to give up to the Russians. So we started our death march under German control. Three months, 500 miles, in bitter cold."

The Germans turned the allies over to Americans, then surrendered. On the march, the ill-clothed, emaciated men were hardly fed and slept on frozen ground.

"We were finally liberated by General (George) Patton's group," Frank said. "We went free, and they, in turn, became prisoners."

When Frank was liberated, his body was covered by lice. Stalag IV POWs had no change of clothes and seldom had showers.

Jacoby's exit from the camp with V-E Day approaching was mostly in a train car.

"The Germans made us like sardines in a can - we were so crowded you could lift your feet up and not fall to the floor," he said.

He was later liberated from another POW camp by the U.S. 3rd Army on April 29, 1945.

Jacoby moved to Sacramento in the 1950s and made a career in the insurance business. Frank owned apartment houses. They never met.

"Until that guy ..." said Frank, pointing across the barbershop at Howe.

"It's an amazing story," Howe said. "How it came about in this barber shop is really something. Now Sam's helping John get his POW license plates and John has joined the POW club. They are two of the nicest fellows you will ever meet."

Picture

Mike Howe, pictured at right, who runs Arden Arcade's Manor Barber Shop, noted similar war experiences of John Jacoby, 81, left, and Sam Frank, 82, center. He put them in touch with each other recently and they shared recollections of Stalag Luft IV.

Members' forum



Dear Editor:

I read with interest and some dismay at Mr. & Mrs. Saz's letter to the Members' forum (May 2005). I would echo their sentiment, however, as the Ex-POW Board of Directors should continue to stand "firm against the mistreatment of prisoners of any country in any place" and support the United States current policy as doing just that in our war on terror.

We, as a nation, are indeed already "on record as being against the mistreatment of those who we capture." Despite the clarions of doom in the major media culture, we show this by thought, word, and deed in the humanitarian treatment of our captives. Of the isolated incidents of embarrassment of terrorist prisoners, the President of our United States has been second to none in decrying any and all abuse. To depict these incidents as being anywhere equivalent to the atrocities of mistreatment, starvation, barbarism and brutality which was enacted as official policy by the Germans or Japanese in World War II; North Koreans or Chinese in the Korean War; North Vietnamese, ChiComs or Russians in the Vietnam; or, the Iraqis in the Gulf wars is nothing short of extreme hubris or naivete.

This is a world war against the militant Islamists who have repeatedly attacked us throughout the world not as the writers describe as "military ventures." Just as the world war fought now 60 years ago was a war for the survival of civilization, so is this world war as the weapons available to terrorists and terrorist nations are much more evolved. An agenda is packaged within the Saz's letter that fights another war however. This war unfortunately parallels the one being waged by the dominant me-

dia culture against the sitting President of the United States.

It palpably sickens me to hear the echoes of appeasement and rationalization that was so prevalent in the 1930s while Japan and Germany built up their military and totalitarian complexes. These Islamic terrorists are not impressed nor motivated by humane treatment of prisoners, they are inspired by a fanatical and perverse ideology.

The Saz's appeal for discussing and clarifying "this issue" is confusing as no one in this country has or would advocate mistreatment of prisoners. As is well known from video and first hand accounts from both Afghanistan and Iraq theaters of the war on terror, we take immediate and effective medical care of those we capture in combat despite the cowardly and dastardly action by these fanatics and cowards vis a vis hiding bombs under their holy books; shooting at us from their holy buildings; playing dead; strapping bombs on their own kids; using women and children as human shields; or cutting off the heads of their captives, much the same as the Japanese did in World War II.

By saying "Brutality towards captives must be exposed to the light of day if we are to deserve the respect of the world," I assume the Mr. & Mrs. Saz are decrying the grisly videos of the savage beheading of Nick Berg and other captives by these multi-national Islamic terrorists. These videos unfortunately are not shown widely as the media prefer showing embarrassing photos of Iraqi prisoners who were mistreated by a few miscreants who are even now being tried and promptly punished. Our media also "saved" us from viewing video of men and women jumping to their deaths rather than burning to death or riding the Twin Towers down after "the unprovoked and dastardly attacks" of these kamikaze zealots on September 11.

I would hope the United States would continue to deserve the respect of the world much as we did 60 years ago by once again saving the world from fanatics who would annihilate those who oppose their edicts of nihilistic fanaticism and Islamic oppression. Indeed, the members of the American Ex-Prisoners of War are a special breed who helped effect that

victory then and serve as an honorable beacon and reference for our brave warriors currently fighting this just war for the survival of our country and civilization.

Sincerely yours,

David E. "Rick" Reuss
P.T. Life Member
1421 Cherokee Court
Madison, Indiana 47250
E-mail: reuss@quixnet.net

Dear Cheryl,

In the June, 2005 issue of the Bulletin, the National Adjutant, in her column, stated that, "At our April MidYear meeting, Foundation Director William Bearisto announced that the Foundation would no longer honor its commitment to the NSO Program."

