

# Post Oflag 64 Item

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## WINTER 1998

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### SEPT 1998 LAS VEGAS REUNION

ALAN AND LILO DUNBAR DID AN OUTSTANDING JOB IN HANDLING THIS REUNION. SEVERAL PEOPLE PITCHED IN AND HELPED, SUCH AS **JOE SERINGER** USING HIS ROOM FOR THE HOSPITALITY ROOM AND **BILL WARTHEN** FOR HANDLING THE SIGNS ON THE WALLS TO GUIDE PEOPLE TO THE HOSPITALITY ROOM.

**ABE AND EILEEN BAUM AND PAT AND MARTHA WATERS** ARE NOW OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE OFLAG 64 GROUP. ALAN INDUCTED THEM INTO THE GROUP. WE ARE HONORED TO HAVE THEM AS MEMBERS.

### CHARLESTON REUNION- OCT 1999

**SID THAL** IS UNABLE TO HOST THE 1999 REUNION BECAUSE OF FAMILY HEALTH PROBLEMS. WE WERE UP THE CREEK FOR NEXT YEAR WHEN **PAT WATERS** ANNOUNCED HE WOULD HOST THE REUNION. EVERYBODY WAS DELIGHTED WITH THIS NEWS. OUR THANKS TO **PAT AND MARTHA**.

### LAUGHLAND REUNION-2000

THE YEAR 2000 IS STILL SET FOR LAUGHLAND, NEVADA WITH **DUANE KENNEDY**.

### COUER D'ALENE REUNION 2001

**HERMAN LITTMAN** VOLUNTEERED TO HOST THE REUNION IN 2001 AT COEUR D'ALENE, A RESORT ABOUT 20 MILES EAST OF SPOKANE.

OFLAG 64 POSTAGE FUND  
 JOE SERINGER TREASURER  
 Statement Of Receipts And Disbursements  
 From January 16. thru September 5. 1998

Receipts for the period:

|                              |             |                    |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Transferred from Garris Fund | \$ 10322.52 |                    |
| Sale of books                | 70.00       |                    |
| Contributions to the Fund    | 3358.50     |                    |
| <b>Total Cash Available</b>  |             | <b>\$ 13751.02</b> |

Disbursements for the period :

|  |            |                   |
|--|------------|-------------------|
| Postage for newsletter ect.                | \$ 1459.56 |                   |
| POW placque (final)                        | 1060.66    |                   |
| Advance for Las Vegas Reunion              | 1000.00    |                   |
| Copying for newsletter                     | 742.35     |                   |
| Newport remaining costs                    | 217.43     |                   |
| Supplies                                   | 223.04     |                   |
| Telephone                                  | 160.40     |                   |
| Computer charge                            | 96.00      |                   |
| <b>Total Disbursements</b>                 |            | <b>4959.44</b>    |
| Balance Checking Account September 5, 1998 |            | <b>\$ 8791.58</b> |

Additional Publications:

*In The Presence of Mine Enemies* \$10.00

PUBLICATIONS

Available Publications

|                            |         |
|----------------------------|---------|
| <i>The Waters Story</i>    | \$19.50 |
| <i>My Tour of Russia</i>   | \$ 5.00 |
| <i>The Men of Oflag 64</i> | \$20.00 |
| <i>The Oflag Directory</i> | \$ 3.00 |
| <i>Oflag 64 Audio Tape</i> | \$ 5.00 |

Send requests and checks payable to Rose Daniel for the above book to:

Mrs. Rose Daniel  
 5100 Sharon Road, Apt. 603  
 Charlotte, NC 28210-4720

*ESCAPE TO RUSSIA* \$35  
 by H. Randolph "Boomer" Holder.  
 is the story of Boomer and George Durgin's capture, life in Oflag 64, and their *Escape to Russia*. With 48 photos and cartoons from *The Item*, its 282 pages are "The most definitive description of life in a Nazi prison camp ever written," critics say. It was written from his diary the first year he was home, but not published until this decade. H. Randolph Holder lives at 383 Westview Drive, Athens, GA 30606-4635. Telephone (706)549-3337

Send requests for the above books, booklets, pamphlets, etc. to:

Bob Thompson  
 7448 E. 68<sup>th</sup> Place  
 Tulsa, OK 74133

Make checks for the above books to: Oflag 64 Postage Fund

THESE GENEROUS PEOPLE ALL CONTRIBUTED MONEY TO THE POSTAGE FUND SINCE THE ITEM THAT WAS ISSUED IN DECEMBER 1997. THESE NAMES WILL ALL BE CLEARED FROM THE RECORD AND THE LIST WILL START ALL OVER AGAIN. THE NEXT ITEM WILL INCLUDE ONLY THOSE NAMES THAT CONTRIBUTED FROM THE WINTER 1998 ITEM UNTIL THE SPRING 1999 ITEM.. THANKS TO EACH OF YOU FOR ENABLING THE ITEM TO BE PUBLISHED

