

# The

# Post Oflag 64 Item

Nearly Everybody  
Reads The ITEM

Oflag 64's Home  
Newspaper

“Get Wise – ITEM-ize”

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2020

Good Ole USA

Of Undetermined Worth

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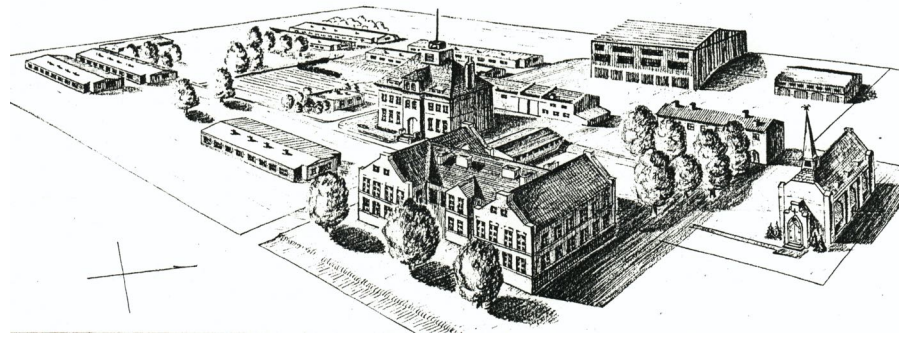
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We apologize to any others we may have overlooked. We thank all who have contacted us.

*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.*



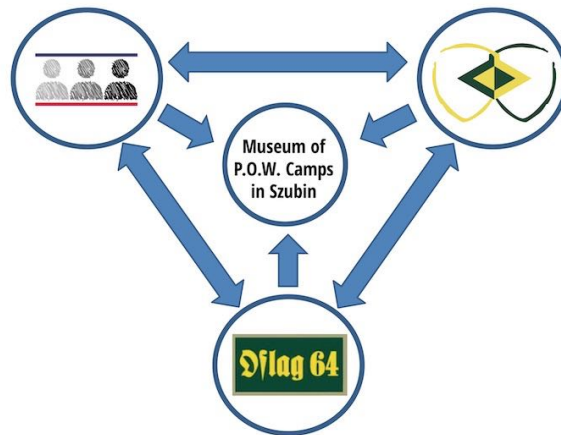
Drawing by Jim Bickers, shown without barbed wire fences or guard towers

Dear Oflag 64 Family,

We are “All for one and one for all.” Oflag 64 Remembered, the Polish-American Foundation for the Commemoration of POW Camps in Szubin, and Friends of Oflag 64, Inc., are all working together to accomplish the same goal, to build a museum in Szubin Poland. Stay tuned for future updates on the museum.

Polish-American Foundation

Friends of Oflag 64, Inc.



Oflag 64 Remembered

Our best to you always,  
Elodie/Bill Caldwell  
ITEM Editor/Webmaster  
[www.oflag64.us](http://www.oflag64.us)



# 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 46<sup>th</sup> St  
Cape Coral FL 33914-6026

OR

### Elodie Caldwell

2731 Terry Ave  
Longview WA 98632-4437

### Donation Thanks To

#### **Janice Brown**

**Bill Moore** (in recognition of  
POWs/MIAs)

**Ann Rogers** (in memory of  
Reid F. Ellsworth)

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" website at:

<https://friendsof64.org/contact-us>

You can also access the donation page on the Polish-American Foundation website at: <http://www.szubinpowcamps.org/en/foundation/support-us>

These funds are separate from the Postage Fund and will be used to help support the future 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

Researchers working under the name of Oflag 64 Remembered are involved in records research for the future museum. Currently they are creating 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, 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.*

*If you would like to help with writing Bios or researching our Kriegies, please contact me, Elodie Caldwell at [elodie@oflag64.us](mailto:elodie@oflag64.us). There is always work to do and the researchers would love your help.*

*Thanks to all who have contributed write-ups to date. They are definitely telling a story*

*and will be great additions to the future museum.*

## Collecting Artifacts

*If you are considering donating artifacts, please contact Dave Stewart at: [dslvtx@gmail.com](mailto:dslvtx@gmail.com) or if you have already donated via the Artifacts Committee, thank you so much. Descriptions will be written 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.*

*Look for artifacts/descriptions being posted on the Friends of Oflag 64, Inc. website at: <https://friendsof64.org/artifacts>*

*Check for museum and other related information being 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](mailto: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](mailto:webmaster@oflag64.us)



# MAIL CALL



**Lans Alexis**, son of the late Kriegy E. Jerome (Jerry) Alexis, following a telephone conversation with him, connected us with his uncle Roger who is Jerry's brother and who also had quite a bit of information to share about Jerry. Lans also shared that some of his father's documents and other items are now at the Eldred WWII Museum in Eldred PA. We shared that we had found an oral interview with Jerry done by the Veterans History Project. Lans then gave us permission (as per VHP) to use the interview in our future museum. Regarding the interview, Lans was amazed. "To have it set down like this (since this is not something I'd expect any soldier would do with one's family) was very powerful." *Thank you so much, Lans, for all you've shared and for connecting us with your uncle. We're happy that you were able to watch your dad's VHP interview and we're grateful for permission to use it in the future.*

**Terry Babcock**, nephew-in-law of the late Kriegy Robert T. Hazlett wrote to update us on Robert's death date for our website TAPS page. He commented on our "fascinating" website and looked through our photos to see if he could identify Robert. We checked Ancestry.com and found a few photos and articles which we shared with Terry. He in turn identified Robert in group photos. We asked for an obituary for help in writing Robert's biography. Looking forward to receiving any information available to help us. *Thanks very much, Terry, for your kind comments about our website and for the TAPS information. We have added his name and death year to our TAPS page. Thanks also for steering us to your Ancestry page.*



