Albuquerque Blends the Past with the New

The 3rd annual Descendants Group convention is being held in Albuquerque, NM, a unique location with old town charm and three centuries of fascinating history since 1706. Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town is a blend of those features along with grandeur and contemporary comfort in the heart of Old Town Albuquerque. The hotel offers luxurious accommodations and amenities plus two first class, on-site restaurants and cocktail lounges, room service, spa tubs and fitness facility, an Olympic-size outdoor swimming pool, outdoor gardens, free parking and more. If you haven’t made your reservations yet, the deadline is April 9, so don’t delay. Telephone: 505-843-6300 or 800-237-2133. See page 6 for “Places to Eat” and page 10 for “Things to Do.”

**Inside This Issue**

- DG Board Listing, Info- 2
- President’s Message - 3
- Chaplain’s Message - 5
- Editor’s Message - 5
- Places to Eat in Albuquerque - 6
- POW Registration Form - 7
- Books Available - Page 8
- DG Grant Forms- 9
- Things to Do in Albuquerque-10
- General Registration Form - 18

**AGENDA FOR CONVENTION**

**Wednesday, May 2nd:**
10am to noon - DG Board Meeting
1pm to 4pm – Registration Open, Merchandising Sales/Books
3pm to 4pm – POW Panel #1
7pm to 11pm - Hospitality Room

**Thursday, May 3rd:**
8am to 8:30am - Church Service
9am to noon- Registration Open, Merchandising Sales/Books
9am to 10am – Chris Schurtz, We Forget: Commemoration of Bataan in New Mexico
10:30am to noon- Virginia Hansen Holmes- Author of Guerilla Daughter, memoir of her family’s experiences evading the Japanese for almost four years during WWII in the Philippines
1:00pm to 5pm – Registration Open, Merchandising Sales/Books
1:30pm to 2:30pm- Descendants Panel
3pm to 4:30pm – POW Japan Trip 2011
7pm to 11pm - Hospitality Room

**Friday, May 4th:**
8am to 8:30am – Church Service
9am to noon- Registration Open, Merchandising Sales/Books
9am to 10am – Wives Tales
10:30am to Noon – POW Panel #2
Noon to 1:30pm – POW Widows and Wives Luncheon
1:00pm to 5pm – Registration Open, Merchandising Sales/Books
1:30pm to 3pm – 2012 Mansell Speaker Series Jim Olopony
4pm to 5:30pm – General Meeting
7pm to 11pm – Quan Party & Silent Auction

**Saturday, May 5th:**
9am to 10am- Registration Open, Merchandising Sales/Books
10am to 11am – Memorial Service
11am to Noon - Registration Open, Merchandising Sales/Books
1:30pm to 2:30pm- 2012 Grantees’ Report on Curriculum Grants: Bataan in a Box and My Days of Their Lives.
3:00-3:30 Medal Ceremony with Major General Lorenzano
7pm to 11pm- Banquet, Speaker

**Sunday, May 6th:**
9am: Memorial Commemoration of the Fall of Corregidor
NOTE: There will be a room that will be utilized for any presentations using AV equipment. When it is not in use there will be a chance for those who have produced documentaries regarding the history of the Battles in the Philippines to sign up to show them. If you would like to sign up for a slot, please contact the following:
Judy Pruitt pruittja13@aol.com, Kris Dahlstrom krisonluau@comcast.net, and Linda McDavitt bandboat@hotmail.com with information about the DVD, length of DVD and any other pertinent information.
The 2012 convention will be held in Albuquerque, NM, on May 2-6, 2012. At our general meeting in Pittsburgh, PA this June, it was decided to change the dates to May to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the fall of Corregidor.

It will be held at the Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town. This hotel is a block away from Old town with its great restaurants and shopping. The nightly rate will be $105 plus taxes. You can make reservations by calling 800-237-2133.

We hope you will be able to attend and we look forward to seeing you there.

Judy Pruitt

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You’ll Want to Be There!
President’s Message - From Joe Oater, Jr.

Judy Pruitt, Linda McDavitt, Kris Dahlstrom and Nancy Kragh have been hard at work preparing for the 2012 Descendant Group Convention. In this edition of The Quan you will find a tentative agenda which will provide all attendees with a full schedule of activities beginning on Wednesday afternoon and continuing through Sunday morning. The Sunday event will commemorate the 70th anniversary of the fall of Corregidor. I am extremely excited about the programs that have been tentatively scheduled. This issue also details attractions and activities available for the attendees in the Albuquerque area. I hope that you will take advantage of the opportunity to join us for the Third Annual Convention.

Caroline Burkhart and I visited a number of Congressional offices, the State Department and two service organizations. I have provided details of our visits in an article in this issue. I am very appreciative of Mindy Kotler’s efforts in making this trip a success. Her assistance was invaluable in organizing the trip and helping Caroline and me to stay on message. I would also like to thank Caroline who was a tremendous spokesperson for the Descendants Group.

One of the eye opening parts of the trip was the number of individuals with whom we spoke that had little or no understanding of the battles of the early days of World War II in the Philippine Islands and other allied outposts in the Far East. As one father told me, his daughter’s history of World War II in the Pacific consisted of the attack on Pearl Harbor and whether the United States should have used atomic weapons. That same individual also told the story of his uncle who was a medic in World War II. He was stationed on a hospital ship that transported released POWs back to the United States. His uncle told him that he was ordered not to describe the condition of the former POWs and that their condition was worse than being reported at the time. The lessons learned from our visit are twofold. First, we must all increase our efforts to preserve and perpetuate the story of the POWs. Second, there is real interest in the stories of these men and women.

The 70th anniversary of the fall of Bataan and the Bataan Death March in April and the fall of Corregidor in May present an opportunity for everyone to communicate with their representatives in local, state or federal governments to remind them of the 70th anniversary and to encourage them to commemorate it appropriately. You can contact your local newspaper to make sure it is aware of the 70th anniversaries. Finally, you may wish to contact your local public broadcasting station to see if it would broadcast Jan Thompson’s documentary entitled, “Tragedy of Bataan”. I was able to recently have the Pittsburgh station agree to broadcast it on April 9. I am attempting to utilize the showing as a way in which to reach other media outlets.

The board will be preparing the agenda for the general meeting. One of the agenda items will be the amendment of the By-Laws involving the purpose of the organization. We will also review the financial status of the organization and discuss The Quan. If anyone has any items, which they believe should come before the membership at the general meeting, please contact me with those matters so that the board may consider putting them on the agenda. I look forward to seeing many of you in Albuquerque in May.

Grant Review from the Descendants Group of the ADBC

For our first grant review we received six grant requests. They ranged from $230 to $3,750. After considerable discussion and checking with a few of the applicants for some clarifications concerning their requests, we have granted the following:

ADBC Museum (Jane Kraina) was granted funds to purchase set up supplies for displays for special local Elks tour and to be utilized after that in the museum.

Classes in Preservation Training (Jane Kraina) was granted funds to enable the staff to take classes to help in the preservation of the ADBC Museum materials given to them by our POWs.

Bataan In A Box (Colin Owens) was granted funds to provide primary & secondary teachers with materials about Bataan to teach students across the state of New Mexico about Bataan and to be given to other states as a basis for curriculum.

My Days of Their Lives (Scottie Kersta-Wilson) was granted funding to develop a history module designed for 4th to 8th graders history and community art classes which will tell the story of the Cabanatuan Orchestra and Art Players.

Never the Same (Jan Thompson) was granted funding to support making of a feature length documentary that tells about the survival and experiences of American POWs in the far east during WWII.

Working to fund many worthwhile requests is quite hard as each of these had good merit and would have contributed to the history of our men. However, we had requests that totaled almost 3 times the amount that we had available to fund. If you would like to help in funding these grants in the future, please consider making a contribution to the Descendants Group of the ADBC and specify that it is for the Education Fund.

We were excited to receive so many worthwhile requests and look forward to more next year. Bataan in a Box and My Days of Their Lives will be presented at the 2012 convention. Please come and see what these people have done with their grant funds. Information on 2013 requests will be provided at the May convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Grant Committee was Linda McDavitt, Jim Erickson and Nancy Kragh.

