

The

Post Oflag 64 Item

Nearly Everybody
Reads The ITEM

Oflag 64's Home
Newspaper

“Get Wise – ITEM-ize”

2nd Quarter 2020

Good Ole USA

Of Undetermined Worth

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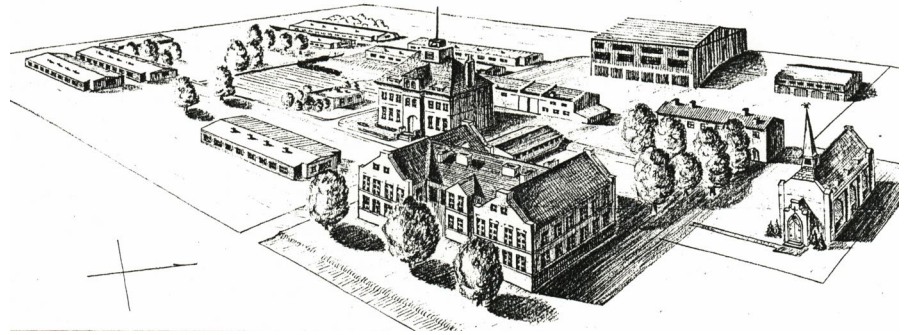
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We apologize to any others we may have overlooked but thank all who have contacted us.

NOTE: The Oflag 64 Remembered website and the Post Oflag 64 ITEM are independent entities and do not operate under the auspices of any other organization.



Drawing by Jim Bickers, shown without barbed wire fences or guard towers

Dear Oflag 64 Family,

We are always trying to figure out ways to best serve the members of our Oflag 64 Family. The ITEM has been published for many, many years with the intent of providing news about our Kriegies or updates to previous stories told about them. Sometimes we reprint stories because of their general interest to others. And sometimes we report on activities related to our Kriegies, such as reunions or trips to Szubin. In more recent issues we have also provided information about the future museum, information about the Polish-American Foundation and information about “Friends of Oflag 64”, the non-profit supporting the Foundation, along with related requests and forms.

In the past, we have arranged the ITEM in various ways hoping to generate interest in one thing and another at a particular time but feel that the current arrangement is how it needs to be. Company Business will always come first followed by Mail Call, Kriegy News and Information, TAPS, and a modified Publications page. The major portion of the Publications section has now been moved to our website. Not to diminish the importance or interest of the materials by their placement in the ITEM, Foundation and Friends information will occupy the last part of our ITEM. For ease in clipping out related forms that need to be returned, that seemed to be the best. Please check pages 16-20 for their updates.

We hope you understand our reasoning and will be able to navigate through future ITEMS with ease, knowing where everything will be placed.

Our best to you always,
Elodie/Bill Caldwell
ITEM Editor/Webmaster
www.oflag64.us



Oflag 64



A Little Company Business

Fund Donations

There is now more than one way to contribute to Oflag 64 related funds.



For contributions to the **Postage Fund ONLY**, which covers the cost of mailing the printed ITEM to our remaining Kriegies or their widows, please make your checks payable to Oflag 64 Postage Fund, and send them to:

Bret Job

2801 SW 46th St
Cape Coral FL 33914-6026

OR

Elodie Caldwell

2731 Terry Ave
Longview WA 98632-4437

Donation Thanks To

LUCINE JUSKALIAN
in memory of her late husband
George Juskalian
and to
ANNETTE SECOR NELSON

Friends of Oflag 64, Inc., our nonprofit, offers another way to make monetary donations but **ONLY** for the future Museum in Szubin. For contributions to this fund only, please write your checks and send them to the following address:

Friends of Oflag 64, Inc.
12768 Turberville Lane
Oak Hill, VA 20171-2214

OR

to donate **ONLINE**, visit the "Friends" new website at:
<https://friendsofotlag64.org/cont-act-us>

You can also access the donation page on the new Polish-American Foundation website at:

<http://www.szubinpowcamps.org/en/foundation/u-s-501-c-3>

These funds are separate from the Postage Fund and will be used to help support the new Museum in various ways.

THANKS to all who have so very generously donated to our various Oflag 64 funds over time.

Thank You!

Researching Records

Oflag 64 Remembered and the Artifacts Committee are involved in records research for the future museum. Currently they are creating Kriegy Bios and writing artifact descriptions.

Kriegy Bios

If you have a Bio that has already been written about your Kriegy, they would love to have a copy. If not, they can help you create one. To write the Bios, the Committee requests Kriegy early-life photos, all WWII active-duty photos, later-life photos, as well as stories of capture and camp life. Digital scans of original photos, obituaries, gravestones, other documents, and unit patches or crests will be accepted for writing the Bios.

Artifacts

If you have already donated artifacts, the Committee will write artifact descriptions for each of them (with your help regarding information about the artifacts). The artifacts and write-ups will eventually be used in displays in the future museum.

The Artifacts Committee working as part of "Friends", the non-profit, would like to thank all who have contributed artifacts and any write-ups to date. The artifacts are definitely telling a story and will be great additions to the future museum.

If you would like to help with writing Bios or researching our Kriegies, please contact Dave Stewart at dslvtx@gmail.com. There is always work to do and the researchers would love your help.

Look for artifact descriptions being posted on the Friends of Oflag 64, Inc. website at: <https://friendsofotlag64.org/artifacts>

Check for other information regarding our Kriegies to be posted to the Foundation website at: <http://www.szubinpowcamps.org/en/>

Historical Information and Feedback Are Always Welcome

If you have anything to submit for print in the ITEM, please contact Elodie Caldwell at elodie@oflag64.us. Digital scans of original photos or anything that can be sent in .jpg or .png format works great. If you are unable to scan photos, I would be glad to scan them and send them back to you. Documents can also be sent in .pdf format. Suggestions are always welcome.

If you notice Oflag 64 website errors, omissions, or links that don't work properly, please contact Bill Caldwell at: webmaster@oflag64.us



MAIL CALL



Marilyn Kanners Beckham, daughter of the late Kriegy Victor Kanners, wrote that she is the person to contact for copies of her dad's diary. Please see the Publications section in this ITEM for her contact information. She also mentioned that she's going through her dad's papers and will send us anything applicable. *Thank you, Marilyn, for contacting us about your dad's diary. Also, we look forward to anything related to Oflag 64 that you'd like to share.*



Cindy Sharpe Burgess, daughter of Kriegy Wilbur "Bill" Sharpe, has been in touch with one of our Kriegy descendants, Andrea Fisher, who is the granddaughter of the late Kriegy Austin "Pete" Knapp. Cindy shared that Austin's diary lists all the guys in Room 9 which included her dad. Andrea subsequently shared the list with Cindy. See the Kriegy News and Information section. *Great to make family connections, not only learning who belongs to whom, but connecting with others in our Oflag 64 family. Thanks Cindy for sharing your contact with Andrea with us.*



Glenn Burgess, son-in-law of Wilbur "Bill" Sharpe, is the webmaster of the Friends of Oflag 64, Inc. website.

<https://friendsofotlag64.org/home>

"Friends" is the non-profit group supporting the Polish-American Foundation for the Commemoration of POW Camps in Szubin.