**Cindy Sharpe Burgess**, daughter of Kriegy Wilbur Sharpe, wrote to let us know of the passing of her dear mother on September 13. (See the TAPS Section for her obituary). *Cindy, we were saddened to learn of your mom's passing. It's so difficult to lose a parent, such a void is left. Love and support are sent to the family along with thoughts and prayers. We know Mary is greatly missed.*

**Colleen Hryhorec Camara**, niece of the late Kriegy Joseph Hryhorec, wrote to update us on her contact information. She lives in a little fishing town which connects to a line of fishing towns in Northern California. She says the weather is temperate, with fog and clouds about 50% of the year. *Colleen, thanks for sending us your updates and a little information about your town. Sounds like a delightful place to live. We would love to learn more about your uncle. If you have information to share that could help our research group write a biography on him, we'd be happy to pass it on.*



**Susanna Bolten Connaughton**, daughter of the late Kriegy Seymour R. Bolten, noticed on our website POW database page that her dad's capture date was listed incorrectly. From time to time we find errors, but are happy to correct them as we learn about them. *Thanks, Susanna, for your update. We have corrected the information and it appears to be showing properly now.*

**Richard Crellin**, son of the late Kriegy Henry N. Crellin, wrote that his dad was at Oflag 64 from October 1944 until the march out on January 21, 1945 and eventually ended up at Luckenwalde. Richard is looking for anyone who knew his dad or who might have photos and details of prison life. *Thanks very much, Richard, for contacting us again. We hope you received a few responses to our email query.*

**Tom Detmers**, son of the late Kriegy Arthur V. Detmers, has been working on his father's bio and has found some great information in a biography of another veteran that also pertains to his dad. So many lives are intertwined, it's great to have these resources. Tom has also sent an artifact or two and will be sending in the new donation form soon. *Tom, it certainly is a small world isn't it. Thanks for being willing to write your dad's biography. It will be a great addition to our future museum and will certainly help to create the "bigger picture". Thank you also for sending the new donation form.*

**Dan Habig**, son of the late Kriegy Francis M. Habig, just became aware of our website and noticed as he was perusing it that his dad's name was not included on our TAPS page. His dad and Anthony Libertore became friends at Oflag 64 and after the war met again in North Carolina. They remained friends for the rest of their lives. Dan found an article that the hometown paper wrote about his father and Anthony and will send it to us soon. *Dan, thanks for all you shared. We're so happy you found us and that we now have a death date for your dad. Our TAPS page has been updated and his name and date are now showing. We're eager to learn more about your dad and to read the article about him. Hope to hear from you again soon regarding a biography about him or about any artifacts your family would like to donate.*

**David Hinckley**, son of the late Kriegy De L. Hinckley, wrote to let us know that his father was at Oflag 64 from August of 1944 to early 1945 when he escaped. David was looking for information that listed his dad's rank while at Oflag 64. We sent what he requested along with other information. We then requested a biography of his dad. He reported that he was in the process of moving, so it would take a bit, but would eventually get back to us with what he had. *David, thank you for contacting us. It was a pleasure making the connection and helping to fill in some gaps. We hope your move was smooth and that all went well. Please send us your new contact information when you get a chance.*

**Kate Kennedy Hines**, daughter of the late Kriegy Gibson B. Kennedy who would've been 100 in September, noticed that her dad's name was not included on our website TAPS page. We made the update and his name and death date now appear. Kate has also read through our website, complemented us on "amazing work" and asked that she and her siblings be added to our email list. We requested a biography on her dad and anything else she would like to send. After meeting with her siblings, they made it a family project and worked on the bio themselves and sent it to us shortly thereafter. *Kate, thank you for contacting us and sending us TAPS info. And thanks also for your kind comments. We always appreciate feedback. We enjoyed seeing photos of your dad, learning who was who, and reading his obituary/biography; thanks to you and your siblings for working on it. We have added each of you to our email list as requested. We're also*

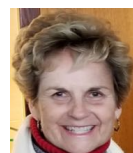
*hoping that you've had a response to our email query from others who may have known or remembered your dad.*



**Lynn Kanaya**, widow of the late Kriegy Jimmie Kanaya, has been going through Jimmie's WWII and Oflag 64 mementos and has sent several of them already. She has also been very helpful in our efforts to write a biography on Jimmie. *Thank you, Lynn, for all you have sent and for all your help with Jimmie's bio. All will help create the whole picture while Kriegies were at the camp.*



**Judy Graf Knight**, daughter of Kriegy Ed Graf, wrote to let us know that her "dad is still living at 98½ years old." He just moved out of his condo to a different location. She mentioned that she has a new address as well. *Thanks so much, Judy, for letting us know about your dad's move. As you say, he's amazing! We look forward to hearing from you and receiving new address information for both of you, especially since we want to make sure we mail each issue of the ITEM to your dad's correct address.*



**Anne Hoskot Kreutzer**, daughter of the late Kriegy Nathaniel R. Hoskot, ran across a letter in her dad's papers that was written to him regarding an article that would go into the Prisoner of War Bulletin in 1945. She also wrote in response to our email regarding the Daisy Campaign. (See the Kriegy News and Information section.) *Anne, what fun it is to find these treasures. Thanks for sharing. And thanks so much for your selfless act of kindness to our Kriegy families in relation to the Daisy Campaign (see pages 9-11 of this issue).*

**Larry Lescanec**, nephew of the late Kriegy Edward M. Lescanec, was able to identify his uncle in one of our online Kriegy photos. Regarding our request for a biography or information for writing a bio, he said that his uncle was never one to talk about his war experiences, but that he has a little information on his life before and after the war. He will work on a bio and send it when it's complete. *Larry, thank you for contacting us and for identifying your uncle in the photo. Little by little we'll fill in the blanks. And thanks for being willing to write a short bio. We look forward to reading it.*