Thomas Harrison Receives Medals

Retired Captain Thomas R. Harrison received the following medals: The Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit, Presidential Unit Citation, Oak Leaf Cluster Bronze, American Defense Service Medal and Bronze Star, American Defense Service Medal, and the World War II Medal. Tom has had pneumonia, but at 93 has remained alert.
Report on ‘Tragedy of Bataan’

Dear Friends,

I thought I would share with you some of activities that have occurred since the release of the documentary “The Tragedy of Bataan”.

PBS stations were fed the program via a satellite this past November. (This is how stations get national programming.) As of the writing of this article “The Tragedy of Bataan” has been broadcast on 123 stations across the country. I know it has been frustrating for some of you not knowing when it might air on your station—but there is nothing I can do about that, I am just the producer!

In addition, this past December Senator Tom Udall of New Mexico introduced Senate Bill 2004 that will award the Congressional Gold Medal to “the defenders of Bataan”. The PBS station in Albuquerque is combining my documentary with a half-hour program of their own to discuss the Gold Medal.

This one hour program is called Bataan: A 70th Anniversary Commemoration. This program will also go nationwide on PBS stations in the next couple of months so keep an eye out for it.

To pass a Senate Bill you need the support from 67 Senators and 290 Congressman. So far the following Senators have agreed to support the Bill: Sen. Roy Blunt (MO), Sen. Mark Begich (AK), Sen. Daniel Inouye (HI), Sen. Mary Landrieu (LA), Sen. Jeff Bingaman (NM), Sen. Tom Udall (NM)

A group of National Guard veterans, who have no connection with our organization or other POW organizations, have decided to make this “their cause” and they are trying to rally support to help pass Senator Udall’s Bill. They have created a website: http://bataangoldmedal.com/ for supporters to reach out to their Congressmen. I think it is wonderful this group wants to honor the legacy of the men. I hope to see you all at the convention in Albuquerque-safe travels.

Jan Thompson

Edna Binkowski with Search Party to find Lt. Earl Stone’s remains

Dear Editor,

During the fierce battle for Bataan, month of Feb. 1942, Gen. Douglas McArthur ordered Capt. Jesus Villamor, a Filipino pilot, to reconnoiter and take a photograph of a Japanese garrison in Cavite. He piloted an old rickety 76D3 bi-plane trainer that can really dive, but with a malfunctioning radio. Capt. Abanes, another Filipino pilot on the plane, was the photographer. Five American P-40’s covered Villamor and Abanes, in different altitude. In flying back to Bataan airfield, Capt. Villamor was chased by six Japanese Nates. The P-40 pilot leader took one Nate in a burst of head on fire and then went to Corregidor. But the brave Lt. Earl Stone, engaged in suicidal dogfight while the other pilots bailed out. Spectators from below enjoyed that spectacular fight that ended in a big explosion over the top of Mt. Bataan, one of the mountains in Mariveles. After the war, attempts were made to locate the wrecks. A portion of the Nate was spotted but not the remains of the Lt. Earl Stone.

On Feb. 2004, Mr. Wes Stone, brother of this heroic pilot, visited me in Bataan and asked me to take him to the former airstrips sites. Being a former USAFFE soldier who served on Bataan, Wes feels guilty that he survived and his brother didn’t. He still hopes that he can bring his brother home.

My trip to Hawaii on April 23, 2004 was to interview the family of an important character in my book, and for a meeting with the Director of Central Intelligence Laboratory (also known as JPAC) about the dog tags of Maj. Winnifred Dorris, and Lt. Thomas Lambert, found at the former site of the QUARTER MASTER DEPOT. I was able to connect Lt. Earl Stone as a missing in action to JPAC during that trip. A year later, I was surprised with the news that my friends in Subic, Spike Nasmith, Kevin Hamdorf, Ryan Bach, Heather and Brad Blythe were involved in the search. This group spent (cont. on next page)
Edna Bautista Binkowski, Author of Code Name High Pockets and organizes P.I. WW II History Tours. The money she makes helps to rehabilitate abandoned markers.  The year 2012 is the ninth anniversary of the ADBC Museum in Wellsburg, WV.  It was November 4, 2003, when Harold Feiner and Abie Abraham, both Death March survivors, attended this special ceremony, dedicating what was called then Defenders of the Philippines Collection - POWs 1941-1945. It was made up of maps, manuscripts, journals, books, audio tapes, VCR tapes, hundreds of photos, personal stories of POWs and hell ships, personal stories of atrocities donated by Henrietta and PNC Edward Jackfert and others. Also included were Bataan operational reports, Philippine Army operational reports, many artifacts, and other items and documents.  Since then, the collection has grown to more than 500,000 items. Suffering growing pains, an optimistic plan to expand was considered in 2008 but economic reality as determined by a professional analysis of the potential has stalled plans for the present time. The best hope for maintaining the facts surrounding the heroic defense, captivity and ensuing atrocities lies within three closely allied elements - the Descendants Group, Quan publication (print and cyber-electronic), and the ADBC Museum. It is imperative that these remain viable and active as time passes and memories fade. The museum will be conducting fund raising activities involving private and government grants in West Virginia and personal solicitations of individuals considered to have sufficient interest in assuring that the collection continues to grow and remain vibrant. The Quan was funded for three years when the ADBC was closed out in San Antonio in 2009 and careful management has extended that to issues we now receive. I will meet with the DG board of directors in Albuquerque and discuss approaches to maintaining financial stability of the museum will be conducting fund raising activities involving private and government grants in West Virginia and personal solicitations of individuals considered to have sufficient interest in assuring that the collection continues to grow and remain vibrant. The Quan was funded for three years when the ADBC was closed out in San Antonio in 2009 and careful management has extended that to issues we now receive. I will meet with the DG board of directors in Albuquerque and discuss approaches to maintaining financial stability of the museum will be conducting fund raising activities involving private and government grants in West Virginia and personal solicitations of individuals considered to have sufficient interest in assuring that the collection continues to grow and remain vibrant. The Quan was funded for three years when the ADBC was closed out in San Antonio in 2009 and careful management has extended that to issues we now receive. I will meet with the DG board of directors in Albuquerque and discuss approaches to maintaining financial stability of the museum will be conducting fund raising activities involving private and government grants in West Virginia and personal solicitations of individuals considered to have sufficient interest in assuring that the collection continues to grow and remain vibrant. The Quan was funded for three years when the ADBC was closed out in San Antonio in 2009 and careful management has extended that to issues we now receive. I will meet with the DG board of directors in Albuquerque and discuss approaches to maintaining financial stability of the museum will be conducting fund raising activities involving private and government grants in West Virginia and personal solicitations of individuals considered to have sufficient interest in assuring that the collection continues to grow and remain vibrant. The Quan was funded for three years when the ADBC was closed out in San Antonio in 2009 and careful management has extended that to issues we now receive. I will meet with the DG board of directors in Albuquerque and discuss approaches to maintaining financial stability of the
DESCENDANTS GROUP MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If you have not renewed your 2012 membership or if you would like to join the Descendants Group as a new member, please add $25 to your convention registration fee or write a separate check.

Name (Please Print) ____________________________

Address ______________________________________

City ____________________________ State _________ ZIP Code _________

Telephone ____________________________ E-mail ______________________

Name of POW relative/friend: ______________________________________

Military Unit and Prison Camp (if known) ______________________________

Your relationship to the POW ______________________________________

POW’s Military Unit (if known) ______________________________________

Do you want to be included on a DG E-mail list? ________________________

Do you want your name and email address published on our website? __________

Annual dues: $25.00

Make your check payable to Descendants Group and mail this form to:

Judy Pruitt, DG Treasurer
23 Elwell Rd.
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

DG Dues Need to Be Paid

In order to be a current member and show your support for the group we ask that you pay your dues. The date that membership fees come due is January 1. We need your support so that the organization can reach its full potential. Consider giving the gift of membership to your sons and daughters or brothers and sisters to foster a fuller appreciation of their heritage.