<http://www.szubinpowcamps.org/en/>

Glenn sends us information from time to time as he researches information for the "Friends" website. See the Kriegy News and Information section for his recent find. *Thank you, Glenn, for the photo of John Creech in his greenhouse at Oflag 64. Thankfully, John was able to contribute much in support of the Kriegies while interned.*

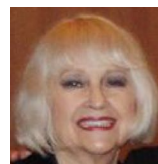
Greg Clingan, son of the late Kriegy Lee Clingan, sent information about his dad following our request to secure permission to use Lee's Veterans History Project (VHP) files. He also thanked us for providing information about Oflag 64. His dad didn't talk much about Oflag 64 so he

appreciates being able to learn more. *Greg, thank you for the information you shared about your dad. We are continually amazed at what our Kriegies accomplished after the war. And thank you for giving us permission to use his VHP files.*

Ellsworth Cundiff Jr., son of the late Kriegy Ellsworth Cundiff Sr., recently wrote that he has several original ITEMS, photos, his dad's ID card, diary, and shoes. He mentioned that his dad was in the camp hospital when the camp was evacuated so he got to keep many items when the Russians liberated the camp. He has agreed to donate most if not all of these artifacts. *Ellsworth, this is wonderful. Thank you for your generous donation of artifacts. We're continually amazed at what our Kriegies were able to keep with them throughout the war.*

Tom Detmers, son of the late Kriegy Arthur Detmers, wrote regarding his father's war mementos and donating them to our future museum. *Tom, thank you for your willingness to donate the mementos. The Artifacts Committee will definitely be happy to receive them.*

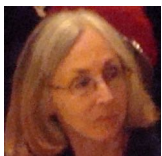
Terry Dooley, son of the late Kriegy Joseph Dooley, sent a copy of two newspaper articles containing information about his dad. One story was actually published in a 2019 ITEM, but in a different format. We attempted to insert the photocopies of the actual newspaper articles in this issue but they weren't readable. *Terry, thank you for being willing to share the articles with us. We apologize for not being able to enhance them for use in this ITEM.*



Evie Dunbar, widow of the late Kriegy Alan Dunbar, wrote that she has recently moved and is adjusting to new surroundings. She recently found an overcoat that Alan wore during the war and offered to donate it to the museum. *Evie, thanks for sharing your new address and phone number and thank you for offering to donate Alan's coat. Little by little, we'll be able to "dress" an entire soldier model.*

Pati Fekete, daughter of the late Kriegy Herb Garris, in response to our request for permission to use Herb's Veterans History Project collection sent word that the form would be on its way. She also thanked us for what we're doing to make available the VHP collections we're finding. *Pati, thanks for sending permission to use your father's materials. We're happy that our Kriegies were willing to share their information and thankful that we will be able to access their collections.*

Steve Fisher, son of the late Kriegy Leo Fisher, responded to an email we sent containing a letter from his father. We had lost contact with Steve for a while but were thrilled to be able to find him again. Steve thanked us for tracking him down and agreed to put together some biographical information on his dad. He also mentioned that he might have some memorabilia to contribute to the future museum. *Steve, it was great hearing from you once again. We're happy that the letter we sent from your dad was a new one for you. We're looking forward to your dad's bio and any other information or memorabilia you send.*



Judy Casner Fletcher, daughter of the late Kriegy Al Casner wrote that she's cleaning out her Dad's reunion papers and asked if we could use them. Since our website

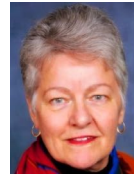
Reunion Gallery pages are not complete, we asked her to send them along. The package arrived shortly thereafter. In it was a variety of reunion photos, most of which have been added to our website Reunion Gallery. Some have also been included in this ITEM. See the Kriegy News and Information section. *Judy, we thank you for all you sent. Much was new to us. It's always a puzzle to me why we keep things for years and years, but for historical purposes, this is why. It's great that your dad kept these things.*



Asher Henry, grandson of the late Kriegy Robert T. Henry, wrote to let us know that his father, David Henry, recently passed away. David was faithful at keeping up with correspondence over the years and

donated one of his dad's artifacts shortly before he passed. We're thankful to David for his contribution and to Asher for letting us know about David's passing. *Asher, we send our heartfelt condolences to you and your family and keep you in our thoughts and prayers. It's difficult to lose family members, especially parents, and*

we know your dad is greatly missed. Beautiful memories will help sustain you as you grieve.



Victoria Herring, daughter of the late Clyde Herring, has been going through her father's papers and has found quite a bit of reunion-related information, news clips, photos, and letters. She will donate them to us as

well as other Kriegy mementos (POW ID cards, German dog tags, photos) to use as needed. *Thank you, Victoria, for being willing to part with your dad's files. It's difficult trying to organize and figure out what to keep and what to send elsewhere, but we appreciate what you're willing to donate.*

Marjory Holder, daughter of the late Kriegy H. Randolph Holder, responded to our request for her dad's obituary and other information we could use to help write her dad's Bio. Most of his personal documents, including the letters he and her mom wrote to each other during his POW years are catalogued at the University of Georgia Library. His radio editorials may be found at the Athens Regional Library. *We're so happy and thankful to you Marjory for the information you shared. It's comforting to know that the memorabilia are being kept in safe places.*

Sharon Franklin Hutchison, daughter of the late Kriegy Isaac "Ike" Franklin, wrote regarding a Christmas letter we found from her dad in an old ITEM. She recalled fond memories of sitting around the dining table with him and her mother when she was a child, addressing and signing lots of cards. She commented: "I admire the way he kept up with his friends. He loved people, and people loved him. He set so many good examples for me." *Sharon, thank you for sharing your memories. Reminiscing about those wonderful times can provide peace and comfort, especially when we need it most.*



Warren Jones, son of the late Kriegy Charles L. Jones, sent Memorial Day greetings and links to patriotic messages. Of particular interest was a wonderful tribute to "Old Glory" by Jimmy Weldon. Jimmy is a veteran

who helped liberate the Buchenwald Concentration Camp. He's currently in his 90s and living in California. Click on the link on the next page to listen. It's well worth listening to.

<https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?fr=tightropetb&p=jimmy+weldon+american+flag#id=1&vid=51ddd4f37a52a11a10520a4251f656f9&action=click> Thanks Warren for your patriotic greetings. We indeed live in a great country. Enough said!



Lucine Juskalian, widow of the late Kriegy George Juskalian, recently sent a donation to our Postage Fund in appreciation for all we do. She had been looking for information on George in our past ITEMS and was grateful for our help in locating them. She also sent an abridgement of an interview with George. See the Kriegy News and Information section. Additionally, she sent one of George's stories "Harput Revisited" which was found in the Armenian Review. *Lucine, we're always happy to help our Kriegy families. Thank you for your thoughtful contribution to our Postage Fund and also for sending the interview abridgement, story, and other information.*



Lynn Kanaya, widow of the late Kriegy Jimmie Kanaya, in response to our earlier request for Oflag 64 artifacts, sent a number of Jimmie's wartime mementos to be donated to the future Museum in Szubin. Included among them was his mess kit and an Oflag 64 calendar. *Lynn, thank you for your generous donation of artifacts. We know how difficult it is to part with items that have sentimental value, but they will be a great addition to the Museum.*

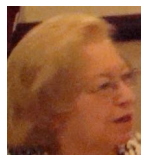


Anne Hoskot Kreutzer, daughter of the late Kriegy Nathaniel Hoskot, sent a copy of an August 1944 periodical called *Signal* which included an article and photo featuring her dad. It was published in German but the Artifacts Committee now has a copy and is trying to locate someone to translate the text into English. *Anne, what a great contribution. Thank you for being so willing to donate it. Looking forward to learning what the English translation says.*

Pam Skells Ladley, daughter of the late Kriegy James Skells, responded to a request for obituaries and photos of Kriegies. *Thanks, Pam, for sending the information and photo. We will*

add them to the other information we've been able to find on him for use in the future museum.