|                      |                   |                        |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| John Miller          | John Stewart      | Tom Morton             |
| Robert Cheatham      | Kermit Hansen     | Dolores Amerell        |
| Vincent White        | Van Munson        | Joan Lawler            |
| Carl Christensen     | Vinton Thompson   | John Davis             |
| Newton Lantron       | Hervey Robinson   | Jean (Bob) Christensen |
| John Sutherland      | Florence Siercks  | JIM Sherman (again)    |
| O.L. Brad Bradford   | Edward Hirt       | Natalie (Jim) Godfrey  |
| George Muehlbauer    | Ormond Hessier    | Nathaniel Hoskot       |
| Nathaniel Hoskot     | Irving Yarock     | Lorraine Giendenning   |
| Caroll Higginbotham  | Lee Clingan       | Mrs. Willard Smith     |
| John Creech          | Robert Thompson   | Louis Salerno          |
| Jane Graffagnino     | Gaither Perry     | Jerry Alexis (again)   |
| Matthew Smith        | Don Lussenden     | Bob Corbin             |
| Charles Moore        | Warren Walters    | Jack Van Vliet         |
| Garland Vaughn       | Michael Piecuh    | Ken Hyatt              |
| Raymond Hughes       | Don Wernette      | Reid Ellsworth         |
| Charles Eberle       | Walter Parks      | Cari Clawson           |
| Hugh Hogan           | Gladys Aschim     | Roger Euler            |
| Marvin Chevaier      | Harry Albertson   | Gottfried Dietz        |
| Joseph Frelinghuysen | Lillian Wright    | John Chapman           |
| Jim Sherman          | Pat Waters        | Errol Johnson          |
| Jerome Alexis        | John Cramer       | Richard Manton         |
| Leonard Feldman      | Stan Segal        | Lewis Lowe             |
| Gordon Smith         | James Iverson     | James Bancker          |
| Fred Livingston      | Agnes McDonoug    | Mary Cupit             |
| Alfred Fratzke       | Charles Wilkinsor | Donald Graul           |
| Sam Hodges           | Albert Cecil      | William Cory           |
| Padraig O'Dea        | virginia Durgin   | George Britto          |
| Henry Desmond        | P.D. Lampru       | Wilbur Sharpe          |
|                      |                   | Bob Oshlo              |

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>Editor</b><br>Bob Thompson<br>7448E 68 <sup>th</sup> Place<br>Tulsa, Ok. 74133 | <b>Guest Editor</b><br>Irving Yarock<br>51 Barclay St.<br>Worcester. Ma 01604        | <b>Guest Editor</b><br>Pat Di Francesco Bender<br>7039 McCallum St<br>Philadelphia. Pa. 19191 |
| <b>Treasurer</b><br>Joe Seringer<br>1930 Edwards<br>Wooster, OH 44091             | <b>Mailing List</b><br>Carl Christensen<br>9 Pine Ridge<br>Whispering Pines NC 28327 | <b>1999 Reunion Chairman</b><br>Pat Waters<br>412 Rice Hope Drive<br>Mt. Pleasant SC 29464    |

## Las Vegas--Reunion—Sept, 1998

**Alan and Lilo Dunbar** hosted the reunion and did a super job. Everybody had great things to say about how they handled the affair. **Bill Warthen** pitched in to help as did **Joe Seringer**. Joe let his personal room serve as the Hospitality Room( he came in on the short end of sleeping that night). Bill helped arrange for some liquid refreshments and also put up some signs to direct traffic to Joe's room.

Tuesday Sept 15.... Several of our group were driven to the Clark County Courthouse to be present to the reading of a Proclamation declaring Sept 15, 1998 as a **DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR OFLAG 64**. When the Oflag 64 group was introduced to the audience they were given a standing ovation. **Albert Cecil** was given a birthday party with a **HUGE** cake. We ate on it for 2 days!

Wednesday Sept. 16...Lunch was our first meal together in the Hotel. After lunch a trip to the Stratosphere Tower was enjoyed by the group.

Thursday Sept 17... A business meeting was held during breakfast at the hotel. **Alan Dunbar** conducted the meeting with remarks by **Bob Thompson** and **Joe Seringer**. Alan introduced Bob Thompson who presented **Abe Baum** with a collection of letters thanking him for what he and his men did on that day in Mar 27 and 28, 1945 at Hammelburg, Germany. **Bill Warthen** read a letter from **Harold Cohen** to **Abe Baum** describing their friendship during and since WW II. Abe Baum then recounted his life in the military and more particularly the activities of "**TASK FORCE BAUM**" in March 1945.

It was announced during the meeting that **Sid Thal** would be unable to host the reunion in 1999 **Pat Waters** stood up and announced that he and Martha would host the reunion in 1999 at Charleston, SC.

**Herm Littman** also announced that he would host the reunion in 2001 at Coeur d'Alene, a resort about 30 miles east of Spokane.

**Duanne Kennedy** is making arrangements for the 2000 reunion in Loffland, NV. The evening was spent at our dinner/ dance arranged by Alan.

Friday Sept. 18, 1998... A memorial service was held at the hotel and conducted by a Chaplain from Ellis Air Force Base. At the conclusion of the memorial services everybody was saying "goodbye and 'we'll see you in Charleston".

There were two of our men that made remarks about the reunion that should be repeated here:

Roy Chappelle: It has been a most eventful summer with a terrific OFLAG 64 Reunion at Las Vegas. Although our numbers are shrinking (naturally) the poignancy and sweetness each time( particularly enhanced by the very loyal widows and the inclusion of POW offspring) is totally rewarding.

Bill Warthen: My regret is that I did not get to talk to many whom I have known in the past. There is never enough time, and we go through the "pleasantries", then there is an interruption and you pass on to others, and go through the same basic conversation.

These remarks seem to sum up the thoughts of most of us and surely they represent what most of feel about it.

At the Reunion 1998



Abe Baum

Pat Waters

Abe Baum and Pat Waters engaged in a conversation in a hallway at the Rio in Las Vegas. These two men, even though they did not know each other, had their lives touched by an incident that happened long ago and far away. They were both received very warmly by the Oflag 64 men and I think they responded in a like fashion.



Roy (the hat) and Helen Chapelle and John Slack outside the Clark County Courthouse. John is holding the Proclamation presented to Oflag 64 in the meeting.

