



POWs gather for Lunch at Bunny's: USS Bataan Captain Vassilakes and Crewmembers Greet the Men in Suffolk

Pictured front: (L-R) Jim Collier, Marvin Roslansky, Earl Szwabo, Erwin Johnson, Philip Coon, Back Row (L-R) Harold Bergbower, Jim Martin, William Eldridge, Robert Heer, Ralph Griffith, Randall Edwards and host William Blair (not pictured is Nick Hionedes who attended convention)

"I can't tell you how good it feels to have this place packed again with these amazing heroes." William (Bill) Blair told the Virginian-Pilot.

William Blair, a construction company owner from Suffolk, has financed "Breakfast at Bunny's" for many years picking up the tab for WWII Pows from the Philippines and other veterans. At first he did so in secret, until his identity was revealed.

Mr. Blair has supported the ADBC for many years and was excited to hear that the

POWs would be coming to his area. As Mr. Blair and the ADBC Memorial Society made contact, he informed them he would once again cover the tab for these honored veterans at Bunny's.

Caroline Burkhart, descendant said, "On May 24th our POWs arrived at the restaurant to be greeted by a row of flags and veterans stationed at attention."

"Also in attendance were the captain of the USS Bataan, Captain Vassilakes, chaplains, and other personnel from the namesake ship that is stationed at the naval base in Norfolk." (continued on page 3)

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The ADBC Memorial Society



of the
**American
Defenders of
Bataan &
Corregidor**



The Quan



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ADBC Memorial Society



Honoring the American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor
Dedicated to those persons both living and dead who fought
against overwhelming odds against the enemy at the outbreak of
World War Two.



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Front: Jan Thompson, Jim Erikson, Caroline Burkhart
Back: Patty Prickett, Kris Dahlstrom, Judy Pruitt. (not pictured here is Jim Nelson). More about newly elected members can be found page 3.

Credits This Issue

Photographs and Stories Contributed by Jan Thompson, Linda
McDavitt, Kim Harless, Caroline Burkhart, Yuka Ibuka, Ed Lantham,
Mona Woodring

President's Message - Jan Thompson



Dear Friends
Well I have "returned" - though I am not sure in the same vein as General MacArthur.

The Norfolk Convention was a success in many ways. We had 145 attendees this year with fourteen former POWs and six widows joining us. The state of Virginia supplied the most attendees with 28. California came in second place with 15.

All of the sessions and panels were well attended. Our banquet speaker this year was celebrated military historian Stanley Falk. Stan was the chief historian of

the Air Force specializing in World War II in the Pacific and he is the author of five books.

Though we formally call our "get-togethers" Conventions I personally prefer to call them Family Reunions. While I was at the Quan Party (and watching many Descendants dancing with each other on the dance floor) I found myself thinking: "would our Dads, Granddads or Uncles while either talking in the prison barracks or lying in the holds of a hell ship ever think that their relatives would reunite each year to remember and celebrate them? That many of us would become very good friends because of the hardship they endured?"

I would like to announce a new educational initiative that was created by the former Board that will be implemented this coming year. The American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor Youth Project Competition is a contest for students ages 12 to 18 with a \$250 prize. The competition is for creative projects that will tell the story of the Imperial Japanese Invasion of the Philippines and other Pacific islands and/or the POWs that were held there or moved to another location by the Japanese for slave labor. There is more information about this contest in this issue of The Quan.

The following are the 2013 Board Members: Caroline

Burkhart Vice-President, Patti Prickett-Secretary, Judy Pruitt-Treasurer and our two at-large members are Kris Dahlstrom and Jim Nelson.

As the organization moves into its 6th year it is the desire of the entire Board to continue to strengthen the organization and to continue to create ways that support our mission of education and protecting the legacy of those who suffered as captives of Imperial Japan. I am honored to be back and serve as President. Please contact me with ideas or any concerns.

Jan Thompson

JanThompson@gmail.com

Lunch at Bunny's (cont. from page 1)

"Veterans of all ages mingled and told their stories, and enjoyed the buffet lunch of fried chicken, green beans, salad and other dishes."

Caroline said the large cake welcoming the POWs was taken back to the registration room at the convention.

"Big thanks go out to William

Blair and his wife Sarah for making this event one of the highlights of the convention."

The event was covered locally appearing in three newspapers and on the USS Bataan Facebook site. The Facebook page shows 23 photos from the event.



Earl Szwabo and his grandson talk with USS Bataan crew at Bunny's Restaurant, a dinor in Suffolk, Va, that was a meeting place for former WWII POWs

ADBC Memorial Society Members Elect New Officers for their Board

Caroline Burkhart

Caroline has returned as Vice President of the Board. She lives in Baltimore, Maryland, with her husband, Dudley Winters, and when not involved in POW related research she is involved in community development issues, garden club, and a variety of artistic pursuits. She works as a settlement agent and does real estate closings. Caroline is the daughter of Thomas F. Burkhart, 45th Infantry (PS), and after the Philippine camps the sequence was the Nagato Maru, Tanagawa, Zentsuji, and Roku Roshi.

Jim Nelson

Jim is the son of John Tillman Nelson, Battery M, 60th Coast Artillery, Cabanatuan 1, 2, 3, Lipa Camp 10, Bilibid, Hellship Noto Maru, Sendai 6 (Hanawa, Japan). He is a retired university administrator, lecturer, researcher, and author with more than 15 publications in the fields of Communications Behavior and Military History. He lives with his wife Jean in an 1884 Queen Ann Victorian house in Burlingame, Kansas, where he serves on the City Council and as Police Commissioner. After 4 years of research and following his father's footsteps through the Philippines and Japan, he has just completed a manuscript on his father's experiences during World War Two. Jim has also been providing free POW research assistance to Descendants since 2005.

Jan Thompson

Is the daughter of Robert E. Thompson a Pharmacists Mate on the USS Canopus. He was assigned to the Bilibid Prison Hospital and survived the three hell-ships Oryoku, Enoura and Brazil Maru. Jan lives in Makanda, Illinois where she is a professor in the Radio-Television Department at Southern Illinois University. She has been attending the ADBC conventions since 1991 and has done extensive interviews with many former POWs over the years. Jan has produced films about our POWs and was the founding Board president of our organization.

Museum Happenings



New cabinets have arrived for display and have allowed us to put many more items out.

To the left, are the cabinets spanning the wall. At the bottom of the page is a view of a few of the fourteen shadow boxes.

The Axelrod Shih Family Fund enabled the purchase of cabinets in memory of Emily Warner.

We are still waiting for the floor display being built.

Recent ADBC Donations

John Shively--"Profiles in Survival: The Experiences of American POWs in the Philippine during World War II" by John Shively

Diane Fischler-DVD-"I Just Wanted to Live," a documentary produced and presented by the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program University of Florida. POWs on documentary are Alfred Daniels, Conrad, Victor Cote and John Bumgartner

Joe Vater--Hat signed by POWs

Sutton, Glenda--Picture of Battery F Coast Artillery

Dr. Pepita Jimenez Jacobs--Account of Dr. Pepita Jimenez Jacobs of her family during Death March by Dr. Jacobs who lived in the Philippines as a child

Russell Cross--"In the Rays of the Rising Sun." by Russell Cross, biography of Glenn Kuskie (31st infantry).