Bob Levin, son of Kriegy Robert Levin, wrote that his oldest daughter for her senior thesis, did a video interview of his dad. We're hoping to receive a copy of the interview soon. Usually some minor formatting is required for our website, but we'd like to provide a way for these stories to be told. *Thank you, Bob, for offering to send a copy of this interview. We are definitely interested and are looking forward to receiving it.*



Maureen Quinn Linkovich, daughter of the late Patrick Quinn who was on Task Force Baum, is interested in locating other men he served with on the Task Force or any Kriegy who may have remembered him when the POWs were liberated. If you can help Maureen, please contact me at elodie@oflag64.us. *Thank you, Maureen, for checking with us. We rarely find such information especially since most of our men are no longer living, but occasionally we get lucky. We'll let you know if we hear anything.*



Tony Lumpkin III, grandson of the late Tony Lumpkin B. Lumpkin, wrote that he would be sending numerous artifacts right away. Among the artifacts his family is donating is a complete set of original ITEMS. We're excited to see what else comes. On a side note, Tony mentioned that he hopes to make a trip to Szubin in the not too distant future. *Tony, we can't thank you and your family enough for the artifacts you're donating. They will definitely be a great addition to the future museum. Regarding your trip to Szubin, Szubin Days 2021 will happen next June. Should be a memorable occasion and experience.*

Bob MacArevey, son of the late James MacArevey, after receiving a request to send a copy of his dad's escape account which included two other Kriegies, immediately sent a digital copy. We have also added it to our website. *Bob, thank you for sending the account so quickly. The transcript is much appreciated by us and by Margaret McClone, whose dad was one of the other Kriegies with whom your dad escaped.*

Margaret Spence McClone, daughter of the late Kriegy Leonard W. Spence, after reading a past ITEM saw a note sent by Bob MacArevey, son of

the late Kriegy James MacArevey, regarding a transcript of his father's escape from the Long, Cold March with two other Kriegies. Margaret believed her father was one of the others. We wrote to Bob who subsequently sent us and Margaret a copy of his dad's transcript. *Margaret, thanks for checking with us. Making connections and filling in the blanks is what helps put the whole story together. We know, as you said, that this is a priceless piece of information for you.*

Ginger Baldwin Montuoro, daughter of the late Kriegy Malcolm Baldwin sent a photocopy of the journal her father kept during the long march. The entire "march" diary has been added to our website at: <http://www.oflag64.us/long-cold-march.html> Page 1 of his diary can be found in the Kriegy News and Information section of this ITEM. *Thank you, Ginger, for sending a copy of your dad's journal. He kept great notes, giving us more information and pieces to the "puzzle".*

Dave Oshlo, son of the late Kriegy Robert Oshlo, recently found our website and asked to be added to our email list. *Dave, thank you for contacting us and welcome to our Oflag 64 Family. We have a great group of Kriegy family members, all willing to share information if they have it. We've added you to our email list as requested so you'll be hearing from us from time to time.*

David Palluconi, son of the late Kriegy Amelio Palluconi, commented on the video interview of his dad that was added to our website not long ago. It worked great and he was able to watch it in its entirety. He has also been in touch with the Artifacts Committee regarding donating some of his father's artifacts. *Thanks, David, for your feedback and also for the artifacts you've been willing to donate to the Museum. It will be great to have the bigger picture of life at Oflag 64 with actual artifacts telling the story.*

Lionel Paret from France is doing research on ex-Kriegy Eugene P. Kirk and asked us to share any information we have on LT Kirk. We answered Lionel's questions and sent what information we had online along with other information we were able to find. Lionel is interested in any documents or information available. If you remember Eugene Kirk, please let us know so we can pass the information along to Lionel. *Lionel, thank you for contacting us. We have added you to our email list as requested and*

will send you any information we receive to help you in your search.



Rita Dilburn Paulk, daughter of the late Kriegy Ernest Dilburn, responded to our request for her dad's Bio. The following was included as part of the bio she wrote: "Ernest is remembered by his family and friends for many firsts. First he was an original member of the Army's Parachute Test Platoon, second he was one of the original members of the 501st Parachute Infantry Battalion, third he was one of the original members of the 101st Airborne Division, fourth he was one of the original members of the 101st Airborne Division Pathfinders and finally, he was one of the first to jump into Normandy on 6 June 1944." *Great information, Rita. Our Kriegies were all amazing men. Thanks so much for sharing all you have sent. We have included the information in his historical file.*



Gail Rahal, widow of the late Kriegy Nick Rahal sent compliments on our website video page. And not long afterward she sent word about a book Nick had entitled "Historical and Pictorial Review of the 43rd Division Artillery of the United States Army" published in 1941. Nick is included in that book. She also mentioned that she would like to donate Nick's military jacket if it could be used by the museum, and at some point in the future, she said she would donate Nick's diary. Copies of news articles, a tv interview, and his POW Day speech given at the State Capitol Building will be on their way soon. *Gail, thank you for all you are donating to the Museum. These donations will be such a great way to honor our former Kriegies.*



John Rodgers Sr., Kriegy, responded to a request for information about how the Kriegies marched during the Long March. He remembered marching two abreast with guards fore and aft but along the sides of the columns. Rifles were carried from the shoulder, and guards from Oflag 64 began the march. He said that "keeping in line was easy. No one wanted to take a chance on being shot. Going through towns was different..." "On one occasion, we were going through a town, so Harry Evans and I dropped out of line, went down a side street and found a house and knocked on the door. It

was answered by two older ladies. It was warming up [outside] and we were willing to trade our overcoats. They didn't have anything to trade, so we left and got back in line." *John, thank you for always being willing to share information. The side street story was a good one.*

Annette Secor Nelson, widow of the late Kriegy Richard Secor, sent a nice note with compliments and included a check for the Postage Fund. *Annette, we so appreciate the support we receive from those who donate to the Postage Fund. Thank you for your thoughtful and generous contribution.*

Jane Frederick Slavin, daughter of the late Kriegy Donald Frederick, checked our website recently and wrote that she had photos to send and a Hammelburg roster to share. We have now replaced some of the older photos on our site with Jane's higher resolution ones. Since her emails, Jane has donated numerous artifacts. *Thanks, Jane, for your photos, the booklet, and ALL you have donated to the future museum to help tell our Kriegies' stories.*



Paul Thriffiley III, son of the late Paul Thriffiley, Jr. has responded to our request for help with researching information for our Kriegy Bios. He's been extremely helpful in locating information and articles pertaining to particular Kriegies. *Thanks, Paul, for agreeing to help with our research. We appreciate the tremendous support you have given as we've begun to build historical files.*

Pam Waters, daughter of the late Kriegy Bertrum Wheeler, sent compliments on the videos recently added to our website and thanked us for making them available to everyone. *Pam, thank you for your compliments. It's always nice to get feedback. We hope they will be useful to others as well.*



Mariusz Winiacki, President of the Polish-American Foundation for the Commemoration of POW Camps in Szubin, has been working endlessly on projects for the Foundation. He, with the help of a few others, has been successful in attaching Polish subtitles to the *Oflag 64: A POW Odyssey* video and is working on several other English-language Kriegy videos that have been sent. *Mariusz,*

