

Artist's drawing of Oflag 64 without barbed-wire fences or guard towers.  
Drawn by Jim Bickers

## 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2013

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Jimmie & Lynn Kanaya  
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Darwyn Walker  
Pat Waters  
PJ Wilcox  
Mariusz Winiecki & Friends



## 2013 Reunion Survey Results

Dear Oflag 64 Family,

At long last we have results from our 2013 Reunion Survey.....Get Ready!!!

The survey asked respondents if they would attend a reunion if one were held. A total of 79 people responded.

The number of people who responded YES was 17. Of those who responded affirmatively, the total number expected in their parties was 47.

The number of people who responded POSSIBLY was 29. Of those, the total number in their parties was 62.

The number of people who responded NO to the survey was 33.

The majority of those who responded affirmatively said the West Coast was their preference and that October was their preferred month.

Of those who also responded affirmatively, five said they would be willing to host a reunion with assistance from our Oflag 64 family members. Eight said they would be glad to assist. The following folks volunteered to host. In narrowing it down, we will first ask Kriegies/Wives who have volunteered and then go from there. We now have a good list of "future reunion" hosts.

Tom Cobb	South Carolina	August
Lynn & Jimmie Kanaya	Washington State	September
Arlene & George Rosenthal	Florida	August
Wilbur Sharpe	Washington DC	September
Tiffany Skidmore	Minnesota	August

As you can see, we had a pretty good response. We'll narrow things down a bit more in the next couple of weeks and let everyone know the "Final Answer" about a 2013 Reunion. Thanks to all who responded to the survey!

Best Regards,

*Elodie Caldwell*, ITEM Editor  
(Daughter of the late Kriegie Reid Ellsworth)





# MAIL CALL



**JOHN A. ALBREE from Columbus NC** (Aide-de-Camp to Gen. John Waters, friend of Oflag 64) wrote: "Thank you again for being who you are to all the Oflag 64 former POWs and their families and friends. I am truly privileged to have been General Waters Aide in Korea. He was a true gentleman and a genuine United States Army hero. I am so blessed to have been at his funeral and burial next to his wife – the daughter of GEN Patton." *John, it's always a pleasure hearing from you. Thanks so much for the emails and contributions to our Postage Fund over the years. Much appreciated.*

**DAVID BAUM** (son of the late Kriegy Abe Baum) sent word that Abe's obituary was printed in the San Diego Union Tribune on March 17, 2013. It can also be found in the TAPS section of this ITEM and accessed online at:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/utsandiego/obituary.aspx?n=abraham-j-baum-abe&pid=163662104#fbLoggedOut>

The online guest book can also be accessed at:

<http://www.legacy.com/guestbooks/UTSanDiego/guestbook.aspx?n=abraham-baum&pid=163662104&cid=full>

*Thank you so much, David, for sending us the obituary. So many things to stay on top of during these sad times.*

**EILEEN BAUM from San Diego CA** (widow of the late Kriegy Abe Baum) sent the following information about Abe's passing. "Dear Elodie, Abe passed away in his home in San Diego surrounded by myself and our four children. We have not put the obituary in the paper yet because we were waiting to confirm a date for a memorial in San Diego. If all goes well, it will on march 23<sup>rd</sup>. The obituary will go in this week. Abe was 3 weeks from his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday. Please note that he was not in Louisiana! He felt very close to all of you. It was only his bad health that kept him from your conventions. Please give our regards to all and let them know how much he enjoyed knowing and being with them. Sincerely, Eileen." *We so much appreciated your email, Eileen. It seems when it's the most difficult time in our lives, that's when we have the most to do and the most to think about. Your dear Abe was a great man and was loved by so many. Our heartfelt condolences along with thoughts and prayers are extended to you and your family. We know he will be mightily missed. Thanks for sharing him with us.*



**PAT BENDER from Philadelphia PA** (daughter of Kriegy Vincent Di Francesco) after she received the last ITEM: "I just read most of the new ITEM, and this issue is exceptional with all the information....it all reinforces the feeling that what our Kriegies went through must not ever be forgotten. We should do all that we can to help with these research projects, and we should continue to communicate with each other in this way." *We so much appreciated your email, Pat, and your thoughts expressed. We agree, we need to assist in any way possible to further the research being done on behalf of our Kriegies and families.*



**ELEANOR BERTRAND from Baton Rouge LA** (author and friend of Oflag 64) wrote upon hearing of Abe Baum's passing: "Thank you for this notice. Abe Baum was indeed the ultimate patriot and warrior. I had the pleasure of meeting him in New Orleans in 2006 at the Oflag 64 Reunion. I bought a 1981 copyright copy of his book, *RAID*. It is among my treasures." In a subsequent email she wrote: "Thank you for sending this obit. It is much appreciated as I held him in such high regard." *Thank you, Eleanor, for writing. Abe was certainly a great man and his book is an amazing account of what happened during the "Raid".*



**GAIL BROWN from Millersport OH** (daughter of the late Kriegy O.L. "Brad" Bradford) emailed not too long ago stating: "Hi, Elodie - I am doing better but I'm here in Florida without Dan for the first time and it is sad without him...Thanks for keeping in touch. I haven't been able to respond to the survey about who might attend but I might be able to come to the next one." *Gail, it was so good to hear from you again and to learn that you are doing better. We think of you often and know that grief over the loss of loved ones, especially a spouse, takes time. It would be great to see you again. Hopefully we'll be able to have a reunion this year. Thanks for your email.*

**T. J. BUGG III from West Chester OH** (son of Kriegy T. J. Bugg, Jr.) wrote the following comments after hearing of Abe Baum's passing: "Thank you so much for sharing. I had spoken to Abe on multiple

occasions and most recently only a few months back. He was such a humble man in regards to what he had faced; like so many of that era and in those circumstances. Sadly, we are losing those heroes all too quickly and there are fewer and fewer of them still with us. Dad was on tank #2 following their brief two-day liberation by Abe Baum task force. Personally, I am blessed to still have my father with me who will be 93 at the end of this month and we will be having a great celebration for him and his 90-year old brother who served in the Pacific during WWII. Thank you again for sharing and may you continue to be blessed for the work that you are doing!" *T.J., thank you very much for your kind words and for sharing your comments regarding Abe. It is very clear that Abe was highly regarded and loved very deeply.*

**SCOTT AND BETH CHRISTENSEN from Rockford IL** (nephew and niece-in-law of the late Kriegy Robert Christensen) wrote to us via the "Contact Us" feature on our website asking if we knew where they could get a copy of the Oflag 64: A POW Odyssey video. (Thanks to Robert Galloway, we have a few copies available.) Beth stated: "My husband's uncle was named Robert Christensen. He became a lawyer in Colorado. He had a son and daughter. His wife is still living in Colorado. He passed away in 1995. My husband just told me his uncle's obituary was in the Nov 95 issue of the Oflag 64 publication." *Beth, thank you and Scott very much for contacting us. We know you'll enjoy the video. Thanks also for contributing to our Postage Fund. We greatly appreciate such thoughtful contributions. Please contact us again any time.*



**TOM COBB from Columbia SC** (son of the late Kriegy George Cobb) sent an email recently about the surrender of the Japanese in 1945. It came with a link to a film, which is believed to have never been seen before. You can access the film at:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch\\_popup?v=vcnH\\_kF1zXc&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=vcnH_kF1zXc&feature=player_embedded)  
*Thank you very much, Tom, for this very informative video. Interesting how things get tucked away some where for many years and then found again. What a piece of history!!*

**MICHAEL CONNELL** (distant cousin of Father Stanley Brach) is looking for information for his mother, Father Brach's cousin. An email query has been sent to our Oflag 64 family. Several have responded. *Michael, thank you for contacting us. There is much information out there, if we only knew where to look. We hope the information you have received so far is helpful. We will continue to send whatever we find. Our best to you in your search.*