What the National Adjutant failed to say is that Bill Bearisto's announcement came after the National Board of Directors had voted to demand that the Foundation cease and desist from using the American Ex-Prisoners of War name and to return the National Organization's mailing list - in affect "firing" the Foundation. To expect the Foundation to continue funding AX-POW programs under those circumstances would be the height of shameless audacity, chutzpah or impertinence.

Failure to put Director Bearisto's remarks in the full context in which they were made, is irresponsible reporting and a distortion of the truth. It would have been better had the Adjutant simply stated that the Board of Directors had agreed to earmark all additional donations to the label fundraiser to NSOs.

Sincerely,

Gene Powell
456 Christian Herald Rd.
Valley Cottage, NY 10989
geneval@optonline.net
Gene is a director with the Service Foundation

NamPOW news



Paul E. Galanti
NSO Director ~ R&D
pgalanti@comcast.net

The More Things Change, The More They Stay the Same.

Paul Galanti,
AXPOW NSO Director for R&D

Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.

The French occasionally get something non-gastronomical correct and this expression is one! The more things change, the more they stay the same. Such is the case with veterans' benefits. Or, as Ronald Reagan more succinctly put it to Jimmy Carter in the Williamsburg debate in 1980, "There you go again!"

National Commander Jim Cooper asked me to attend the Commission on Veterans' Benefits meeting on June 9 in Washington, DC. As a member of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Former POWs, I had an interest in this congressionally mandated body but had been getting info only from some other veterans' organization and the internet. Many of those organizations were observing - represented by their key legislative people and staffs.

This is an important commission with the potential to cause major changes in the VA's benefit structure. From the tenor of the committee's discussions and apparent attitude, it ap-

pears that many tenets of the current system are suspect, from the commission's point of view and, apparently, some congressional veterans' committees.

Faced with steeply rising costs of running the Department of Veterans Affairs, Congress is looking for ways to cut unnecessary expenses. Note the term, "unnecessary," as it's one of those subjective terms that depends on whether the ox that's about to be gored is yours or somebody else's!

My day with the commission was filled with presentations from the Veterans' Benefits Administration (VBA) and an "Aha! Gotcha!" Presentation by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). The day can charitably be described as death by government PowerPoint, the ubiquitous computer program that cleverly emulates a slide show. Several senior representatives of VBA put mountains of numbers on the board to "prove" that the VA is really doing something with all that money.

I wrote several times in my notes, "Where's the denominator?" - the statistician's equivalent of "Where's the Beef?" Massive numbers were displayed but nothing to compare it to other than the VA's own numbers. It's interesting to see the comparisons between WWII vets, Korean vets, Vietnam vets, Gulf I & II but, please don't add the numbers up and add up all the numbers and compare the different groups who are, in most cases, years apart in age. I made a mental note to say something during the public comment period when Admiral Dennis McGinn, one of the members asked the question for me.

McGinn received a kind of shocked look and a "We only have that data" or "We've only been tracking comparison subsets since 1998."

I couldn't tell from the staffer's reaction whether it was a determination to truly seek answers to McGinn's (and my) questions or a sigh of relief that the ordeal was over until next time.

The Inspector General's presentation was more troublesome with words like "fraud" being bandied about. Much was made of checking VA beneficiaries against the IRS rolls looking for "Unemployables" who were working and a substantial number whose ratings had been changed because of it.

Reading body language in the audience and the commission, I sensed a feeling of malaise as the IG seemed to be talking about veterans as law-breakers.

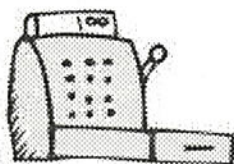
I was very impressed with the Commission members' biographies and attitude. But while I honor their commitment and professional acumen both in and for the military, I've had problems in the past with having too many generals and admirals studying veterans. Many have never been in a VA hospital until asked by the VA to study a VA issue.

At the start of the day, I felt that the commission felt its purpose was to "save the government a lot of money," by the end, I could sense they want some assurance that the VA is spending its money on the right things, now.

As an aside, I told several of the commission members of my personal crusade to get the VA to simplify the process with a Turbo-Tax interface to the claims process. They seemed interested and wanted more information on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee. Wouldn't it be great if the bureaucracy could save a bunch of processing money and spend it on medical and issues critical to disabled veterans.

Also as an aside, Rep. Chris Smith was elbowed aside as chairman of the House veterans Affairs committee and some of the negativism might be a result of that. Be alert for legislative bulletins and alerts from HQ to contact your representatives, if necessary. It could conceivably take a ground swell to "re-prioritize" the agenda for veterans - including our own, very special sub-set.

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"This too will pass". I am a firm be-
liever that God will work most, if not
all, of life's problems out by and
through His people to His satisfac-

tion and to His glory. I hope and pray
all of our very special and precious
members will read our Commander's
comments in the May and June issues
of the POW Bulletin, and know what
has happened between the National
AXPOW organization and the POW
Foundation and will be prepared to
put things in order at the National
Convention. As I have mentioned
many times before, it is our duty and
responsibility to do the best we can
to "help those who cannot help
themselves", in Godly and loving
ways.