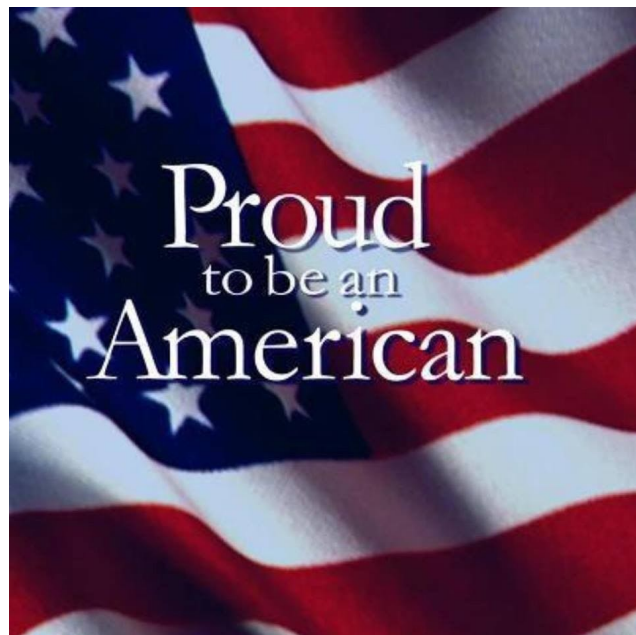
thank you for your commitment and dedication to the Foundation and preparations for the future Museum in Szubin. We know that these projects will be great additions to museum plans when they're completed.



Judy Whorley Winkle, daughter of the late Kriegy William Whorley, sent an article about her dad and Tony Lumpkin following the war. See the Kriegy News and Information section. This will be a great addition to her dad's historical file. *Thanks Judy, for sharing the article. It's interesting to read stories of our Kriegies after they returned home and see which of them had contact with each other outside of Oflag 64.*



Debbie Ziegler, daughter of the late Kriegy Orpha Ziegler responded to our request for permission to use her dad's VHP files. She agreed to give permission and also stated that she would donate her Dad's medals and photo display. The French published her dad's story in French and she will locate a copy to send us. *Debbie, thank you for being willing to donate your father's artifacts. We're looking forward to receiving permission to use the VHP files and also learning more about the French story.*



Thank You KRIEGY PATRIOTS and HEROES for your SERVICE and SACRIFICE!!!

Kriegy News and Information



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



We would love to recognize ALL our great **KRIEGY PATRIOTS AND HEROES** when their birthdays roll around.

The following Kriegies are still with us, to our knowledge, but have previously been unrecognized in this section.



Mervin Danielson – 6 July 1919 – 101 years old

Warren Ohlhurst – 8 June 1922 – 98 years old

← Rocco Pravidica – September 1921 – 99 years old

Still need birthdates and ages

Henry Desmond

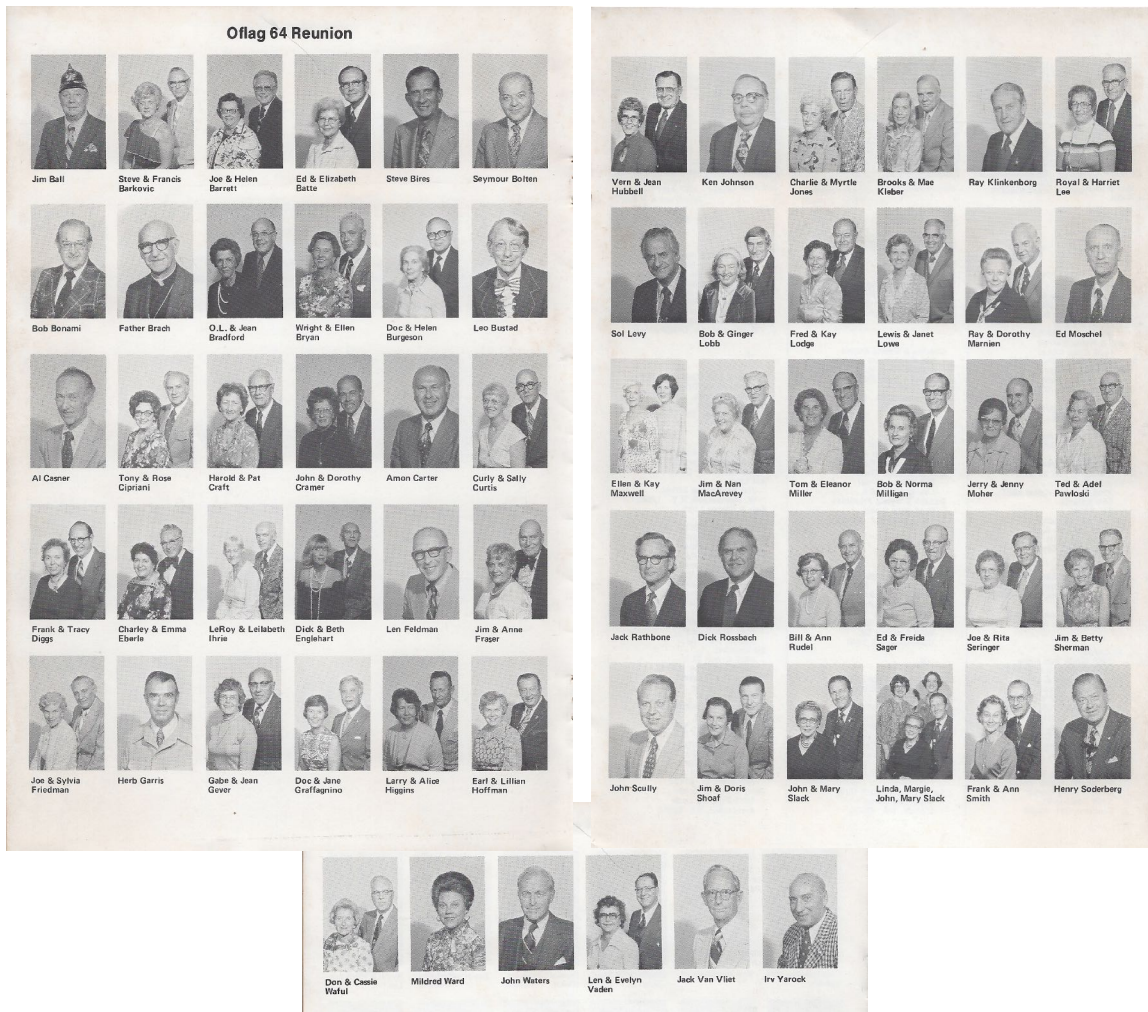
James Young

* * * * *

The photo below from the 1953 Des Moines IA Reunion was sent to us by Judy Fletcher, daughter of the late Kriegy Al Casner. What a find! It has been added to our website under “Other Years”. You may recognize some of the Kriegies. See if you can find your Kriegy relative.



The following photos from the 1977 Philadelphia Reunion booklet were also submitted by Judy Fletcher. You'll have to find your magnifying glass to read the names here, but individual photos will be added to our website soon and will be more readable.



This photo was sent by Glenn Burgess. It shows the late Kriegy John Creech in his greenhouse at Oflag 64. This clipping along with an article he wrote were published in a 1946 issue of Better Homes & Gardens.