Debra Bergbower Grunwald--Brochure for Bataan Memorial Monument Las Cruces Veterans Park

Dan Evans--"Bunker's War, the World War II Diary of Col. Paul D. Bunker", by Paul D. Bunker

Judy Cipoletti--"Ghost of Bataan Speaks," by Abie Abraham

William Ingram--Signed cap US Navy POW, USS Houston Survivor cap, and USS Marias Caps



Gold Star Mothers and keeping Faith and Hope Alive

Virginia Holmes, DVDs: "Secret War in the Pacific," "Unsundered : 100 Voices," "Manila 1945," "History of the Mindanao Guerillas"

ADBC Webpage Statistics

May web statistics proved the highest ever: the hits for that month were 163,125. Popular items on the site are the Tenth Anniversary of the American Defenders of Bataan ad Corregidor and The Birth of the 31st Infantry Regiment and Beyond, compiled by Edward Jackfert.

Our Flickr (photos) have had over 5,000 views and we are hearing from other countries about sharing some of our pictures.

ADBC Events (Upcoming)

Plans are being made to dedicate new shelves

Visitation to Marine Corps

Jane Kraina, former intern Laura Beck and her son Samuel visited the Marine Corps in Bethel Park, Pennsylvania on June 5th. The commandant, Bob "Bullet" Dailey, invited the ADBC Museum up to speak to their members. Dailey said, "My brother Frank endured the Bataan Death March. I cried when I read the book "Tears in the Darkness" and realized what my brother went through". Frank passed away on the grueling Tayabas Road Detail.

Because this was a Marine Group, the focus was the Marines, particularly the 4th Marines. Jane Kraina presented the story of the "The Secret Camera," by Terence Kirk who made a pinhole camera and took pictures inside the prison camp at Camp Fukuoka No. 3.

Laura, a former intern, spoke about Soochow the Marine Dog to show how WWII information can be introduced to children. She said, "Telling the Soochow story gives the children something to identify with, such as when the dog gets in trouble for peeing on a flagpole." Her son helped set up, held a map of the Pacific POW camps, and proved a big hit with the Marines.

Materials were also displayed on Donald Versaw and the Springfield Rifle used by the Marines. The Marines attended the Bataan Death March Memorial Walk held by the Museum in April and promised to bring more attendees next year.

The Japanese/POW Friendship Program Includes Widows of POWS

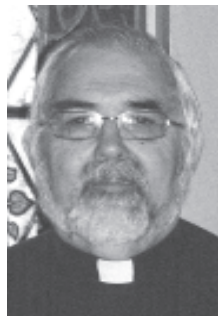
For the first time widows are invited as well as the former POWs to participate in the Japanese/POW Friendship Program.

Those who will be traveling this fall to Japan are: Marjean McGrew, Esther Jennings, Lora Cummings, Robert Heer, Phillip Coon, Erwin Johnson

PNC Lester Tenney stated "I am happy that the Embassy and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs agreed to include widows on this next trip." Tenney was a recent recipient of the Silver Service Medallion from the National World War II Museum in New Orleans for his work on POW issues.

Rosters, back issues of the *Quan* and biographies, and thousands of other items of information, research and data on the ADBC Museum web site:
<http://philippine-defenders.lib.wv.us/>

The Chaplain's Corner -



As I prepare this article, I am also finishing last minute preparations for a week at our church's summer camp. Among other things, I will be responsible for a daily class for 31 third through eighth graders. The theme I have chosen is prayer

Over the past several weeks, thinking about this subject has resulted in some guilt surfacing. Perhaps like some of you, my prayer life is often not what it should be. Yes, I am fairly good at asking for healing or comfort or guidance, etc. for oth-

ers. I am also fairly good about saying my prayers before I go to sleep at night, unless of course I am too sleepy. Have you ever noticed how easy it is to skip those prayers the 2nd or subsequent nights?

Prayer is talking personally with God. The more frequently we do it the more fulfilled our life will be. I find it personally helpful to keep a list of what I want to pray for. I find the best time to silently pray to God is when I get up in the morning. I go over that list and I also tell God what is happening in my life. Yes I know God knows better than I do but I still tell him. When I forget to do this, my life just does not seem quite right

I am also fairly good at remembering to say the Lord's Prayer or another prayer I have learned

by heart. To be honest though, I say these prayers by rote and seldom stop to think what I just said. Next week when I talk to the young people about this type of prayer we will also be doing the Lord's Prayer skit. It is a skit with two participants. One is the person praying and the other is God. As the person prays, God interrupts to ask what they meant by what they just asked. It leads to an interesting dialogue. You might find it very interesting to take a few moments and say the Lord's Prayer stopping at the end of each phrase and think about what you just said.

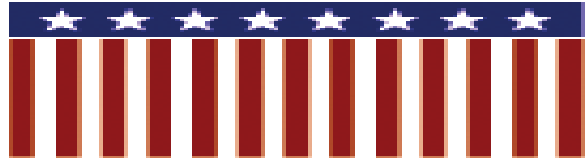
Finally, I do not know about you but I really need to take time and thank God more frequently. It seems so much easier to ask for God's help for others or even myself than it is to say thanks. It

is especially hard to give thanks if our prayers are not answered exactly as we thought they should be or in a timely manner. Like me, many of you are parents. Think back when your children would come to you with requests. Your response was generally tempered by what you felt was best for them. If we did that for our children, what greater things does God do for us?

How can you improve your prayer life? Remember that you are all in my daily prayers.



D +



The Quan and Brooke Review have moved to the town square in Wellsburg, WV. The new address is 67 7th Street in Wellsburg and mail can be sent to the address below.

**Editor
 The Quan
 67 7th St.
 Wellsburg, WV 26070-0591**

E-mail can still be sent to: thequan@comcast.net
 Facebook page is ADBC Museum and contains museum activities

Pictures from POWs can be found at the Flickr button on <http://philippine-defenders.lib.wv.us>

Thanks to all the supporters of the *Quan* and the museum. It really helps us to keep motivated when we have such kind comments from our readers. We also appreciated all the extra donations to help us with the *Quan*. We are grateful for your generosity.

Davis Ferrell

2014 ADBC Memorial Society Youth Project Competition

In 2014, the ADBC Memorial Society will be sponsoring their first **YOUTH PROJECT COMPETITION**. It will be a contest for students ages 12 to 18 and the winner will get a \$250 prize. The judging will be for creative projects providing information about the story of the Japanese Invasion of the Philippines and other Pacific islands and the POWs that were held there or moved to another location by the Japanese for slave labor. These projects can be done through the development of a play, video production, art display, or essay that depicts the story of the experiences of the POWs of the Pacific theatre in WWII.

In order to enter the contest, one must fill out the following **“Intent to Compete” form** and send it to: *(NOTE: the project is not due at that time, only the Intent to Compete form)*

Linda McDavitt
5201 McCormick Mountain
Austin, Texas 78734

The deadline to enter their **“Intent to Compete” form** will be March 31, 2014. Entries will be judged the morning of May 30, 2014 starting at 9am. **All entries must be sent to Linda McDavitt and received prior to Friday, May 23, 2014 unless it will be a live presentation.** Those doing live presentations must check into the convention by 5pm Thursday, May 29, 2014 to receive instructions as to where they will need to be for the judging on Friday, May 30th. Winner of the contest and runner ups will be announced at the General meeting, Friday, May 30, 2013 and at the Annual Banquet Saturday, May 31, 2014 at the Hyatt Place Hotel, San Jose, CA.

NAME _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

PROJECT TITLE _____

PROJECT DESCRIPTION _____

I WILL BE ABLE TO PRESENT MY PROJECT May 30, 2014 at the ADBC MEMORIAL SOCIETY ANNUAL CONVENTION IN San Jose, California.