On September 15, 1998 a group of our people were taken to a meeting of the Las Vegas County Commissioners. The following Proclamation was read aloud to the people present. After the Proclamation was read our group was introduced, as a group, and received a standing ovation from the citizens present at the meeting

# Proclamation



WHEREAS, it is the policy and pleasure of the Board of County Commissioners to honor and recognize those citizens who have served our Country with honor and distinction; and

WHEREAS, Oflag 64 is the name for "Offizerlager" Officers Camp which was located in a remote part of Poland during 1943 - 1945 during World War II. In 1943 approximately 150 officers were held in a 10 acre compound, when the camp was evacuated in January 1945, the population grew to approximately 1400 officers; and

WHEREAS, On September 15, 1998 former prisoners of War from Oflag 64 will reunite in Las Vegas for their annual event to continue the friendships and special bonds made during their service in the war. Having served as prisoners of war, this special group of servicemen share a deep appreciation for life's simple pleasures denied them in captivity: a decent meal, a warm room, a bed with more than 3 slats, and even an occasional martini; and

WHEREAS, the "Kreigies" of Oflag 64 (Kriegsgefangener) who have gone on to lead productive and important lives after the war, including: major newspaper editors, Broadway show producers, major radio and news show staff, White House, Washington D.C. staff, high ranking officials within the Veterans Administration, and achieving high military ranks; and

NOW, THEREFORE, WE the Board of Commissioners of Clark County, Nevada, do hereby recognize these brave soldiers for their service and sacrifice for our nation during a time of great need, and proclaim September 15, 1998 as a Day of Remembrance for

### OFLAG 64

and urge all citizens to join us in this expression of gratitude remembering the legacy they leave all of us.

*Lorraine T. Hunt*  
LORRAINE T. HUNT, Vice-Chair

*Erin Kenny*  
ERIN KENNY, Commissioner

*Mary J. Kincaid*  
MARY J. KINCAID, Commissioner

*Lance M. Malone*  
LANCE M. MALONE, Commissioner

*Myrna Williams*  
MYRNA WILLIAMS, Commissioner

*Bruce L. Woodbury*  
BRUCE L. WOODBURY, Commissioner



*Yvonne Atkinson Gates*  
YVONNE ATKINSON GATES, Chair

ATTEST:

*Loretta Bowman*  
LORETTA BOWMAN, County Clerk

THE FOLLOWING MADE UP THE GREAT CROWD WE HAD AT  
THE LAS VEGAS REUNION IN SEPT 1998 . A TOTAL OF 121 .

Nancy Ager  
 Tony/Rose Cipriana  
 Roy & Helen Chappell(Carol,Janis,Alan)  
 Jim Sherman,Jeff Sherman,Mila Emerson  
 Eugene/Georgia Gould  
 Barbara Jones  
 Frank Farrell  
 Martin Keiser  
 Alan and Lilo Dunbar  
 Dr. Ed & Elizabeth Batte  
 James Bancker  
 Joe & Mary Barrett  
 Joe Serringer  
 Gene & Rosalie Liggett  
 Jimmie Kanaya  
 H. Randolph & Clementi Holder  
 Don & Lucy Lussenden  
 Irv Yarock  
 Robert & Gladys Thompson  
 O.L.Bradford  
 Tom & Eleanor Miller  
 Walt & Gloria Heisler  
 Rod & Evelyn Peeples  
 Fred & Rose Livingston  
 Ed & Peg Graff  
 Ray Klinkenborg  
 Herm & Lucille Littman  
 Carole Lester (Daughter of Herm Littman)  
 Major Abe & Eileen Baum  
 Pat & Martha Waters  
 Carroll Higginbotham  
 Royal & Harriet Lee  
 Clarence Meltesen  
 Jack Rathbone  
 Juliet Rathbone Gionfrido (Jack's daughter)  
 Duanne Kennedy  
 Lewis & Janet Lowe  
 Charlie Lowe  
 Lester/Edith Edsall  
 Dudley Robbins  
 Vin Thomson  
 Donna Warringer  
 Frank Diggs

Marvin & Faye Chevalier  
 Jerry & Marjorie Alexis  
 Paul/Lucy Lampru  
 Ralph Ball  
 Charles Eberle  
 Dr. Vince Di Francesco  
 Pat (DiFrancesco) Bender  
 Maria & Wayne Christman(daughter & son-in-law of Dr. Vince)  
 Marcia Kanners ( widow of Vic Kanners)  
 Bill & Dot Warthen  
 Ellen Warthen (daughter of Bill & Dot)  
 Don Gaul  
 Virginia Durgin (widow of George)  
 Evelyn Korber ( widow of Bill)  
 Mary Mason (daughter of Evelyn Korber)  
 Bill & Duna Harrell  
 Debbie & Jim Livingston  
 (daughter & son-in-law of Bill & Duna Harrell)  
 Charles Moore  
 Carl & Betty Clawson  
 Tom & Sue Lawson  
 Albert & Dorothy Cecil  
 Carl Bedient  
  
 John\Shirley Vollentine  
 Delmer Keck & Wife  
 Al/Norma Baldrige  
 Bob/Carolyn Bonomi  
 Jim Bingham  
 George Rosenthal  
 Mavis Rush  
 Rocco/Lois Pravidica  
 Reid Ellsworth  
 Charles Brocker  
 John Slack  
 Lee Clingan  
 Kathy Ezell

# REMEMBER ?

AGE 8

## OFLAG 64 STAFF

Col. P. R. GOODE, Senior American Officer  
 Col. G. U. MILLETT, Jr. Executive Officer  
 Col. F. W. DRURY

Lt. Col. J. K. Waters Lt. Col. L. Gershenow  
 Lt. Col. J. D. Alger Major K. R. Hansen  
 Lt. Col. W. J. Martz Capt. F. M. Burgeson  
 Chaplain C. F. Glennon