**Dana Lockerby**, daughter of the late Kriegy John (Jack) B. Carpenter recently wrote that she is teaching a semester on World War II for her homeschool co-op middle school and high school kids starting February 2021. She would love to have the kids meet and interview any surviving WWII veteran. She is in the Phoenix area but could also do a zoom or other on-line meeting. If you are aware of a WWII vet (including any of our Kriegies) who would be interested in being interviewed, let me know and I will put you in contact with Dana. *Many thanks, Dana for contacting us. Your curriculum sounds amazing and what kids should learn. Seems like WWII history sometimes gets put on the back burner. It will certainly come alive for them through the semester.*



**Tony B. Lumpkin III**, grandson of the late Kriegy Tony B. Lumpkin, has been very helpful to us in writing his grandfather's biography. We found some inconsistencies in dates, but he was able to correct them for us. *Thank you very much, Tony, for your help. It's been a very rewarding experience being involved in writing Kriegy biographies. Our Kriegies were an amazing bunch of men, true patriots and heroes.*



**Marianne Liggett Merriam**, daughter of the late Kriegy F. Eugene Liggett, wrote to let us know that her dear mother, Rosalie Liggett, passed peacefully away on August 28. (See the TAPS section for her obituary.) *Marianne, thanks so much for letting us know. How difficult it is to lose our parents and so relatively close in time to each other. Our sincere sympathies are sent to you and your family. We know she is greatly missed. May beautiful memories strengthen and sustain you as you grieve and as you settle her affairs. That can definitely be very overwhelming.*

**Dale Nitz**, curator of the Veterans Living History Museum in Port Orchard WA wrote to let us know that there is a well-done YouTube video about his museum. In addition to many other WWII collections, he has personal collections of 5 POW veterans and MIAs, including memorabilia from Kriegies Jimmie Kanaya and James Lockett. *Thank you, Dale, for contacting us again. It's been a long time since our last communication. We appreciate the news of the video and that you*

*honor our veterans the way you do. Others can watch the video by going to this site: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JS67eTkxkdc>*

**Dave Oshlo**, son of the late Kriegy Robert Oshlo, wrote in response to our request for his dad's biography. Although there's not a bio yet, he said he would be happy to start working on one. We found some photos and articles on Ancestry.com which we shared with him. He also helped us identify his dad in some of the photos. He and his sister share an interest in their dad's memorabilia, so he will work with her to see what she has. *Thank you, Dave, for identifying your dad in the photos and for being willing to work on your dad's biography. It will be a great addition to our future museum and will help in piecing everything together correctly. See the Kriegy News and Information Section for a photo of his gravestone taken on National POW/MIA Recognition Day.*



**Tori Glendinning Pough**, daughter of the late Kriegy John A. Glendinning, wrote in response to my request for her siblings' contact information. She sadly reported that her sister Barbara Lundy passed away in August of 2009 and that she misses her every day. *Tori, we were saddened to hear of the passing of your sister. Even though time passes and we adjust, we continue to miss those who have passed on. Thanks for updating us.*

**Diane Power**, niece of the late Kriegy Louis Otterbein, responding to our request, sent information on Lou to aid us in writing his biography for the future museum. We're always grateful for new information about our Kriegies. *Thank you, Diane, for collecting facts on "Uncle Lou". Your individual report was very well done and comprehensive.*



**Ted Roggen**, Oflag 64 Kriegy, called a while back to compliment us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter ITEM and all the work that goes into producing the ITEM. He particularly enjoyed reading all the news and information that was included. Later, after hearing of the hurricane that was nearing his area, he called to let us know that he and Sydney were safe. *Ted, it was great hearing from you and it's always a nice surprise when you call. Thanks so much for your kind words. Thanks also for agreeing to work with us on your Oflag 64 biography.*



**Bill Sharpe**, Oflag 64 Kriegy, after receiving the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter ITEM, sent word through his daughter, Cindy Burgess, that he received the last ITEM and loved “every word.” He also sent thanks to the Oflag 64 Family for thinking of him after the passing of his dear wife, Mary. *Bill, thanks so much for your kind words about the ITEM. Also, we were certainly saddened when we heard of Mary’s passing. Our love and support are sent your way along with thoughts and prayers! Beautiful memories will help strengthen and sustain you through difficult days ahead! Stay safe and well.*

**Jane Frederick Slavin**, daughter of the late Kriegy Donald Frederick, sent us a link to an interview with her dad that is posted on the Minnesota Historical Society website. Additionally, she sent a number of artifacts that will be placed in the new museum in Szubin. We have gained permission to use the written interview and photos with proper crediting, both of which have been helpful in writing her father’s biography. *Thanks very much, Jane, for your information and donations. We have also added you to our email list. You will hear from us from time to time.*

**Jim Smith**, author, is writing a book about a former resident of his home town, the late Kriegy Justin J. Ware. He is looking for any information or photos anyone has that may help. He also asked for information about what life was like as a POW, from sleeping arrangements, food, hygiene, military customs, basically what life was like at Oflag 64. Justin spent some time with Dr. James Godfrey and the following men right before evacuation of the camp in January 1945: Lt. Harrell, Pfc Manly Dotson, Lt Col Robert Cheal, Major Edwin Haggard, Capt Robert Smith, Kenneth L. Vyn, and Philip D. McIntyre. He returned home through Odessa. *Thanks, Jim, for contacting us. We hope you received some responses to our email query and that the information we sent was helpful. We’re looking forward to your book once completed. It will be a great resource for our future museum.*