YES _____ NO _____ BUT MY PROJECT WILL BE THERE

Signed: _____

Convention Highlights Norfolk 2013 by Linda McDavitt

The 4th Annual Convention of the ADBC Memorial Society held in Norfolk, Va. May 22 to May 25, 2013 was another fun filled event with many historical facts shared by the attending POWs, wives, widows and speakers. The Norfolk City Tour which included visiting the MacArthur Museum, the Naval Base and Dumar's Ice Cream Parlor was enjoyed by many.

The speaker series started off with a bit of a change in plans when John Shively was stranded in the DC airport and could not get to Norfolk in time for his presentation. His wife, Blythe filled in for him giving a short synopsis of his book, *Profiles in Survival, the Experiences of American POWs in the Philippines During WWII*. Ginger Holmes then shared a DVD *MANILA 1945: The Forgotten Atrocities*.

Our Descendants panel was a bit different this year with Jim Nelson, Carrie Collier, Judith Heisinger, John Patterson and Julie Collier. Jim was running for the board so we had a chance to meet him, John is very connected to the Philippine Scouts organization and that provided some new thoughts, Judith is the widow of Duane Heisinger who was one of the founders of the Descendants Group and to whom we owe a deep debt to his work with the ADBC and John Lewis in making this organization happen. Julie and Carrie's father Jim was at the convention so we heard some interesting remarks from descendants whose parent was still here to share his experiences. Julie had an interesting twist that she provided as she had done a study of the similarities and differences of the descendants of the POW and the Holocaust survivors.

Ken Buckles, great nephew of Frank Buckles, provided some

interesting stories about Frank Buckles (last survivor of WWI who was also a civilian POW in Santo Tomas and Los Banos) and what he has been doing to preserve the stories of the vets in all the wars with his "Living History Days" that he started when teaching high school and is now the **EVERGREEN AVIATION & SPACE MUSEUM** in McMinnville Oregon. Ken is the Veteran/Military Outreach Coordinator at the Museum and is planning the November Living History Days at the Museum that will feature Bataan and Corregidor history and POWs.

The remainder of the afternoon provided a presentation by Linda Holmes on Roger Mansell's *CAPTURED: The Forgotten Men of Guan* that she edited for Roger after his death, a session by Mindy Kotler that provided an update on the Abe Administration in Japan and how that might affect the POW trips to Japan and then an update from Scottie Kersta-Wilson on her grant project of 2012 *My Days of Their Lives* and how she has been able to use the curriculum in the classroom.

The Mansell Speaker Series this year featured Ex POW Bob Heer along with Descendant Caroline Burkhart. The topic was POW broadcasts made from the camps then transmitted to the US over short wave radio. In a PowerPoint presentation Caroline traced the experience of three POW's from Zentsuji. The Japanese took the men to Tokyo forcing them to write and perform in programs featuring "Tokyo Rose". Caroline's father and Bob Heer both made recordings of messages at their camps that were featured on those programs. The Burkhart and Heer families received dozens of letters from those at home who heard the broadcasts. Caroline was able to play the actual recording of her

father's broadcast. Bob, assisted by his wife, Karen, gave his first person account of making the recording then sharing his collection of the letters that his family received.

Karen apparently has been instrumental in helping Bob with his research and it was touching to see the way she and Bob worked together so well as a team.

The Wives Tales session this year was focused on the question "What were you doing during WWII?" This gave us the opportunity to hear Rosemary Edwards tell of getting her engineering degree and then becoming a draftsperson in the ship yards, Anna Overmier selling war bonds, along with several of our ladies either not yet born or still in school. Rationing was talked about and how it affected their lives. One of our widows had been married to first a POW in Germany and later in life a POW in Japan. It was interesting to hear about the comparison of experiences. All the ladies had something to offer and we thank Josephine Roslansky, Mary Griffith, Marjean McGrew, Jean Pruitt, Lora Cummins, Ann Johnson, Rosemary Edwards and Ester Jennings for their forthright information and stories. We did have one "Rosie the Riveter", Ann Hionedes who was unable to speak after Nick had fallen and she had to be at the hospital. I am in hopes that we will hear her story next year.

This year we had two POW panels with Marvin Roslansky, Ralph Griffith, Jim Collier, Bill Overmier, Jim Martin, Erwin Johnson, Harold Bergbower, Bill Elderidge, Randall Edwards and Philip Coon. All had wonderful information to share and one of the highlights was Jim Collier's tale of seeing a picture in an art museum that caused him to go to his knees and weep. Another was Harold Bergbower's story of time

in San Francisco upon returning to the states and being kept in their pajamas and bathrobes so they would not leave the ship. However the crafty young men managed to come upon a taxi driver that asked who they were and then proceeded to take them to a night club where they were wine and dined in their night attire. These men never cease to amaze me with their perseverance and drive. Bill Eldridge drove all the way from California by himself to Norfolk and Jim Martin was traveling in his RV from Oregon to Norfolk then to Florida and then to Nova Scotia and then home. How awesome can that be? Which of us is ready to take on these adventures?

Scott and Devorah Rubenstein did another session on *Writing Our Stories* with the hopes that one day we can begin putting together a journal. They are wonderful at getting us to reflect and think of special moments. Once again we had a medal ceremony with Jim Collier receiving medals and Mona Woodridge receiving her father's medals.

The hospitality night activities had special entertainment. Thursday evening the Filipino Cultural Dance group provided traditional dances for us. The group is made up of young men and women and it was heartwarming to see them learning and sharing their cultural heritage. Friday night during the band break New York City vocalist Shoko Seina Shiraishi entertained us with music of the 30's and 40s that were favorites during WWII. The POWs, wives and widows were seen to be tapping their toes and enjoying some wonderful memories. Malinda Buckles provided a rip roaring rendition of *Over There* as another showstopper for our POWs. (cont. page 8)

Jim Collier Receives Military Awards; Descendants Accept Honors for Fathers



Major General Delfin Lorenzana (Ret), Head of the Office of Veterans Affairs of the Philippine Embassy gave Jim Collier his military awards. Mona Woodring received awards for her father, Talmadge Bridges. Joe Brown also accepted his father's awards. The honors included The Philippine Republic Presidential Badge, Certificate of Award, WWII Victory Medal, Philippine Liberation Medal and Philippine Defense Medal.

The Widows and Wives Luncheon

By Mona Bridges Woodring and Glenda Cummins Sutton

Our Fourth Widows and Wives Luncheon in Norfolk turned out wonderfully. All of the women were able to visit and catch up with their friends while eating the yummy lasagna, salad and peach pie the Sheraton's dining room served us. The widows and wives attending the Luncheon were Lora Cummins, Jean Pruitt, Esther Jennings, Ann Overmier, Mary Griffith, Ann Johnson, Liz Swabo and Doris DeVivo. There were eight guests of the widows and wives also attending the Luncheon. Our friend Ann Hionedes was at the convention but was at the hospital with her husband Nick who unfortunately took a tumble and was unable to eat with us. We didn't have a guest speaker at the Luncheon, which worked our nicely because we had more time to visit amongst each other.

Page 8-The Quan

We're looking forward to seeing everybody next year in San Jose!

Thanks to Mona and Glenda



30th Annual Mukden Survivors and Descendants Reunion

The 30th annual Mukden Survivors & Descendants reunion to be held on Oct 1 - 6 2013 in Hamburg Pa. Anyone interested in more information please contact the hosts Terry & Dawne Clay (Wayne Miller's daughter).

Dawne's Email address is dkclay1@comcast.net.

Home address is 751 Garfield Rd Mohrsville Pa 19541

Home Telephone # 610-926-0667.