Let us pray: Dear Lord, our God,
please forgive us when we fail to
pass on to others Your type of love
and concern. There are so many
things that are beyond our under-

standing, but we can know and be-
lieve that what we do and say must
be done with loving kindness that
flows from Your heavenly throne.
May Your healing blessings be upon
all who know sorrow, trials and bad
times. Bless our unique organization,
our great nation and those standing
in harm's way...as well as those still
listed as POW/MIA. In Your Holy and
sacred name we pray. AMEN.

Thought for the month: God sends
His blessings abundantly to us so we
can pass them on to others. Isn't this
what helping those who cannot help
themselves is all about?

Ex-POW Bulletin

August 2005



taps



Please submit taps notices to: Cheryl Cerbone, 267 Main St. South Dennis, MA 02660

AHRENS, Raymond L., 79, of Boone, IA died May 16, 2005. He served in the 106th Inf. Div., 424th Reg. and was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. He was a life member Mid IA Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife, Delilah (chapter adjutant), 2 sons, 3 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson.

ALLISON, Harold H. of Sun City Center, FL died March 26, 2005. He served with the 106th Inf. Div. and was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. He was preceded in death by his wife, Martha. Survivors include his sister, Mary Ann, and one niece.

ARFANIS, Gustave, 85, of Palm City, FL, formerly of Albertson, NY, passed away April 29, 2005. He served in the Army with the 4th Armored Div., participating in the Normandy Invasion and the Battle of the Bulge. While liberating a POW camp, he was wounded and captured. His wife of 61 years, Helen, survives him; he also leaves 1 daughter, 1 son, 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

BAKER, Raymond "Joe", 80, of Coweta, OK died March 26, 2005. He was a member of the Tulsa, OK Chapter, AXPOW. Joe served in the Army with the 9th Inf. Div., 60th Reg. He was captured in Belgium and held in two camps before being sent to Stalag 7A. He is survived by his wife, Jackie, 1 son, 5 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

BESSIRE, Samuel E., Jr., 88, life member of Waco Chapter #1, AXPOW passed away April 5, 2005. Sam was a member of the 36th Div., Co. K., 143rd Reg. He was captured on Salerno beach, Italy, after accomplishing his mission in Alta Villa. He spent 20 months in Stalags VII, IIB, IIIA and IIIB. He is survived by his wife, Anne, and four sisters.

BOWEN, Robert Marvin, 91, of Linthicum Heights, MD died May 9,

2005. During WWII, he served in the 101st AB, Co. C, 401st GLR. He was held prisoner in a number of hospitals/prison camps. Bob was a life member of AXPOW and member of the Albert J. Bland MD North Chapter. He was predeceased by his wife of 58 years; survivors include a brother-in-law and his wife, nieces and nephews.

BURDA, Vernon L. passed away June 8, 2005, in Wilsonville, Oregon, at the age of 83. He was a navigator on a B-24 bomber in the Army Air Corps during World War II. He was shot down twice and was a prisoner of war in Stalag Luft III for 10 months. To him, nothing was impossible. His generosity, humor, and compassion touched everyone he met. He made the world a better place. He is survived by his loving wife, Paulina, two daughters, two sons, three brothers, two sisters, eight grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and innumerable friends.

CAMPBELL, James D., age 86, of St. Joseph, IL died May 12, 2005. Jim served in the 549th BS, 385th BG with the 8th AF. He was a POW at Stalag Luft I for 15 months. Jim was a life member of AXPOW and member of the Kickapoo Chapter. Survivors include his wife, June, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

CARRICK, Thomas A., age 72, died June 23, 2005 in Wellington, FL. He served in the 1st Cavalry Division, 8th Regiment during the Korean War. He was a prisoner of war in Camps 3, 2, and 1. He was a member of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include a son and two daughters.

CASEY, Leo F. Jr., of Centerville, MA passed away May 3, 2005. He was 89. Leo served in the Navy and was captured at the fall of Corregidor. As a POW for 3 ½ years, he worked in the copper mines in Japan and then was forced to rebuild Nichols Air Base in Manila. He leaves his wife of 50 years, Florence, 1 daughter, 1 niece, 1 nephew, 5 grandnieces and 2 grandnephews.

DANIELS, Bailey, of Sparta, TN died April 20, 2005 at the age of 82. He was a member of the Alvin C. York Chapter, AXPOW. He was captured while serving with the 106th Div., 590th Artillery during the Battle of the Bulge. He is survived by his wife, Lyida, 4 sons, 2 daughters and 19 grandchildren.

DeHART, Milne, a member of the East Central Florida Chapter died on June 25, 2005. He was in the Air Corps during WW2 and shot down and was a POW in Germany.

DRAPER, Beverage Houston, Nashville, TN died May 18, 2005 at the age of 91. He was a member of the Alvin C. York Chapter, AXPOW. During WWII, he served with Co. C., 26th Inf. Reg., 3rd Army. He was captured just before Germany surrendered and released through a prisoner exchange. He leaves his wife of 64 years, Sarah, 1 son, 1 daughter and 3 grandchildren.