**Holly Stadtler**, president of The Green Box Film Project, shared an email she wrote to Anne Kreutzer regarding National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Holly had been in contact with Kathy Thomas regarding the “Daisy Campaign” and wanted to promote it, so created a very nice

article that explained the campaign and included a military photo of Joe Zelazny (Kathy’s dad) and a photo of the daisy lapel pin. *Thank you very much, Holly, for the part you played in spreading the word about National POW/MIA Recognition Day and about the grassroots effort to make the day more well known.*

**Leslie Levy Sullam**, daughter of the late Kriegy Solomon Levy, responded to our email about photos she previously shared of her father’s Oflag 64/WWII artifacts. She and her family are looking at each of the photos to determine which they might donate. We told her about Szubin Days 2021. Hopefully she and her family will be able to plan a visit. *Leslie, thank you for getting back to us. We hope your “adventure” through your dad’s artifacts is enjoyable as well as memorable. We’ll send a donation form when you’re ready.*

**Kathy Thomas**, daughter of the late Kriegy Joseph J. Zelazny, Jr. contacted us regarding the National POW/MIA Recognition Day “Daisy Campaign”. We agreed to contact Oflag 64 Family members by email and see what interest could be generated. (See the Kriegy News and Information Section). Regarding her own area, a Proclamation for POWs/MIAs was made by the mayor of Spokane WA and hopefully the Governor of Washington as well. *Kathy, we are grateful that you contacted us regarding this worthy project. Thank you for following in your father’s footsteps. We think this year’s response was great, as individuals participated in the ways they were able. We were happy to support the “Daisy Campaign”. Looking forward to “bigger and better” next year.*



**Paul Thriffiley III**, son of the late Kriegy Paul J. Thriffiley, Jr. continues to help with research for writing Kriegy biographies. He has located and sent several articles and obituaries on a number of Kriegies since the last ITEM was published. *Paul, thank you so much for the many hours you devote to researching and for sharing all you find. Your finds have been significant and invaluable and have aided us greatly in the process of writing Kriegy biographies.*

**Anne Meltesen Trujillo**, daughter of the late Kriegy Clarence Meltesen, responded to our request for a biography on her dad. She, with input from her siblings, wrote an excellent bio and

sent it back to us. She also sent information about where her dad could be located at Arlington National Cemetery. *Thank you, Anne, for writing your dad's biography. And thanks to your siblings for their contributions. What a great tribute to him! Our dads were definitely amazing men. We'll be sending his bio along with others to Szubin for use in the future museum.*

**Gordon Valentine**, grandson of the late Kriegy John L. Peyton, shared a photo that he recently received from his mother. It was a photo of his grandfather's Armored Regiment before they were shipped to Europe. His grandfather was the commander who with his group was ambushed at the Battle of Kasserine Pass near Sidi Bou Zid in Tunisia. A third perished, a third were wounded, and a third were captured. His grandfather ended up at Oflag 64. Gordon has begun reading his grandfather's military file from the National Archives to learn more about the battle where they were captured. *Gordon, what a great photo and certainly a treasure. We are always interested in learning more about our Kriegies. Thank you for being willing to write a biography on him. Looking forward to hearing about what you learn.*

**Lisa Vicek**, daughter-in-law of the late Kriegy John W. Vicek, wrote that her husband has been doing some family history research and knowing that his dad was at Oflag 64 would like to see the video "Oflag 64: A POW Odyssey". They have unfortunately been unable to locate a copy and it isn't available to order any longer or to watch online. If you have an extra POW Odyssey DVD that you're willing to donate, please let me know. Her husband is looking through his dad's artifacts and letters to put together the story of his service. We expressed our interest in his story as well and hope we will be able to learn more about him through a biography. At present we're still looking for an obituary for our TAPS list. *Lisa, thank you so much for contacting us. We hope the information we shared is helpful to you in learning more about Oflag 64 and your father-in-law's days there. We hope you've also been able to check out the links to the Polish-American Foundation as well as the Friends of Oflag 64 sites.*

**Mariusz Winiiecki**, president of the Polish-American Foundation for the Commemoration of POW Camps in Szubin, after learning about the "Daisy Campaign" and the National POW/MIA



Recognition Day, wrote that he was interested in posting any pictures that were taken on the Foundation's website as well as on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn. He mentioned that there is no such commemoration day in Poland. *Thank you, Mariusz, for your continued commitment to the museum project and all that goes into its creation. You're amazing!*

\* \* \* \* \*

The following Kriegy relatives responded to us about the "Daisy Campaign". We appreciated their information and contributions, which greatly aided in making sure our Kriegies were honored and recognized. All photos we received are located in the Kriegy News and Information Section (pages 9-11) and can be found on the Foundation's web page at:

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

**Julia Owen Baker and Molly Owen Marrow**, granddaughters of the late Kriegy Paul Ryan Goode

**Patricia Bowers**, daughter of the late Kriegy James F. Callahan

**Tom Cobb**, son of the late Kriegy George A. Cobb

**Maria DiFrancesco Christmann and Rosa DiFrancesco Lee**, daughters of the late Kriegy Vincent "Doc" J. DiFrancesco

**Anne Hoskot Kreutzer**, daughter of the late Kriegy Nathaniel R. Hoskot

**Terry S. Johnson**, daughter of the late Hammelburg Kriegy, Wilbur H. Johnson

**Lynn Kanaya**, widow of the late Kriegy Jimmie Kanaya

**Pam Ladley**, daughter of the late Kriegy James F. Skells

**Ann Lundy**, daughter of the late Kriegy John (Jack) W. Stewart who would've been 100 in September.

**Bill Moore**, nephew of the late Kriegy Louis E. Moore

**Gail Rahal**, widow of the late Kriegy Nicholas S. Rahal

**Dave Stewart**, son of the late Kriegy Donald B. Stewart

**Robert J. Rankin, Jr.**, son of the late Kriegy Robert J. Rankin

**Susan Grisct van der Roest**, daughter of the late Kriegy Lorin Grisct

**Kathy Thomas**, daughter of the late Kriegy Joseph J. Zelazny, Jr.

Others who participated in one way or another are listed in the Mail Call Section, which includes other information pertaining to them