## BARRACKS COMMANDERS

Lt. Col. G. J. Barron Lt. Col. Ch. Jones Jr.  
 Lt. Col. E. P. Cummings Lt. Col. C. W. Kouns  
 Lt. Col. M. H. Gooler Lt. Col. R. S. Palmer  
 Lt. Col. E. G. Hardaway Lt. Col. J. F. Skells  
 Lt. Col. R. J. Herte Captain M. C. Smith  
 Lt. Col. W. G. Hopkins Lt. Col. H. W. Sweeting  
 Lt. Col. D. R. Yardley



## CHRISTMAS 1944

Druck: Willi Krieks, Aliburgund

## PROGRAM FOR THE DAY

### CHRISTMAS DAY 1944

#### CATHOLIC MASS

8:00 — 9:00

#### GENERAL SERVICE

10:30

#### CHRISTMAS DINNER

1:00 — 2:00 — 3:00

#### CHRISTMAS SHOW

FEATURING RUSS FORD AND  
 THE GLEE CLUB AND  
 BOB RANKIN AND THE  
 ORCHESTRA

1:30 — 2:30 — 3:30 — 7:00 — 8:00 — 9:00

## MENU

SCOTCH BROTH

SNOW FLAKE POTATOES

TURKEY HASH A LA SCHUBIN

LIVER PATE GRAVY

AMERICAN CAFE NOIR

This program was reproduced from an original copy sent by Agnes McDonough.  
 It was among some of "Red's" personal belongings. Thanks Agnes.



**JOAN LAWLER** of Geneva, NY writes that she and **Marty** are doing well and appreciate receiving the Item even though they've only been to one reunion. They are kept pretty busy visiting six children, twelve grandchildren and as of this date two great grandchildren. Wonder how that stacks up with **Roy and Helen Chappelle?** Thanks for the donation to the Postage Fund.

**JOHN SANFORD** of La Canada, CA sends his kudos to Bob Thompson for agreeing to continue the Item, and explains his inability to attend the reunions. It seems that they are in the "Open & Limited Lithographs " business, where they show Joan' watercolor paintings. They show in NY and GA and the one in Atlanta is usually in conflict with our Oflag 64 reunion. Thanks for the donation to the Postage Fund.

**JOHN DAVIS** of Annandale, VA expresses his appreciation that the Item is being continued and sent a generous contribution to the Postage Fund. With the next reunion on the East Coast, how about it?

**JAY DRAKE**, Stanwood, MI asked for a compilation of the letters sent as a tribute to **Major Baum** ( which I assume was sent ) and also made a contribution to the Postage Fund. Jay has been laid up with a spine problem, but hoped to be in good shape by now. Should certainly be in shape in time for the next reunion.  
Ed Note. Jay did get his copy of the Tribute to Abe.

**DR. LOU SALERNO**, of Kinnelon, NJ. Doc must have flunked the writing test when he was in Medical School, because his writing is readable. He sent a contribution to the Postage Fund, as well as congratulations to Bob for the job he is doing.

**DON WAFUL**, Syracuse ,NY. He writes to thank all of us for the cards and letters of condolence on the loss of **Cassie**. His loss is our loss. **Cassie** was truly one of us. Her obituary is in this Item.

**ROYAL LEE**, 223 Heather Lane, Mankota, MN 56001. Note the change of address. They moved after 42 years. They bought a townhouse and Royal is President of the Corporation, so he needs a lesson in diplomacy. Hopes to make it to Charleston next year. Thanks for the Postage Fund donation.

**MARCIA KANNERS** of Birmingham, MI writes to apologize for misspelling the word "biovuacked" in Vic's Hammelburg Story. How would you spell it?

**TOM & SUE LAWSON** of Grand Junction CO send congratulations to **BOB THOMPSON** on his fine work in turning out the ITEM.

**MARJORIE FLEEGLE** of Battle Creek, MN, writes to inform us that her husband **BOB** died in 1993. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and was still with us through

Hammelburg, after which he escaped. He wrote a detailed story of his combat for the benefit of his 5 kids and many grandchildren. Before his demise he sent his story to **Clarence Meltesen** and his wife sent the Hammelburg portion for inclusion in the **BAUM Tribute**. On our roster, he is carried in Pensacola, Florida.

**JIMMIE KANAYA**, of Gig Harbor, WA. Is still looking for the bag of sugar that he stole from the Hammelburg Mess.Hall. It disappeared and he'd like to know who got it!

**DR. JERRY ALEXIS**, of Pittsburgh, PA sent a typewritten letter, so we can't tell whether he is an MD or PHD. He located a **Lt. John Leiker** who was captured with **Col. Goode** in Normandy. Anyone know him? His address is 333 Grace Ave, Cannonsburg, PA. 15317, phone 1-724-745-3266. Thanks, Jerry for your contribution to the Postage Fund.

**NATHALIE GODFREY**, 311 Kingston Road, Winston Salem, NC writes to tell us that her husband **Dr. James Godfrey** died last July 10, 1998. She also sent along a contribution to the Postage Fund.

**LYNN VAN VLIET**, Leesburg, Florida, writes that Jack's physical condition has finally been diagnosed and he is responding reasonably well to treatment. Sorry he missed Las Vegas, but maybe Charleston. Thanks for the contribution to the Postage Fund.

**DR. HERB GARRIS**, Of Pinehurst, NC sends several letters. The most exciting news being that **ETHELENE** went to an affair at Ft. Bragg for her first time out. He thanks his many friends for their notes and concern over **Ethelene**, a factor in keeping her morale up and speeding her recovery. They bemoan the loss of their 12 year old German Blond Shepherd dog for which they had a formal funeral (neighbors only) and burial in the family pet cemetery in their back yard.