DUDEK, Daniel D., 81, of Baltimore, MD passed away May 26, 2005. He served with the 8th AF, 489th BG, 844th BS during WWII. After capture, he was held in Luft IV and participated in the 85-day forced march. Dan was a life member of AXPOW and member of the Albert J. Bland MD North Chapter. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 3 brothers and 6 grandchildren.

EDDLEMON, George W., 86, died May 18, 2005 in Murfreesboro, TN. He was a member of the Alvin C. York Chapter, AXPOW. During WWII, he served with the 27th BG, 454th Ordinance in the Philippines. He survived the Bataan Death March and 3 ½ years in Japanese POW camps in the Philippines and Japan. He leaves his loving wife of 58 years, Ruth, 4 children, 9 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

ESHAM, William J. Jr., 83, of Georgetown, DE, passed away June 7, 2005. During WWII, he served in the Army, Co. F, 318th Inf., 80th Div.

taps continued

He was held prisoner in Stalag VII-A. Mr. Esham was a member of Maryland East Chapter, Salisbury. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Edna, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 4 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

ESPINOSA, Tom, of Stilwell, KS died June 5, 2005. He was 91. Tom was captured while serving with the US Army, 9th Division in Europe. He is survived by his wife, Teresa, 5 daughters, 14 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren. Tom was an active member of the Heart of America Chapter, AXPOW. He will be missed.

EWALD, Wayne Virgil, 80, of What Cheer, IA, died March 26, 2005. Wayne was a POW in the European Theatre. He is survived by his wife, Veda, 2 daughters, 1 sister, 4 grandchildren, 1 great-grandson and 13 nieces and nephews.

FORD, Mason Eugene, 79, died May 12, 2005. He was captured while serving with the 106th Div. 423rd Reg., Co. G during the Battle of the Bulge. He was held prisoner in Stalag IVB until liberation. He was a life member of AXPOW and the Greater Atlanta Chapter. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Lois, 2 daughters, 1 son and 4 grandchildren.

GARDNER, Velma G., of Argos, IN, beloved wife of Harold, passed away April 27, 2005 at the age of 88. They were married for 44 years. Harold was a member of Patton's 4th Armored Div. and was captured in Europe. Survivors include 4 daughters and 3 step-children.

GOLONKA, Joseph R., 82, of Hobe Sound, FL died Friday, June 10, 2005 at his home. He was a prisoner of war while serving in the U.S. Army during World War II in Normandy. Survivors include his wife, Jinina, a son, two daughters, a sister, and a brother. He had seven grandchildren.

HAWKINS, Hubert H. passed away June 5, 2005 in San Antonio, TX. He retired from the U.S. Army. He was a POW in the Korean War.

HILL, Jimmie S., 85, of Grenada, MS died May 6, 2005. He served with the 142nd Inf., 36th Div. and was a POW in Germany for 18 months. He was a life member of AXPOW. Jimmie is survived by his wife of 57 years, Sarah, 1 son, 6 daughters, 15 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

HUCKABY, O.B. "Huck", of Austin, TX passed away June 16, 2005 at age 85. He served with the 322nd BG, 450th BS, 9th AF during WWII. He was captured July 7, 1944 and held in Lufts 4 & 6. Huck was a life member of Capitol City Chapter, AXPOW. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Mildred, 1 son and 3 grandchildren.

KULICK, George C., of Sarasota, FL died May 6, 2005. He served in the 15th AF, 301st BG, 419th BS during WWII. He was shot down over Verona, Italy and held POW in Luft 1 for 15 months. He leaves his wife of 50 years, Marion, 1 son, 1 daughter, 4 grandchildren and 1 sister.

MEYER, June L., 82, of Hillsborough, NC died April 28, 2005. She and her husband, ex-POW Al, were life members of AXPOW. In addition to her husband of 62 years, she is survived by 2 sons, 1 daughter, 3 brothers, 1 sister and 7 grandchildren.

LEVINE, Joseph, of Deerfield Beach, FL passed away on July 3, 2005. Joe was a radio operator and gunner with the 15th Air Force. He flew on a B-17 out of Italy and was shot down over Hungary on August 22, 1944. He was sent to Stalag Luft IV and was there until liberated in April, 1945. He was a member of the Florida Gold Coast Chapter, AXPOW. Joe is survived by his wife Muriel and a son and a daughter.

LOWE, Charles, recently of Colonial Heights, Virginia, formerly of Austin, Texas, died May 18, 2005, and will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery. Although he moved to Virginia, he maintained his membership in the Capitol City Chapter. Charlie served with 325 BS 92 BG, and was held in Germany. He is survived by his wife of over 55 years, Evelyn.

OSBORN, Chester W., 85, passed away March 31, 2005. His B-24 was

shot down over Austria and he was held 11 months in Luft IV. He leaves his loving wife of nearly 60 years, Vivian, 1 daughter, 1 son and 2 granddaughters.