As always, former POWs and widows are exempt from dues. Non-payment of dues will revoke your access to Google Groups. Please send a $25.00 check made out to “Descendants Group” to Judy Pruitt at 23 Elwell Rd., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

ADBC Museum Activities

The ADBC Museum presented a special program entitled “The Art of Survival,” displaying art work and books about several POWs. Joe Vater was the main subject, but Eugene Jacobs, and Ben Steele also provided topics for discussion. The Elks came as special guests for the program March 19. On April 9, the Museum will honor the veterans on the Bataan Death March by holding a fundraising walk for the Museum and the Library. On April 28, the Museum will show Forgotten Soldiers. See page 19 for more details.

Places to eat in Albuquerque

Casa Esencia at Hotel Albuquerque is one of New Mexico’s most historic buildings and a landmark in the National Register of Historic Places, circa 1783. At the same time it is an ultra-modern club and combines an atmosphere of elegant house party and Las Vegas style nightclub.

QBar in Hotel Albuquerque, is considered “Quintessential Albuquerque” and “a sophisticated posh ultra-lounge”. Voted “Albuquerque’s Best Happy Hour” venue three years in a row, it offers exciting entertainment Wednesday through Saturday evening, great appetizers and delicious cocktails.

Café Plazuela & Cantina offers traditional New Mexican ambiance and cuisine plus American-style sandwiches, soups, salads and dishes with a southwestern twist. After hours, enjoy custom cocktails and yummy tapas.

Cristobal’s Fine Dining Restaurant provides both classic Continental and original New Mexican Cuisine in a quiet and elegantly romantic candle-lit setting. Reservations are recommended.
# Third Annual Descendants Group/ADBC Convention

**Albuquerque Hotel in Old Town**  
May 2-6, 2012

**POW/SPOUSE/WIDOW Registration Form**

For additional registrations, please photocopy this form prior to completing it. Include all fees in the total. Make check payable to Descendants Group and mail with completed form(s) to:  
Judy Pruitt, 23 Elwell Road, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.

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## Additional Registrations

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## Widow of Ex-POW

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There is no charge for registration for POWs, Spouses or Widows.  
Number of people registered on this form: ............................................................... No Charge

3rd Annual Banquet, May 5. Please reserve ______ Banquet ticket(s) ...................... $40.00 pp X ______ = ______

**Total Amount Enclosed** $

Make check payable to Descendants Group and mail with this form to: Judy Pruitt, DG Treasurer  
23 Elwell Road  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
Books Available

An Angel’s Illustrated Journal - by Floramund Fellmeth Difford - published by Gorham. Available at $25.00 per copy from Floramund Difford, 1600 Marshall Circle #124, DuPont, WA 98327, or (360) 737-4822. The last Army nurse out of Manila who left aboard the hospital ship “Mactan.” Easy reading and includes over 137 photos.

Claw of the Tiger - by G. Thomson Fraser - Story of Franklin "Porky" LaCoste Available through Xlibris.com, Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble.com and your local bookseller. (ISBN (Paperback) 978-1-4257-7483-7 and (Hardback) 978-1-4257-7492-9)

Code Name: High Pockets, by Edna Binkowski. Several used on bookfinder.com - $50 to $70. Also Available for $20 - by G. Glusman - Published by Vi- cone Publishing, P. O. Box 104, Wuttke (803rd Engineers and pictured by William C. Wuttke The story and 94 sketches of William C. Wuttke published August, 2010. He was in the (The author is offering a free hard copy book to former Hoten POWs.) Cost is $20.00 +$2.77 shipping (soft cover). Checks made out to Lillian deGiacomo- 384 Atkinson Rd. - Cavendish, VT 05142 802-554-0010 ilwyn17@aol.com

Father Found, Life and Death as a prisoner of the Japanese in World War II - by Duane Heisinger available for $20 from Judith Heisinger, 7401 Bull Run Drive, Centreville, VA 20121

Guests of the Emperor: The Secret History of Japan’s Mukden POW Camp, by Linda Goetz Holmes. Naval Institute Press, $29.95 (and cheaper on Amazon)

Hell’s Guest - by Col. Glenn D. Frazier - Published by Rojon, Inc. 2008 As featured in Ken Burns Documentary, “The War” Available at $24.95 per copy and $2.77 shipping cost Checks made pay- able to Hell’s Guest, Inc. 6845 Hwy. 90 E. Suite 105 Daphne, AL, 36526 - 251-625-6716 or www.hellsguest.com or National POW Museum, Andersonville, GA, USS Alabama Battleship Park, Mobile, AL, Strategic Air & Space Museum, Ashland, NE

I’m Praying Hard for You by Linda McCaffery - Love Letters to a Death Camp, The World War II Ordeal of Bill Brenner, 21st Pursuit Squadron; and Jo Brenner. The book is available from Lone Cone Publishing, P. O. Box 104, Ellinwood, KS 67526 or mccafferyl@bartoncc.edu and cost $27.00 including shipping and handling. The books are signed by Dr. Brenner and the author.

Just One More Day - My Life as Prisoner of War #1475 - as lived and pictured by William C. Wuttke (803rd Engineers and Hoten, Manchuria). By Lillian Wuttke deGiacomo and Peter Wuttke The story and 94 illustrations, and text of 60 original photos that tell the story in the words of those who lived it on the home front as well as the battlefront in a WW II Japan POW Camp. More than 30 years of research and writing notes, bibliography, and index suma- rize. My Fathers Captivity $21.95 USD From AL YOUNG STUDIOS, 684 West 1400 North Orem, Utah 84057-2587 or alyoung.com 801.221-0351

Letters Home: a Reflection of a Man’s Survival - by Maxwell Andler Jr. M.D. & Valeda Andler. price $17.95 inc. postage. Amazon.com - or check to Valeda Andler 1103 Benedict Canyon Dr. Beverly Hills .CA 90210. vandler@aol.com

Life as an American Prisoner of War of the Japanese - by Charles Balaza. "Personal memoirs of being captured on Cor- regidor and the 3 1/2 years spent as a prisoner of war. Available through www.authorhouse.com

My Father’s Captivity - by Al Young is the story of a boy’s discovery about his father’s cap- tivity, endurance, and healing. 320 pages feature narrative, 140 illustrations, and text of 60 original photos that tell the story in the words of those who lived it on the home front as well as the battlefront in a WW II Japan POW Camp. More than 30 years of research and writing notes, bibliography, and index suma- rize. My Father’s Captivity $21.95 USD. My Fathers Captivity $21.95 USD. From AL YOUNG STUDIOS, 684 West 1400 North Orem, Utah 84057-2587 or alyoung.com 801.221-0351


The Battle of Bataan: A Complete History (Second Edition) By Donald J. Young, Jefferson, NC: McFarland., 2009 Reviewed by Stanley L. Falk, former chief historian of the Air Force, who said,”A good account of the battle, With excel- lent maps and some rarely seen photographs, its primary contribution is the inclusion of extensive personal testimony from memoirs, diaries, and interviews.” Available at Barnes & Noble $49.50 Amazon - $55.00

Too Dead to Die - by Steve Raymond & Mike Pride, story of the Death March and Japanese POW. $24.95 plus $3.00 S&H. Marie Raymond, 3355 W. Susan Ln., Lecanto, FL 34461.

Unconquerable Faith by Everett D. Reamer - $20.00 on Amazon.com. All proceeds go to Masonic Learning Center for Dyslexic Children.

We Remember Bataan and Cor- regidor by Mariano Villarin. Now available at $20 ($5 S&H). Interviews and personal ac- count. 300+ pages. Larry Villarin 1910 Harding St. Long Beach CA90805

*Zero Ward*A Survivor’s Night- mare by 2nd Lieutenant Murray M. Sneddon. In paper back at $9.95. The book was published in 1999. Can be ordered from any bookstore as well as Barnes & Noble or iUniverse .com

Java Lost; A Child Imprisoned by the Japanese in WWII Eighteen Inches on a Mattress by Jannie Wilbrink Contact: Marianne Rohrbough 13219 W. Twin Peaks Road Marana, AZ. 85653
Descendants Group of the ADBC

2012 Grant Guidelines

The Descendant’s Group of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor 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.

In 2012 we will be opening our grant application process that 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 2012 there will be $5,000 in grant money available for a limited number of grants. To apply for a grant, complete the Descendants Group of the ADBC 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, 2011. Envelopes postmarked prior to that date but received after September 30 will not be considered. For questions, please contact Linda McDavitt at bandboat@yahoo.com or (512) 731-6614.