**AGNES McDONOUGH**, of Hempstead, NY expresses her deepest appreciation for the coverage on "**RED McDONOUGH**". Thanks for the contribution to the Postage Fund.

**LORRAINE GLENDENNING** of Bellerose, NY says that she called **Agnes McDonough** and had a long talk with her that was much appreciated. Thanks for the contribution to the Postage Fund.

**ERROL JOHNSON** of New Haven, KY appreciates receiving the Item and was in the 88<sup>th</sup> Division reunion in Baltimore. Maybe next year in Charleston. Thanks for the contribution to the Postage Fund.

**TOM MILLER** of Swathmore, PA., enjoyed Las Vegas (as all of us did- thanks to our hosts Alan and Lilo Dunbar) and is looking forward to Charleston.

**POTPOURRI--** (IRV) talked to **Herb Johnson** of Camp Hill, PA since the reunion and he sounded great on the phone. Herb has had problems, one behind him and one current one, an inoperable eye condition that limits his reading. Many of you remember him as the guy who would trade anything in his Red Cross Parcel for Klim. Maybe that's his problem, too much milk. Also, for those who missed Las Vegas, **George Juskalian** couldn't make it for health reasons, though he's doing OK. Received some photos from **Carrol Higginbotham**, and several postage Fund donations with no notes., checks only.

Thanks for the contributions from **Nat Hoskot, Earl Smoak, Dolores Amerill (Otto's wife), Bob Corbin** sent a letter to **Abe Baum, Gladys Smith, (Willard's wife), Dick Manton, Tom Morton, Roger Euler** and **Jean Christensen (Bob's wife)**. If I missed anyone blame **Irv Yarock**. Again, many thanks. For those of you who read our financial statement, I'm sure you were amazed at the cost of publishing the Item. All costs are for reproducing and mailing. The rest of the work is done by volunteers.

The rest of the comments were to letters received too late for Irv to handle. So, I handled them. ( Bob T)

**Jack Rathbone** has been browsing through **Ed Beattie's** book "Diary of a Krieger" and ran across **Kermit Hansons** name. Kermit was caught on the Moselle River near Remiermont, France in Sept. as I was (BobT.) He was Major in the 36<sup>th</sup> Div. Infantry. and went through Limburg , then on to Oflag 64 in Oct. 44.

**Joe Seringer** has been through 2 hurricanes in Marathon Florida this year. His condo suffered damage, but his boat weathered the storm OK.

**Kenneth Hyatt**, Shakopee, MN writes that he lost his best friend and wife of 56 years last Oct 17. We are all saddend by Ken's loss. Ken ordered a Baum Tribute book and sent along a contribution to ,the postage fund. Thanks for both Ken. God Bless.

**George Juskalian** Centreville, VA is delighted to hear that **Pat Waters** is bringing the reunion to Charleston. next year. He says he will to make it Thanks for Postage Fund contribution.

Heard from **Abe Baum**, San Diego, CA. He appreciated the reception he received in Las Vegas and is looking forward to next year in Charleston. We are going to try real hard to get some more "Task Force Baum" men to come next year.

LEST WE FORGET

Pfc Clarence W. Boyd, one of the soldiers in the "Task Force Baum" unit was killed in action on March 27, 1945, during the raid on the Hammelburg Camp. His daughter, Joan Boyd Handtke of Schererville, Indiana wrote the following letter to Time Magazine. The letter appeared in the August 17, 1998 issue and is as follows:

SEEING PRIVATE RYAN

Nice try, Spielberg! You think perhaps we can bring back the deep pride we once felt in our own flag with a mere movie? Pride is a reflection of doing the right thing and doing it well. When was the last time the decision makers of the U.S. deserved that feeling? Our government has always "asked" the sons and daughters of this country to uphold the values we believe in. What the government hasn't done is keep its end of the bargain, by placing a value on the lives of its servicemen and women. Weeks before the end of World War II in Europe, our government "asked" its soldiers to take part in a dubious mission to rescue an American prisoner in Germany, the relative of an influential general. The prisoner made it home. My father, Private Clarence Boyd did not.

Joan Boyd Handtke  
Schererville, Ind.

She can be reached at: Joan Handtke  
1316 Inverness  
Schererville, IN 46375  
Pho. 219-322-3284

We contacted Joan and via E-mail we received the following letters from her.

Date: 98-10-07 20:10:53 EDT

From: JHandtke

Just wanted to tell you I read thru the magazine you sent. What a great job they did putting it together. Yes I did enjoy it because it gave me an opportunity to visualize where my Dad was and what he saw on the last day of his life. My Mom and I both have always wondered and now can at least have some idea. Her and I both have always hoped he was n't one of the men who was crushed by our own tanks. We would like to know he was n't, and then again would not like to know if he was.

Date: 98-10-06 16:56:18 EDT

From: JHandtke

There is another book about the battle called "48 Hours to Hammelburg" by Charles White that is out of print. His estimate of casualties of the task force is much higher than the 25 in the magazine. His rationale is they started out with 307 (this differs from the 294 in Raid). If you subtract the handful of Baum's men and POW's that escaped about 20, subtract the 25 killed (9 in action and 16 never accounted for) and subtract the 100 extra prisoners that Gen Goekel recalled that he had after the attack. The total number left unaccounted for is 149 or 162 (depending on whose number you start with). That would mean the total probably killed is between 174-187. According to White's book the casualty reports did not list the number of POW's killed. I wonder how they explained away these soldiers? At least with my father we knew that he was killed, I wonder how many other families never knew?