**ANTHONY DE SANTO from RI part of the year and**

**Germany the other part** (friend of Oflag 64, Kriegy affiliated with Hammelburg) recently sent a contribution to our Postage Fund. Along with it he sent a nice letter and copies of a report a he wrote highlighting his travel from Hammelburg to Achaffenburg beginning 27 March 1945 and ending on or about April 1945. *Thank you very much, Anthony, for your thoughtful donation to our Postage Fund. Thank you also for your letter and report which will be added to our website soon. We are passing along, at your request, your best personal regards to all members of Oflag 64 and to Hammelburg XIII-B. Look for this ITEM already posted online.*



**PETER DOMES from Germany** (friend of Oflag 64 and creator of the Task Force Baum website) recently sent to his email list the following message about Abe Baum's passing: "It is with profound sadness that I advise the group of the passing of Major Abraham J Baum, DSC (USA Ret'd.). Surrounded by Eileen (his wife of sixty three years), David, Barbara, Susan, and Eric (his children), the Major ended his last campaign at 1630 PST. The family wishes to thank all of you for your friendship and for your devotion to the preservation of the history of Task Force Baum. Dad will be buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery at a date to be determined. Subsequently Peter sent this information: Major (Ret.) Abe Baum will be buried with full military honors on May 22nd at Arlington National Cemetery. The 1PM military honors will be preceded by a service at Congregation Etz Hayim in Arlington, VA, and will be followed with the meal of condolence at the same synagogue. The traditional ritual of morning will commence with a Shiva Minyan at my home Fairfax, Virginia. *It was good to hear from you again, Peter. We appreciate all those who are in a position to send information and we appreciate the outstanding work you have done on your website in paying tribute to Abe. Thanks also for the new information on Abe's burial at Arlington.*

**MARY EKROOS from Corpus Christi TX** (daughter of the late Kriegy William Stiverson) sent an interesting email about the part the Monopoly game might have played during WWII in escape attempts by Allied POWs. If true, what a service to the POWs and their families! *Mary, thanks so much for sending the information along. Snopes.com says it's true but with some inconsistencies in the story. You can check out the Snopes information using this link:*  
<http://www.snopes.com/military/monopoly.asp>

**CHERYL THAL-ELLIS from Bryn Mawr PA** (daughter of Kriegy Sidney Thal) emailed to say that her dad would be returning to PA to stay with her for the next 6 months. While in Pennsylvania, he will be

going through Oflag 64 information he has to share with Mariusz Winięcki. *Cheryl, thank you very much for writing to let us know that Sid would be returning to Pennsylvania for a while. It's great to have family near. Thank you also for assisting in the process of getting information to Mariusz. Hope he enjoys looking through our website. If he has anything to share with us, we'd love to post it online.*

**LINDA FARBER** (daughter of the late Kriegy Leo Farber) wrote to us with updated information for our website POW Database. *Thank you, Linda, for contacting us with changes in your father's information. We appreciate all updates and work to get them posted in a timely manner. And thanks to Sharon Hutchison who works hard to keep that portion of our website current.*

**THOMAS HANSEN** (son of the late Kriegy Carl Hansen) recently contacted us and asked to be added to our email list. He also said that he has photos to scan and send. He and his son, Nick who has also recently contacted us, will be going through the materials they have from the camp and see what there is to send. *Thomas, thank you very much for contacting us. We look forward to getting your scans and adding what we can to our website. We have added you to our email list and welcome you to our Oflag 64 family. You will be hearing from us from time to time.*



**JONEL HILL from Pasadena CA** (Kriegy) recently sent a contribution to our Postage Fund along with suggestions for reunion locations and dates. He suggests reunions more centrally located especially for those who live on either coast. He also suggested May as a possible option for a reunion, especially for this year. *Jonel, thank you very much once again for your thoughtful and generous contribution to our Postage Fund. You are so diligent at sending contributions and we greatly appreciate it. Regarding a reunion for this year, May is too soon but we will hopefully be able to consider it in the future.*

**MARJORY HOLDER from Athens GA** (daughter of the late Kriegy "Boomer" Holder and the late Clementi Holder, his widow) wrote a while back to let us know of Clementi's passing. We send our sincere sympathies along with thoughts and prayers to the family. We know she will be greatly missed. Please see the TAPS section for Clementi's obituary. She also wrote that while going through her mom's things, she will look for anything that can be of assistance to those who have been requesting information, specifically Jennifer Adams at this point. *Thank you, so much, Marjory for sending the obituary of your dear mother to us. We are always saddened*

*at such news, but like you say, your "mom and dad are now back together where they belong." Thank you also for being willing to share information with others. It's never easy to do when going through a deceased family member's things.*

**MARY SHULAR HOPPER from Conway SC** (daughter of the late Kriegy William A. Shular) recently contacted us about the passing of her dear father. She commented that he was just two months shy of his 91<sup>st</sup> birthday. His obituary can be found in the TAPS section of this ITEM and also at the following web address:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/thestate/obituary.aspx?n=william-shular-bill&pid=163601886&fhid=11678#fbLoggedOut>

His online guestbook can be found at:

<http://www.legacy.com/guestbooks/thestate/guestbook.aspx?n=william-shular&pid=163601886&cid=full>

In a subsequent email, speaking of forming friendships over the years, Mary wrote: Imagine the friendships that developed out of such confinement as Oflag 64 -- and not only there, but through wartime experience for so many of our military men and women - past and present. I have been honored to be in the company of so many fine and decent Americans. *Mary, it was good to hear from you again, even under the circumstances. It's always difficult to hear that another one of our Kriegies is no longer with us. They were truly great men. We send along our sincere sympathies along with our thoughts and prayers. We know he will be greatly missed. Thank you also for the wonderful sentiments you expressed regarding friendships. Well stated.*

**DENNIS JOHNSON from New Haven KY** (son of the late Kriegy Errol Johnson) recently wrote regarding Oflag 64 hats. He and his family are pictured in a photo, all wearing their hats, which you'll be able to see later in this ITEM. *Thank you, Dennis, for writing. We're pleased that you were able to make the connection you requested. And what a nice looking family!!*



**JIMMIE AND LYNN KANAYA from Gig Harbor WA** (Kriegy and wife) sent a link to a great article and photo of Jimmie. Again, we have been

unable to obtain permission to reprint the article with the photo, but we include the link to the great story here:

<http://www.thenewstribune.com/2013/01/11/2431429/standing-in-for-fallen-of-the.html>

Lynn wrote additionally that they "had a terrific time at the WWII National Museum in New Orleans. The exhibit "Guests of the Third Reich", with Jimmie's voice in it was very well done. Jimmie marched into

the dedication ceremony with the Idaho State flag in a parade of state flags at the dedication of new Boeing Freedom Pavilion. We felt so honored! NVN did a great job supporting the first Smithsonian Congressional Gold Medal Tour Display. Kudos to all who helped put the program together.” *Lynn, thank you very much for keeping us updated on these stories. We always enjoy hearing from you. Our Kriegies truly were part of the “Greatest Generation” and each time we read another story, we’re reminded of just how great they were and are.*

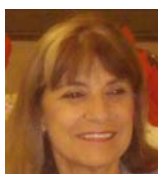


**JUDY KNIGHT from Naperville IL** (daughter of Kriegy Ed Graf) wrote a while back with this information: “Thank you for keeping us all up on things. I will give good news, my dad will be celebrating his 91st birthday on Monday and still lives in his condo! He’s doing great! Happy New Year! *Many thanks, Judy, for the good news and for the kind words. We love hearing how our Kriegies are doing. It’s always good to hear from you. Keep the good news coming.*



**ANNE KREUTZER from Woodbridge VA** (daughter of the late Kriegy Nathaniel Hoskot) recently sent this email: “Dear Elodie - as usual to you and Bill, so many thank-yous for all you do for OFLAG-64. It

touches my heart whenever I read another of your emails about the passing of yet one more of the OFLAG-64 family - these soldiers gave us so much, and there is so much appreciation for that. Your notifications are coming too quickly now, and each time I get one I reflect with love on my dad and all of the men of OFLAG-64, and especially the ones I’ve had had the privilege to meet.” Subsequent to her email, Anne also sent a contribution to the Postage Fund. *Anne, your heartfelt expressions of love and appreciation for our Kriegies and all that they did for us throughout WWII was very touching. We appreciate your kind words as well as your very thoughtful and generous contribution to the Postage Fund. It was good to hear from you again.*



**ROSA LEE from Ft. Pierce FL** (daughter of Kriegy Vincent Di Francesco) wrote upon learning of the passing of Abe Baum that she would like to contact Eileen Baum. In a subsequent email, she wrote about

Jeff Bender’s upcoming wedding in Philadelphia. She also wrote about possible upcoming visits from Sid Thal. *Rosa, it was good to hear from you again. Thanks for writing and for your kind words. The address of Eileen Baum was sent. We hope you were able to make contact. Thanks also for sharing wedding and Sid visit information. Sound like a fun few weeks ahead.*



**GENE LIGGETT from Vancouver WA** (Kriegy) has sent several emails recently, some just cute, some thought provoking, and some informational in nature. One was about bee stings and pennies. Ask me about it or email Gene directly.