OSTERMANN, Joseph Edward, Sr., of DeLand, FL died May 23, 2005 at the age of 86. He served with the 385th BG and was shot down over Demark on Oct. 9, 1943. He spent 19 months in captivity, starting with Luft III and ending up in Luft VIIA. He was preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, Colleen. He is survived by 6 sons, 4 daughters, 23 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

RECARDO, Federico passed away on June 15, 2005, at the age of 88. He was a decorated WWII, Korean veteran and a survivor of the Bataan Death March. He was a life member of the American Ex-Prisoners of War and an active member of the Tacoma, WA Chapter. Federico leaves behind two sisters, one brother, 4 children, 14 grandchildren and 31 great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his beloved wife of 63 years, Carmelita.

SHERTZER, Sidney Charles "Sid", of Moore, South Carolina, died May 10, 2005. Sid served in the USAF during WW II, and was shot down in April, 1944, during a B-17 bombing raid over Bavaria. He was injured and held as a POW until the end of the war. He leaves his wife, Florene, 1 daughter and 1 son.

SHOCKLEY, Charles W., 84, life member of AXPOW, passed away Oct. 1, 2004 in Bloomington, IN. He served with the 8th AF, 44th BG during WWII. He was shot down and spent 18 months in Lufts 4 and 1 before liberation. Survivors include his daughter, Karen.

SMITH, Clarence E., of Ausable Forks, NY died June 9, 2005. He was 81. Clarence served in the Army during WWII. He as a POW for 8 months in Germany. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Evelyn, two sons, five granddaughters, one

taps continued

great-granddaughter, five brothers and one sister.

STEINGRABER, LeRoy A., 80, of Tijeras, NM passed away April 2, 2005. He served with the 453rd BG, 735th BS. He was shot down over Germany and held at Lufts IV and other POW camps 11 months. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Violet, 1 daughter, 2 sons, 10 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

STOCKDALE, James B., retired Navy Vice Adm., Medal of Honor recipient, former Vietnam POW, naval aviator and test pilot, academic, and American hero died July 5, 2005, at his home in Coronado, Calif. He was 81 years old. As commanding officer of Carrier Air Group Sixteen flying from the aircraft carrier the USS Oriskany, he was shot down while leading a mission Sept. 9, 1965. While imprisoned, he organized the prisoner culture in defiance of regulations forbidding prisoner communication and improvised a cohesive set of rules governing prisoner behavior. Codified in the acronym, BACK U.S. (Unity over Self), these rules gave prisoners a sense of hope, which many credited with giving them the strength to endure their ordeal. He is survived by his beloved wife Sybil of Coronado, CA, four sons and eight grandchildren.

TEN HAKEN, Melvin G., of Milwaukee, WI died May 11, 2005. During WWII, he was assigned to the 15th AF, 461st BG, 766th BS. His plane was shot down over Yugoslavia; he was captured and held in Luft 1, Barth. He leaves his beloved wife, Betty, 2 sons and 1 daughter.

THOMPSON, Dr. Eugene Joseph, 83, of O'Hara, PA passed away March 5, 2005. Dr. Thompson was chief of medicine at the VAMC, Pittsburgh. He pioneered treatment of former POWs by caring for veterans of Bataan and Corregidor. His work helped set national standards on treating the lingering effects of

wartime imprisonment. He is survived by his wife, Marcia.

WARD, Norman P. "Pat", age 85, of Enfield, CT passed away May 27, 2005. He served with the 228th Army Signal Operations under General MacArthur on Corregidor. He was captured by the Japanese and held 42 months in the Philippines and Japan. Pat was a member of the CT Chapter, AXPOW. He is survived by his wife, Leslie, 1 son, 2 grandchildren and 1 sister.

WENSLOW, Marshall, of Waterford, Michigan, passed away May 4, 2005. Marshall served in the 106th Inf. Div., 589th FABN. He was captured at Battle of the Bulge. He leaves his beloved wife of 57 years, Patricia, and one daughter.

Remembering James Stockdale: His Destiny Made All the Difference

By Paul Galanti

who served nearly seven years as a POW — much of that time under the command of James Bond Stockdale.

A truly great man died July 5, 2005.

In September, 1965, when Cdr. Jim Stockdale was shot down over North Vietnam, my squadron commanding officer, Cdr. Tex Birdwell — one of the toughest men I'd ever known, who'd worked with Stockdale at the Navy Test Pilot School — said, "Jim'll do all right, he's the toughest guy I know." Commander Bill Franke, a contemporary of Stockdale's when shot down, was the smartest human being I'd ever known. He served on the test pilot faculty with Stockdale. Franke told me, "Jim is the smartest human being I've ever known." Those two endorsements say a lot about Jim Stockdale — a very tough guy who led others with his intellect.

"CAG" (Commander of the Air Group) was the last of a breed and one of the great bargains Uncle Sam received in exchange for his Annapolis education. A brilliant man, Stockdale excelled in the primarily engineering curriculum of the Academy class of 1947. He wound up flying fighters, earning an MS in Engi-

neering, and becoming head of academics at the Navy Test Pilot School — where his students included four of the earliest astronauts, three Navy and one Marine.