**John K. Slingluff, Jr.**, son of the late Kriegy John K. Slingluff

## Kriegy News and Information



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



to a great **KRIEGY PATRIOT AND HERO**

Rocco Pravidica  
September 22, 1921  
99 years old



\* \* \* \* \*

It seems like we're always finding some-thing new to share. This photo, taken in 1990 during a Kriegy (with wives) trip to Poland, is one of them. We're now aware of 3 different trips taken by our Kriegies after the war, 1971, 1985, and 1990. Names of the attendees can be found on the next page. (Apologies for the quality of the photo. This is how it came to us.)

If anyone has the original, please email: [elodie@oflag64.us](mailto:elodie@oflag64.us)





Sitting

Dorothy Brown  
Evelyn Oshlo  
Bess Bingham  
Welles Adams  
Grace Adams  
Elizabeth Diggs  
Frank Diggs  
Clementi Holder  
Darek Dudziak  
Magda Dudziak

1st row standing

Elaine Creech  
John Chreech  
Daniel Reading  
Muriel Reading  
Billy Bingham  
Carol Runyon  
Ruby Heil  
Donald Graul  
Lorraine Glendinning  
Ruby Moffatt  
Louis Moffatt  
Randolph Holder  
Lewis Lowe  
Mildred Kasitz  
Janet Lowe  
Henry Soderberg  
Edgar Kaufman  
Paul Buen

Back row

Robert Oshlo  
Sydney Thal  
George Herr  
Joseph Brown  
Theodore Runyon  
Norma Jones  
Curtis Jones

\* \* \* \* \*

## Daisy Campaign Friday, September 18, 2020



Joseph J. Zelazny

On September 10, we received an email from Kathy Thomas, daughter of the late Kriegy Joseph J. Zelazny, letting us know about National POW/MIA Day. This day was established in 1979 through a proclamation signed by President Jimmy Carter. Since then, each subsequent president has issued an annual proclamation commemorating the third Friday in September as National POW/MIA Recognition Day. This year it was on Sept. 18.

Several decades ago, Kathy's father began the tradition of passing out daisy lapel pins (like poppies on Veterans Day) or placing daisies on the graves of POWs. Included with the daisy was a tag that said American Ex-Prisoners of War "They Shall Never Be Forgotten". Also included was a paper that read: "The Daisy was chosen as a national symbol of all former POWs. The Military Code of Conduct required that only name, rank and serial number were to be voluntarily divulged to the enemy. American folklore has long deemed that 'daisies won't tell', making it a tribute to the memory of those who have endured the hardships of captivity." A grassroots effort was undertaken this year by Kathy and her family to commemorate POW/MIA veterans with daisy lapel pins and she invited us to participate as well.



We immediately set out to let everyone know of this effort and encouraged our Oflag 64 Family to either make and distribute lapel pins or place a daisy with an attached note at the grave sites of our POW spouses, dads, grandfathers, uncles, and brothers. Kathy and her family made and distributed 200 daisy-lapel pins on September 18. And we're happy to say that several of our Oflag 64 Family members were also able to participate. At left is a photo of one of the actual lapel-pin daisies that Joe distributed yearly. The photo at upper right was taken at the War Memorial Park in Tacoma WA. The Memorial Wall there was one of Joe's projects. You can see the plaque with his name below the beautiful bouquet of daisies.

These are photos of daisies/flags that were placed at various grave sites by Kriegy family members. Thanks to Patty Bowers, Tom Cobb, Anne Kreutzer, John K. Slingluff, Jr., Dave Stewart and Kathy Thomas for their grave site photos. Additionally, Cindy Burgess shared a photo of a beautiful daisy arrangement she took to Dulles to share with the folks she helped while there. The last photo shows Lynn Kanaya honoring her late husband, Jimmie, with a vase of daisies above his plaque at the War Memorial Park in Tacoma WA.





**TRANSPORT SHIPS FROM ODESSA TO THE UNITED STATES** - From time to time through the years, we've been asked if we have information about the ships on which our Kriegies returned home. We were aware of a few of them, but recently found the following information. If you know when your Kriegy family member left Odessa, you may be able to determine, from the list below, on which ship he returned.