Descendants Group of the ADBC 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 the project will reach?
   How it will 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.

**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 on any other costs. **

To be eligible for consideration, grant applications must be received at the following address on or before September 30, 2011.

Envelopes postmarked prior to that date but received after September 30 will not be considered. All envelopes must have “DG-ADBC Grant” written on the outside of the envelope. Send applications to:

Mr. Joseph Vater, Jr.
Meyer, Unkovic & Scott LLP
1300 Oliver Building
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Spring 2012 - Page 9
Descendants’s Group Reps Visited with Officials in D.C.

On February 9 and 10, 2012, Caroline Burkhart and I visited Washington, DC to meet with representatives of national veteran organizations, numerous Congressional staffers in both the House and the Senate as well as the State Department. Mindy Kotler did an outstanding job of arranging all of the meetings as well as providing background information to Caroline and me before the visit. She was also very helpful in keeping us on message and on schedule.

February 9 began with a breakfast meeting with representatives of the National Guard Association of the United States and an archivist with the National Guard Education Foundation. We were excited to learn that a display involving Bataan will be arranged. We discussed with them the number of National Guard units which were involved with the defense of the Philippines. It is hoped that through this meeting the ADBC Museum and the National Guard Museum can find ways in which to work together.

Our next visit was with Congressional staff of members who served on the House Foreign Affairs Committee. In addition, the senior Japan specialist from the Congressional Research Service attended. We had a wonderful opportunity to educate this large group about the initial battles of World War II in the Far East as well as the inhumane treatment of the prisoners of war by Imperial Japan and the use of the POWs as slave labor by Japanese companies. We also had an opportunity to discuss the POW visits to Japan and the importance of finding ways to encourage the government of Japan and/or private companies to establish a fund to permit these trips to continue for decades.

We then met separately with staffers from the office of Congressman John Sarbanes (D-MD) (Caroline’s representative) and the office of Congressman Bob Filner (D-CA). We discussed the Descendants Group and its mission and the importance of Congressional support of the visitation program. The afternoon was spent visiting the offices of a bipartisan group of Senators including Senators Inhofe(R-OK), Bingaman(D-NM), Rockefeller(D-WV), Toomey(R-PA), and Feinstein(D-CA). At each of these offices, we had an opportunity to discuss the Descendants Group and its mission as well as the value of the POW visits and the importance of continuing and expanding those visits. We also thanked the Senators for supporting S.Res. 333 that is similar to H.Res. 333. We also delivered to Senator Rockefeller’s office a letter from the ADBC Museum inviting Senator Rockefeller to visit the museum.

On Friday morning, we visited the Japan Desk of the State Department. We spoke to the Director and the officer who directly handles POW issues. We thanked them for their efforts in encouraging the government of Japan to establish the visitation program for the former POWs. We described for them the success of the visits in 2010 and 2011 and the need to find permanent funding for these visits to continue for the POWs and to be expanded to include descendants and historians/researchers. We also requested the State Department to raise with the Japanese government the issue of opening records held by Japan relating to POWs including all camp records, medical and death records, and payroll records. We have been asked for additional information by the State Department since our return, and we are providing it.

Friday afternoon saw us visiting senior Asia staff members for the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee as well as the Office of Congressman Honda who is the primary co-sponsor of H.Res. 333. We ended our visit to Washington by meeting a legislative representative from the Reserve Officers Association.

I personally think that this visit was extremely worthwhile. It provided the Descendants Group with an opportunity to describe its mission and to relate to a number of individuals the story of the POWs held by Imperial Japan. It also provided us personal contacts with a number of individuals with whom we can work in the future.

Contributed by Joe Vater

THINGS TO DO IN ALBUQUERQUE

If you arrive early, plan to stay after or have free time during the convention, you can choose from a wide variety of fun things to do and see. Take a day to stroll the charming streets of Old Town. Explore historic Spanish architecture. Drink in the sophisticated pleasures of New Mexico wines at the wine festival at Bernalillo, just north of Albuquerque. See the dinosaurs at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, since New Mexico is the site of some of the most important dinosaur discoveries in history. Whether you’re in the mood for a cultural day at the museum or a fun shopping day looking for one-of-a-kind Native American jewelry and art, Albuquerque offers the perfect place to see and do it all. Here is a sampling including distance from the hotel. Albuquerque is the oldest continuously inhabited settlements in the U.S. and is 7,000 feet above sea level:

- The Albuquerque Museum – ¼ mile
- Museum of Natural History and Science – ¼ mile
- Tour Historic Old Town District/Buildings – ¼ mile + San Felipe de Neri Church
- Stroll the Old Town Plaza/Shops – ¼ mile + Specialty shops, jewelry stores, art galleries
- Turquoise Museum – ¼ mile +
- Albuquerque Trolley Tour – ¼ mile
- Albuquerque Biological Park – 1.5 miles
- Albuquerque BioPark Zoo – 2 miles
- Indian Pueblo Cultural Center – 5 miles
- National Hispanic Cultural Center – 4 miles
- Rio Grand Nature Center – 5 miles
- International Hot Air Balloon Fiesta and Museum – 6 miles
- Petroglyph National Monument – 10 miles
- New Mexico Wine Festival at Bernalillo – 10 miles
- Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway – 15 miles
  - 2.7 miles; world’s longest free-span cable tramway; 10,375 ft. above sea level
- Santa Fe and the NM National Guard Bataan Memorial Museum – 55 miles
- Acoma “Sky City” Pueblo – 60 miles
American Post 163 of Melbourne/Easu Gallie Florida provided the color guard for a local Veterans’ Unit Medal of Honor recipient, Daune E. Dewey. He was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Eisenhower in 1953 for his heroic action in Korea on April 16, 1952.

The oldest and most distinguished color guard member, Thomas J. Pechacek, has been an active member of the ADBC, The Marine League, and the American Legion. At age 90, he still drives to the Post a few times a week. Captured by the Japanese on Wake Island, he was transported to Yokohama on the Nita Maru. Later he was shipped off to Shanghai, China and Woosung POW camp. In Korea, he was forced to unload ships in Pusan harbor. His last camp was Hokkaid and he worked in a coal mine. After the war, he worked for Pan American World Airways he retired and has been active in Post 163.

Major General Delfin Lorenzana of the Philippines to Award Medals

Major General Delfin Lorenzana (Ret), Head of the Office of Veterans Affairs of the Philippine Embassy will be attending the DG-ADBC Convention. He will hand out medals in a Medal Ceremony on Saturday, May 5th, from 3:00-3:30 pm.

To apply for medals takes a processing time of three to four weeks upon the receipt of a request. The requirements for processing a medal request involve several steps. The Veteran or next of kin must send a letter of request with their complete name, mailing address, and preferably a phone number and e-mail address. With the letter they need to include a copy of a Service Discharge Document and other service records showing eligibility and/or Entitlement for these awards. Also, the requester must send a Payment of Administration Fee payable to Delfin N. Lorenza and write Philippine Medals in the Memo. The administration fees are ten US dollars for each Medal, and five US dollars for each badge. Mail requests to the: OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, 1600 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20036

There are seven Medal/Badge that can be issued: (1) Philippine Liberation Medal, (2) Philippine Independence Medal (3) Philippine Defense Medal, (4) Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, (5) World War II Victory Medal, (6) Philippine Military Civic Action Medal (7) Philippine Presidential Unit Citation Badge. A lapel ribbon for each medal and a Government Certificate is included. Awards are based on the following actions:

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL
For participation in the Liberation of the Philippines from Oct. 17, 1944 to Sept. 3, 1945

PHILIPPINE DEFENSE MEDAL
For combat service in the defense of the Philippines from Dec. 8, 1941 to Jun. 15, 1942. The service member is awarded one medal for meeting either of the criteria below. A bronze star is worn if the service member meets both criteria. (a) was a member of the Bataan or Manila Bay Forces or of a unit, ship or airplane under enemy attack during the above period. (b) was assigned or stationed in the Philippine territories or water for at least 30 calendar days during the above period.

PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE MEDAL
For those who received both the Philippine Defense Medal and Philippine Liberation Medal or who were present on duty in the Philippines on July 4, 1946.

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL
For active duty service at any time between December 7, 1941 and December 31, 1946.

ASIATIC PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL
For 30 days of service in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater between December 7, 1941 and March 2, 1946.

(Cont. on Page 20)
Going Back to Japan to be Guests of the Emperor (Really)
by Jim Collier

When LesTenney informed me that I was invited to spend a week in Honshu as part of peace and friendship program, I asked myself questions. Why did they invite oldsters such as myself? Wouldn’t bad memories keep us from enjoying a good time? Was it time to relieve the burden of enmity?

While some survivors cannot forget, we as individuals can forgive. However I can identify with those who haven’t let go of the horrors of the infamous march, the brutality, the Hellships, the slave labor, and the starvation and disease.

On the second day of our tour we visited Takaoka, home to one of the oldest smelters in Japan. Takaoka is one of the last three furnaces still standing amid the rusting old buildings, true to its name of Takaoka (also known as Takaoka Denka), where Harold Bergbower and I worked as slave laborers in 1944 and 1945.

The old smelter was “open hearth,” and the furnace crews worked especially hard. They would sweat until almost wet and worked especially hard. They would sweat until almost wet and worked especially hard. They would sweat until almost wet and worked especially hard. They would sweat until almost wet and worked especially hard. They would sweat until almost wet and worked especially hard. They would sweat until almost wet and worked especially hard.

When we visited the new plant, the Managing Director Mr. Hamura welcomed us, giving us time to study old maps of Noumachi showing the location of the plant and once familiar surroundings. In 66 years, so much had changed and locating important structures proved challenging. We did find one weather-beaten old building with two or three furnaces still standing.

Our hosts enjoyed the probe of local history as much as we. The local media covered events and we found ourselves on TV during the dinner hour.

We also toured the countryside nearby. Our guide showed us the 12,000-foot mountain peaks that can be viewed from the seaside, a view we never witnessed as prisoners. All we could see from our camp was a cloudy sky. Our next visit took us to Kyoto, a 1200-year-old city with ancient wooden temples, castle-like buildings appearing to be from the Meiji era, and many parks.

The next day in Kyoto we also saw the “Ryokan Cannon” temple. Reading the name of 48,000 Allied POWs who died in an attempt to escape from the Meiji area and many parks.

The next day in Kyoto we also saw the “Ryokan Cannon” temple. Reading the name of 48,000 Allied POWs moved me. After remembering a distant cousin and close friend from Corregidor who died on a Hellship and another gush of blood on the cheek. He had left the scabbard on the blade. My head still belonged to me! I was alive, but I had two black eyes and was shaken for days.

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The next day in Kyoto we also saw the “Ryokan Cannon” temple. Reading the name of 48,000 Allied POWs moved me. After remembering a distant cousin and close friend from Corregidor who died on a Hellship I had to go out in the sunshine and fresh air to compose myself. Kinue Tokudome was there to “pick me up,” in her uncanny ability to sense the “dangerous” moments the POWs face. My experience overall was so positive that I would visit Kyoto again if I could.

POW Jorgenson Pens Parenting Book

By Sarah Snider

“My premise broaches the theorem that the earth’s population, irrespective of gender or ethnicity, consists of simply two types of people: liberals (dandelions) and conservatives (daisies) and degrees thereof.”

Therein lies the foundation of Daisies and Dandelions: An Indictment of Today’s Parenting by Warren “Jorgy” Jorgenson, a former marine who was imprisoned by the Japanese during World War II. In a starkly honest, no-nonsense tone, Jorgenson presents an articulate assertion about America and its citizens.

He contends that the first five years of a child’s life are a crucial formative time, and that it is during this period that one begins to form either conservative or liberal leanings based upon the actions and attitudes of the parents.

Furthermore, he illustrates how America’s “principled conservatism” began declining after World War II with the advent of television and other technological media. Further destruction of America, Jorgenson notes, seems to have been brought about by the Clinton scandal of the 1990s, and more recently, by President Barack Obama, under whose direction America has become an oligarchy fluent in sophistry.

Peppered with personal accounts and observations, Daisies and Dandelions is a black and white portrayal of one veteran’s perspective on the increase of secularism and the decline of capitalism in America, a thought-provoking read for liberals and conservatives alike.
Ethical Wills: Sharing your Values Not your Valuables

by Lester Tenney

As an academian I have often lectured on the subject of Wills, Trusts and Probate, explaining their benefits and pitfalls, and showing the importance of planning for the distribution of your estate. But during these past years the importance of passing to my children my values, ideas and personal reflections of my life as a prisoner-of-war of the Japanese has taken on a greater importance.

Unlike traditional wills that transfer worldly possessions, an Ethical Will is a way of bequeathing to family members and other loved ones, your life’s values. Ethical Wills have been characterized as windows into the souls of those who write them. Not everyone can pass along a financial legacy, but everybody can transmit some of the richness of life by creating an Ethical Will.

Writing an Ethical Will reinforces the fact that one does not have to be wealthy to leave a legacy. An Ethical Will provides the writer a way to share their values with those they love and care about. This type of sharing travels from generation to generation, and is a powerful way for us former POWs to start transferring our life’s values, many framed while a prisoner of the Japanese, to our loved ones.

Are Ethical Wills New?

Ethical wills are not new. The Old Testament first described ethical wills 3,000 years ago (Genesis Ch. 49). A dying Jacob addresses his sons about their lives after his death, and Moses delivers his personal goals and beliefs to the tribes of Israel:

“And Jacob called unto his sons, and said,” Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days. Gather yourselves together, and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken unto Israel your father. Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, I ask you…”

Reference to this tradition is also found in The New Testament (John Ch. 15-18) in the Gospel of John, Jesus offers parting advice to his disciples.

“These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I ask you…”

Many scholars have called The Dead Sea Scrolls, the first written evidence of Ethical Wills.

Why Write an Ethical Will

Because of our economy today, bequeathing something of a financial value has an uncertain future. What is valuable today may be worthless tomorrow, but providing family members with your values of life and your guidelines for living can provide them with a lifetime of memories filled with love and deep respect.

We have had an opportunity to accumulate many life experiences, and now we can convert them into words of wisdom while expressing and sharing our values. You don’t have to be an experienced writer to compose an ethical will. If the message you leave is from the heart, spelling and grammatical mistakes will be inconsequential to the loved ones reading your words.

Wills, Trusts and Probate are of vital concern to most of us, but sharing your personal philosophy of living should be included when establishing your legal documents as it brings “life” into an otherwise mundane obligation.

Background

In recent years, there has been a resurgence of interest in ethical wills, spurred by the aging of baby boomers, the rising interest in family history, and the increased affluence in society that many people realize for the first time that they will be leaving their heirs an inheritance.

Most people as they prepare the documents necessary to distribute their estate, start thinking about where and how they got started, how they got where they are today, and they often ask, “who really cares?” As we age, we tend to reflect more on the meaning of life, and what we want to pass along to our children.

Personal Values:

I find myself constantly asking how will I pass on to my family those things that I so firmly believe in. What do I truly value? What inspires me? What makes me who I am? How I kept my faith and my ethical standards during those years of captivity?

And as we start thinking of things of value, our memorabilia of POW events shines brightly in our minds as we remember the horrors of those war years, I keep asking myself, “Who will want these items that meant so much to me? Where and with whom will be the best place to leave my burning memories of those years as a POW? My memories of those years as a POW will go to my children, my memorabilia, I have decided, deserves to be kept alive, and shall go to the ADBC Museum in Wellsburg, West Virginia. Thanks to our past commander, Ed Jackfert for his vision and hard work in developing the ADBC Museum, our memories now have a place of honor, where researchers and historians have a place to search for the details of our fight for freedom and our search for justice.

The ADBC Museum tells our story, tells our life as a POW of the Japanese. It is our legacy, not only for the benefit of our children, but for the benefit of all mankind. People from all over the world will know the horrors of war, and the sacrifices of many.

In order to keep the POW memory alive and the Museum operating I am encouraging those with memories of our conflict to leave their POW artifacts, papers and other important data related to the experience as a prisoner of the Japanese, to the ADBC Museum in Wellsburg, West Virginia.