But it wasn't the tailhook carrier Navy that excited Jim the most. Working toward his doctorate in philosophy, he studied the classics for two years under Stanford's renowned philosophy professor Philip Rhinelander. He became fascinated with the Stoics. Particularly in Epictetus' *Enchiridion*, Stockdale found his *raison d'être* as a leader of men in a POW environment. His nearly eight years in a Communist prison with frequent torture, solitary confinement, and endless mind games played by his captors made him stronger. He would later tell audiences that he believed his whole life directed him to be the inspirational leader for the 600 military POWs in Vietnam. He got through nearly five years of solitary confinement convinced that it was his purpose to be there.

Stockdale's 2,713 days of leadership in isolation resulted in promotions to admiral and general, selections for choice assignments, and a plethora of medals for the men he inspired. He was personally awarded the Medal of Honor in large part for refusing to be exploited by being forced to order Americans to violate their Code of Conduct.

His brief foray into politics as the reluctant vice-presidential candidate for Ross Perot in 1992 didn't work out. The pundits had a field day with the geezer against the hip, one-thought-equals-one-clever-bumper-sticker Quayle and Gore. Admiral Stockdale looked at the camera and asked famously, "Why am I here?"

Neither Quayle, Gore, the press, nor the viewers understood what he was saying. But those of us who served with him in Hanoi understood very well. He was imploring the spirit of Epictetus to whisk him away from these buffoons back to his destiny: leading men under very trying circumstances. According to Epictetus, Jim Stockdale knew, that was his life's principal destiny. And for so many of us POWs, it — and he — made all the difference.

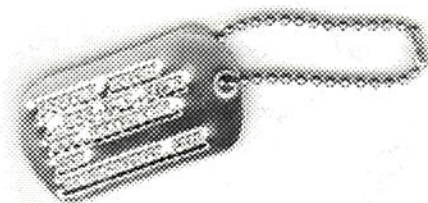
Ex-POW Bulletin

August 2005

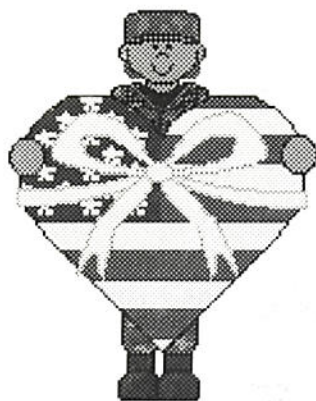
34

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"



Steve Loper
Redlands, CA
1 FA OBS BN BTRY B
#66 Italy, 2B Luft 3
2/14/43-4/26/45

Albert E. Eisenkraft
Elsie
Sarasota, FL
Army
9A, 9B
12/19/44-3/30/45

Francis Jeremiah
Monteverde
Albuquerque, NM
29 INF DIV
4B
6/10/44-4/16/45

Oral C. Nichols, Jr.
Carlsbad, NM
CPNAB, Wake Island
Woosung Kiangwan
Sendai
12/23/41-9/12/45

New Life Members "Welcome Home"

Frank C. Stecklein
Judith 711 38946
San Antonio, TX
Cabanatuan

George S. Malcolm
Julia S 17033 38947
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
384 BG 545 BS
Dulag, Luft 1

Clinton A. Sather
Eleanor 38915 38948
Moorhead, MN
AAF
Lufts 6,4,1

Vicki Batson 38949
Round Rock, TX
Daughter of Lloyd
Delahorne, PAC

Howard R. McCord 38950
Juno Beach, FL
15 AF 463 BG 773 BS
Luft 3, 7A
4/30/44-5/24/45

Florence Sexton 38951
E. Bridgewater, MA
Widow of Edward J.
Sexton
17B

Joseph N. Todaro
*38952
Toms River, NJ
B CO 81 ENG BN
attached to 106 DIV
12A, 3A, 11A, Stone
Quarry
12/17/44-4/18/45

George Victor Young
*38953
Tucson, AZ
15 AF 98 BG 344 BS
Bucharest Romania
8/18/44-9/1/44

Sylvia M. Cope
*38954
Zapata, TX
Widow of Norman A
Cope
12A, 3C 9/44-1/45

Dominick E. Sgobbo
*38956
Bronx, NY
G CO 302 INF 94 DIV
5A
3/6/45-5/45

Eugene S. Fitelson
*38957
Fairfield, CT
26 INF DIV 328 REG
2B Hammerstein,
Work Camps, W.
Prussia, Limburg

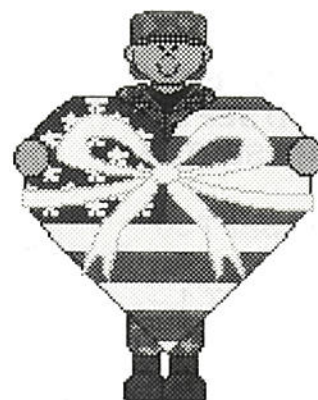
Clyde Ronald Smith
*38958
Palmdale, CA
CO A 8 CAV DIV 1
REG
Chang Song 11/1/50-
9/53