*Thank you, Gene, very much for all your emails. Very enjoyable. Also glad to hear that you are enjoying “RETIREMENT” at its best.*



**HERM LITTMAN from Spokane WA** (Kriegy) sent contributions to our Postage Fund in memory of two of our dear Kriegies who have recently passed on—Bill Shular and Abe Baum. He also sent along some nice notes with news that he’s still driving

his own car and living at home with his son Larry. He will be 94 this May and has even signed up at the YMCA for swimming. He reports that six remaining ex-POWs live in his area and they meet for lunch every month or so. *Herm, thank you so much for your very thoughtful and generous contributions to our Postage Fund. We appreciate it very much. We always enjoy hearing from you and hearing of your activities. Enjoy swimming, it’s really good exercise.*

**LARRY MCBRAYER from Slidell LA** (friend of Oflag 64 and volunteer at the WWII Museum in New Orleans) wanted to make sure we had the information about the passing of Abe Baum. He forwarded the following message from Abe’s daughter: “This is Abe’s daughter, Susan. Dad passed away on Sunday night. Mom wanted you to know. Dad will be buried in Arlington and we will keep you informed. We will be holding a memorial service locally prior to his burial. My dad was very fond of you and he appreciated all the work you do at the WWII museum. *Thank you very much, Larry (and Susan), for sending the information about the passing of Abe Baum. Many eyes and ears get the information passed along. Much appreciated.*

**MARY MEACHAM** (daughter of the late Kriegy Merle Mecham) has responded to several of our email requests for information. She has found information on George Durgin in “Home Was Never Like This” and information on Father Brach from “Roads to Liberation”. Both books have been written by Kriegies or Kriegy family members and contain a good deal of information. *Thanks Mary for your timely and helpful response to our Oflag 64 family members. Hopefully more information will find its way to them soon.*

**RAYMOND MILLEN** (Kriegy from Hammelburg) sent word of the passing of our dear Abe Baum. Along with it was an English translation of the German newspaper obituary. *Thank you very much, Ray, for your “eyes and ears” on this information. And thank*

*you also for the translation. Within a short time after hearing from you, we also heard from Abe's family. Abe held a special place in the hearts of many. He will be greatly missed.*

**KENT OLINGER from Huntingburg IN** (friend of Kriegy Warren "Bing" Evans) recently sent word regarding Bing. He wrote: "Sorry to say... six weeks ago, friend Warren Evans moved from Huntingburg, Ind., to Hillsboro, Ore., suburb of Portland. He moved to be closer to his son, Mark, and daughter-in-law, Karen. Warren had been in Huntingburg from 1965 through 2012. Terribly sad to say good-bye after so many years. However, he continues to enjoy the best of health – at age 93." He also asked to be added to our email list. *Thank you, Kent, for contacting us about Bing's move. So good to hear that he's in good health as well. He will continue to receive the ITEM by US mail. He can also access it through his son's email address. We have added you to our email list and heartily welcome you to our Oflag 64 Family.*



**ROBERT O'NEILL from Prescott AZ** (Kriegy) has emailed and telephoned me on a couple of occasions recently. He is doing well and periodically reports on his phone conversations with Bob Thompson who is now living in TX. We have great conversations,

which I thoroughly enjoy. *Bob, it's always a pleasure to hear from you and to learn about what's new in your life. We hope you remain in good health and that we hear from you again soon. Thank you for keeping in touch.*

**DON PATTON from Minneapolis MN** (friend of Oflag 64) contacted us recently to make sure we had the information on the passing of Abe Baum which he had read on Facebook. *Thank you very much, Don, for forwarding the Facebook information. We haven't been avid users of the social networking sites, but sometimes find them to be very helpful regarding information such as this. Please see the TAPS section regarding Abe's obituary.*

**MARILYN RITTEL** (daughter of the late Kriegy Robert Eckman) recently contacted us. She will send us a photo of her dad to put on our website as soon as possible. *Marilyn, thank you for contacting us. We look forward to receiving the photo of your dad along with whatever information you are able to share.*



**JOHN RODGERS from Pensacola FL** (Kriegy) sends along many thought provoking and interesting emails. One can tell by those emails that John is a true patriot. He loves our country and holds the principles and ideals upon

which it was founded in high regard. *Thanks, so much, John for your emails. It's always good to hear from you and to feel of your patriotism.*



**KAREN ROSSI from Panama City Beach FL** (great niece of the late Thomas Drake) wrote to inform us of the exhibit at the WWII Museum in New Orleans. We have heard from others about the same exhibit.

Hopefully some of our Oflag 64 family members were able or will still be able to attend. If not, click on this link for a brief overview.

<http://www.guestsofthethirdreich.org/home/>

*Thank you very much, Karen, for this link. The exhibit is certain to evoke many memories and give a glimpse to others of what was endured during those years.*

**SUSAN SCOTT from Merritt Island FL** (daughter of the late Kriegy Jack Van Vliet) recently sent early photos of Oflag 64 before it became Oflag 64, probably taken prior to June 1943 when the camp was still Oflag XXIB. Although, little known, these photos were received and printed in our 2012 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter ITEM. Please check on this link to learn more:

[http://www.oflag64.us/Oflag64/The\\_ITEM\\_Archive\\_files/item\\_2nd\\_qtr\\_2012s.pdf](http://www.oflag64.us/Oflag64/The_ITEM_Archive_files/item_2nd_qtr_2012s.pdf)

In another email she commented on a newspaper article written by her dad that she recently received a copy of stating: "I could almost hear Dad's voice reading it. I sent this along to my siblings and in turn, my brother sent it to his daughter. Her 3 boys are Dad's great grandsons. They will love reading about a piece of his life." *Thank you so much, Susan, for sending these photos along. We never know just what we are missing until new photos come along. And thanks also for sharing the travels of your dad's article amongst members of your family. How fun. Once we have it posted to our website, we hope everyone else is able to enjoy it as well.*

**JANET SMITH** (daughter of the late Kriegy Robert Smith) recently wrote with the following information about her dad. "He was in Company A, 702nd tank battalion, 3rd Army. He arrived December 25, 1944 (transferred from Stalag 12A in Limberg, Germany). He was at Oflag 64 for 6 days and then they sent him to the hospital that served that POW camp, which was the Reserve Lazarett in Wollstein. Thanks for this website. My father would've loved it." In another email, she wrote: "Here is a picture of my father, Captain Robert L. Smith, taken in England (1944) just before leaving for France. He was shot by Germans while leading a nighttime reconnaissance mission near Metz, France, in September of 1944. They were attempting to find a place to ford the Moselle River. All the other men in the recon mission were killed." *Janet, we very much appreciate the information you*

shared as well as the photo of your dad. You can see it on our website gallery under Kriegies Past and Present. Please feel free to send information or requests any time.