Date: 98-10-30 08:07:03 EST

From: JHandtke

Of course you may use my letters. I would consider it an honor to be included. I would like to clarify my letter to Time magazine in that they did cut out a portion of my comments in reference to the Vietnam fiasco, agent orange, and the Desert Storm health problems in the recent news. I was making a point on the attitude of the government towards its servicemen-women and how that has eventually affected the level of patriotism of the country. I did not intend to come across in the "victim" mode so often portrayed today. I thought that the cut of that portion of my letter made it appear so. I guess I should be glad they printed it all! My mother noticed that I said my dad was a PVT when he was a PFC so I got twenty lashes for that! She wasn't happy that I had not told more of the story. I was lucky to get it in the magazine at all, but I think she expected more than was possible.

I want to thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending me the collection of letters of the prisoners that were compiled for Abe Baum. I have read them all and the thought I had was..... my father at least helped to give these men the exhilaration of freedom if only for a very short time and then perhaps the hope that the Americans were most likely going to send in a larger force to free them. I have never thought of that before as I was focused on the free one prisoner mindset. You have all given me a larger perspective that I did not have before.

This is the account of a trip to Schubin in October of this year by Bret Job, one of our Guest Editors. Bret is the son in-law of Ray Holmquist.

Subj: hello  
Date: 98-10-21 12:43:41 EDT  
From: bjob@heartlandamerica.com (Bret Job)  
Reply-to: bjob@heartlandamerica.com (Bret Job)  
To: THO7448@aol.com (THO7448)

We have safely arrived home from our trip. We went to Oflag 64 and it is a bit run down, much more so than it was 14 years ago when I was there last. The White House is close and the city has deemed it a historical site and is looking for a buyer to fix it up. If they do not, it will be demolished. There is only one barracks building inside the camp still standing and it will be torn down sometime in the near future. There are also barracks which are just outside the main gate. The barracks were used for the Germans I think. They will also be torn down soon. The chapel is being worked on but they have not had such progress.

We also went to the farm you all marched to the first day, Vegheim. This is where Ray stayed and Boo went on. The barns they were in were still there and is currently being used for a construction company. The farm house is completely run down on the inside. It has also been deemed an historical site which means they can not change the outside but the inside can be altered. Strange. The entire farm is almost to the point of ruins. The barn where Ray and Boo were has been taken care better than the house. The ground are also a mess. It is a shame that the house is in such terrible shape. They were working on a room inside the house. The inside of the house had change so it did not look like Ray had remember it. He stayed there for about 3 weeks before going to Odessa. We had a Polish interpreter with us who was a opera singer and musician. She told us that the Opera House in Bydgosz will be finished soon. It had been started about 30 YEARS ago. So things take a long time to develop and complete.

It was very interesting because we went into Poland with two German rental cars. In Szubin, we were stared at and even given a very ugly stares by the people. Especially by an elderly Polish woman. She stood on the corner and first stared at our license plates and then her face got real ugly. I decide then if I was going to get anywhere with the Polish people, we needed to get away from our cars.

We also went to Nice, France. We found the exact spot Boo was captured in the Isola, France area. It was way up in the mountains and in a very beautiful area. The German pillboxes were still there and the old foot trail that Boo was on was still there. The only people we saw were a couple of shepards who use the bunkers and pillboxes for the sheep and one of the shepards even uses the old German bunker quarters to live in when it rains.

We were able to meet with a man who run a little museum in Szubin and was around in 1944-45. He built some of the barracks and also assisted some of the non-American pre 1943 officer escape with false papers and such. He had quite a bit of documentation. He also help an Dane and the Dane wrote a book about it. I do not have the name of the book but I can get it if you want. Not sure if it is in English but I ordered it because I can read Danish as I went to school in Denmark for several years. I'm not sure if the name of the book translates exactly in English. He also had another man come over who was a little boy who lived on the Vegheim farm as a little boy, about 10 years old. The farm house was next to one row of the barns. He had I believe seven older sisters and he remembers the POW's who had stayed back when the remaining POW's marched out the second day. It was interesting.

Anyway, we had a wonderful time. I have to go. Talk to you soon.

**GEORGE P. WATERS**

412 RICE HOPE DRIVE  
MT. PLEASANT, SC 29464  
TELEPHONE 843-881-6021

November 6, 1998

Mr. Bob Thompson  
7448 E. 68th Place  
Tulsa, OK 74133

Dear Bob.

Well when we returned from perhaps the most fulfilling and enjoyable experience of our lives. Martha and I hit the road running to get the 1999 reunion underway. We had so much fun and learned so much that I do not think we can compete with Las Vegas. but we will offer what we have and hope that all will enjoy it. Alan's effort was the best and if we can get close, we will feel good. As Martha says, "he will be a very difficult act to follow."

As it stands now, after taking all the information sent by many as to dates of conflict, we have settled on October 20 (Wed) thru October 24 (Sun). This gives the flyers the Sat. stay over and we have a Holiday Inn which is most willing to give a good room rate (\$89.00) for the duration.

We will be staying in Mount Pleasant, which sits just across the Cooper River from Charleston. This way we are not among the tourists and tee shirt crowd, but there will be easy transportation to the specific areas of interest shopping available for those in their free time.

I am enclosing a work up of thoughts we have had, but it is no where in a final form. I intend to get more options and then poll the members as to the likes etc.

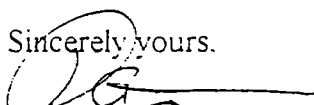
That brings me to a question, how do you do your mailing and could we get your list? If it is on computer disc, that would be great. I can get it copied to a disc mine could read. If you would get that to me I'd appreciate it!

Back to our first visit. You do not know how wonderful it was to meet all of you. I came home proud and aware of what heroes you each were. My Dad's talks of your life really came to bear on me, and I must say that this visit with you all really has made me up my standards of living, giving and awareness rise up. The comradeship you have among yourselves is to be truly respected by each person who is so fortunate to meet you. I can never thank you for the opportunity and blessing you bestowed on me and my wife, Martha.