Ernest Grabich
Josephine
*38959 38960
Surf City, NJ
5 Army 88 INF DIV
Stalag 18, Austria
10/24/44-5/8/45

George E. Bradley
Lola *38961 38962
Wichita Falls, TX
USAAF
Luft 4

Walton J. Minkler
Sarah *38963 38964
Goodrich, MI
D BTRY 435 AAA BN
Markt Pongau
11/29/44-8/45

Lloyd E. Bates
Helen *38965 38966
Westerville, OH
354 FG 356 FS
German Civilian
Hospital
4/7/45-4/14/45





"America The Beautiful"
58th National Convention
September 27 – October 2, 2005
HOST HOTEL ~ Doubletree Hotel
3203 Quebec Street
Denver, CO 80207
303-321-3333; 800-222-8733
fax: 303-329-5233



Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone _____

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

Number of Beds in Room 1 2 Smoking Non-Smoking

Circle One: Visa MasterCard American Express Discover Diners Club

Credit Card # _____ Exp Date _____

Special Needs _____

ROOM RATES: \$79 PER NIGHT

Please make your reservations prior to Sept. 11, 2005. There is a one-time fee of \$50 that applies to early check-outs not specified at the time of check-in.

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

A continental breakfast, with oatmeal, is included in the room rate.

Complimentary transportation to and from Denver International Airport

Complimentary Transportation between the Doubletree Hotel and the Red Lion Hotel if needed

**AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR
58TH NATIONAL CONVENTION
SEPTEMBER 27 – OCTOBER 2, 2005**

TUES SEPT 27

WED SEPT 28

THU SEPT 29

FRI SEPT 30

SAT OCT 1

SUN OCT 2

NATIONAL SERVICE TRAINING - TOURS

NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

OPENING CEREMONIES-NATIONAL LEGISLATION PROGRAM-

MEDSEARCH SEMINAR-COMMANDER'S RECEPTION

MEN AND WOMEN'S WORKSHOPS-EDUCATION SEMINAR-LADIES'

LUNCHEON-NATIONAL CONVENTION CALL TO ORDER-REUNION NIGHT

CONTINUATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BANQUET AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Ex-POW Bulletin

August 2005

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"America The Beautiful"
58th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION
September 27-Oct. 2, 2005
Denver, Colorado



Convention Registration

Registrant's Name _____ Nickname _____

Spouse's Name (if attending) _____ Phone _____
Address _____ E-mail _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Special Needs (Wheel chair, oxygen, etc.) _____

Unit When Captured _____ Theatre _____ Camps _____

REGISTRATION (per person) until September 1 ~ \$55.00

after September 1 - \$60 no refund after September 15

Payable to: 2005 Convention Fund

Mail to: Mrs. Phyllis Hutchins, Registration Chairman

3191 South Leyden Street

Denver, CO 80222

AD ORDER FORM

Overall page size is 8 1/2" x 11"

AD PRICING

Full page.....\$200 Quarter page.....\$75

Half page.....\$125 Business card.....\$35

Deadline for submissions is Sept. 1, 2005

Name _____

Organization (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Ad Size _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Make Checks or Money Orders payable to:
2005CONVENTION FUND

Mail order form with ad materials and check to:
AXPOW CONVENTION – PROGRAM AD
3191 S. Leyden Street
Denver, CO 80222

Saturday Night Banquet Choice:

_____ **Roasted Pork Tenderloin**

_____ **Atlantic Salmon**

Total Registration: \$ _____

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:

**1. Tour to Air Force Academy and
Garden of the Gods**

Tuesday, Sept. 27 @ \$37.50 per person

Number _____ x \$37.50 \$ _____

2. Tour to Central City/Blackhawk

Tuesday, Sept. 27 @ \$24.00 per person

Number _____ x \$24.00 \$ _____

3. Ladies Luncheon

Friday, Sept. 30 @ \$21.00 per person

Number _____ x \$21.00 \$ _____

Registration and Activities

TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____

Ex-POW Bulletin
August 2005

AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR
2005 NATIONAL CONVENTION
DELEGATE VALIDATION FORM
SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 1, 2005
DENVER, COLORADO



Please validate the following members as delegates to the 2004 National Convention in Arlington, Texas, September 30 – October 2, 2004. (Delegates-at-Large use this form.)

Chapter/Department Name (Please print)

Head Delegate: (Please print name and address.)

Other Delegates and Alternates: Please print names and addresses. (Use a separate sheet for additional names.)

Validated lists will be returned to the Head Delegates.

If you are a chapter voting with your state department, **do not** return this form.

MAIL THIS FORM TO:

AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR
CREDENTIALS
3201 EAST PIONEER PARKWAY #40
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76010-5396

Ex-POW Bulletin
August 2005

The act of becoming a POW does not a hero make...the act of being a POW made some heroes. This book tells of some who are American heroes.

10,000 American flying officers shot from the sky - scraped up from the European landscape and dumped behind barbed wire.