**CHRISTINE TAFT from Washington DC** (daughter of our Kriegy Ted Rinehart) sent a contribution to our Postage Fund along with a nice note stating that her dad enjoys so much getting the newsletter. She also reported that he has recently moved to an assisted living facility in Montgomery AL. He loves to read and is currently reading a history of Poland during WWII. *Thank you very much, Christine, for your thoughtful contribution to our Postage Fund and for sending updates on your dad. We have updated our records and are happy to hear that he's near family and enjoying the ITEM.*



**SID THAL from Pampano Beach FL part of the year and Bryn Mawr PA the other part of the year** (Kriegy) sent along a contribution to our Postage Fund. In a recent conversation, we spoke briefly about his Oflag 64 memorabilia and items of

interest he may have to share with Mariusz Winiiecki. Sid was happy and doing well. *Thank you very much, Sid, for your generous and thoughtful donation to our Postage Fund. We so much appreciate your support. It's always good to hear from you. Let us know how your hunt through treasured memorabilia goes.*



**JANICE TURNER from Meridian TX** (daughter of Kriegy Jim Betts) has recently sent a link to a very interesting and thought-provoking speech given by Benjamin Carson. It is "political" in nature so I will not print the link here, but if any of you are interested and haven't heard the speech already, please email me at the email address on the front page of this ITEM and I will forward you the link. *Thank you very much, Janice, for sending the link. Benjamin Carson certainly gave a good speech and was so dignified in his delivery of it. Seems like a great man.*

**SUSAN GRISET VAN DER ROEST** (daughter of the late Kriegy Lorin Griset) contacted us recently with information that Thomas Griffin has passed away at age 96. The notice was published March 3 in the OC Register. She commented that his story (like all the rest) is incredible. His obituary has been added to the TAPS section of this ITEM. *Thank you very much, Susan, for being the eyes and ears in finding this information. We had not heard it from any other source. We send our sincere sympathies to his family. We know he will be greatly missed.*

**DARWYN WALKER from Springfield MO** (Kriegy)



sent a contribution to our Postage Fund along with a description of military awards he received. He also sent a photo of himself in Taipai in 1964 with an interpreter and also a suggestion that future reunions be held in the middle of the country in May or June, for two days and to include a banquet. *Thank you, Darwyn, for your contribution to the Postage Fund and also for your suggestions for future reunions. A copy of your photo can be found later on in this ITEM. Congratulations on your military honors.*



**PAT WATERS of Mount Pleasant SC** (son of the late Kriegy John K. Waters) recently wrote expressing regrets at the passing of Abe Baum. In an email to David Baum (Abe's son) he wrote: He was special to our family and especially my Dad.

Perhaps now they are together...at least I hope so. In a subsequent email, he sent a photo of Dennis Johnson's family and expressed that Dennis' dad Errol was a favorite of his. *Thank you, Pat, for sharing your email to David with us. It was another nice tribute to Abe. And thanks also for the photo of the Johnson family and the sentiments you expressed.*



**PJ WILCOX from FL** (author and friend of Oflag 64) forwarded to us an article that was written about one of our former Kriegies, James Forsyth. You may remember reading Mr. Forsyth's obituary in the last ITEM.

The article was a wonderful article entitled "**Lt. Col. (Ret.) James Forsyth, Decorated World War II Veteran, Dies At 96**" and was published in the online newspaper "The Hartford Courant". Unfortunately, we have not been able to get permission to reprint it here and unfortunately it is not still accessible on line. *Thank you so much, PJ, for all the time you spent with James Forsyth in an effort to keep his story alive. We appreciate all your contributions. We hope to one day have access to at least a portion of his story to put on our website.*



**MARIUSZ WINIECKI from Szubin Poland** (researcher and friend of Oflag 64) has continued to keep us updated by email and through SKYPE on his projects and lectures at the "Oflag 64" Reform School. Several of our Kriegies have been instrumental

in providing information needed by Mariusz for his lectures. Please see the Kriegy Information section of this newsletter for more information and photos. *We thank you more than ever, Mariusz, for your dedication and commitment to the Oflag 64 projects.*

*Your research has indeed helped many of our Oflag 64 families learn more about Oflag 64's history. (And the SKYPE conversation was a wonderful experience.)*

\* \* \* \* \*

**There was about a six-month time period recently when the "Contact Us" portion of our website became disconnected and we didn't know it. We were "contacted" several times during that time period either with updates to current information or requests for information or to be added to our email list, etc. The following entries are from those individuals during that time. We thank them for their patience during those months. Happy to say that all is working again.**

**JENNIFER ADAMS** (granddaughter-in-law of the late George Durgin) recently discovered our website and asked to be added to our email list. She also asked for any photos available containing photos of her father-in-law. *Thank you, Jennifer, for contacting us and welcome to our Oflag 64 family. We have added you to our email list so you should be hearing from us from time to time. We hope you are able to accumulate the photos you would like.*

**BRIAN BRADEN** (grandson of the late Kriegy Donald R. Wernette) sent information about the passing of his grandfather on May 27, 2010 along with other information to update on the POW database. He commented: "I do appreciate this site being available to everyone to provide a link to the past, and the sacrifices that our past soldiers gave and endured." *Thank you, Brian, for providing us with information on your grandfather. Thank you also for the kind words about our website. We hope it is useful to all who are looking for information related to Oflag 64.*

**FRANCES MARKS BUCK** (daughter of the late Kriegy Frederic Smith Marks) wrote the following: "My father was a POW at Oflag 64. His name was Frederic Smith Marks. He was a physician, took care of other prisoners as well as German soldiers. My father declined to say much about his WWII experience or the POW camp, and until last Fall, I didn't even know where he was imprisoned. He did have letters written to my mother, a few telegrams, and newspaper articles about him after being captured. He also had pictures of injured soldiers for whom he provided treatment while at Oflag 64. Unfortunately, all of those items were destroyed by someone after he died. So, it is a long-winded way of saying that I have several interests. One is certainly knowing more about my father specifically and his experience. Secondly, I have worked with many WWII veterans professionally, and most of them would not talk much. Now, the majority of them are deceased or dying. It would be a shame for some of

that anecdotal history to be lost. Third, from the little I've been able to learn, Oflag 64 was a "special camp," different from other POW camps. Finally, there apparently is a PBS documentary on Oflag 64, but neither I, nor more computer savvy people, have been able to procure it. I would appreciate any response you might have when convenient to you. Frances also asked to be added to our email list. *Thank you, Frances, for contacting us. We appreciate the information you have sent and would gladly send you a copy of the DVD expertly produced by one of our Oflag 64 family members, Robert Galloway. We have added you to our email list and welcome you to our Oflag 64 family. You will be hearing from us again soon.*

**BECKY-ANN CORCORAN** (daughter of the late Kriegy Thomas E. Corcoran) found our website and asked to be added to our email list. She also sent information about her father. She wrote: "My father was Captain Thomas E. Corcoran, Medical Corps (Red Bulls) and he was temporarily imprisoned at Oflag 64. I am attempting to collect his war experiences, for my mother, who is now 98 years old. Any information I can glean from your website and emails will be greatly appreciated. *Thank you, Becky-Ann for contacting us and welcome to our Oflag 64 family. We have added you to our email list, so you will begin hearing from us soon. We appreciate the information you sent on your dad and hope you will soon find the information for your mother that she would like to have.*

**KIMBERLY GUISE** (friend of Oflag 64) recently wrote to remind us of the following: "I'd like to make all Oflag 64 family aware of our new exhibit, in which we present material from Oflag 64 (Wartime Log of Newton Cole), Guests of the Third Reich: American POWs in Europe. The exhibit is up through July 7, 2013. For more info, please email me or visit:

<http://guestsofthethirdreich.org/home/>

She also asked to be added to our email list. *Thank you, Kimberly, for your information. We hope others will be able to visit the exhibit soon. Thanks also to you and the others at the museum for your wonderful and diligent work. We have added you to our email list and also want to welcome you to our Oflag 64 family. You will be hearing from us on occasion.*

**NICK HANSEN** (grandson of the late Kriegy Carl V. Hansen) wrote: "Dear friends and countrymen: Please indoctrinate me into your society. My grandfather, Carl Victor Hansen, was interned at Offizierslager 64. It is my responsibility to join you and keep the memory alive. Thank you." *Thank you, Nick, for contacting us and requesting to be added to our email list. This we have done. Welcome also to our Oflag 64 family. We're glad to have you with us. Please contact us again anytime if you need information.*