**BRITISH TROOPSHIPS TRANSPORTING ALLIED EX-POWs OUT OF BLACK SEA PORT OF ODESSA, USSR, 7 MARCH TO 22 JUNE 1945**

Steamship	Owner	Depart Odessa	Ref/page
1. <i>Moreton Bay</i>	Aberdeen Commonwealth Line	3/7/45	NA
2. <i>Highland Princess</i>	Royal Mail Line	3/8/45	NA
3. <i>Duchess of Bedford</i>	Canadian Pacific	3/15/45	NA
4. <i>Duchess of Richmond</i>	Canadian Pacific	3/27/45	NA
5. <i>Circassia</i>	Anchor Line	3/27/45	NA
6. <i>Arawa</i>	Shaw, Saville and Albion Co. Ltd.	3/29/45	NA
7. <i>Bergensfjord</i>	North American Line	4/1/45	NA
8. <i>SS Gulport</i>	Gulf Oil Co.	4/10/45	M 281
(This is the only US ship. It carried 16 ex-POWs)			
9. <i>New Holland</i>	Royal Packet Navigation Co.	4/15/45	NA
10. <i>New Amsterdam</i>	Holland America Line	4/15/45	NA
11. <i>Circassia</i>	Anchor Line	4/17/45	NA
12. <i>Arawa</i>	Shaw, Saville and Albion Co. Ltd.	4/17/45	NA
13. <i>Bergensfjord</i>	North American Line	4/18/45	NA
14. <i>Tamaroa</i>	Shaw, Saville and Albion Co. Ltd.	4/20/45	NA
15. <i>Almanzora</i>	Royal Mail Line	4/19/45	NA
16. <i>Staffordshire</i>	Bibby Bros. and Co. Ltd.	4/22/45	NA
17. <i>Bergensfjord</i>	North American Line	5/3/45	NA
18. <i>Monowai</i>	Union SS Co. of New Zealand	5/4/45	NA
19. <i>Staffordshire</i>	Bibby Bros. and Co. Ltd.	5/7/45	NA
20. <i>Arawa</i>	Shaw, Saville and Albion Co. Ltd.	5/9/45	NA
21. <i>Tamaroa</i>	Shaw, Saville and Albion Co. Ltd.	5/12/45	NA
22. <i>Monowai</i>	Union SS Co. of New Zealand	5/21/45	NA
23. <i>Staffordshire</i>	Bibby Bros. and Co. Ltd.	5/21/45	NA
24. <i>Arawa</i>	Shaw, Saville and Albion Co. Ltd.	5/23/45	NA
25. <i>Circassia</i>	Anchor Line	5/24/45	NA
26. <i>Ascanius</i>	Ocean Steamship Co.	5/27/45	NA
27. <i>Monowai</i>	Union SS Co. of New Zealand	6/4/45	NA
28. <i>Empire Pride</i>	Ministry of War Transport	6/6/45	NA
29. <i>Arawa</i>	Shaw, Saville and Albion Co. Ltd.	6/7/45	NA
30. <i>Ascanius</i>	Ocean Steamship Co.	6/22/45	NA
31. <i>Antenor</i>	China Mutual Steam Navigation Co.	n.d.	M 232
32. <i>Highland Monarch</i>	Royal Mail Line	n.d.	K 312

**Sources:**

- n.d. = According to the reference, the troopship sailed from Odessa, but the date is not cited.
- NA = All from USMMM Oct 1943-1945; RG 334 entry 309 Box 24, 'POW Troopships'.
- M = Meltesen, C., *Routes to Liberation from Oflag-64* (San Francisco, 1990).
- K = Kydd, S., *For You the War Is Over* (London, 1973).

# TAPS



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](mailto:elodie@oflag64.us)

Wilfred M. Boucher	2007
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
John W. Vicek	unknown
Orpha T. Ziegler	unknown

## *Henry M. Desmond* 1918 ~ 2020



Henry M. Desmond, age 102, passed away on Sunday, July 19, 2020. All services were private.

No other obituary information was available at the time of this printing but you can access this information at:

<https://www.johnquint.com/Obituary.php?FuneralHomeID=JohnQuint&ID=3206>

## *James C. Young* 1923 ~ 1998



Retired Maj. James C. Young, 74, of 1223 Barterbrook Road, died Friday (May 29, 1998) at his residence.

He was born Nov. 21, 1923, at Augusta County, a son of William F. Sr. and Annie (Hamilton) Young.

He served in the Army from 1942 to 1963 when he retired as a major. He was a German

prisoner of war during World War II. He was also a veteran of the Korean War.



He is survived by his widow, Jean (Fielding) Young; two daughters, Carole Y. West of Weyers Cave and Susan Y. Denham of Millen, GA; a son, Stewart C. Young of Staunton; two brothers, William F. Jr. of Harrisonburg and C. Wendell Young of Paso Robles, CA; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A service will be conducted at 2 pm Wednesday at Thornrose Cemetery by the Rev. Joseph C. Brandon. Military honors will be conducted at the graveside.

The family will receive friends at his residence and the residence of his son at 1336 Barterbrook Road.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, Staunton West August County Unit, in care of Mrs. John O. Arey, Staunton Memorial Chairman, 325 Driscoll Street, Staunton VA 24401 or AHC Hospice of the Shenandoah, Box 215, Fishersville VA 22939.

His obituary was found at [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Kriegy Wives*

## *Rosalie W. Liggett* 1923 ~ 2020



Rosalie Ann (Wiese) Liggett, passed away 12 days shy of her 97th birthday. She was born in Denman NE

on Sept. 9, 1923, the oldest of four children born to William H. and Anita Wiese. She attended grade school through 10th grade in Denman and went to Shelton, Nebraska, High School for her junior and senior years, participating in pep club, glee club and teacher's training courses. She graduated in 1940 and then taught first through

eighth grades in rural Nebraska elementary schools for four years.

In 1944, she moved to Vancouver, WA to join her parents who had moved from Nebraska, so her father could work for Alcoa Aluminum in support of the war effort. In 1945, she worked as a teacher in the government nursery schools in Vancouver during World War II. She also worked in department stores, a restaurant, Del Monte Cannery and a malt shop in California before being married.

In December 1945, while visiting family in Denman, she met First Lt. Francis Eugene Liggett who had just returned home from the war. They were married six weeks after they met on Feb. 3, 1946 and were married almost 74 years when Gene passed away, Nov. 27, 2019.

Rosalie and Gene lived in Nebraska most of their married lives where he was the County Agricultural Agent and later the District U.S. Soil Conservationist, and she was a homemaker, helping to raise their four children. In September 1965, Rosalie went back to work as the manager of the ready-to-wear dept. at Montgomery Ward and later as Quality Control and Personnel Director at TRW in McCook, NE. They lived in Kearney, Clay Center, York, Grand Island, Hebron, McCook and Trenton, NE. She and Gene retired in 1975. They then moved to Vancouver in 1979 where they were active members of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Rosalie was also an auxiliary member of the Knights of Columbus and a member of the Ex-Prisoner of War Auxiliary.