As my Dad would say, "Gentleman, I salute you"

Thank you again for the opportunity you gave me.

Sincerely yours,

  
George P. Waters

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## OFLAG 64 FESTIVITY PLAN

**DAY 1:** 10:00 am ----Arrival/Registration  
WED 4:00 pm-- Hospitality room opens  
Dinner on your own/ or possibly BBQ in back./ Oyster Roast

**DAY 2:** 8:30--- Continental Breakfast  
THUR

10:00---Posting of the colors  
Followed by:  
Business meeting  
presentation of your visit to Charleston.

Noon: Activities begin--  
Optional tours of town, gardens, Patriots Point etc.

6:00pm Dinner cruise  
10:00 Return to Hotel

**DAY 3:** Breakfast on your own---  
FRI

10:00am (possibly a speaker- Gen Signius, Sen McCain, etc.

12:00 noon---Busses to Citadel depart for  
Lunch with Corps (I hope)  
View Campus/exhibits/museum

3:00 Parade

5:00pm Return to hotel  
5:30 pm Bar opens on back deck/ hospitality room etc  
6:00 Bus to Serenade/dinner ??? ....

**DAY 4:** Breakfast on your own.

SAT

Free day on the town etc.

(Optional) Sumter Tour  
Patriots Point  
Boone Hall  
Gardens etc....

5:00 Cash Bar opens( paid for by us)  
6:00 Farewell Dinner and auction/  
music of a light sort...

**DAY 5:** 9:am Full breakfast followed by FAREWELL SERVICE  
SUN AND retirement of the colors

**NOTHING IS IN STONE...**

OFLAG POD

The following is a list sent in by Clarence Metlesen as corrections to the roster known as "THE MEN OF OFLAG 64". or the "RED BOOK". If you have one of these books you should make note of these changes.

**ERRATA SHEET #1 to THE MEN OF OFLAG 64**

The following entries are corrections of the original text. They may be clipped and trimmed and then fastened over the original entry. Scotch tape or Yes glue is suggested.

Cecil, page 19:

Cecil, Albert N. Jr., 1st Lt, 01304609 Oflag 64  
17 June 44, France, 82d Abn Div, 507 PIR  
Parchim  
2457 Lakeview Dircle, Arlington, TX, 76013

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Dunbar/Duncan, page 33:

Dunbar, Alan, Capt, 01293028 Oflag 64  
19 Dec 44, Germany. 422 Inf, 106 Inf Div  
Parchim  
4675 Green Canyon Road, Las Vegas, NV 89103-4386

Duncan, Harry V. Jr., 1st Lt, 01177377 Oflag 64  
24 Dec 44, France, 156 FAB, 44 Inf Div  
Parchim

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Thal, page 124:

Thal, Sidney, 2d Lt, 01288815 Oflag 64  
10 Mar 43, North Africa, 47 Inf, 9 Inf Div  
Odessa  
20 Island Avenue, Miami Beach, FL 33139

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Yarock, page 137

Yarock, Irving J., Capt, 0374401 Oflag 64  
23 Dec 42, North Africa, 18 Inf, 1st Inf Div  
Parchim, Moosburg  
51 Barclay Street, Worcester, MA 01604

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THE NATIONAL  
D-DAY MUSEUM  
NEW ORLEANS

October 23, 1998

I am writing with an important appeal to veterans and families of veterans who served in the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II.

In 19 months, The National D-Day Museum will open in New Orleans, Louisiana. The new museum honors contributions of the men and women of the United States Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines to all the D-Day invasions of World War II—in North Africa, Italy, Normandy, and throughout the Pacific Theater (starting with Guadalcanal and extending through Okinawa). The Museum is located in New Orleans because it was here that Andrew Jackson Higgins designed and built the LCVPs and other landing craft that carried men ashore on all these D-Days.

The National D-Day Museum will be housed in a building on Magazine Street, located near the Convention Center and in the middle of a group of museums (the Contemporary Arts Center, The Ogden Museum of Southern Art, the Confederate Museum, and the Louisiana Children's Museum).

The Museum is actively collecting artifacts and documents from the soldiers, sailors and airmen of World War II for use in the new Museum.

Chermayeff & Geismar Inc./MetaForm Inc. of New York, the designers of the Museum, have won many awards for their museum creations—the best known is the Ellis Island Immigration Museum. If you have visited Ellis Island, you know how rich the Museum is in artifacts brought from overseas to the United States—baby shoes, a family Bible, photographs, a wedding dress, tools, pieces of furniture. What makes them compelling is the individual story attached to each artifact: whose shoes and how they got to America, a family Bible, recording births and deaths in a particular family, etc.

The designers want to do something similar in The National D-Day Museum and are now seeking artifacts and documents that carry a story. For example, a helmet in perfect shape, even if made in 1944, is less valuable to the designers than a helmet with a hole in it and a story to go with it. Another example: one of our prized possessions is Wally Parr's red beret. Wally was with Major John Howard at Pegasus Bridge on D-Day in Normandy, then on to other action, ending up in Palestine in 1945.

Obviously this approach can be used with almost any artifact---a ring, boots and uniforms and clothing of every sort, a radio, a Bible, diaries, letters, photographs, rations, containers; jerricans, rifles, knives and every other kind of weapon, books (especially comic books or the paperbacks distributed among the troops), maps, field notes, French, German, Italian, and Japanese souvenirs, ammo boxes, and much more.