**LUKE HARDAWAY** (grandson of one of our Kriegies –unnamed) wrote and asked to be added to our email list. He also provided the following information: "Hello, my grandfather was a member of Oflag 64. I am compiling information, stories and research on him for a potential book. I have just started the research, but interested in hearing more about this group." *Thank you, Luke, for contacting us and requesting to be added to our email list. We have done so and welcome you to our Oflag 64 family. We hope to hear from you again with more information about your grandfather.*

**RON HARDY** (son of the late Kriegy Ronald Radcliffe Hardy) sent the following information about his dad: "My father Lt. Ronald Radcliffe Hardy was a POW in Oflag 64. I recently discovered your website and wanted to update your records. My father stayed in the army and retired after 20 years in the spring of 1961. While in his second year as a school teacher, he suffered a heart attack and died on April 15th, 1964. My father is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. I have a Red Cross log my father received while a POW, which contains a diary and photos taken in Africa prior to his capture as well as photos taken in Oflag 64. These photos are different from those on the website. In many cases my father included last names. I'd like to photocopy these photos as well as two German ID cards my father kept after the war. I'm sure there are families like myself who would love to have a photo of their father, grandfather, etc. I will review my father's log and send you updated information as to his unit and approximate day of capture. It wasn't 2/14/43. Could you provide me with a mailing address so I can send you photocopies of the pictures in my father's wartime log." Ron also asked to be added to our email list. *Thank you very much, Ron, for the information you sent about your dad. We look forward to receiving copies of the photos and other memorabilia you are able to send. We have added you to our email list and welcome you to our Oflag 64 family. You'll be hearing from us from time to time.*

**KIERAN OUTHOUSE** (researcher and friend of Oflag 64) recently found our website and asked to be added to our email list. He commented: "Dear Oflag 64 Association, I am doing research on POW camps – and WOW. The memoirs that you have are amazing." *We appreciate your contact, Kieran, and your kind words about our website. We welcome you to our Oflag 64 family and have added you to our email list. You can expect to hear from us every so often.*

**SHARON ATEN PACHECO** (relative of Frank Aten) found our website recently and asked to be added to our email list. She also sent the following information: "2nd Lt. Frank N. Aten, went back to "Oflag 64" to police the Germans as they had done

the POW's. He wrote a book for his family which details his capture in North Africa on Valentine's Day and his escape attempts. It is very interesting." *Thank you, Sharon, for contacting us and welcome to our Oflag 64 family. We have added you to our email list so you'll be hearing from us soon. We appreciate the information you sent on Frank Aten. Please feel free to share information with us any time.*

**BRENT SPURGIN** (son of the late Kriegy Harold Spurgin) recently found our website and shared the death date of his father. *Thank you, Brent, for contacting us and for sending the information along. We have added his death date to our online TAPS list. Please contact us again any time.*



### Postage Fund Donors

THANKS to all who have generously donated to the postage fund. Without such thoughtful contributions, mailing the ITEM and other materials or information would not be possible.

Beth and Scott Christensen  
 Anthony De Santo  
 Jonel Hill  
 Anne Kreutzer  
 Herm Littman in memory of Abe Baum & Bill Shular  
 Christine Taft  
 Sid Thal  
 Darwyn Walker

If you would like to contribute, please make your check payable to Oflag 64 Postage Fund and mail your donation to:

<b>Bret Job</b>	or	<b>Elodie Caldwell</b>
4240 Trail Ridge Ln		2731 Terry Ave
Minnetonka MN		Longview WA
55345-2554		98632-4437



## KRIEGY NEWS AND INFORMATION

Family of the late Kriegy Errol Johnson  
(An Oflag 64 Family Complete With Oflag 64 Hats)

Darwyn Walker with Interpreter in Taipai-1964



Photo Sent by Pat Waters



### More Katyn Forest Massacre Information

In the last ITEM, we printed information about the Katyn Forest Massacre. We unknowingly printed some information that was not totally correct. We have pulled part of that information from the 2012 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter ITEM online at the request of Krystyna Piórkowska, who has done extensive and very powerful research on the event. Please refer to this link for an excellent article related to the Katyn cover-up.

<http://news.yahoo.com/ap-exclusive-memos-show-us-hushed-soviet-crime-132109652.html>

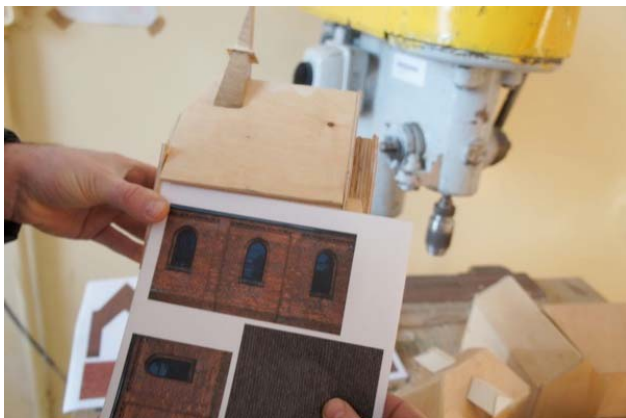
As was printed in the last ITEM, there is much information available online regarding the Katyn Massacre. Go to the following Google page link and you'll find several other links to Katyn information.

[http://www.google.com/#hl=en&gs\\_rn=8&gs\\_ri=psy-ab&cp=13&gs\\_id=1m&xhr=t&q=Katyn+Forest+Massacre&es\\_nrs=true&pf=p&scient=psy-ab&oq=Katyn+Forest+&gs\\_l=&pbx=1&bav=on.2,or.r\\_qf.&bvm=bv.44770516,d.cGE&fp=b01806a3db108dc1&biw=1365&bih=918](http://www.google.com/#hl=en&gs_rn=8&gs_ri=psy-ab&cp=13&gs_id=1m&xhr=t&q=Katyn+Forest+Massacre&es_nrs=true&pf=p&scient=psy-ab&oq=Katyn+Forest+&gs_l=&pbx=1&bav=on.2,or.r_qf.&bvm=bv.44770516,d.cGE&fp=b01806a3db108dc1&biw=1365&bih=918)



**We have received several emails and photos from Mariusz Winiecki since our last ITEM. He continues with his research and lectures at the Reform School.**

Pictured here are scale models of the Warehouse, the Chapel, and the Chapel Wall



Pictured here are the walls to the German Kommandant's House, Goon Boxes, and Barracks.



**Mariusz says:** I'd like to also note that this all is not my work. I only have inspired my friends - Mieczyslaw Luchowski, the form teacher, and Tomasz Kmiec, the carpentry teacher in the Reforms School. The project of building the camp scale model was enthusiastically accepted by director of the Reform School, Mr. Wieslaw Guzinski, and is entirely financed by the Reform School.

As can be seen in the photographs, some buildings or elements of the scale model will be painted. The buildings, which still exist, have been photographed and the photographs will be used to manufacture the veneers/stickers to be used as the cover. This hopefully will make the buildings of the scale model look closer to the real ones.

These photos represent the first completely finished scale model replica of one of the buildings of our Oflag 64 project, which were built in the Reform School. This is the house of the German Kommandant, which was outside the barbed wire, but in close proximity to the camp. The original building can be seen in the photograph taken in winter 1942/43. The White House behind the barbed wire can be seen in the background of the photo.



**Mariusz continues:** In this email I'd like to report to you about my lecture held in Szubin's Reform School on January 25th. Photographs follow.

It was very unique for me, because it was my very first full lecture about Oflag 64. It was closed for boys from the Reform School only (including the teachers and form teachers). Some of these boys were participating in building the scale model of the camp. One of them was very interested in the story I was telling them and even had several questions after the lecture. I think that my lecture was quite interesting for many of them, because it presented the unique and unknown history of the place and the buildings, which they now are living in.

I started with the short history of the all Nazi-German camps in Szubin between 1939 and 1945. Then I presented my acknowledgements to all those who helped me in gathering all information presented during the lecture. After that I talked about the road of the first group of American officers captured in Tunisia to camp in Altburgund. I showed original photographs and sketches of the camp buildings. Then I continued to talk about all daily activities of Kriegies in camp. I tried to show how was going the average day. I was telling about the food rations, sport and gardening activities during the day. About Red Cross parcels and all the inventions made of its contents. About camp school, camp newspaper, camp library.