And if you have the inclination, include in your will a small slice of your estate to the Museum so that our story will live long after we are gone. Now is the time to make sure that our fighting for freedom, our being abandoned by our own government, and being denied our right to justice, will never be forgotten.
Andrew Aquila

Andrew Joseph Aquila, 93, died Monday, Nov. 28, 2011, in Grants Pass, OR. Andrew was born on May 31, 1918, in Cleveland, OH, the youngest son in a family of ten. During World War II, he served in the Philippines with the 192nd Tank Battalion as both a clerk and a messenger for B-Company’s HQ. In April of 1942 he was captured on Bataan, survived the Death March, Camp O’Donnell, and Cabanatuan. The Japanese shipped him to Fukuoka Camp #3 on the island of Kyushu, and on the hellship Nissyo Maru July 1944 to Manila. He served as Combat Medic and Point Man with the 11th Airborne Div. During the Korean War he worked as a rifleman and Medical NCO, 2nd Infantry Div. Korean War until September 1950, when he was hospitalized for six months with severe malaria. Until April 1971, he served in various assignments with the U.S. Army, including Tripler Gen. Hospital in Hawaii, Walter Reed Hospital at Washington, D.C., 1st Armored Div. at Ft. Hood, TX, and Brooke General Hospital. He retired as Chief Wardmaster at Ft. Sam Houston. After his Army career, he acted as the Dir. of Central Supply at Nix Hospital until the mid-80s. MSG Austria was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal, and Prisoner of War Medal, and many other decorations. He was Soldier of the Month twice at Brooke Gen. Hospital and twice at 1st Armored Div. at Ft. Hood, TX. Until the last years of his life, he enjoyed bowling for several leagues at AstroBowl and Wonder Bowl. He was a longtime fan of the San Antonio Spurs, Univ. of Texas Longhorns, and Chicago Cubs. Benjamin’s wife of 66 years, Irene survives him along with five children, Tess Nasis, George Austria, Lona Sanchez, Celita Boyce, and Leticia Austria. Seven grandchildren and one great-granddaughter also survive Ben. Austria is buried at Ft. Sam Houston Cemetery.

Benjamin Austria

Benjamin C. Austria, 89, died on Wed., Nov. 9, 2011. Austria was born on Feb. 7, 1922, in Makati, Rizal, PI, the eldest of nine children. He joined the service at Ft. Wm. McKinley on July 29, 1940, with the 12th Medical Battalion, Philippine Scouts, and served during the Battle of Bataan in WWII. The Japanese forces captured Benjamin along with his father, a Medical Service Corps Officer. He escaped while on the infamous Bataan Death March, joined the Philippine Guerillas, and later the 1st Cavalry Division for the liberation of Manila. He served as Combat Medic and Point Man with the 11th Airborne Div. During the Korean War he worked as a rifleman and Medical NCO, 2nd Infantry Div. Korean War until September 1950, when he was hospitalized for six months with severe malaria. Until April 1971, he served in various assignments with the U.S. Army, including Tripler Gen. Hospital in Hawaii, Walter Reed Hospital at Washington, D.C., 1st Armored Div. at Ft. Hood, TX, and Brooke General Hospital. He retired as Chief Wardmaster at Ft. Sam Houston. After his Army career, he acted as the Dir. of Central Supply at Nix Hospital until the mid-80s. MSG Austria was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal, and Prisoner of War Medal, and many other decorations. He was Soldier of the Month twice at Brooke Gen. Hospital and twice at 1st Armored Div. at Ft. Hood, TX. Until the last years of his life, he enjoyed bowling for several leagues at AstroBowl and Wonder Bowl. He was a

Gilbert “Gib” Cox

Gilbert J. “Gib” Cox from Des Moines, Washington died November 23, 2011 at the age of 88. He was born on December 16, 1922 to Glenn and Laura (Nuxall) Cox in Enterprise, OR where he grew up and graduated from high school. He attended Oregon State University where he became an accomplished musician and star football player. Upon graduation, he enlisted in the United States Army and was initially assigned to the 11th Airborne Division. He then joined the Alamo Scouts and was commanded by Lt. William Nellist. He served on rescue teams and also as the personal bodyguard of Lt. Gen. Walter Krueger, commanding officer of the 6th Army in New Guinea and later in the Philippines. Gil and his team participated in several reconnaissance missions in the Philippines. They made a reconnaissance of Japanese positions on Mindanao. They also located some large Japanese mortars that posed a threat to the 6th Army’s advance. He also gathered intelligence necessary for Col. Henry Mucci’s 6th Ranger Battalion, and Ranger C Company commander, Capt. Robert Prince, to affect a raid to rescue 512 Allied POWs incarcerated in the camp. Following the successful raid on
Cabanatuan to liberate the POWs, some of the Scouts and Rangers, including Gil and Capt. Bob Prince were flown back to the States to participate in a bond drive. Gil was invited to the White House where he and the Rangers met with President Roosevelt. After the war Gil came home to Oregon and married Mildred Knape. He was elected Sheriff of Wallowa County, OR, later returning to the Army during the Korean War. His family moved to Des Moines, WA. He worked at Boeing and later at Alaskan Copper and Brass. He loved hunting and fishing during his free time. He built his own home in Des Moines where he and his wife raised their family. Gilbert Cox is survived by his wife, Mildred; children Allison Gerst, Linda MacClellan, Joel (Barbara) Cox; grandchildren Eric Gerst, Lara Gerst, Cindie (Casey) Wolf; Pam (Evan) DeWan; great grandchildren Caden and Cole Wolf. Gilbert "Gib" Cox was laid to rest at Tahoma National Cemetery.

Stanley Durgin

Stanley Durgin, 89, of Paris, ME passed away on Monday, January 17, 2011 at Hospice House in Auburn. He was born in Sweden on January 21, 1921, the son of Cyrus and Fannie Wilson Durgin. He grew up in Paris and graduated from Paris High School in 1940. He lettered in basketball, baseball, football and track. He enlisted in the U.S. Army shortly after graduation. After basic training he went to the Philippines as a member of the highly trained 27th Bombardment Group, 48th Material Squadron. The group arrived in Manila in late November of 1941. In less than a year later the Japanese captured him. They forced him to march 65 miles to San Fernando in the Bataan Death March. He also survived the infamous Japanese “Hell Ships” and three and a half years in multiple prison camps. He received the Asiatic Pacific Campaign medal, Philippine Defense medal, Presidential Unit Citation, World War II Victory medal, Honorable Service Lapel button, the Bronze Star, Army Good Conduct medal, American Defense Service medal, Prisoner of War Medal and the Purple Heart. He married his high school sweetheart, F. Mary Stearns on December 26, 1945. He became well known in the Oxford Hills area as a barber at Keye French’s. He was also a popular school bus driver in South Paris for many years. He retired from A. C. Lawrence when he was 62. After retiring he did metal work, woodwork, and plain old tinkering. He fiddled, told jokes, laughed, and enjoyed his role as a grandfather and eventually as a great-grandfather. Mr. Durgin is survived by his wife of 65 years, Mary; daughter, Vickie Matero and her husband Stan of Gray; son, Larry and his wife Tara of Greenwood; three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, four step-grandchildren, David and Cathy, Karen, Tim and wife Angie Matero and two step-grandchildren. Funeral services were held on Sunday, January 23 at Chandler Funeral Homes & Cremation Service, 45 Main St., South Paris.

James O. Faulkner "J.O."