Sharon Cooper Cards benefit ADBC-MS



Remembrance Cards 5 and 6

Sharon Cooper began making Remembrance and Ben Steele Cards as a fund raiser for the ADBC MS. She has filled orders from 6 to 84 cards and sells them at the conventions and all through the

year. She has made over a 1,000 cards and has given over \$1,000 to the ADBC-MS. She sells the cards for \$2.00. The Remembrance Set and 18 of the 36 Ben Steele photo cards can

Convention Highlights (cont. from page 7)

Jan Thompson previewed her documentary Never the Same in the MacArthur Museum theatre but due to technical difficulties with the projector we did not get to see the entire film. She did show the remainder after the speaker during the banquet. I believe that all of us are looking forward to seeing the film in one setting as it has some great effects and information for all of us to know.

The banquet speaker this year was Dr. Stanley L. Falk, a military historian, who provided us with some little known information about the efforts made by MacArthur to send help to the troops that were not able to get through. He did not give up and eventually he did get back to the Philippines to end the war and bring our parents home.

There is still so much to learn and understand and our POWs, wives and widows are providing new information every year. My hope is that we can think to ask all the needed questions while we have them here to share.

be viewed on the Descendants group website at <http://dg-adbc.org>. The cards again are \$2.00 a card with envelope plus shipping plus one free for every five ordered. The Ben Steele set has 36 cards and the Remembrance set has 30. You can contact Sharon at fromtheheart2007@aol.com or at (509) 582-8601 and (509) 554-4551. Her address is 2610 W. 8th Pl, Kennewick, WA 99336.

These cards are a wonderful way to honor our former WWII prisoners of War and keep alive their stories of hardship and survival.

Dear Folks At Home,

Mary Lou Rote has put together a book for her uncle Ed Kozer called, "Dear Folks at Home," because that is how he started all his letters. She has really helped out the museum by putting all the pictures from his photo album up on the Flickr site associated with the museum site at <http://philippine-defenders.lib.wv.us>. We have received several communications regarding Ed's pictures, most from the Philippines. We anticipate more interest in his pictures. As of right now, we have placed 358 pictures up on the Flickr site. We are trying to put them up in different sets. We still have thousands of pictures here that could be put online. The pictures must first be scanned at high resolution and then modified to go online.

Ed's mother died young at the age of 30 after childbirth leaving 5 children behind. The baby died and his father asked his mother's sister Mary to come help. Eventually, he married Mary, mainly as a matter of convenience. The older children had trouble adjusting to their new caretaker. Ed joined the Army and shipped to the Philippines. Ed was happy with his military life, where he got medical care and good meals. Ed Kozer was optimistic on Nov. 1, 1941 as shown below.



Men from Nichols Field getting ready to leave for transport

Dear Folks at Home,

I do hope you all are in the best of health and everything is turning out just fine for you all. I just came back from work about 2 hours ago. Dog gone there are a million things a fellow can find to do on an airplane that needs to be fixed. Today my flight chief asked me if I wanted an airplane to crew and I said OK, so now I'm a crew chief on a B-18. On Oct 3rd of last month I was made a corporal—finally!...Ed Kozer (portion of letter)



B-3-Bomber

from Nichols Field (obsolete now!)

His last letter home arrived in March and revealed little as censorship had been put in place. On December 29th, 1941, the 28th Bombardment moved to Mindanao. The men were given Enfield rifles and taken to Carmen Ferry on the Pulangi River. They slept in tents and patrolled and guarded the river. After surrender in May the Japanese ordered the men to Camp Casisang in Malaybalay until September of 1942. After that he transferred to Davao Penal Colony. Ed contracted malaria and around Christmas, he became despondent and would barely eat. At the age of 21, Ed passed away in January 19, 1943, sick from malaria and malnutrition. It was six months before his family found out he had passed away. He is buried in Manila cemetery. Manila cemetery holds the largest amount of US veterans from World War II.

Ed Kozer's eagerness to document his experience through photos

and letters helps others to see what his life was like and other young men who sacrificed their lives. Today, as people try to piece together the war experience of their fathers and grandfathers, there is renewed interest in their stories.

The Rotes have donated books, and copies of diaries they have consulted including the David Nash diary. They also gave a belt with first aid items inside. They have supported the library with their time, coming to help with scanning and uploading photos.

L. to R, Richard Rote, Mary Lou Rote, John Durbin, Brooke Co. Sheriff Chuck Jackson, and Mary Blaine-McCorts holding photos of POWs at the April 9 Commemorative walk held in Wellsburg, WV.



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POWS awaiting viewing of "Never the Same" documentary by Jan Thompson at the MacArthur's Museum from their front row seats



Lora Cummins, Judith Heisinger and Jennifer Heisinger Flint



Esther Jennings and Marjean McGrew



Yuka Ibuka and Jim Collier at the MacArthur Museum



Philip Coon and Malinda Buckles (who also sang beautifully to the POWs)

It is Not a Party until There is Some Dancing



Bill Eldridge shows his style



Tinikling is the national dance in the Philippines. Caroline Burkhardt and Joe Vater, Jr. learn how it is done. Kudos to their performances.



And Singing



Shoko "Seona" Shiraishi offered her melodious voice to sing to the POWs and their relatives. She sang "I've Heard That Song Before, I Left My Heart at Stage Door Canteen", "No Love, No Nothin'", "Sentimental Journey", "We Musn't Say Goodbye," "I Can't Give You Anything But Love,"

Her website is: <http://angels-swing.com>
Shoko was born in Kitkyushi City, Fukuoka, Japan. She has toured nursing homes in the US and studied in New York where she produced a CD.

NEVER THE SAME: THE PRISONER OF WAR EXPERIENCE



“Never the Same: The Prisoner of War Experience,” produced and directed by Jan Thompson, will be shown at the Museum of Tolerance, in Los Angeles, CA. More than 20 years in the making, this innovative documentary depicts the experience of American POWs of the Japanese during World War II through diaries, poems, recipes, songs, drawings and cartoons. The film is narrated by Loretta Swit and features the voices of Ed Asner, Alec Baldwin, Jamie Farr, Mike Farrell, Robert Forster, Christopher Franciosa, Robert Loggia, John O’Hurley, Don Murray, Christopher Murray, Kathleen Turner, Robert Wagner and Sam Waterston

LA will be site of Screening for “Never the Same: The Prisoner of War Experience”

This one time screening will be on Thursday August 15 at 7:30pm. The program includes the story of the Palawan Massacre; The Oryoku, Enoura and Brazil Maru and the Liberation of Mukden. There are over 140 drawings and cartoons; seventeen diaries; many poems, recipes and songs.

The men that are interviewed in the program are: Arthur Beale, Eugene Bleil, Gene Boyt, Albert

Brown, Bob Brown, Art Campbell, Jack Cape, Jim Collier, Ben Dunn, Chuck Dragich, Leon Elliot, Bob Ehrhart, Chet Fast, Paul Hallberg, Jack Heinzl, Ernie Irvin, Warren Jorgenson, Jenro Lambasio, Hal Leith, Clifford Matthews, Lewis Morris, Eugene Nielsen, Father Robert Phillips, Ben Steele, Robert Thompson

All are welcomed to attend. All former POWs will be considered

Scottie Kersta-Wilson to do Website for Memorial Society

Descendant Scottie Kersta Wilson has volunteered to help the ADBC Memorial Society in revamping and updating their dg-adbc.org website. “My plans are to have the website spiffy and updated by August,” she said.