Finally I was telling about the evening entertainment which was the *crème de la crème* of the lecture, because I was able to present very unique photographs and audio files of Bob Rankin's Swing Band, The Glee Club and the Orchestra, as well as, the short review of the Little Theater repertoire. The spectacular final of the lecture was the special and exclusive contribution of Wilbur Sharpe. I think it was a wonderful reminiscence of these days and the greatest gift from Wilbur who evoked the very first days of the Little Theatre, which happened 70 years ago, back to life. I played a DVD with his introduction and beautifully sung song "This is Worth Fighting For". It was the most exciting and unexpected (for the audience) part of the lecture. I know from my friend that all the female teachers in the audience were shedding their tears. Thank you Wilbur.





We are grateful to all who send photos, stories, and other memorabilia to post to our Oflag 64 website. We receive several of these each month. Our hope is to add whatever we can to the website and to do so in a timely manner. Occasionally, we may overlook (unintentionally) submissions that should be added to our site. If you have sent information to add and find after a period of time that it has not been added, please contact us again. We appreciate your patience in the mean time.

We're looking for camp stories, escape stories, articles reflecting the author's feelings while in captivity, photos and any other information related to our Kriegies. Please send information to Elodie Caldwell either by email at [elodie@oflag64.us](mailto:elodie@oflag64.us) or at the street address on the front page of this ITEM.

## ITEM COMMENTS

Let us know how we are doing. Constructive comments and criticisms are welcomed and appreciated. Here are some nice comments from some nice folks.

THANK  
YOU!

I have just finished reading the ITEM online. What a wonderful and informative issue. The pictures were great for someone like me who has no personal experience at Oflag 64. Enjoyed also seeing my friend Pat Waters. Thanks again for the job you do so well. ~ **John Albree, LTC, USA (Ret), Columbus NC**

I just read most of the new Item, and this issue is exceptional with all the information including the project at the Reform School, photos of the camp buildings, letters updating us about the extensive research projects and News from Poland, the articles, the scanned concert program - it all reinforces the feeling that what our Kriegies went through must not ever be forgotten. We should do all that we can to help with these research projects, and we should continue to communicate with each other in this way. Thank you for a wonderful issue. ~ **Pat Bender, Philadelphia PA**

I am sending a payment to the Postage Fund. I want to be sure every Kriegy who would like a paper copy of your wonderful ITEM is able to get it through the mail. ~ **Anne Kreutzer, Woodbridge VA**

## OFLAG 64 WEB CONNECTION

I am doing research on POW camps – and WOW. The memoirs that you have are amazing. ~ **Kieran Outhouse**

Thanks for this website. My father would've loved it. ~ **Janet Smith**

I do appreciate this site being available to everyone to provide a link to the past, and the sacrifices that our past soldiers gave and endured. ~ **Brian Braden**

New Visitors to Our Website – Including those from our formerly “disconnected” Contact Us page.

Jennifer Adams – granddaughter-in-law of the late Kriegy George Durgin

Brian Braden – grandson of the late Kriegy Donald Wernette

Frances Marks Buck – daughter of the late Kriegy Frederic Marks

Beth and Scott Christensen – nephew and niece-in-law of the late Kriegy Robert Christensen

Michael Connell – distant cousin of the late Father Stanley Brach

Becky-Ann Corcoran – daughter of the late Kriegy Thomas Corcoran

Kimberly Guise – WWII Museum in New Orleans

Nicholas Hansen – grandson of the late Kriegy Carl Hansen

Thomas Hansen – son of the late Kriegy Carl Hansen

Luke Hardaway – grandson of one of our Kriegies - unnamed

Ronald N. Hardy – son of the late Kriegy Ronald Radcliffe Hardy

Barbara O'Brien – unknown

Kent Olinger – friend of Kriegy Warren “Bing” Evans

Kieran Outhouse – researcher

Brent Spurgin – son of the late Kriegy Harold Spurgin

Sharron Aten Pacheco – relative of the late Kriegy Frank Aten



## PUBLICATIONS

The following publications might be of interest to you. Many of them were written by our men. Your local library is a good place to check for availability. If you can't find what you're looking for there, write to the author or publisher or click on the links below. New and used copies are often available from online sites.

1. **Americans Behind the Barbed Wire** by Frank Diggs, Story of Frank's trip across Russia in 1945. Publisher: Vandemere Press, P. O. Box 5243, Clearwater FL 22205 (New price is \$24.95/Hardcover) <http://www.vandamere.com/diggs.htm> or <http://www.amazon.ca/Americans-Behind-Barbed-Wire-Inside/dp/0743474821>
2. **Diary of A Kriegie** by Ed Beattie. Diary of Ed Beattie, A UPI Correspondent captured near the Moselle River in Sept '44. Publisher: Thomas Y. Crowell Co., New York NY <http://www.amazon.com/Diary-kriegie-Edward-W-Beattie/dp/B0007E4UAU>
3. **Escape to Russia** by Howard "BOOMER" Holder. Story of Boomer Holder as he went across Russia in 1945. Publisher: Iberian Publishing Co., Athens GA [http://www.amazon.com/Escape-Russia-Howard-Randolph-Holder/dp/B0006F7X72/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226549191&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Escape-Russia-Howard-Randolph-Holder/dp/B0006F7X72/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226549191&sr=1-1)
4. **Home Was Never Like This.** Diary of Col Yardley. Publisher: Yardley Enterprises. Evergreen, CO. [http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb\\_ss\\_b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=HOME+WAS+never+like+this&x=0&y=0](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_ss_b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=HOME+WAS+never+like+this&x=0&y=0)
5. **Justifiable Pride** by William D. Stevens, Jamal Books, 2340 Devoe Drive, Lincoln NE 68506, 402-488-6005 [http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb\\_ss\\_b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Justifiable+Pride&x=13&y=17](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_ss_b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Justifiable+Pride&x=13&y=17)
6. **Katyn Forest Video** (Beta or VHS). Ray Towers, Jr., 25105 Vista Greens Court, Hayward CA 94541, 415-582-4871
7. **Kriegie** by Kenneth Simmons. Diary of an Air Force Pilot. Publisher: Thomas Nelson and Sons. New York NY. [http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb\\_ss\\_b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Kriegie+by+Kenneth+Simmons&x=0&y=0](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_ss_b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Kriegie+by+Kenneth+Simmons&x=0&y=0)
8. **Kriegsgefangener 3074 (Prisoner of War)** by Clarence Ferguson. Publisher: Texan Press, Waco TX [http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb\\_ss\\_b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Prisoner+of+War+by+Clarence+Ferguson&x=16&y=17](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_ss_b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Prisoner+of+War+by+Clarence+Ferguson&x=16&y=17) or occasionally available at: <http://www.abebooks.com/servlet/SearchResults?an=Clarence+Ferguson&sts=t&tn=Kriegsgefangener&x=43&y=14>
9. **OFLAG 64, 50th Anniversary Book.** Anniversary Committee. Publisher: Evanston Publishing Co., Evanston IL. [http://www.amazon.com/Oflag-64-fiftieth-anniversary-book/dp/1879260239/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1226550698&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Oflag-64-fiftieth-anniversary-book/dp/1879260239/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1226550698&sr=1-1)
10. **Passages to Freedom**, Joseph Frelinghuysen, 1990, Publisher: Sunflower University Press, 1531 Yuma (Box 1009), Manhattan KS 66502-4228, 800-258-1232 (\$17.95, includes S & H) [http://www.amazon.com/Passages-Freedom-Story-Capture-Escape/dp/0897451317/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226550856&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Passages-Freedom-Story-Capture-Escape/dp/0897451317/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226550856&sr=1-1)
11. **Oflag 64: A P.O.W. Odyssey**, DVD, Robert Galloway, Osprey HD, 192 E Bay St, Ste 300A, Charleston SC 29401-2701, (\$29.95 plus \$5 S&H - Please make checks payable to Robert Galloway, Osprey HD)
12. **Raid! The Untold Story of Patton's Secret Mission** by Richard Baron, Major Abe Baum, and Richard Goldhurst (paperback) [http://www.amazon.com/Raid-Untold-Pattons-Secret-Mission/dp/0440236096/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1254190748&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Raid-Untold-Pattons-Secret-Mission/dp/0440236096/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1254190748&sr=1-1)