James Faulkner, 89, passed away on November 23, 2011. He was born Aug 19, 1921 in Muldrow, OK to Joseph and Vada Faulkner. When he was young he rode his bicycle to deliver telegrams for Western Union. He enlisted in the Marines in 1940 and on April 9, 1942 he was captured at Little Baguio, Bataan. He participated in the Death March of Bataan and stayed a prisoner until Sept. 14, 1945. A few months later on November 17, he married Helen Jane Krosley. They moved from Oklahoma to California where J.O. worked in a lumberyard and then he owned a tire shop. He graduated from Los Angeles College of Chiropractic in 1953 and then changed professions to work for the California State Dept. of Corrections at Preston School of Industry. He also was a reserve police officer and member of the Masonic Lodge. In 1969, he transferred to a correctional facility in Stockton, CA and moved his family to Escalon. After ten years there, he retired and he and Helen moved to Fort Bragg, CA. He thoroughly enjoyed his retirement with bowling, traveling to POW conventions and relaxing in the sun with his straw hat listening to Jim Reeves. J.O. was a member of the Cherokee nation and his great-grandmother was on the Trail of Tears. His great-uncle was the first Cherokee to be appointed a judgeship in Oklahoma. He left behind Susan Cave, a daughter, Fort Bragg, CA, Allen Faulkner, Santa Rosa, CA, grandson Jason Hempmsyer of Chico, CA, granddaughter Heather Hempmsyer of Santa Rosa, granddaughter Nancy Barclay of Florence, OR and one great-granddaughter.

Francis Macey

Francis James Macey, 89, of New Bedford, MA, passed away on Sunday, February 14, 2010, at Hathaway Manor Extended Care Facility. He was the husband of the late Gladys Mae (Barlow) Macey and son of the late Arthur and Edith (Ryan) Macey. He was a lifelong resident of New Bedford. He was a decorated WWII Army veteran and was the recipient of the Purple Heart. He held the rank of Staff Sgt., and served in the battle of the Philippines, Bataan and Corregidor and was a POW for three and a half years. He worked as a police officer of 23 years for the City of New Bedford. He was a member of the VFW Poirier Post, American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor, Disabled American Veterans. His time was spent enjoying his family, daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Survivors include his four daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Survivors include his four daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Survivors include his four daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.
Joe Peters passed away on December 18, 2011 in Frederick, Maryland. He was born January 12, 1923 in Somerset, MA. He joined the army on February 2, 1941. After a stay on Angel Island, he arrived in Manila April 22, 1941. He was assigned to the 60th Coast Artillery, 3rd Battalion, and Battery Mobile on Corregidor. At the west end of Kindley Field, he manned a 50-caliber machine gun. The Japanese attacked this area on May 5th. He was sent to Bilibid and rode by railroad car to Cabanatuan #3. As part of his duties on a firewood and burial detail, he buried many of our GI’s. Besides these details, he was sent to Manila to work on the docks, to Luzon to work on a landing strip and back to Corregidor for clean-up duty. On July 2, 1944, Joe boarded a captured freighter named “Canadian Inventor” in Manila. Due to boiler problems, it took 62 days to arrive at Moji, Japan. He went to work in the coal mine at Fukuoka #5. He survived four cave-ins in the mine and the nutritional deprivation and tropical diseases the POW’s contacted. Joe was liberated and left the camp on September 1, 1945. After liberation he went to work with General Motors in Florida. Later he worked at the Naval Air Station. He was the husband of the late Helen Peters; remaining family included his brother, three children, eight grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

Robert Thompson

Robert was born in Kansas City, Missouri to Joseph Earl Thompson and Maude Crider. After graduating from high school in 1938 Robert enlisted in the Navy and was trained in the Medical Corps in San Diego. He was first in the class of 41. His first tour of duty was the Philippine Islands in 1939 where he was stationed at Cacacao Naval Hospital as a Pharmacist Mate. He was later transferred to the U.S.S. Canopus in 1940 and was stationed on her when Imperial Japan attacked the Philippines. He and the crew escaped to Corregidor Island after the ship was scuttled the night of April 9. Robert was on Corregidor Island at Battery Point when U.S forces were surrendered to the Imperial Japanese on May 6, 1942. He was a prisoner-of-war for three and half years, serving as a Pharmacist Mate at Bilibid Prison in Manila until December 13, 1944 when he and 1620 other men were crammed in the holds of the Hell Ship, Oryoku Maru. Soon after leaving Manila the ship was bombed and sunk by U.S. Navy bombers. After swimming to shore he was placed on a second ship, the Enoura Maru, that was also attacked and disabled by U.S. Navy bombers at Takao Harbor, Formosa. The remainder of the survivors were placed on a third ship, the Brazil Maru, finally arriving at Moji, Japan, on January 30, 1945. Less than 550 of the original draft reached Japan alive and fewer than 400 survived the war. Ironically, Bilibid Prison was liberated, by American forces under General MacArthur, only a few days after Robert arrived in Japan. In April 1945, Robert was transported to Mukden, Manchuria for the duration of his POW imprisonment until Imperial Japan surrendered. He was liberated by Russian Troops August 16, 1945. He received a Bronze Star and Purple Heart. Three weeks after his arrival back in the United States he met and married Fern Sebring. Taking advantage of the GI Bill, Robert went to night school and received his MBA from George Washington University. Robert remained in the Navy for 31 years and was stationed at various bases such as Guantanamo Bay in Cuba and Patuxet Naval Base in Maryland. Robert retired as a Commander. Robert is survived by his loving wife of 66 years Fern Thompson; sons Edward and Robert and daughter Jan.

John Wood
John Wood, 91, former soldier, husband, father, lawyer, and philanthropist died Monday, January 2, 2012 at The Pines Skilled Nursing Facility. John was born in Colon, Panama, one of 6 children. He was orphaned at 14. He grew up in Memphis, TN, and at 19 joined the Army Air Corp. While stationed at Clark Field Air Base in the Philippines, the Japanese captured him. He made the Bataan Death March and his imprisonment lasted for 41 months. After the war he recuperated at MacDill Air Force Base where he met Sadie and they married. They both graduated from Stetson University in Deland Florida under the GI Bill. John earned his JD, summa cum laude, in 1951. He came to Sarasota to open law practice Main Street which grew over the years. He also took the bench serving as a Juvenile Judge and City Judge. His law practice spanned 55 years. He enjoyed reading WWII history. He received the Purple Heart twice, and the Bronze Star for his outstanding service to our country. He demonstrated his generosity for those less fortunate acting as President of The Wilson - Wood Foundation. He gave of his time to many service organizations: a long time member of the Kiwanis, Shiners, The Old Timers, and Sarasota Chapter EX POW groups. He was past president of Sarasota Bar Association, and Chaplain of the Florida Bar as well as serving on the Board of Governors for many years. His wife, Sadie Leshy Wood and son John Richard Wood II preceded him in death. Survivors are his daughters Ann Wood, and Susan Wood (Faessler).
Alfred Ramsey Young died on February 9, 2012. He was born June 5, 1919, in Box, OK. His parents were Samuel Peter Young and Ollie Beulah Cole. He was raised in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where his father was a career police officer. In 1937, he graduated from Central High School, where he had been a member of the marching band. Upon graduation, he received a music scholarship, but declined as it wasn’t enough for the full tuition. He worked, instead, in the oil fields. In 1939, Alfred enlisted in the US Army Air Corps, and was stationed at Clark Field, Philippine Islands. He survived the Dec. 8, 1941 attack at Clark. Until the surrender of the Philippines in May 1942, he manned a machine gun post in the jungles of Mindanao. He was interned as a prisoner there, and was later sent by hellship to Bilibid Prison in Manila. Another hellship voyage took him to Japan. Until liberation in August 1945, he endured forced labor, disease, starvation, physical and psychological abuse, and the Allied bombing of Tokyo and Yokohama. It was during his captivity that a fellow prisoner gave him a copy of the Book of Mormon. Alfred remained in the Air Force after the war, flying as a bombardier, radar operator, and navigator on B29s. He transferred to the military’s nuclear weapons program, and, in 1959, retired as a Chief Warrant Officer. For the next 11 years, he worked in different states ~ MT, WA, WY, CA, MD, TX, SC, AZ, IL, IN, NM, and FL. I sold about 100 cards and took orders at the DG Convention in Pittsburgh. I have received calls, e-mails, and letters from friends and family of former WWII prisoners of war. I have had a couple former WWII POWs themselves contact me. I have also been in communication with several wives and widows of POWs.

I began making and selling the Remembrance and Ben Steele photo cards as a fundraiser for the Descendants Group over a year ago. Here is an update on how my project is going. I have made nearly 600 cards. The profit to the DG currently is $476. I have filled orders ranging from 6 cards to 84 cards. I have mailed cards to 12 different states ~ MT, WA, WY, CA, MD, TX, SC, AZ, IL, IN, NM, and FL. I sold about 100 cards and took orders at the DG Convention in Pittsburgh. I have received calls, e-mails, and letters from friends and family of former WWII prisoners of war. I have had a couple former WWII POWs themselves contact me. I have also been in communication with several wives and widows of POWs.