Scottie comes from a military family with her grandfather Zero being a Japanese POW, and her father serving and dying in the Vietnam War. Zero Wilson was

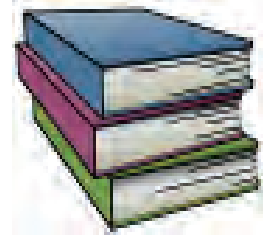
instrumental in creating the Cabanatuan orchestra. In his book “Barbed Wire Surgeon,” Dr. Alfred Weinstein, said, “Everybody who could walk or crawl turned out for these performances.”

Even the Marine dog Soochow attended the performances. He had a homemade pillow that he carried on his head to the performances and used it to sit on to view the show in his front row

“honored guests” and invited to the private reception that immediately follows the screening to meet and mingle with the actors in the program. If you are able to attend please let me know-By e-mailing me JanIThomposn@gmail.com or phoning 618-521-3654. Jan Thompson

seat.

Scottie Kersta Wilson, a photographer and writer, runs a company called Image Diary. She lives in Chicago, and has already put together a teaching middle school primer called, “The Show Must Go On: The Story of the Mighty Cabanatuan Orchestra and Art Players.”



Books for Sale

Two books by Jannie Wilbrink

Java Lost: a child imprisoned by the Japanese in WWII.

Java Lost: Eighteen Inches on a Mattress

Each book is \$25.00 plus \$4.00 Shipping and Handling. Contact: Marianne Rohrbough, 13219 W. Twin Peaks Rd., Marana, AZ 85653

Once Forgotten-by D. Randall Haley, Ph D and retired Army Major. It is about Philip R. Haley’s combat and prisoner of war experiences in the Far East.

It can be purchased at amazon.com for \$28.00

"Survivor" An American soldier's heartfelt story of intense fighting, and survival from Bataan to Nagasaki - Msgt. Frank N. Lovato as told to Francisco Lovato

It can be purchased at www.survivorbook.com for \$23.00

If you wish to advertise your book you may send us your information and we will run it in the Quan for \$10.

**ADBC Memorial Society Registration List
Norfolk Convention May 23-26, 2013**

Alcorn, Brian
 Alcorn, Brandon
 Amos, Jr., Harold Malcolm
Baltazar, Jesse
 Baltazar, Thomas
 Beers, Bridget
Bergbower, Harold
 Bergbower, Michael
 Blair, Sarah
 Blair, William
 Brown, Joseph
 Brown, Nancy
 Buckles, Kenneth
 Buckles, Melinda
 Burkhart, Caroline
 Burns, Candee
 Collier, Carrie
Collier, James
 Collier, Julie
 Coon, Michael
Coon, Phillip
 Cummins, Lora
 Dahlstrom, Baesley
 Dahlstrom, Kristin
 DeVivo, Doris
 DeVivo-Holder, Patricia
 Devivo-Schnitker, Nancy
 Diaz, Carolyn
 Diaz, Jerry
 Eash, Teresa
Edwards, Randall
 Edwards, Rosemary
Eldridge, Wiliam
 Erickson, James
 Esdinosa, Arron
 Falk, Evelyn
 Falk, Stanley
 Flint, Jennifer Heisinger
 Forbis, John
 Goulart, Brian
 Goulart, Colleen
 Griffith, Mary
Griffith, Ralph
 Grunwald, Debra Ann
 Harding, Sandra
 Harless, Kimberly
 Heer, Karen
Heer, Robert

Heisinger, Judith
 Hionedes, Ann
Hionedes, Nicholas
 Holder, BryanHolder, Calab
 Holmes, Virgiiia Hansen
 Holmes, Kent
 Holmes, Linda
 Ibuki, Yukako
 Jennings, Esther
 Johnson, Ann
Johnson, Erwin
 Joyner, Charle
 Kersta-Wilson, Scottie
 Kopach, Jody Heisinger
 Kotler, Mindy
 Kragh, Nancy
 Kraina, Jane
 Krempa, Andrea
 Krempa, Thompson
 Lennartson, Shawn
 Loughman, Steven
 Lyon, Anna
 Lyon, Sarah
 Madarang, Julie
 Mallory, Kirk
 Mallory, Mary
 Maravillas, Anthony
 Maravillas, Gayle
 Maravillas, Glenn
 Maravillas, Laura
 Maravillas, Steve
Martin, James
 McCorts-Blaine, Mary Jane
 McDavitt, Linda
 McGrew, Marjean
 McGrew, Steven
 McGuire, Vincent
 Meilicke, Kristen Kragh
 Morris, Emily
 Myers, Gloria
 Nakao, Tomoyo
 Nelson, Jean
 Nelson, Jim
 Overmier, Alan
 Overmier, Anna Lee

Overmier, William
 Patterson, John
 Patterson, Lillian
 Peterson, Elizabeth
 Plata, Donald
 Prickett, Patricia
 Primm, Keith
 Pruitt, Jean
 Pruitt, Judith
 Ratz, Paul
 Ratz, Tina
 Roslansky, Josephine
Roslansky, Marvin
 Roszkowski, Joseph
 Roszkowski, Katherine
 Rubenstein, Devorah
 Rubenstein, Scott
 Russell, Connie
 Russell, James
 Schnitker Mackensie
 Shiraishi, Shoko
 Shively, Blythe
 Sutton, Glenda
 Szczepanski, Gloria
 Szczepanski, Richard
 Szwabo, Earl
 Szwabo, Mary
 Tennant, Doris
 Thompson, Edward
 Thompson, Gabrielle
 Thompson, Jan
 Tipton, Ronald
 Topping, David
 Turner, Neil
 Vater, Jr., Joseph
 Walton, Amy
 Walton, Rhett
 Wang, Ao
 Wang, Patricia
 Ward, Christopher
 Whitehurst, John
 Woodring, Mona
 Woodring, David
 Wright, Jim
 Wright, Ruth

**Names in bold are
POWS**

~ Deceased ~

DEATHS- THIS ISSUE

Barker, Francis
Baum, Charles
French, Morgan
Holden, Wesley "Chuck"
Manning, Mildred
Motosko, Thomas
Nevarez, Manuel
Ramsey, Edwin
Smith, Herman "Smitty"

Francis Barker



Francis Barker, passed away on February 23, 2008, at the age of 88. Francis was born August 28, 1919 to Frederick and Josephine Barker, and raised in Los Angeles. He graduated from

Loyola High School in 1936, then earned a Bachelor's Degree in Geology from UCLA. He was commissioned through ROTC as a 2nd Lieutenant Infantry in the US Army. After graduation, he served in WWII and fought in the Philippine Islands. He survived the Bataan Death March and close to four years of imprisonment at Camp O'Donnell, Cabanatuan, and on the Japanese Death ships.

After returning to the US, he attended UCS earning a degree in Petroleum Engineering. It was at this time he met and married his beloved wife Dee. He spent 37 years working for the Union Oil Company and retired at 65 as Vice President of the Oil and Gas division. He spent many more years working as a consultant to the industry. He enjoyed his days. In his final years, he spoke to many groups about his war experiences, motivated by the men who had lost their lives. He said the at a Memorial Day service, that "the greatest gift one can give to those who dies

defending our country is to be a good person and good citizen and get involved in your community."

He served as a founding member of the San Marino War Memorial Committee, writing the first check towards the \$200,000 monument fund-raising committee. He also purchased etching to memorialize two of his fallen comrades. The monument was dedicated November 11, 2007.