Rosalie and Gene spent many happy retirement years traveling around the US and Canada with their travel trailers, camping and sightseeing with family and friends. She played the piano, was active in her church, her children's lives and visited with family often.

They had five children, Joe Wayne (deceased, 1948); James Raymond, who married Diane Miller, lives in Cornish, NH; Dorothy Jean married Michael Tilka and lives in Vancouver; Ronald Dale lives in Boulder, CO; and Marianne Liggett, who married Roger Merriam, lives in Reno, NV. Rosalie leaves six grandsons, two granddaughters, 11 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. She is also survived by her brother, William E. Wiese; and sister, Margaret Baxter who live in the Vancouver area, as do many of their children; and her brother, Bob and his wife Jean Wiese and their children, who live in California.

Rosalie was preceded in death by her parents; Bill and Anita Wiese; husband, Francis Eugene Liggett and son, Joe Wayne Liggett.

There will be a funeral mass at 11 a.m., Monday, Oct. 5, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Vancouver, and both she and her late husband Gene will be interred the same day at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland, OR with full military honors including a three-gun salute, the playing of taps, and flag folding and presentation ceremony.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to the Museum of Oflag 64 POW camp (where Gene was held as a prisoner of the Germans in WWII) through the following link: <http://friendsofolog64.org>.

Her obituary can be found at:

<https://obits.columbian.com/obituaries/columbian/obituary.aspx?n=rosalie-ann-liggett&pid=196752774>

Published in The Columbian on Sep. 6, 2020.

## *Mary G. Sharpe*

*1922 ~ 2020*



Mary Sharpe passed peacefully and in the presence of her devoted husband, Wilbur, on the morning of Sunday, September 13, 2020, at the Ashby Ponds Senior Living Community. Born February 5, 1922, in Elkhorn, West Virginia, to the late Ward Chase Glenn and Mabel Dagny Larson Glenn. She attended Shortridge (Indianapolis, Indiana) and Pittsboro (Pittsboro, Indiana) High Schools. During World War II, Mary worked with her sisters to support the Red Cross in Indianapolis. After the war ended in 1945, Mary began working at L.S. Ayres and Company, an Indiana Department Store, where she met Wilbur, "Bill," through a mutual friend and they wed in early 1946. To their delight, they welcomed their only daughter, Cynthia, at Christmastime in 1946. Her neighbors in Bethesda, Maryland, loved to attend her dinner parties and fondly remembered dancing late into the evenings after an exquisite dinner.

Mary rose to challenges and strove for perfection in all her endeavors. She was an avid reader, crossword enthusiast, and bountiful gardener – often choosing the joy of her garden

over a summer vacation. Her artistic and sewing abilities, while often kept private, delighted those closest to her when given the opportunity. Always the philanthropist, Mary was a longtime supporter and volunteer for the Women's Club of Bethesda among the many other beneficiaries of her time and talents.

Mary is survived by her husband of 74 years, Wilbur B. Sharpe, Jr.; her dedicated daughter, Cynthia Burgess (Glenn); and her granddaughter Lauren Burgess. Mary was the last remaining of her 8 siblings - a lively and loving family.

Interment will be scheduled at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Assistance League® of Northern Virginia ([www.alnv.org](http://www.alnv.org)) or Friends of Oflag 64 ([www.friendsofotlag64.org](http://www.friendsofotlag64.org)).

Her obituary can be found at:

<https://www.pumphreyfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Mary-Eileen-Glenn-Sharpe?obId=18376209#/celebrationWall>



## Publications

The publications previously found on this page have been moved to our website at: <http://www.oflag64.us/books-etc.html>

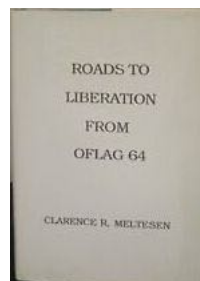
With that in mind, if you are a Kriegy or descendant of a Kriegy who has published a book about WWII experiences in relation to Oflag 64, we would love to include it in the grouping on our website. And if you have extras, the future museum in Szubin Poland would also like a copy. Also, if you have digital articles, diaries and memoirs to share, they are placed in the Archives section of our website based on their content. Many such "stories" are already there. Please contact me if you have actual books, diaries or memoirs to donate at [elodie@oflag64.us](mailto:elodie@oflag64.us).

**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.

- "Country boy infantry: "The Blue Devils" 88<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, 1944-1945" by the late Kriegy Carey E. Ashcraft, Jan. 1, 1987
- "My World War II Experiences" by the late Kriegy Donald Lussenden
- "People Too" by the late Kriegy William H. Schaefer
- "The Colonel" by the late Kriegy James F. Skells
- Milton E. Dowse – 3D copy of online publication

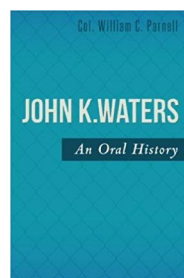
**If you are looking for any of the following, please contact.....**

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](mailto:beckhammarilyn@hotmail.com)



Lynne Meltesen, daughter of the late Kriegy Clarence Meltesen, has sent us a few more copies of his book, **"Roads to Liberation"**. If you would like a copy, please contact Elodie at [elodie@oflag64.us](mailto:elodie@oflag64.us). We have also learned that Cindy Burgess has several copies. Contact her

at: [cindy.burgess@szubinpowcamps.org](mailto: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 copies available.

*"The reading of all good books is like conversation with the finest (people) of the past centuries." – Descartes*

# “Foundation” and “Friends” News



**Polish-American Foundation**

for the Commemoration of POW Camps in Szubin

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

Thanks to the Foundation for “spreading the word” about National POW/MIA Recognition Day on September 18, 2020. This post went out early in the day on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn. Check out the Foundation’s website article regarding this event: <http://bit.ly/POWDaisy2020>



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

September 16 at 11:00 PM · 🌐

Wear a Daisy This Friday.