13. **A Ramble Through My War** by Charles T. Marshall, Publisher: Louisiana State University Press, 1999. (\$29.95) [http://www.amazon.com/Ramble-Through-My-War-Anzio/dp/0807126365/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226550977&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Ramble-Through-My-War-Anzio/dp/0807126365/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226550977&sr=1-1)
14. **The Escape Factory** by Lloyd Shoemaker. Story of a secret organization in Wash DC that maintained contact with all POWs in WWII. St Martins Press. New York NY (A few are available on Amazon.com) [http://www.amazon.com/Escape-Factory-Story-Mis-X/dp/0312925727/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551149&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Escape-Factory-Story-Mis-X/dp/0312925727/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551149&sr=1-1)
15. **The Road To War** by Steven Burgauer. Based on the diary and notes of Captain William C. Frodsham, Jr.: a riveting first-person account of duty and drill, courage and capture. (Available on Amazon.com) [http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb\\_sb\\_ss\\_i\\_2\\_15?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=the+road+to+war+burgauer&prefix=The+Road+to+War](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_ss_i_2_15?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=the+road+to+war+burgauer&prefix=The+Road+to+War)
16. **The Water and The Rock** by Charles Jones. Diary of a man captured in Africa. Publisher: Anchor Publishing Co., Northwood, IA [http://www.amazon.com/Water-Rock-Charles-L-Jones/dp/B000IXSZHO/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551381&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Water-Rock-Charles-L-Jones/dp/B000IXSZHO/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551381&sr=1-1)
17. **The Welcome Swede** by Frank Diggs. Publisher: Vantage Press, New York NY (\$11.00) [http://www.amazon.com/Welcome-Swede-Thousands-Germans-Prisoners/dp/0533078180/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551448&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Welcome-Swede-Thousands-Germans-Prisoners/dp/0533078180/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551448&sr=1-1)
18. **33 Months as a POW in Stalag Luft III** by Albert P. Clark. Publisher: Fulcrum Publishing, 16100 Table Mountain Parkway, Suite 300, Golden CO 80403, 800-992-2908 (17.95 pb) [http://www.amazon.com/Months-POW-Stalag-Luft-III/dp/1555915361/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551497&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Months-POW-Stalag-Luft-III/dp/1555915361/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551497&sr=1-1)
19. **Tours of Duty: World War II Veterans Personal Stories** by Eleanor Bertrand. Includes stories of Jimmie Kanaya from Oflag 64, Martin Jones from Hammelburg, and Oscar Richard from Stalag I. Publisher: BookSurge Publishing (2/22/08). \$17.99 from Amazon.com, 1-800-201-7575 [http://www.amazon.com/Tours-Duty-Veterans-Personal-Stories/dp/141968728X/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551561&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Tours-Duty-Veterans-Personal-Stories/dp/141968728X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551561&sr=1-1)

## Other Publications

### WRITE DIRECTLY TO THESE CONTACTS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

**A Grand Tour of Russia to Odessa, Winter ~ 1945** by Herb Garris, edited by Clarence Meltesen. Now available on the Oflag 64 website.

**My Tour of Russia** by Herb Garris, P. O. Box 1693, Pinehurst NC 28370-1693

**Press Releases** by Ted Roggen, 101 Westcott, Houston TX 77007 (\$10.95)

**Vic Kanners Diary.** Don Kanners, 3205 Jennella Dr, Commerce TWP MI 48390-1619, [dkanners@comcast.net](mailto:dkanners@comcast.net)

**Roads to Liberation** by Clarence R. Meltesen is available free of charge except for a \$5 per copy shipping fee. Please contact Elodie Caldwell at the contact address on the front page of this ITEM. (Thank you Meltesen family.)

**The Waters Story.** Contact Pat Waters, 412 Rice Hope Drive, Mt. Pleasant SC 29464-9273

A **1947 Oflag 64 Reunion Photo** is available for a \$5 donation to the Postage Fund. Send your donation and request to Elodie Caldwell at the contact address on the front page of this ITEM. (Thank you Judy Fletcher.)

Henry P. Ackerman, Jr.  
~ 2009

On Thursday, April 23, 2009, HENRY P. ACKER, JR., 91 of Cockeysville, beloved husband of the late Vivian F. (nee Wooddell) Ackerman, loving father of Patricia A. Phataminviphas and her husband John and Charles Ackerman, Sr. and his wife Joan, grandfather of Charles Ackerman, Jr. and Carissa Ackerman and Lisa, James and Jennifer Phataminviphas, great-grandfather of Christopher Ackerman. Henry was an army veteran of both WWII and Korean War and retired from the army with the rank of Lt. Colonel. After retiring from the army, Henry worked for the remainder of his career for Baltimore County.



Friends may call at the family owned Peaceful Alternatives Funeral and Cremation Center, P. A., 2325 York Rd, Timonium on Tuesday, April 28 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a funeral service beginning at 1 p.m. Interment to follow in the Bosley United Methodist Church Cemetery.

Published in Baltimore Sun on April 26, 2009 and online accessible at the link below.  
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/baltimoresun/obituary.aspx?n=Henry-Ackerman&pid=126596814 - fbLoggedOut>

Abraham J. "Abe" Baum  
~ 2013



Baum, Abraham J. "Abe" RANCHO BERNARDO With his family at his bedside, Abraham J. Baum "Abe" passed away on March 3, 2013. San Diego's 2005 Veteran of the Year, he was also inducted in 2004 into the Rancho Bernardo Hall of Fame. He commanded the famed task force (that bears his name) sent by General George Patton to liberate the POWs at Stalag 13 in Hammelburg, and was also part of the Fourth Armored Division unit that liberated the Ohrdruf Concentration Camp. Returning to civilian life after the war, he remained inexorably connected to his military family by working with veterans' organizations wherever he lived. He founded the Rancho Bernardo Veteran's Memorial, and was instrumental in starting a program that sent veterans from all military conflicts to middle and high schools to share their wartime experiences with the students. He was also actively involved in supporting

the 1947 war for Israeli independence, and provided counsel to Moshe Dayan, Teddy Kollek, and other Haganah leadership. Abe is survived by Eileen, his loving wife of more than sixty-three years; his children David (Nancy), Barbara (Les) Zoltan, Susan (Howard) Locker, and Eric (Jodi); his sister Miriam Cohen and brother Morton; and, many grandchildren, nieces, nephews, grand-nieces, and grand-nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents Harry and Etta, and his older brother Bernard. A former Prisoner of War, Baum was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, two Silver Stars, three Bronze Stars - all for gallantry in action - and four Purple Hearts. He will be buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery on May 22 at 1 p.m. A memorial service will be held March 23rd at 11:00 AM at Bernardo Heights Country Club in Rancho Bernardo. In lieu of flowers, donations in his name may be made to either the Fisher House Foundation (supporting American military families) or Elizabeth Hospice of Escondido.



Published in U-T San Diego on March 17, 2013 and online accessible at the link below.

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/UTSanDiego/obituary.aspx?n=Abraham-Baum&pid=163662104#fbLoggedOut>

His online guestbook is accessible at:

<http://www.legacy.com/guestbooks/UTSanDiego/guestbook.aspx?n=abraham-baum&pid=163662104>

Edwin J. "Jim" Betts  
1917 ~ 2013



Edwin J. "Jim" Betts from Clifton TX passed away early in the morning on April 5, 2013. More information will be available in coming days. His obituary will be printed in the next ITEM.