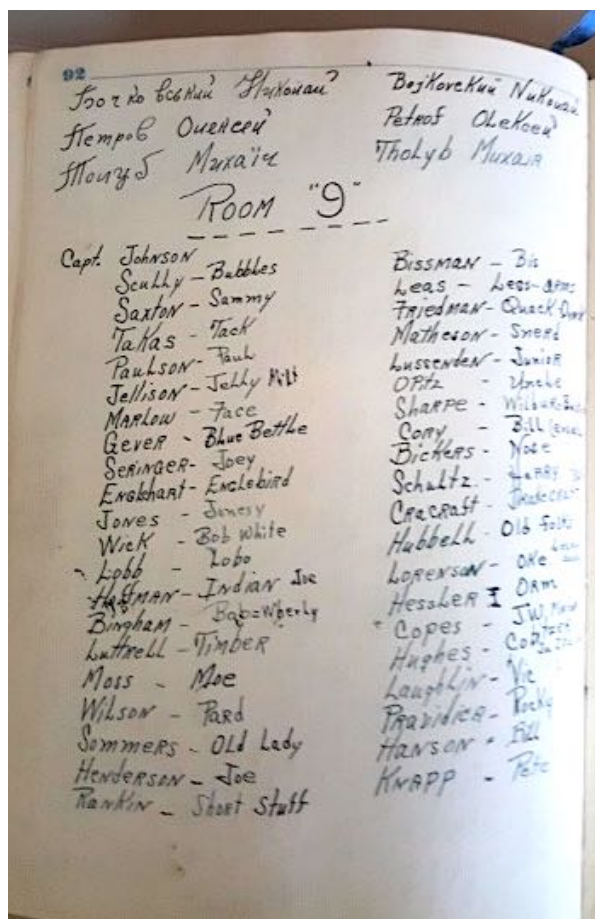


Captain Creech with some of his plants in the camp's greenhouse. He never knew why the Germans allowed him to use the building or gave him coal, but suspects it was for propaganda sent to the Red Cross

This photo, sent by Ginger Baldwin Montuoro, is page 1 of 8 pages of the journal Malcolm Baldwin kept while on the long march to Hammelburg.

ROUST MARCHÉ SHUBAN POLAND - HAMMILBURG GERMANY					
DATE	MARCHED TO	COON RATION	QUARTERS	MISC.	DISTANCE
JAN 21, 1945	EXIN	NONE	BARN - LIGHTS	LONG AND SHARP APEL IN COLD - 1282 O'S, 109 EM'S STARTED MARCH - IRC BOX EA. - SOME SLEDS - JOIN REFUGEE COLUMN - 2 BREWS CONSTANT ADJUSTMENT OF PACKS - HEAVY ARTICLES + EXCESS DISCARDED MOB REFORMATION - SNOW SICK LEFT BEHIND - SLOW MARCH GROUP FORMED - STILL STREAM OF REFUGEES - DEAD HORSES FRIENDLY GAVE MILK LIBERATION DAY - GUARDS LEFT 0400 - HEARD SMALL ARMS + ARTILLERY - CIVILIANS GIVE TEA SOUP - POLES REPORT RUSSIANS 8 KILOS ARMED GUARDS RETURN - LEFT 1600 - S.S. GUARDS MANY O'S TOOK OFF OVER FIELDS	22 122
22	EICHFELDE NEAR WIRSITZ	NONE	DAIRY BARN W/ CATTLE		28 50
23	CHARLOTTEBERG	NONE	BARN		7 57
24	LOBSENS	3/4 BROTE, 1/2 LB CHEESE 1/8 LB. MARGER - 1 CUP OATMEAL	BARN	GUARDS SHOT UP BARN AFTER WE LEFT CIVILIAN IN LOBSENS GAVE BREAD CHEESE, ER-SATZ - SOUP OLD GUARDS RETURN COLUMN - IT ESCAPED O'S CAUGHT - SPEECH BY OBERSK. BE GENTLEMEN DON'T ESCAPE - SS IN CHARGE UNDER ORDER OF HIMMLER.	12 69
25	FLATOW	ERSATZ - 1/4 BROTE POTATOE SOUP	BARN	COLDER - MET COLUMN OF KUSIGNY BATTLES DOWN - WENT THRU SCHWENITZ FIRST TOWN IN GERMANY - FROZEN RUSSIAN.	23 92

This photo was taken of a page from the diary of the late Kriegy Austin "Pete" L. Knapp showing the men who lived with him in "Room 9" while at Oflag 64. Check out the nicknames they were given. Thanks to Andrea Fisher, Pete's granddaughter, for sharing it with Cindy Burgess and subsequently with us.



This article was sent by Judy Whorley Winkle and features two returning Kriegies, one is her dad William Whorley and the other is Tony Lumpkin.

The Returnee

Describe Total Destruction in Warsaw

Red Army Rescued Officers from Nazis

Two returnee-captains who have reported to the Redistribution Station brought back from Europe a memory they'll never forget—the scenes of indescribable destruction in the twice-ravaged Polish capital of Warsaw.

Damage caused by the Nazi bombardment of the city at the start of the European conflict apparently was mild when compared with the desolation left in the wake of the battles for its liberation.

"It is gone—there is nothing left standing," said Capt William C. Whorley of Mason City, Iowa, who passed through Warsaw on his way home after several months as a prisoner of war of the Germans. "When I was there in January, there were dead people still unburied who had been killed in August. I mean they were lying out in the middle of the streets."

The captain said he was glad it was winter when he was there—that Warsaw was in danger of a

Caught Two Germans While Aiding Buddy

A driver for the Battalion Commanding Officer stuck out his neck where shelling was thick in Italy and won the Bronze Star Medal. He is Pfc Harold A. Shannon of Stormlake, Iowa.

Headquarters received a report which told of a captain wounded in both legs. Litter bearers couldn't carry him to the medical aid station because of the distance and furious enemy artillery fire. Shannon volunteered for the job.

Taking his jeep, he drove through the barrage, located the captain and placed him inside the car. As



—U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo

Captains Lumpkin and Whorley
"nothing left standing"

pestilence. "I don't know what'll happen when it turns warm."

Captain Whorley and Capt Tony B. Lumpkin of Mexico, Mo, were in Hot Springs for reassignment. They both were held as prisoners of war by the Germans at Olfag No. 64 near Szubin, in the Polish Corridor.

They came home by way of the Russian Ukraine, sailing from Odessa last March 1. On his way out of Poland, Captain Whorley with a group that inspected the infamous Nazi murder factory at Maidanek—one of the first such prison camps to be overrun by the Red Army. He saw the ovens where thousands of prisoners were cremated, and piles of human bones that had been collected.

"We traveled first-class through Poland and Russia—in box cars," Whorley smiled. "But the Soviets do consider freight cars first class

transportation. Their own general officers ride in them."

A liaison pilot in charge of aerial observation pilots for a field artillery group, Captain Whorley was captured by the Germans while riding in a jeep on the Caen-St. Lo highway in Normandy. Captain Lumpkin, taken prisoner in North Africa, was one of the first Allied prisoners taken to the officer prison camp known as Olfag No. 64.

Captain Whorley said that aside from the prison diet of soup, bread and potatoes which would have meant slow starvation had it not been for Red Cross food parcels, they were not mistreated by the Germans.

Blasted the Japs As Buddies Covered

"I was just lucky in telling the men the right thing to do," said 1st Sgt Clifford L. Arkens of Blakesberg, Iowa, who holds the Silver Star for his right thinking, talking and acting.