Charles Baum

Charles Baum, 95, of Whitesboro, TX, died in May, 2013. He was born in Whitesboro on July 19, 1917. Charles graduated from high school in 1937 and volunteered for the US Army Air Force June 6, 1941. He survived the Bataan Death March and life as a POW, returning to Whitesboro Oct. 26, 1945. He received the American Defense Service Ribbon with Bronze Star, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Ribbon, the Distinguished Unit Badge, the Purple Heart and Victory Ribbon, and the Philippine Defense Medal. He married Waunema Ruth Chisam June 24, 1946. He served on the draft board for a year, worked as a Postmaster until he began teaching at Whitesboro Junior High. He obtained a BA from Austin College. After retiring in 1965 from teaching he served as Postmaster until 1981. He belonged to the First United Methodist Church, the Whitesboro Rotary Club and the Chamber of Commerce. Charles Baum is survived by his wife Waunema, daughter Kay and her husband Mozygemba, and daughter Susan Cox, grandchildren and spouses along with seven great-grandchildren.

Morgan French

Morgan French 92, of Plano TX, died Friday, February 24, 2012. Born August 21, 1919, in Perryville, KY. He worked alongside his family on the farm near Harrodsburg, KY during the 1920s and 30s. In 1937 he joined the Kentucky National Guard beginning his long and distinguished career in the US Army. Morgan and his brother Edward participated in the Louisiana Maneuvers in the summer of 1942. He was part of the 38th Tank Company, which later became the Company B, 192nd Tank Battalion. In November he deployed to the Philippines

to provide defense.

On December 8, he fought on the Bataan peninsula, then transferred to Fort Drum on Corregidor. He was captured May 10 and next the Japanese transferred him to Bilibid in Manila, and then on to Cabanatuan. He left that camp in late 1942 via the hellship, the Nagato Maru. It is believed he was first at Tanagawa #4-B, and then Tsuruga until liberation September 10, 1945. He was the last surviving member of Company D, called the Harrodsburg Tankers until his death.

After recuperating in the US he returned to active duty serving two tours in Korea. He returned home and married Maxine Milby of Greensburg, KY in 1954. He served at various posts in the US and Germany, until retirement in 1962 with 23 years of service. He earned the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and many other commendations. After working as a civilian, he returned to teaching at the Armored School at Fort Knox. He retired from the Civil Service in 1984.

He was an active member of the Vine Grove Kentucky Church. He enjoyed his grandchildren and was an avid University of Kentucky basketball and football fan.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, Maxine, his father and mother, the late Clifton and Mary Alice French of Harrodsburg, two brothers and six sisters. His brother was killed-in-action in Bataan on April 22, 1942. He is survived by two sons and their wives, Morgan and Mary Jane French of Houston, Texas, and Stewart and Anne French, of Dallas, TX and two grandchildren. After funeral services March 2, 2012. He was interred at the North Hardin Memorial Cemetery in Radcliff, KY. Full military honors were provided by soldiers from the Kentucky National Guard.

Wesley "Chuck" Holden

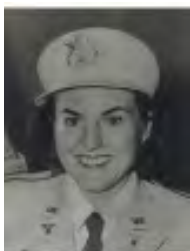
Wesley "Chuck" Holden, 91, of Independence, MO, passed away on April 3, 2013. Born on June 11, 1921 in Jonesborough, TN, he was the son of Andrew Jackson, "AJ" and Lola Holden. They later resided in Watauga, TN where Chuck lived until he joined the Navy in 1940. Chuck was captured by the Japanese in 1942 on the island of Corregidor, in the Philippines, and was a prisoner of war for 31/2 years. After he was

Deceased - continued

liberated in 1945, he went on to make rank of Chief Petty Officer and was involved in two invasions on Korea. He served his country in the Navy for nearly 30 years. Chuck met Goldie McIntosh and they married in 1949. They had three children, Wes, Rick, and Pam. They divorced in 1959. He later met Daisy May in Sacramento, CA, and they married in 1976. She also had three children, Mike, Linda and Cindy. They were married for 30 years until her death in 2005. Chuck lived in Sacramento for many years, until he moved to Independence in 2010, to be close to his children. He resided at the Fountains Senior Living. Chuck is survived by his children, Wes, Rick, and Pam, all from the Independence area, step-children Mike of Oregon, Linda of Stockton, CA, and Cindy of Sacramento, CA, six grandsons and one granddaughter, seven great-grandsons and seven great-granddaughters, and one great-great grandson. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Daisy, his step son Jimmy, his granddaughter Kim Petersen, four brothers and two sisters. Services were held at Sacramento, CA, on April 26. Chuck Holden was buried with military honors at the Sylvan Cemetery.

Mildred Manning

Mildred Dalton Manning, 98 passed away on March 8, 2013 in New Jersey. She was born on July 11, 1914 and grew up near Winder, Georgia and lived on a Georgia farm where money was tight. She graduated from the Grady Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in Atlanta. Mildred then worked as a head nurse at Grady. She enlisted in the Army Nurse Corps in 1939 hoping to see the world, but instead faced captivity by the Japanese. At the time of the Pearl Harbor and Philippine bombings, she worked at Clark Field and then in the jungle field hospitals tending to the wounded. When transferred to the island of Corregidor, the nurses worked in the tunnels underground while the bombing from above was relentless. She became one of the "Angels" of Bataan and



Corregidor, a name given to the Army and Navy nurses serving in the Philippines in early 1942. She served by nursing the diseased, the wounded and dying soldiers. The Japanese captured the nurses on Corregidor and sent them to the Santo Tomas internment camp in Manila with other foreign nationals. She and sixty-five other Army nurses treated close to 4000 men, women and children in the camp. They starved and suffered disease just as the people they tried to help. Eleven Navy nurses stayed in another internment camp. They all received Bronze stars and other medals.

Later Elizabeth Norman published a book "We Band of Angels" in 1999 documenting the stories of the women who endured the bleak days of war and captivity in the Philippines. Norman kept up with the women she interviewed for her book, and believes that Manning was the last nurse to pass away from the "Angels."

After the liberation of Santo Tomas, Dalton promoted war bond sales and met Arthur Brewster Manning, an editor of the Atlanta Constitution at a rally and married him on her 31st birthday. She worked as a nurse in Jacksonville, Florida, and raised her family. When she was older she moved to Trenton, NJ to be close to her son. Her son James Manning and a daughter March Price survive her, along with five grandchildren and a great grandson. Her husband died in 1994 and she also lost her son William. She was buried at the Washington Crossing National Cemetery, Newton, PA. Memorial contributions may be made to the Women's Military Memorial Foundation, 200 N. Glebe Road, Number 400, Arlington, VA 22203.

Thomas "Tom" Peter Motosko



Thomas Peter Motosko, 93, died Feb. 20, 2013. Tom was born March 8, 1919 to George and Barbara 8, 1919. He and his six siblings grew up in the then rural edge of Youngstown called Lansingville. He was fond of the family cow, sleeping on its back when he took it to pasture. He trained the cow to stop and wait for stoplights. Tom

graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School, and operated two businesses, a pool hall and a custard stand. He was drafted in the Army when World War II broke out and joined the 192nd Tank Battalion deploying to the Philippines right before the attack on Pearl. He fought in the Battle of Bataan, marched the Death March, and spent three and a half years in the prison camps, in the Philippines and Hirohata, Japan.

When he returned he married Sophie Medvec, who passed away nine months later of rheumatic heart disease. He moved to Lima, Peru to work in mining but returned home after the country had political unrest. He then married Mary D'Amato of Youngstown in 1949 and returned to Lansingville constructing homes with his brothers. He then sold kitchen and home improvement products in over 20 states. He also sold "Ginsu" knives at the Canfield Fair for over 50 years.