Thomas "Tom" Griffin  
~ 2013



Thomas "Tom". Beloved husband for 60 years of the late Esther Brooks (nee Jones) Griffin. Dear father of John (Vicki) Griffin & Gary (Eliz) Griffin. Loving grandfather Liza &

Andrew Griffin. Step-grandfather of Daniel & Katelyn Reigel. Great-grandfather of Carson Brooks Edmundson. Also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. Tuesday, February 26, 2013. Age 96 yrs. Funeral services, military honors and a B-25 flyover will be held Saturday, March 9 at 12 noon at the Green Township Veterans Park, 6231 Harrison Ave. (45247). Memorials may be made to the Doolittle Toyko Raiders Scholarship Fund, c/o Tom Casey, 4588 Longleaf Lane, Sarasota, FL 34241. [neidhardminges.com](http://neidhardminges.com)



## Kenneth W. Hyatt 1917 ~ 2011



Kenneth W. Hyatt, age 94 of Shakopee, passed away peacefully of natural causes June 12, 2011. Preceded in death by wife,

Bernadine (former employee of Star Tribune.) Loved and missed by sons, James Hyatt, David H. (Dinah) Hyatt; daughter and caretaker, Donna Hyatt; grandsons, David A., Anthony (Tammy), Army SFC Matthew (Jamie), Jason, Daniel (Shannon); granddaughters, Kelly, Stephanie; 3 great-granddaughters; 1 great-grandson; sister, Marilyn Truesdale; several nieces and nephews. Visitation Wed., 4-7 p.m. and Thursday 8:30-9:15 a.m. all at Ballard-Sunder Funeral Home, 833 S. Marschall Rd., Shakopee. Mass of Christian Burial Thurs., 9:45 a.m. Church of St. Mark, 250 S. Atwood St., Shakopee. Private family interment Fort Snelling National Cemetery. Ballard-Sunder Funeral Homes. [www.ballardsunderfuneral.com](http://www.ballardsunderfuneral.com) Shakopee Chapel 952-4445-1202



Published in the Star Tribune June 13, 2011 and online at:  
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/startribune/obituary.aspx?n=Kenneth-Hyatt&pid=151914305-fbLoggedOut>

The guestbook is expired.

## William A. "Bill" Shular, Jr. 1922 ~ 2013



William "Bill" Shular Jr. SENECA Maj. William A. "Bill" Shular, Jr., USA (Ret.), eldest son of the late William A. Shular and Clara A. Gammons, passed away in Dorn VA Hospital,

March 9, 2013. He was born May 11, 1922, in Oconee, Washington Co., GA, graduated from Albany H.S., Albany, GA, in 1940, and married Mary Butts Shular on October 8, 1943. He joined the United States Army in January of 1942 and retired at Fort Jackson, SC, on January 31, 1965. A World War II veteran, he was captured at the battle for Anzio and taken to Rome where he escaped; eventually being recaptured and transported by railroad car to Oflag 64, a German POW camp in Szubin, Poland, where he was held until being marched out of the camp in advance of the Russian invasion. He escaped during the march and ultimately made his way to the Russian port of Odessa where he was united with the authorities for the United States. He was honored with the Bronze Star with bronze OCL, Purple Hearts (3) and numerous medals and awards during his long military career. In addition to his wife, Bill is survived by four daughters: Mary Hopper of Charlotte, NC, Anne Bailey and husband, Donald, of Chattanooga, TN, Sue Grunsky and husband, Alan, of Davidson, NC, and Jane Foster and husband, Bill, of Seneca, SC; grandchildren: Bill Stith, MaryAnne Pendleton, Jason Grunsky, Karen Hoover and Bill Foster, Jr. He has eight great-grandchildren. In addition, he is survived by a brother and three sisters. He was predeceased by grandchildren, Michael Austin Vetzal, Christopher Wayne Vetzal and Charles T. "Rocky" Stith, and two sisters and three brothers. Funeral service for Bill will be held March 15, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. in Andersonville National Cemetery, Andersonville, GA. In lieu of flowers, memorials in his memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 3223 Sunset Blvd., Suite 100, West Columbia, SC 29169. Condolences may be expressed online by visiting [www.sandiferfuneralhome.com](http://www.sandiferfuneralhome.com). Sandifer Funeral Home, Westminster, is assisting the family.



Published in The State on March 12, 2013 and online at:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/thestate/obituary.aspx?n=william-shular-bill&pid=163601886&fhid=11678#fbLoggedOut#storyink=cpy>

His online guestbook is available at:

<http://www.legacy.com/guestbooks/thestate/guestbook.aspx?n=william-shular&pid=163601886&cid=full>



We have recently learned of the passing of two of our late Kriegies' widows, Clementi Holder and Jean Otterbein. At ITEM print time, Jean's obituary was not available.

## Clementi Holder 1920 ~ 2013



Clementi Lacey-Baker Holder, age 92, of Athens, died on January 22, 2013, following a brief illness.

Born in Louisville, KY to the late Susan (Clark) and Arthur Clementi Lacey-Baker, Mrs. Holder was married to the late H. Randolph Holder, of Athens, for 60 years. She is survived by their four children: Janice Holder Black (and her husband, Joseph B. Black), of Wylie, Tex., Susan Holder (and her husband, Dennis Thompson), of Tyler, Tex., Marjory Holder (and her husband, Larry Turnbow), of Blowing Rock, N.C., and H. Randolph H. Holder Jr. (and his wife, Betty Holder), of Incline Village, Nev. She is also survived by her husband, Dr. Robert N. Saveland, of Athens, and by her grandchildren, Thea Caitlin Turnbow, of San Francisco, Calif., Nyssa Clementi Turnbow, of Boone, N.C., Ian Randolph Turnbow, of Blowing Rock, N.C., Joseph Black IV (and his wife, Nicole Black), of Indianapolis, Ind., and Kelli Renee Thompson, of Dallas, Tex. She was preceded in death by her grandsons, Douglass Collins and Eric Turnbow.

Mrs. Holder loved Athens, and in addition to working with her first husband in Clarke Broadcasting Corporation (WGAU/WNGC), she was known as an active community volunteer for several decades with the Classic Center Cultural Foundation, Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia, Athens [Rotary Club](#) (Paul Harris Fellow, Kendall Weisiger Fellow, Athens Rotary Foundation Fellow) and Georgia Rotary Student (international exchange) Program, Daughters of the American Revolution (former Chapter Regent), Georgia Museum of Art, Emmanuel Episcopal Church Women, Recording for the Blind, and a number of other local civic, business, and cultural organizations.

Mrs. Holder was in charge of transportation and publicity for this county's distribution of the first Salk vaccine against polio in the 1950s--a huge undertaking that resulted in 95% of the children in Clarke County becoming immunized against that horrendous disease, the highest percentage of immunizations of any county in the state. She was instrumental in the organization that opened Clarke County's first Mental Health Center; she founded the high school honorary music sorority Sigma Alpha Phi, which promoted classical music study and performance for 27 years, and she was named an

Honorary Flag Officer (Admiral) by the U.S. Navy Supply Corps School for her support of that institution in Athens for nearly 50 years. A Girl Scout for more than 82 years, she was awarded an honorary Golden Eaglet in 2012, and was the oldest and longest-active Girl Scout in attendance at the national 100th Anniversary celebration of that organization in Savannah in 2012. A highlight of her life was a trip around the world on the Queen Elizabeth II in 2000, with her beloved husband, Randolph.

The family will receive visitors from 6-8 p.m. on Friday, January 25, at Bridges Funeral Home.

Services for Mrs. Holder will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, January 26, at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, on Prince Avenue, in Athens, with interment at Evergreen Memorial Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mrs. Holder's memory to the Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia, 185 Newton Bridge Rd., Athens, GA 30607. Bridges Funeral Home, of Athens, is in charge of the arrangements. [www.bridgesfuneral.com](http://www.bridgesfuneral.com)

Her online obituary can be found at:  
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/onlineathens/obituary.aspx?pid=162619575#fbLoggedOut>

Her online guestbook can be found at:  
<http://www.legacy.com/guestbooks/onlineathens/guestbook.aspx?n=clementi-holder&pid=162619575>



If you become aware of any of our Kriegies or their wives/widows who pass on, we would appreciate a quick email or note letting us know whatever details you may have. We will do our best to inform our Oflag 64 Family as soon as possible. Please use the contact information for me (Elodie) found on the front page of this ITEM. Thank you very much.