One year after Pearl Harbor, the Americal Division, fighting the weary Guadalcanal campaign, drove steadily forward. Scouts of Arken's company located a Japanese machine gun nest, so the first sergeant took a platoon and closed in on the enemy. While his men covered him with their rifles and smoke grenades, Arkens crawled toward the nest. When he came close enough, he threw a short-fused TNT charge which landed smack on the target. The mission had been completed.

"Those 21 men with me," Arkens emphasized, "were as much a part of the action as I. Their teamwork was excellent."

'Room Service' Plays Third Stand Monday

Leo Davis is a small town kid who has come to New York to see

The photo of this abridgement was sent by Lucine Juskalian, widow of the late Kriegy George Juskalian.

Abridged Translation of Interview of Lt. Gen. Julius W. Becton and Col. George Juskalian by Haykaram Nahapetyan carried in Armenia TV DVD

Interviewer: "In this tiny house in Abilene, Texas the former president of the United States and World War II commander of the US forces in Europe, Dwight Eisenhower grew up. Years passed and the house was converted into a museum. His last resting place is nearby, inside the church. One can see Eisenhower's pictures in the streets; lots of souvenirs are being sold."

Interviewer: "Colonel George Juskalian lives in the town of Centreville, Virginia. He is a World War II veteran who fought in North Africa against the German troops of General Rommel, famously known as the Desert Fox. In Juskalian's home, next to his many medals and mementoes, hangs a photo of General Eisenhower, signed by the General himself. After the war, our compatriot was assigned as a staff assistant to the General in the Pentagon."

Colonel Juskalian: "I was responsible for coordinating all Joint Chiefs of Staff and Combined (with the British) Chiefs of Staff position papers (policies, plans and operations) within the Department of the Army and personally briefing the General on these papers for his decision. I served in this position for three very interesting and challenging years. Another aide to Eisenhower in the Pentagon was Sue Sarafian, who had served as his personal secretary during the war in Europe."

Interviewer: "In recognition of his devoted service to the Armenian Church, Colonel Juskalian was awarded an encyclical from His Holiness, Vazgen the First in February of 1988. In 1962-63, Major Julius W. Becton served on Colonel Juskalian's staff in Verdun, France. Year later, Becton became the first Afro-American to reach the rank of lieutenant general, the second highest rank in the military scale of the US Army."

Lieutenant General Julius W. Becton: "I first met Colonel Juskalian when I was a captain stationed in Verdun, France. He was chief of the staff division to which I was assigned. He was a well educated professional officer. Later on, our paths separated; we served in different units and areas, but the friendship that began in 1962 has continued to this very day."

Interviewer: "During the so-called Cold War period, General Becton was one of the top commanders of American army forces stationed in Germany. Today, the 70 year old General gratefully regards Colonel Juskalian as one of his early mentors who helped pave the way for his remarkable army career. He cites Colonel Juskalian's record of combat service in World War II, Korea and Vietnam as a fine example for junior officers."

TAPS

Sydney L. Farr

1923 ~ 2011



Sydney Lavelle Farr died June 11, 2011 in Houston, Texas. Mr. Farr was born Jan. 20, 1923 in Haynesville, Louisiana. Sydney served in Europe as a First Lieutenant during the



Second World War. He attended College at LSU, Vanderbilt Law School, and SMU. He was a member of the Texas State Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and practiced civil trial law in Texas from 1949 to 2011.

Evalyn Louise Freeman Farr died June 22, 2011 in Houston, Texas. Mrs. Farr was born July 23, 1925, in Bells, Tennessee. She attended Stephens College and LSU where she was a member of Chi Omega Sorority. Mrs. Farr was a long-time member of the Houston Tuesday Musical Club and the St. Luke's United Methodist Church choir.

Sydney and Evalyn were married for 65 years. They are survived by their children Nancy Ann Farr, Molly Lou Farr, Mary Kate Farr Floyd and her husband David Floyd, and William Lavelle Farr and his wife Limei Tong Farr; three grandchildren, Hudson Harrington Berry, Eva Geneva Berry, and Sarah Evalyn Bell and her husband, Jason Bell; step grandson, Xiaobo Wang.

The memorial service was held Saturday, June 25, 2011 at 11:00 am., in the sanctuary of St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 3471 Westheimer, Houston, Texas 77027. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to the St. Luke's Foundation Fund.

Obituary found at:

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/houston-tx/sidney-farr-4717863>



Louis H. Tankin

2006

Louis H. Tankin passed away on November 23, 2006. He was the beloved husband of Ruth Tankin (nee Ember); beloved father of Robert Tankin of Millersville, MD, Alan Tankin of Newburg, MO; Harry Tankin of Yardley, PA; devoted father-in-law of Nilda, Carla and Andrea Tankin; devoted brother of Richard Samuel Tankin of Evanston, IL; loving grandfather of Robert Louis, James Edward and Noah Tankin and Andrea Blea; loving great-grandfather of Robbie and Benjamin Tankin.



Services at SOL LEVINSON & BROS. INC, 8900 Reisterstown Road at Mt. Wilson Lane on Sunday November 26, at 10 A.M. Interment Oheb Shalom Congregation Cemetery, 6130 O'Donnell Street. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be directed to Sinai Hospital/Northwest Hospital Center, C/O Melissa Breslin, 2401 W. Belvedere Avenue (21215) or Temple Oheb Shalom, 7310 Park Heights Avenue (21208). Family at home at (Greene Tree) 75 River Oaks Circle (21208). 26.

Obituary found at:

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/baltimoresun/obituary.aspx?n=louis-h-tankin&pid=20027502&fhid=4743>

After an exhaustive search by Rosa Di Francesco Lee, we have learned that the following Kriegies have passed away. However, we do not have obituaries for them. If you can provide an obituary, please email it to: elodie@oflag64.us

Wilfred M. Boucher	1974
David E. Crocker	1985
Robert E. Davis	2003
Louis J. DiBella	2008
Jerome Jacobs	1999
John R. Martin	1995
George M. Muehlbauer	2008
Anthony L. Vetrano, Jr.	1997
Orpha T. Ziegler	unknown

Recent Deaths of Kriegy Kids

Sadly, children of our Kriegies are now passing away. These Kriegy Kids have been part of our Oflag 64 Family for several years.

Jon David Henry, son of the late Kriegy Robert T. Henry, passed away on May 21, 2020. Although we do not yet have an obituary for David, his son Asher expressed the following: *"My father will be sorely missed, but I am glad that he found a renewed purpose in his last few months. I know that you and your group meant a great deal to him. It is often through discovering our past that we truly find ourselves, and I think he did just that in his work with you."*



William F. Jones, son of the late Kriegy William King Jones, passed away on December 27, 2019.