Did you know? POW/MIA Recognition Day is this Friday in the United States.

The Daisy is the national symbol of U.S. POWs because:

"Daisies don't tell."

For example, the POWs of Oflag 64 never revealed anything other than name, rank, and serial number to their interrogators--and they even made up a few wild tales just to keep the Germans busy for a while. ... [See More](#)

“

...Let no man believe that there is a stigma attached to having been honorably taken captive in battle. Only the fighting man ever gets close enough to the enemy for that to happen...



Colonel Thomas D. Drake  
Senior American Officer  
Oflag 64  
June, 1944



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





**Friends of Oflag 64** sincerely thanks our monetary donors. Your generosity has helped to achieve our mission of supporting the Polish-American Foundation during this pandemic. A complete overview will be included in an upcoming *Bulletin*. This list is updated regularly and is located on the website at: [www.friendsofotlag64.org](http://www.friendsofotlag64.org)

Monetary Donors to Friends of Oflag 64, Inc.  
June 11, 2019 - September 22, 2020

	A	B	C
1	DONOR	RELATIONSHIP	REMARKS
2	Burgess Family Trust	KRIEGY Wilbur Sharpe -Daughter	
3	Tom & Anne Kreutzer	KRIEGY Nathaniel (Nat) Hoskot -Daughter	
4	Wilbur & Mary Sharpe	KRIEGY	
5	The Holder Family Foundation	KRIEGY H. Randolph Holder	"Boomer" Holder
6	Michael & Pamela Maxwell	Friend of Nancy T. Wyatt	
7	Dr. Surry P. Roberts	Friend of Pat Waters	
8	Patrick V. Kinlan	Friend of the Burgesses	
9	Elizabeth Bruno	Friend of the Burgesses	
10	Susanna & James Connaughton	KRIEGY Seymour Bolten - Daughter	
11	Pat Waters	KRIEGY John Waters - Son	
12	R. B. Frey	KRIEGY Gordon G. Frey - Son	
13	Alan & Karen Reynolds	Friend of the Burgesses	"This museum and website is a great tribute to the greatest generation"
14	Teresa Plotkin	Friend of Susanna Connaughton	"I am making this donation in honor of Susanna Connaughton and the work she is doing to make this wonderful project a reality"
15	Leonard Hoffman	Friend of the Burgesses	
16	Brenda Boon	KRIEGY Anthony Bucci -Granddaughter	
17	Stephanie Siegel		
18	Tomasz Majorke		
19	Robert Sutton		"In honor of KRIEGY Frances Eugene Liggett"
20	Sara Shade	KRIEGY Wilbur Wyman Bishop	"In honor of Mimi Wyman Shade, daughter of KRIEGY Wilbur Wyman Bishop"
21	Cleta Glenn	KRIEGY Wilbur Sharpe-Sister-in-law	
22	Elizabeth Stolpe	Friend of Susanna Connaughton	
23	John K. Waters, Jr	KRIEGY John K. Waters - Son	
24	Ray Liggett	KRIEGY Frances Eugene Liggett- Nephew	"In honor and memory of my uncle, Frances Eugene Liggett"
25	Jeannine & Jay Boswell	Friend of Burgesses	
26	Marsha Williams		
27	Roberto Deleon		"On behalf of the late Rosalie Liggett"
28	Shannon Lambertson		
29	Todd Lambertson		

## CALL TO ACTION

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter ITEM: <http://www.otlag64.us/ewExternalFiles/ITEM%202nd%20Qtr%202020c.pdf>, we published a story about the Thompson Family, the first to be major donors to the Polish-American Foundation for the Commemoration of POW Camps in Szubin. You can find their pledge on the "Friends" website at: <https://friendsofotlag64.org/news>. **Let us know if you would like more information on becoming a major donor**, and consider being the next to make a major donation. When you donate, please make all monetary donation(s) through the "Friends of Oflag 64" website shown above.



**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 for the Commemoration of POW Camps in Szubin** 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:

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Address:

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Phone:

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Email:

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Kriegy (POW) Name and Relationship:

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**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 all pages of this document for your records and tax purposes. Also send a copy to accompany your artifacts(s) to:**

Dave Stewart  
[DSLVTX@gmail.com](mailto:DSLVTX@gmail.com)  
7903 Diamond Trail  
Lago Vista, TX 78645-4446

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

**A copy of this document will accompany the transfer of these artifacts to the *Polish-American Foundation for the Commemoration of POW Camps in Szubin* as outlined in the Partnership Agreement signed between *Friends of Oflag 64* and the Foundation. The data will be shared with the Foundation and not with any other entities.\***

**The sharing of personal data is voluntary. If you wish to opt out, please initial below.**

**Opt Out \_\_\_\_\_**

Donor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Artifacts Committee Acceptance Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Additional information may be found at: [www.friendsofotlag64.org/artifacts](http://www.friendsofotlag64.org/artifacts) - FOUNDATION INFORMATION CLAUSES.*

*\*The Polish-American Foundation's Personal Data Processing Policy is in accordance with the regulations of the European Parliament and the Council (UE) 2016/679 of 27 April 2016 on the protection of individuals with regards to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data and repealing Directive 95/46/EC, known as "General Data Protection Regulation."*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Artifact Donations

1. Description of donated artifact: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor estimated value: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation or story of artifact: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Description of donated artifact: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor estimated value: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation or story of artifact: \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Description of donated artifact: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor estimated value: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation or story of artifact: \_\_\_\_\_

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Donor estimated value: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation or story of artifact: \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Description of donated artifact: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor estimated value: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation or story of artifact: \_\_\_\_\_

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