If you would like to donate an item or two to The National D-Day Museum we are anxious to hear from you. Please do not send us any artifacts, but instead send us a letter describing any items you wish to donate. We will then follow-up with a letter or phone call if we can use your items. Please be advised also that as a matter of policy The National D-Day Museum does not accept

loans, either temporary or permanent and that all donations to the Museum must come in the form of an unconditional gift. Please send your letter to:

Curator of Collections  
The National D-Day Museum  
923 Magazine Street  
New Orleans, LA 70130

If at all possible please send along a snapshot of the item. If there is a story attached to the item, tell us about it. Again, please do not send any artifacts at this time.

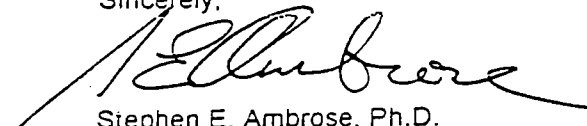
Please do not limit your contributions to artifacts alone. An important part of The National D-Day Museum will be the ongoing archives, maintained by the Eisenhower Center. We hope you will consider donating to the archives your oral histories. There they will be available to scholars one hundred years from now, and beyond.

The opening date for The National D-Day Museum is set for June 6, 2000. It is going to be a wonderful museum and we very much hope that you will be a part of it.

We are not asking for your money. We want something far more valuable—a part of your life. Although obviously we cannot promise that your artifact or document will be displayed in the opening exhibit, we can promise that it will be professionally preserved and available to scholars and families in future years.

As Chairman Emeritus of The National D-Day Museum, I ask you to join us in this important endeavor. This project is closest to my heart. It is going to be the living memorial to the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States in World War II—men and women who changed the twentieth century from one of darkness to one of light. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Stephen E. Ambrose, Ph.D.

# Honored War Nurse Remembered for a Smile

**Olga Waful, an advocate for the national monument to women in the military, dies at 80.**

**By ERIN DUGGAN**

*The Post-Standard*

It was the first glimmer of light Donald Waful saw as a soldier in war torn Ireland in 1942. Olga Casidant's smile is what her husband said he remembers most clearly

from the night they met. "A gorgeous, beautiful smile" is how he described it Monday, hours after Olga "Cassie" Waful lost her monthlong battle with leukemia.

Olga Waful, 80, who died Monday at Crouse Hospital, was recognized locally and nationally as an advocate for women in the military.

But her husband remembers best the World War II romance that brought a nurse and a soldier together and back home to Syracuse.

Their romance in Ireland would be short — Donald Waful was called to England 60 days after they began the courtship. Cassie, in Europe as part of the Army Nurse Corps, would be called to duty soon after. They separated with a promise to marry when the war was over, Waful said.

In 1944, Cassie crossed Utah Beach to set up an emergency hospital in France one month after D-Day. She also provided care during the Battle of the Bulge that December.

Donald Waful said his wife would never talk of an injury she received during the Battle of the Bulge: cuts inflicted when a bomb exploded near her hospital. The injuries, he said, were deserving of a Purple Heart.

He became a prisoner of war after his capture in Tunisia, and the two were finally reunited in Paluel, France, when Donald Waful was released. Two days later, they married. It was May 1945, almost three years after her smile first captured Donald Waful's heart.

Within four months, they began their life together in the United States. Cassie Waful went on to receive numerous military awards for her service in the Army and was specially decorated in 1994 in France. She worked on the Washington, D.C., monument to women in the military, and in 1995, she was recognized as an "Unsung Heroine" by the Central New York Chapter of the National Organization for Women.



In Loving Memory of  
*Olga Cassie Waful*

January 26, 1918  
September 11, 1998

The Lord is my shepherd,  
I shall not want  
He maketh me to lie down in  
green pastures, he leadeth me beside  
the still waters  
He restoreth my soul, he leadeth me in  
the paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake. Yes,  
though I walk through the valley  
of the shadow of death, I will fear no  
evil, for thou art with me  
Thy rod and thy staff they  
comfort me: Thou preparest a table  
before me in the presence  
of mine enemies, thou annulst  
my head with oil,  
my cup runneth over  
Surely goodness and mercy shall  
follow me all the days of my life, and I  
will dwell in the house  
of the Lord forever.



**Waful**

served on France, England, North Ireland and soon after the D-Day invasion of Normandy and during the Battle of the Bulge. She was awarded the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon, multiple Service Stars and was specially decorated in 1994 in France. In 1995, the Central New York Chapter of the National Organization for Women awarded to her its "Outstanding Heroine" award for women in honor in the military. She was a member of the Reformed Church of Syracuse and served on its Consistory and Circle, and a member of the Edward South School Parent Teacher Association, the League of Women Voters and the Women in Military Service in America.

Survivors: Her husband, Donald R., two sons, Donald R. of Brewster, Mass.; two granddaughters, Mary; two grandsons.

Services: 11 a.m. Thursday at the Reformed Church of Syracuse, burial, Woodlawn Cemetery, Syracuse. Following hours: Bunn's Garden Funeral Home, Syracuse, for arrangements.

Contributions: The Reformed Church of Syracuse, 1238 Test Ave., Syracuse 13206.

Bob Thompson  
Editor Aflac of News

It is with deep sorrow  
I want to inform you  
of the death of my  
husband: Mr James T Godfrey  
on July 10.

Nathalie H. Godfrey  
3511 Kingston Rd  
Winston-Salem  
NC  
27106

In Loving Memory of

Frances P. Cheatham

July 11, 1911  
July 19, 1998

Funeral Service  
11:00 am Tuesday  
First Presbyterian Church

Conducted by  
Rev. Russ Ward

Burial  
Oaklawn Cemetery

Arrangements by  
Ridge Funeral Home

In Loving Memory

Survived by

Husband  
Robert L. Cheatham, Jr.

Sisters  
Mrs. Eunice Heilig  
Mrs. Vera Stansell

Brother & Sister-in-law  
Charles & Mary Earl Wheatley

Several Nieces & Nephews