He was raised in Knoxville and attended the University of Tennessee, where he received a bachelor's and master's degree in electrical engineering. His career was dedicated to improving medical technology. He enjoyed traveling around the world and loved to read, particularly autobiographies and science fiction.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William K. Jones and Kathleen Bell Jones. Bill is survived by his wife, Nancy Jones; son, David Jones; brother, Mark Jones and wife Janet of Knoxville; sister, Ann Dodson and husband Ross of Athens, TN; and numerous nieces and nephews. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Obituary found at:

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/knoxnews/obituary.aspx?n=william-f-jones&pid=194845165&fhid=6411>

* * * * *

We have recently found a number of Kriegy collections stored on the **Veterans History Project** website. VHP has granted us use of the materials if we can secure permission from Kriegies or their Next of Kin (NOK). To date, we have permissions from the following:

- Barbara Bickers for James F. Bickers
- Janis Hales for Roy J. Chappell, Jr.
- Greg Clingan for James L. Clingan

- Rosa Lee for Vincent J. DiFrancesco
 - Ellsworth Family for Reid F. Ellsworth
 - Mark Evans for Warren E. Evans
 - Pati Fekete for Herbert L. Garris
 - Trent Hill for Jonel C. Hill
 - H. Randolph Holder Jr. for H. Randolph Holder Sr.
 - Wistar Holt for Thomas M. Holt
 - Lucine Juskalian for George Juskalian
 - Rob Lee for Royal I. Lee
 - Marianne Merriam for F. Eugene Liggett
- If your Kriegy family member has collections with any Veterans organizations, we would like to secure permission to use them as well. Contact me at elodie@oflag64.us for more information.

* * * * *

WWII Registry and National Pacific War Museum

If you would like to register your Kriegy in the WWII Registry, follow these steps:

- <http://www.wwiimemorial.com>
- Click on the online instructions to enter a name you wish to honor.
- Call 1-800-639-4992 to receive a form in the mail, if you prefer.
- Anyone who served in the armed forces during World War II, and any American who helped on the home front is eligible for the Registry.

How to search for Oral History Project

- www.pacificwarmuseum.org
- Resources
- Oral History Project
- Digital Archives – found in a paragraph
- Browse and filter to see if your soldier was interviewed. (Robert T. Thompson, one of our Kriegies, was interviewed for over an hour and the interviewer, who was also a veteran, was able to get many details of his experiences.)
- There are over 4,100 audio interviews. Who knows, you might get lucky and find something that you didn't know existed!

* * * * *

National Museum of the Pacific War
311 E Austin St
Fredericksburg, Texas
830-997-8600

Publications

The publications previously found on this page have been moved to our website at:

<http://www.oflag64.us/books-etc.html>

With that in mind, if you are a Kriegy or descendant of a Kriegy who has published a book about WWII experiences in relation to Oflag 64, we would love to include it in the grouping on our website. Articles, diaries and memoirs are placed in the Archives section of our website based on their content. Many such "stories" are already there.

We're currently looking for a copy of each of the following. Please let us know if you find one or have one to donate.

- *"The Colonel" written by the late Kriegy James F. Skells*
- *"My World War II Experiences" by the late Kriegy Donald Lussenden*
- *"Country boy infantry: "The Blue Devils" 88th Infantry Division, 1944-1945" by the late Kriegy Carey E. Ashcraft, Jan. 1, 1987*

If you are looking for any of the following, please contact.....

For a copy of **Vic Kanners Diary**, contact Marilyn Kanners Beckham (Vic's daughter), 3608 W BRADFORD DR, BLOOMFIELD HILLS MI 48301-3353. beckhammarilyn@hotmail.com

Lynne Meltesen, daughter of the late Kriegy Clarence Meltesen, has a few more copies of his book, "**Roads to Liberation**". If you are interested, she would be happy to pay shipping to get the book to you. Please contact Elodie at elodie@oflag64.us for Lynne's contact information. We have also learned that Cindy Burgess has several copies. Contact her at: cindy.burgess@szubinpowcamps.org (Thank you Lynne and Meltesen family for this service.)

A copy of the "**John K. Waters Story**" can be purchased by contacting Elodie Caldwell OR Cindy Burgess, \$15.99 includes S&H, write your check to the Oflag 64 Postage Fund. (Thank you Pat Waters for making several copies available.



Finally...."Americans in Poland 1919-1947" by Jan-Roman Potocki and Vivian Reed is a superb bi-lingual colour soft-cover album, 120 pages with 100+ rare archive photos. It highlights a generation of Americans, none of whom had Polish ancestry, who devoted their talent, influence and energy to help Poland recover and defend its independence between 1919 and 1939. During WWII and immediately after, they fought against impossible odds, never giving up on their conviction that Poland would eventually rise up again. Among them a President of the United States, diplomats, military pilots, journalists, humanitarian workers including two Nobel Peace Prize winners as well as Larry Allen, AP reporter, who was a Szubin inmate, freed in 1944 in a prisoner exchange.

For those of you who would be interested in acquiring this catalogue, it is possible via PayPal. By clicking on the link below you can pay Jan-Roman the corresponding amount.

Attention:

- Choose the correct amount in the postage tariffs list at the bottom of this email***
- Send Jan-Roman by email (jr_potocki@hotmail.com) your mailing address***
- Do not click on the box "goods and services" on the PayPal landing page as it will generate fees <https://www.paypal.me/battleforhetruth>***

For each purchased catalogue, Jan-Roman will contribute US\$ 5.00 to our museum fund. (Mariusz confirms that Jan has contributed the promised amount for the 6-7 catalogues already sold.)

Museum and Polish-American Foundation News



Polish-American Foundation
for the Commemoration of POW Camps in Szubin

Szubin Days Returns on June 11-13 in 2021!

Please join us to celebrate the history of the Town of Szubin, to commemorate Oflag 64, and to preview the future Museum of POW Camps of Szubin.

Throughout the weekend, visit the site of Oflag 64, preview the designs for the museum, and reunite with and meet fellow Kriegie descendants.

More updates will follow. Contact [Cindy Sharpe Burgess](mailto:burgessgl@verizon.net) <burgessgl@verizon.net> or [Susanna Bolten Connaughton](mailto:susanna.connaughton@szubinpowcamps.org) <susanna.connaughton@szubinpowcamps.org> for details.

Events will include the following:

Guided tour with Mariusz Winiecki at the site of Oflag 64.

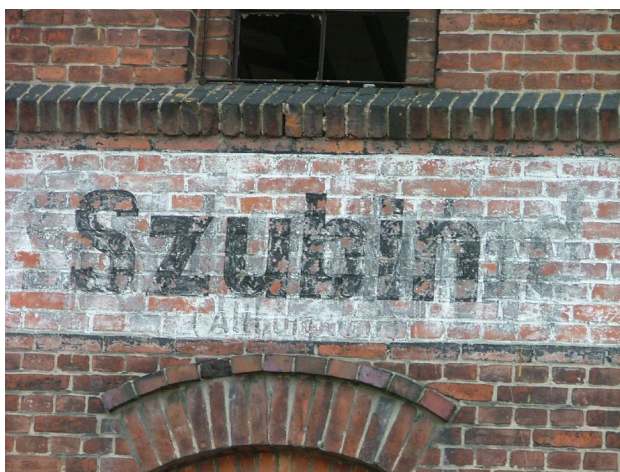
Mr. Winiecki, President of the Board of the Foundation for the Commemoration of POW Camps of Szubin is a lifelong Szubin resident, and a driving force and source of expertise behind the commemoration of the camps.

Preview Exhibit for the Museum of POWs of Szubin.

An introductory sampler of museum artifacts, and live music in the style of Oflag 64's Bob Rankin and his Swing Band. Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between the Foundation and the City of Szubin. The MOU honors the partnership that began in 1943, and continues today in the creation of the future museum.

Polish Screening of PBS-aired documentary, "Oflag 64: A POW Odyssey."

Thanks to the generosity of film director and producer Robert Galloway and Foundation Council member Pat Waters, the first historical presentation available with a Polish language translation. The film tells the story of the final days of Oflag 64 and the Long March, as told by the ex-POWs of Oflag 64.