I wish I could follow to all the places these cards are going. I know Alec Baldwin got a set of the Ben Steele cards when Jan Thompson met with him in November. Also I was told that one of the cards was used to send our appreciation to Former President Bush for his letter that was read by Linda McDavitt at the DG Convention banquet in Pittsburgh.

Death Notices
Terry Campbell sent word that his father Leon Campbell, Bataan death march survivor and Mukden camp died July 4, 2011.
Deborah Baird reports that her father Ernie Bales passed away in Indio, Calif. on October 29, 2011. He was a 4th Marine.

Remembrance and Ben Steele Photo Cards
To see the cards, go to the DG website. They are also on the Wellsburg WV Brooke County Public Library website (type the words photo cards into the search box). They are individually made and sell for $2.00 a card/envelope plus shipping with 1 free for every 5 ordered. The Ben Steele Set has 18 cards and the Remembrance Set has 30 cards. You can also contact me at fromtheheart2007@aol.com or at (509) 582-8601 and (509) 554-4551. My 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. Sharon Cooper
## Third Annual Descendants Group / ADBC Convention

**Albuquerque Hotel in Old Town**  
**May 2-6, 2012**

### General Registration

*Do not register POWs on this form, see separate form for POWs*

For more registrations, please photocopy this form prior to completing it. Include ALL fees in total. Make check payable to Descendant’s Group and mail with completed form(s) to: Judy Pruitt, 23 Elwell Road, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

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**Total Amount Enclosed** $ 

Make check payable to Descendants Group and mail with this form to: Judy Pruitt, 23 Elwell Road, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.
College of Ozarks Promotes “Patriotic Education”

“What if we could ensure that future generations never forgot the sacrifices necessary for us to remain a free people?” is a question the College of the Ozarks has attempted to answer through a creative program “Patriotic Education.” At the privately supported four-year Christian college in Point Lookout Missouri, all students work in lieu of paying tuition.

The “Patriotic Education Program” began in 2009 as one of five institutional goals, and the “promotion of love of one’s country” has been ingrained since the College’s inception. The students travel to World War II battlefields with the Veterans who fought on those hallowed grounds. Veterans share their experiences with students and ensure that the sacrifices of the Greatest Generation will never be forgotten. The student participants have returned with renewed respect for Veterans and dramatically increased love for their country. The College and some of its special friends pay all trip expenses for Veterans and students.

Patriotic Education not only looks back at past patriotic examples; it also looks forward to producing good citizens. At present, 135 students and 60 Veterans have participated in this program.

In April 2012, the College will sponsor a trip to the Philippines, its tenth trip. Students and Veterans will be visiting sites associated with the Bataan Death March and the fall of Corregidor. The group will attend 70th Anniversary commemorations of the 1941-42 campaign in the Philippines. The group will visit Bataan, Corregidor and the infamous Camp O’Donnell and Cabanatuan POW Camps. The group would also visit the American Military Cemetery in Manila for memorial services.

The group will consist of four Veterans of Bataan and Corregidor, as well as two Veterans of the Philippines liberation campaign of 1944-45. There will also be three descendants of Bataan Death March survivors, as well as twelve students and additional college faculty and staff. After reviewing a written application the faculty and staff committee selected twelve students to begin an orientation program of reading assignments, movies and videos, and guest speakers. Two students are assigned to each Veteran and the students read their profiles and begin personal contact. The students keep a journal on their trip, conduct interviews with the Veterans, and blog daily about their experiences throughout the trip View blogs at www.cofo.edu.

Observing these students stand hand-in-hand with Veterans in a military cemetery has been one of the most poignant images of these trips. Promising these Veterans to never forget the true cost of freedom has been the legacy of this program.

The campus includes Veterans Grove where a recently created flag plaza etched in stone is the following quote, taken in part from a prayer to the deceased of the USS Missouri, from one of our student participants:

“So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us. Our generation is a candle against the setting sun of the “Greatest Generation,” and our Veterans are indeed a part of each of us.”

The college is deeply honored to accompany the Veterans of the war in the Philippines, as well as the descendants, back to places where they so heroically served. College faculty and administration take the responsibility seriously and cherish the opportunity. Their experience has left them with two strong beliefs: the Veterans of World War II were America’s Greatest Generation and their legacy will be cherished, preserved, and protected by the students of College of the Ozarks. When the program enhances these ideals, it becomes successful beyond the wildest dreams of all involved. --- Contributed by Linda McDavitt who received story from Fred Mullinax, Executive Vice President of College of Ozarks

Forgotten Soldiers Viewing at ADBC Museum April 28

Producer Donald Plata will show the documentary film Forgotten Soldiers at the ADBC museum in Wellsburg, WV on Saturday, April 28, 2012 at 1:30 p.m.

Forgotten soldiers depicts the events that took place in the Philippine Islands early in World War II. When General MacArthur was ordered to depart from the Philippines and leave 80,000 soldiers behind to face the Japanese Army and the and the Bataan Death March. The U.S. Army’s Philippine Scouts formed the backbone of MacArthur’s forces. The Scouts served as special military units and consisted of American officers and Filipino soldiers.

This movie sold out the National World War II museum in New Orleans in January.

How to get Silent Auction items to the ADBC-DG Auction at the Hotel

Boxes need to be mailed to arrive at the hotel between April 25 and May 1, 2012

Attn: Hotel Guest Pat Wang
Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town
800 Rio Grande Blvd NW,
Albuquerque, NM 87104

Items may also be brought to the registration area when you arrive.

On Line auction: A list of items will be sent out on the 2 computer message boards on May 3, and you can submit bids online until 7:00 on May 4. If you win an online bid, we will bill you for the cost of the item and postage and mail it to you within 48 hours of receiving the check.

Convention auction: Bring your checkbook (or cash) and prepare to bid generously. Proceeds will go to ADBC-DG and help fund the grant program.

Last year there were great bargains to be had, so look on line on May 3 for wonderful gifts, research items, and fun items for yourself.

Forgotten Soldiers Viewing at ADBC Museum April 28

Photographs Contributed by - Dave O’Dell, Edna Binkowski
Typesetting & Proofreading - Sarah Snider, Jane Kraina, Mary Kay Wallace
Printing & Mailing - TypeCraft Press, Pittsburgh, PA
**MOVING SOON?**

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.

**PLEASE ATTACH OLD ADDRESS HERE FROM PREVIOUS QUAN**

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**PHILIPPINE MEDALS TO BE AWARDED**

*(cont. from page 11)*

**PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION BADGE**

For certain units of the US Armed Forces which participated in the war against the Japanese Empire during the periods Dec. 7 1941 and May 10, 1942, and October 17, 1944 to July 4, 1945.

**PHILIPPINE MILITARY CIVIC ACTION MEDAL**

The decoration is awarded to military and civilian personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and friendly foreign nations by the Chief of Staff, AFP, Commanders of Major Services, Area Commands, AFPWSSUs, Divisions/Brigades or their equivalent in the PAF and in the PN. The award is intended to recognize meritorious achievement in the field of civic action in duty, responsibility or in direct support to military operations.

Information on medals comes from the Office of Veterans Affairs, Philippine Veterans Affairs Office, Department of National Defense, 1600 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington DC 20036

**Your ADBC Museum Needs Your Support. Now.**

Today, the ADBC Museum in Wellsburg is busier than ever and we welcome visitors on a regular basis.

But the time is here to ask for your help. We must have your financial help to continue.

Your tax deductible contribution will support staff activities, the web site, the Quan and our on-going efforts to inform the public of the important legacy left by our POWs.

We receive no state or federal financial support and must rely on your generous contributions.

Send your gift of support today to: ADBC Museum, 945 Main St., Wellsburg, WV 26070.

*This is a good time to consider a memorial to your Prisoner of War. A Memorial Book will herald the name and service of your POW for history!*

*Wills and bequests are a good way to support the Museum. Your tax advisor can aid you with the arrangements.*