Tom a generous man helping those in need. He told stories and loved football, big band music and gathering with family and friends. Tom was preceded in death by his parents; his siblings, George, Ann, Paul, John, Mary, and Stephen; his first wife, Sophie; and his wife of 40 years, Mary.

Tom is survived by his five children of his wife, Mary and their spouses, Thomas Motosko and Jana Healy of Cambridge, Wis., Paul and Barbara Motosko of Dillon, Colo., Julie and Tony Flahive of Chino Hills, Calif., Nick and Laura Motosko of Fort Lauderdale, and Michele and Jay Merkle of Alexandria, Va.; three grandchildren, Maria Merkle, Nicholas Motosko, and Juliana Motosko; and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Manuel Nevarez



Manuel Nevarez of Sparks, Nevada died June 25, 2013, at 95. Manuel was born May 12, 1918 in Durango, Mexico to Alfredo and Alejandra Nevarez. The family moved to American and settled in Salinas, California. After graduation from Salinas High School in 1939, he worked part

Deceased - continued

time at Spreckles Sugar Factory. Manuel then joined the 40th Tank Company of the 40th Infantry Division National Guard. His unit was activated and they trained at Fort Lewis, Washington. From there, they deployed to the Philippines. He survived the Bataan Death March, and went on to prison camp at O'Donnell and Cabanatuan. He kept a diary, and although the Japanese confiscated the first two, Nevarez was able to hide a final chapter of his handwritten account. After discharge he met Erma Navarro and they had four children. He worked as a mechanical engineer for Sea & Ski Corporation in the late 1950s. The company moved to Reno, Nevada and he settled in Sparks Nevada. He also worked for the Blood Services of Reno on weekends allowing his family to go on memorable vacations. He belonged to the Elks Lodge No. 597 for 47 years, and volunteered time to the Boy Scouts of America, the Sparks Little League, and to the Girl Scouts. He traveled after retiring visiting the Philippines, San Juan, Puerto Rico, New York, Florida, and Washington. He leaves behind his beloved wife of 63 years Erma Nevarez, of Sparks, NV; son Roberto Nevarez, of Roswell, NM; daughters Elizabeth (Nevarez) Wolfe, of Jerome, ID, Yvonne (Nevarez) Smith and Noreen (Nevarez) Hill, both of Sparks, NV. His last surviving sisters, Rosaline Romandia, of San Jose, CA, Frances Miller Myers, of Roseville, CA and Lovie Adamis, of Rocklin, CA. He also leaves behind his 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren that were very dear and close to his heart. Per his wishes there will be no immediate service and a memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers the family requests that a donation be made in his name to Veterans Guest House, 880 Locust Street, Reno, NV 89502.

Edwin Ramsey



Edwin Ramsey, 95, died March 7, 2013 in Westwood, California. Born May 9, 1917, in Illinois, Lt. Col. Ramsey, grew up in Kansas and graduated from Oklahoma Military Academy and went

on to the University of Oklahoma. He volunteered for the 26th Cavalry of the Philippine Scouts, after the Philippine invasion by the Japanese. He was ordered to the coastal village of Morong. With bodies lying almost prone across the horses', Lt. Col. Ramsey led the last mounted U.S. Cavalry charge with pistols firing in to the air. As the food supply dwindled the horses had to be shot to feed the men. Ramsey mourned the loss of his horse while he recovered in the hospital. Returning to the war in a truck, he was soon cut off from his unit. He managed to escape and then rounded up a resistance guerrilla group of around 40,000 men. In the jungle, he had a Filipino doctor remove his appendix without anesthesia. They gathered intelligence and published a newspaper to dispel Japanese propaganda. In June 1945, MacArthur pinned the Distinguished Cross on Ramsey. Ramsey also received a Silver Star and Purple Heart. After the war he obtained a law degree from the University of Oklahoma. He worked for Hughes Aircraft in Japan and then later led his own companies in Taiwan and then the Philippines. After retirement, Ramsey moved to Los Angeles in 1979 and in 1991 started a new career as a public speaker after co-authoring a book with Stephen Rivele entitled Lieutenant Ramsey's War. He went to Congress to help the Filipino people get their wartime benefits. Lt. Ramsey married Madeleine Willoquet, and they had four children. They divorced in the late 1970s, and he married Raquel Ramirez. He is survived by his second wife, Raquel Ramirez; four children from his first marriage, Edwin Jr., Douglas, Michele and Janine; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on June 28, 2013.

Herman Edward Smith

Herman Edward Smith "Smitty", 92, died on December 22, 2012, at home, with his family at his side. He was born on April 18th, 1920, in Brookhaven, Mississippi to William and Florence Smith. He grew up and attended school in Wesson, Mississippi. In January 1940, he joined the US Marine Corps, and graduated from boot camp in San Diego, California. In May 1941, he joined Company F, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, and

was sent to Shanghai China on the ship "Henderson". They were known as the "Old Shanghai Marines". When WWII began he was sent to defend the Philippines, and was captured on Corregidor May 5th, 1941, by the Japanese. He was a POW for 3 years and 8 months. He was forced to perform slave labor in Manila and the lead mines in Japan. He was a survivor of the "Hell ship, Nissyo Maru." For his service he received the Bronze Star, Philippine Defense Medal, and several other medals and ribbons. He is a member of the Frio Canyon Baptist Church. He became a Life member of the ADBC and American Ex-POW"; "Life member of the American Legion Post 489; also of the "Disabled American Veteran." He was a member of Ironworkers Local #66 where he worked for 27 years. Shortly after retiring, he and Betty moved to the family ranch in Leakey, TX. Herman was preceded in death by his parents, one sister, and four brothers. He is survived by Betty, his wife of 64 years; daughter, Linda Bourland and son-in-law, Will Bourland of Leakey, TX; two grandchildren, Amanda Gonzalez and husband Bert, Nicole Wooten and husband Jayme all of Leakey, TX; five great-grandchildren, Miranda Richter, Cody Wooten, Austin Gonzalez, Cassidy Wooten, Ainsley Gonzalez all of Leakey, TX; sister-in-law, Ann Shulze of Leakey, TX; special nephew, Steve Smith of Wesson, Mississippi; special nieces, Carol Ann Kolb and Evelyn Manning both of Leakey, and Lois King of Irving, TX.; and many more nieces; nephews, and cousins throughout Mississippi. Funeral services were held Friday, December 28, 2012, at the Frio Canyon Baptist Church in Leakey, Texas, with Pastor Mark Spaniel and Pastor Dan Wynn officiating. Interment followed in the Leakey Floral Cemetery with Military Honors by the U. S. Marines Corp and the Hill Country Honor Guard - VVA - Chapter 863.

Known Deaths

Lee Bennett



Veteran Robert Johns Recalled His Experiences from Bataan in April of 1942

Edward Latham from Bridgewater, VA sent us this story of Mr. Robert Johns. He talked with admiration about Mr. Johns who survived the brutal treatment and harbored no animosity towards his captors. It was his feeling that it did no good to dwell on what happened forever. Mr. Johns said, "All I could do was to try to forget it and put it behind and get on with life, as best as I could."

Mr. Latham said Robert Johns was glad to talk about his experience because he did not know there was anyone who was interested or who cared about what happened then. Sadly, Mr. Johns passed away in 2008.