Friends of Oflag 64 supports the Polish American Foundation by fundraising, collecting artifacts, publicizing and promoting the *Museum of POW Camps in Szubin*, so that the history of the POW's and the courageous Polish citizens who assisted them will be preserved for generations to come.

Friends of Oflag 64 has been operational since the spring of 2019 when committees were created, goals developed and legal frameworks formulated. The current pandemic has not hindered our progress as we strive to realize our mission.

Accomplishments to Date

- March 20, 2019 - ***Friends of Oflag 64*** filed a Certificate of Incorporation in the State of Delaware
- August 19, 2019 – Received the IRS Letter of Determination granting ***Friends of Oflag 64*** as a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit corporation declaring exemption status as of March 20, 2019.
- Opened Accounts
 - ✓ United Bank checking account
 - ✓ PayPal account to receive electronic donations
 - ✓ QuickBooks account for proper accounting procedures
- Bylaws established
- Logo designed and implemented
- Attained the Bronze Seal of Transparency in 2019 and the Silver Seal of Transparency in 2020 located on Guidestar – www.guidestar.org
- Strategic Plan approved and Implementation Plan established
- Website and Facebook pages operational – www.friendsofotlag64.org
 - ✓ Domain name
 - ✓ Email accounts
- Job descriptions - approved
 - ✓ Chairman
 - ✓ Secretary
 - ✓ Treasurer
 - ✓ Artifact Chairman/Committee
 - ✓ Communications Consultant (currently circulating on job sites)
- Policies –approved and located on website
 - ✓ Artifact Collection Policy
 - ✓ Financial Disclosure and Conflict of Interest Policy
 - ✓ Fiscal Policies
- Forms – approved and located on the website
 - ✓ Artifact Donation Form included in this ***ITEM***
 - ✓ Reimbursement Form
 - ✓ Donation of Goods and Services Form
- Artifacts
 - ✓ Detailed spreadsheet of Kriegies and artifacts donated/promised
 - ✓ Working committee of 5 – Chaired by Dave Stewart
 - ✓ Over 100 artifacts have been safely delivered to the ***Polish – American Foundation for the Commemoration of POW Camps in Szubin***

- ✓ Appeal -*The Artifact Committee Needs Your Help!* www.friendsofflag64.org
- ✓ Current donor database
- Financials
 - ✓ Exceeded monetary goal /budget of \$25,000 reaching \$57,156 (less artifacts) as of June 19, 2020
 - ✓ Received a **GENEROUS** pledge commencing in 2020 from the family of Robert Thompson in his honor! Please enjoy reading this pledge which is included.
 - ✓ 2019 IRS 990EZ form submitted to the IRS in May of 2020

* * * * *

Farewell Anne Kreutzer!



It is with heartfelt gratitude but also great sadness to bid a fond farewell to Anne Kreutzer, the ***Friends of Oflag 64*** Treasurer for 2019-2020. Anne has been a phenomenal Board member and Treasurer since we began the journey of initiating the 501 (c) (3) nonprofit, Friends of Oflag 64, in the spring of 2019. Her dedication and attention to detail is unparalleled and Anne has paved the way for a smooth transition to the incoming Treasurer Pat Thompson. Thank you, Anne, for your devotion to our mission of supporting the ***Polish – American Foundation for the Commemoration of POW Camps in Szubin***. Your service is sincerely appreciated.

Welcome Pat Thompson!



A native of Northern Virginia who grew up in Arlington, VA and currently lives with her husband, Carl, in Gainesville, VA. Retired in 2010 after 30 years of federal service as a civilian Information Resource Manager with the US Coast Guard, managing the development of information technology policy, enterprise application projects, budgets and support contracts. Just completed a four-year term as Treasurer of a chapter of the national nonprofit Assistance League®. “I am looking forward to serving as the Treasurer for ***Friends of Oflag 64***. The history of the POWs, known as Kriegies, who were interned in Oflag 64 is an important part of our legacy of freedom in the United States. “

We welcome interested parties to join us during this journey to support the establishment of the Museum of POW Camps in Szubin!

www.friendsofflag64.org



From left to right: Marlene Thompson McAllister, Robert Taylor Thompson Jr., Nancy Thompson Wyatt and Peggy Thompson Marlatt



Thompson Family Pledge

We are the children of 1st Lt Robert Taylor Thompson and Gladys Marie Thompson. Our father was captured on September 22, 1944 in France and arrived at Oflag 64 POW camp for Allied ground force officers in Szubin, Poland on December 1, 1944.

1st Lt Thompson, an ex-Kriegy, was committed to the Oflag 64 Family from its formation.

A large group of Oflag 64 ex-Kriegies traveled to Szubin, Poland in 1971 to dedicate a plaque on the former Oflag 64 site. Our parents were on this trip as 1st Lt Thompson took every opportunity to participate in Oflag 64 activities including serving as the editor of The Item for a time.

Because of our father's commitment to the Oflag 64 Family and with the creation of the Polish-American Foundation for the Commemoration of POW Camps in Szubin (Polish-American Foundation) and the Friends of Oflag 64 Inc., our family has the opportunity to contribute to the establishment of a museum in Szubin on the site of the last barracks in his honor.

We support the Vision and Mission of Friends of Oflag 64, Inc.

Vision

By working with the Polish-American Foundation and through partnership with the Town of Szubin, we will assist the museum to provide the rich historical and cultural heritage of the POW camp by means of education, research and exhibits of original artifacts. A unique aspect will be to show how the POWs of Oflag 64 remained a functioning military unit through strict discipline, organization, and ingenuity.

Mission

Friends of Oflag 64, Inc. supports the Polish American Foundation by fundraising, collecting artifacts, publicizing and promoting the museum of POWs, so that the history of the POW camps in Szubin and the courageous Polish citizens who assisted them will be preserved for generations to come.

Our gift is a pledge of \$10,000 to the Friends of Oflag 64, Inc. Each of the children of Lt Thompson will contribute \$2500. Any grandchildren, cousins, etc. of each of the 4 Thompson children may contribute in order to increase the annual pledge.

In honor of our father, former 1st Lt. Robert Taylor Thompson
Marlene Thompson McAllister
Peggy Thompson Marlatt
Nancy Thompson Wyatt
Robert Taylor Thompson Jr.

March 31, 2020



Friends of Oflag 64, Inc., Artifact Donation Form

A 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization

EIN: #84-1889226

Friends of Oflag 64 supports the Polish American Foundation by fundraising, collecting artifacts, publicizing and promoting the museum of POWs, so that the history of the POW camps in Szubin and the courageous Polish citizens who assisted them will be preserved for generations to come.

Donor name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Kriegy (POW) name:

Description of donated artifact:

Donor estimated total value:

Explanation or story of artifact:

(Attach more pages if needed)

Friends of Oflag 64 only accepts artifacts from donors who acknowledge they have full ownership status of the artifact at the time of donation. This document will serve as that acknowledgment and as substantiation of your donation. No goods or services were provided to you in return for your donation of the artifact. Please retain a copy of this document for your records and tax purposes. Also send a copy to accompany the artifact to:

Dave Stewart – dslvtx@gmail.com

7903 Diamond Trail

Lago Vista, TX 78645-4446

All donated artifacts will become the property of the **Friends of Oflag 64**

Donor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Artifacts Committee Signature: _____ Date: _____