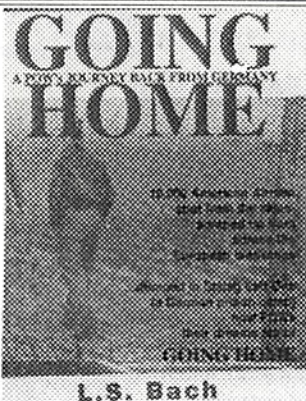
An absorbing story of life in a German prison camp, Stalag Luft 1.

The author's unique timing - stationed at Hickam Field, Pearl Harbor during the attack on Dec. 7, 1941, and his terrifying experience of becoming a Jewish prisoner of the Nazis - makes this a compelling reading experience. The writing style is personal and highly readable.

Books can be ordered from
iUniverse Publishers 1-800-288-4677
or your local book store ISBN 0-595-33362-1

Or order a signed copy
by the author

L.S. Bach
2224 Pine Knoll Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94595
\$21.95
(add \$2. for shipping)



50/50 drawing

Latest winners drawn in Washington, DC

1st Place - \$1136.20

Jay G Coberly, Lexington KY

2nd Place - \$852.15

Thomas Carrick, Wellington FL

3rd Place - \$568.10

Bert Robinson, Mission Viejo TX

4th Place - \$284.05

Joe Cucarola, Sterling CO

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

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

These donations are not tax deductible. Fill out the tickets and send them and your donations to:

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

Thank you for your support of this very worthwhile project



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active since 1946

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Annual Dues \$10.00 < > LIFE Membership \$75.00

The CUB Magazine has been published every quarter since August 1946.

Annual Reunions held yearly since 1947.

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Or contact John Kline, Membership Chairman
Past President '97-'98; Editor, The CUB since 1987
M Co., 423rd Inf Regiment
11 Harold Drive
Burnsville, MN 55337-2786
Phone: 952-890-3155
Email: jpk@mm.com
106th Home Page: <http://www.mm.com/user/jpk>

Solid Bronze Grave Medallion

actual size: 4" diameter x 3/8" thick
weight: 1 pound
content: copper 86%/zinc 4%/tin 6%/lead 4%



This is a non-profit endeavor for all Ex-Prisoners of War, spouses, National Headquarters, Chapters, to get this medallion on all Ex-POW markers or headstones. Contact the next-of-kin and the cemetery to get their approval to have these medallions put on the deceased ex-POW's marker, and have yours for when the time comes.

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Make all checks and money orders payable to: Stalag Luft IV. Send orders to: Grave Medallion, Leonard E. Rose, 8103 E. 50th St. Lawrence, IN 46226-2018.

The Board of Directors has given me approval to make and sell these grave medallions.

*Check with your cemetery to make sure you can place this medallion on the headstone.

Ex-POW Bulletin
August 2005

39

**American Ex-Prisoners of War
50/50 Drawing -- October 2005**

PLEASE PRINT

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City/State/Zip: _____

Here is my donation of \$5.00 for 6 chances to win the drawing.

Prize amounts are determined by the total amount donated.

Mail your donation **American Ex-Prisoners of War**
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 Arlington, TX 76010-5396

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Ex-POW Bulletin

August 2005

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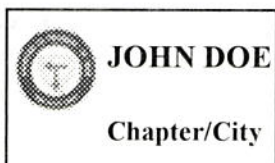
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For further details contact:
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15550 Golf Club Drive, Dumfries, VA 22026
Patti Leigh: patti8356@yahoo.com

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photo if desired

Name Badge Order Form

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Total cost of name badge \$ _____

Ship to:

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

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

Now accepting Master Card/Visa

QUANTITY	ITEM	SIZE / COLOR	PRICE

For orders up to 7.99, add \$2.00; For orders 8.00 to 24.99, add \$6.00

For orders 25.00 to 49.99, add \$8.00; For orders 50.00 to 99.99, add \$10.00

For orders over 100.00, add \$15.00 Checks/Money Order/Credit Card Accepted.

For credit card orders: Card # _____ Expiration: _____

(Check one) Master Card _____ Visa _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Shipping/Handlng/Insurance:

Total: \$ _____

MAIL TO:

AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR

3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40

Arlington, Texas 76010-5396

817-649-2979

axpowqm@aol.com

You are invited to an Historic Event...

September 16, 2005
4:00 PM



Dedication of the National POW/MIA Memorial

Riverside National Cemetery
22495 Van Buren Blvd. ~ Riverside, California

For additional information: Paul Adkins ~ Support Committee
Riverside National Cemetery (909) 957-3982
82ndmedic@earthlink.net

AXPOW Vests!

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

\$50.00 each, includes shipping/handling

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



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

Subscription Rates -- non members
\$20.00 per year

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Now accepting MasterCard/Visa

All orders for products sold by
AXPOW National Organization,
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American Ex-Prisoners of War

National Headquarters

3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40

Arlington, TX 76010-5396

(817) 649-2979/ (817) 649-0109 fax

e-mail: HQ@axpow.org

No collect calls, please