Mr. Robert Johns of Churchville, VA, served with the 200th Coast Artillery, a New Mexico National Guard outfit, at this time. During a conversation with him, Mr. Johns reminisced, "My unit, HQ-1st Battalion-200th CA, was at the very southern end of Bataan at Marivales. Our line had been pushed back almost to the shoreline. We were put on the line as infantry. I got a BAR. I was going to get a few of them before they got me. In the early hours of April 9, a runner came through from headquarters to tell us, "Boys, it's all over. We've been surrendered." Next thing, my captain, Capt. Shamlin, put us into formation. He told us to get rid of anything in our pockets that was Japanese, which meant money, souvenirs, anything Japanese, in case Japanese soldiers came to search it. I took it out and dug a hole in the ground and buried it. I remember there was an earthquake on Bataan that morning.

Three or four days later, here come the Japs. The Japs were very brutal. They started being rough right away. They went along the platoon formation yelling at every prisoner for little or nothing. One guard hit one fellow in the ribs with this rifle butt. They took whatever they wanted, wrist watches, rings, whatever. You had better give it to them, too. If you resisted, they took it. They would cut off a finger to get a ring or hand to get a watch.

While going along the squads, three or four fellows were found to have Japanese money in their pockets. One was a fellow in my unit who I had known since I had joined up back up in Albuquerque. Either they didn't hear what Capt. Shamlin said to do or they didn't take it seriously. They were jerked out of the formation and taken over the hill behind the formation and shot. There were no questions asked and no second chance, no sir. The Japs meant business. They meant to show the American prisoners who was boss.

It was about this time that I had some trouble out of one of the guards. Everyone's uniform was in rags and some of the fellows were barefoot. My uniform was in better shape, dirty but in better shape. I had brought along an extra uniform when we left our position in Manila. One of the guards took a disliking to me because of my better uniform. He thought I was an officer. I tried to tell him I wasn't an officer. He told me I was a liar. I was in bad trouble here. It was then that this guard was called away and I didn't see him again. It was a close call.

After this, about 200 of us were marched down the road, to the Cabcaben airfield, which was about 2 or 3 miles of Marivales. The Japs were bringing in horse-drawn artillery and setting it up on the airfield. There was about 3 or 4 batteries of what I believe were French 75s. They started shelling Corregidor, which is a couple miles out in Manila Bay. We were put out in front of these the enemy pieces. A couple of rounds hit close to us. We all scattered for cover in the ditches along the road to the village of Cabcaben. After this, we were put back on the road to continue the forced march north, out of Bataan, with little or no food or water for the next week. I had absolute determination to make it. I made up my mind, then, that if only one man made it through whatever was coming, it was going to be me."

San Jose Site for Next Convention in 2014

The fourth annual ADBC Memorial Society convention will be held in San Jose, CA from Wednesday, May 28 through Saturday, May 31. The hotel is the Hyatt Place San Jose/Downtown, 282 Almaden Boulevard, San Jose, CA. The room rate is \$109 plus tax per night. For reservations, please call 888-942-8847 or 408-998-0400 being sure to mention ADBC Memorial Society to receive our rate.

The hotel is located three miles from the San Jose International Airport. It is also possible

to fly into San Francisco; however, the hotel does not provide an airport shuttle. The hotel does have on-site parking and has waived its parking charges for or our group.

The Hyatt is located in the downtown area and there are a number of restaurants located within a few blocks. It is also close to Santana Row which has numerous shops, coffee places restaurants and other interesting places. There are also many interesting local attractions.



ADBC Memorial Society Grant Application Form

Requester/Organization Name ** _____ Tax ID/EIN _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ E-Mail _____

Project Name _____

Grant Amount Requested _____ Total Project Cost \$ _____

Project Start Date _____ Project Completion Date _____

Objective of the Project (What are you trying to accomplish?) _____

1. Project description (no more than two pages)
 - * Who will the project reach
 - * How will it effectively reach these people
 2. Provide a detailed project schedule with both intermediate (if any) and final deliverables. (What are your strategies for making this happen?)
 3. How will project results be measured?
 4. Project budget including both revenue and expenses
- * If the project cost is above the grant request amount, how will you obtain the additional funds required to complete your project?
5. Would you be willing to provide a session at a future DG Convention to present your project? Financial support for transportation and lodging would probably not be available for this event.

Note: Grant Guidelines on Page 19

1. Grants for 2014 will be reviewed and approved for funding in the fall of 2013. However, they will not be paid until the beginning of 2014.
2. If the grant is to an individual, it will be paid upon receipt of invoices for materials, etc. needed to complete the project and after consultation and agreement to any costs.

To be eligible for consideration , grant application must be received at the following address on or before September 30, 2013. Envelopes postmarked prior to that date but received after September 30 will NOT be considered. All envelopes must have “ADBC Memorial Society Grant” written on the outside of the envelope. Send applications to:

Linda McDavitt
5201 McCormick Mountain
Austin, Texas 78734

ADBC Memorial Society 2014 Grant Guidelines

The ADBC Memorial Society seeks to carry on the spirit of the ADBC and keep their history/story from disappearing from contemporary history. Our emphasis is on continuing education about the WWII Japanese invasion of the Philippines and the experiences of the men and women who subsequently became Japanese prisoners of war. For 2014 grants the grant application process will include the following objectives/initiatives:

* Creative projects providing information about the story of the Japanese Invasion of the Philippines and other Pacific islands and the POWs that were held there or moved to another location by the Japanese for slave labor.

* Development of curriculum that could be utilized in schools (middle school to high school level).

* Development of a play, video production, art display, civic monument, etc. that depicts the story of the experiences of the POWs of the Pacific theatre in WWII.

Grants will be given for fixed duration projects, not for General Operating Support, Endowments, Debt Reduction, Fundraising Events or Sponsorships. For 2014 there will be approximately \$5,000 in grant money available for a limited number of grants. **This amount is dependent upon donations to the Education Fund.** To apply for a grant, complete the ADBC Memorial Society's Grant Application Form and submit according to the instructions on the form. To be eligible for consideration, grant applications **must be received** on or before **September 30, 2013. Envelopes postmarked prior to that date but received after September 30 will not be considered.** For questions, please contact Linda McDavitt at bandboat@hotmail.com or (512) 731-6614.

ADBC-MEMORIAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

*If you have not renewed your 2013 membership or if you would like to join the ADBC-Memorial Society as a new member, please add \$31 to your convention registration fee or write a separate check. ****(Please Print Information)*

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE () _____ E-MAIL _____

NAME OF POW RELATIVE/FRIEND _____

MILITARY UNIT & PRISON CAMP (S) (if known) _____

YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO POW _____

DO YOU WANT TO BE INCLUDED ON ADBC-MS MAILLIST? Y N PUBLISH E-MAIL ADDRESS ON WEB SITE? Y N

ANNUAL DUES - \$31.00 **Make your check payable to ADBC-Memorial Society and mail with this form to:**

JUDY PRUITT, TREASURER, 23 ELWELL RD, JAMAICA PLAIN, MA 02130

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Please let us know six weeks before you move what your new address will be. Be sure to supply us with both your old and new address, including the address label from your current issue. Copies we mail to your old address will not be delivered by the Post Office..

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The **QUAN**



The ADBC Memorial Society and the American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor



On April 9, the ADBC Museum had their walk for their second commemoration of the Bataan Death March. Participants came from Pennsylvania and Ohio. Above is Joe Vater, Sr. and his son Joe. Bill Buruss, 59th Coast Artillery Reenactor came from Bloomingdale, Ohio. He is with the Quemado family who visited the museum for the first time. Rodel wanted his children to know what the experience had been like for their grandfather who was in the Bataan Death March.