



Post Oflag 64 Item

2nd Quarter 2010

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2010 Oflag 64 Reunion DALLAS TX October 7 - October 10 2010

Great things are in store for us all at the Oflag 64 Reunion to be held in Dallas TX this October. Carole and Phil Lester and their committee have worked tirelessly to put things together to provide a great experience for everyone. We applaud them and appreciate their efforts.

On the next 3 pages you will find a reunion information letter from Carole and Phil, a registration form, and a reunion itinerary. Please pay attention to deadline dates, methods of payment, cancellation policies, and information relating to special accommodation needs.

We're looking forward to seeing as many Kriegies and their families as possible this year. As with our previous reunions, this will be a reunion you won't want to miss.

You can also access reunion information on our website, including a registration form, information about the banquet, hotel reservations, and the itinerary. Just go to www.oflag64.us and click on the Reunion Blog page.

Best Regards,

**Elodie Caldwell, ITEM Editor

(Daughter of Reid Ellsworth)





A LITTLE COMPANY BUSINESS

Dear Oflag 64 Family,

Plans are going well for a great time in Dallas. The hotel is excited about hosting this reunion and has reserved the best spaces for us. All of the rooms have sitting areas with kitchenettes for your use. There is also an exercise area and a pool for those who need to move or cool down.







There is a small restaurant in the hotel that serves breakfast and lunch. Breakfast coupons can be added to your room charge at a reasonable price – just let them know when you make your reservations. We are having a plated breakfast on Sunday as part of the reunion registration fee.

We are planning to get you out and about the Dallas and Fort Worth area. Buses will take us into Dallas on Friday and on to the Fort Worth area on Saturday. But we will have you back in time for the banquet.

The banquet is at the hotel and we will have 3 dinner choices. If anyone has dietary restrictions, please call the hotel and let them know and they will be very accommodating. Our after-dinner speaker will be followed by music and definitely dancing. There will be a professional photographer at the dinner and the Kreigies will be photographed as a group. Individual sittings will also be available and you can purchase these.



The hotel is ready for your reservations – you can make them by telephone or online by following these steps:

- 1. Direct to Crowne Plaza Suites 972-233-7600 option 2, please reference group code "OFL".
- 2. Hotel Website www.cpdallas.com/>, Click on "Reservations" and enter their arrival and departure information. Then click on the "Corporate/Group" field. Under Group Code enter "OFL" and click "Check availability".

NOTE: The group cutoff date for reservations is Tuesday, September 07, 2010.

We hope that this finds you all well and ready to meet in the Heart of Texas! Looking forward to seeing you in October.

Carole and Phil Lester (Herman Littman and family)



Carole and Phil Lester 2501 Mollimar Dr Plano TX 75075-5501 (Ph 972-596-8756)



2010 OFLAG 64 REUNION – DALLAS TX

Thursday, October 7 - Sunday, October 10

REGISTRATION FORM

REGISTRATION FEE: \$160 per person - This includes: a tour of Dallas including a visit to the Dallas Holocaust Center and the Sixth Floor Museum; an outing to Fort Worth, the Amon Carter Museum and other sites, the banquet, Sunday memorial breakfast, snacks, the photographer, the meeting rooms, a continuous Hospitality Room stocked with beverages & other goodies.

Remember to indicate your banquet choice below. [If you or your guest(s) plan to attend the **BANQUET ONLY**, the cost is \$30 per person.]

Banquet Choices (select one):	(1) Steak	(2) Chicken	(3) Vegetariar
Registrant:	Kriegy Relationship		☐Banquet Choice
NOTE: If you are not a Kriegy, ple	ase let us know w	nich Kriegy you're related to:	
Address:			
Phone #:			
Email:			
Guest:		Relationship:	Banquet Choice _
Guest:	Kriegy	Relationship:	Banquet Choice
Guest:	Kriegy	Relationship:	Banquet Choice
Guest:	Kriegy	Relationship:	Banquet Choice
Guest:	Kriegy	Relationship:	Banquet Choice
Guest:	Kriegy	Relationship:	Banquet Choice
Are special hotel/transportation ac			No

Please mail your completed registration form and check to:

Carole Lester 2501 Mollimar Drive Plano TX 75075-5501

Email: philcareless@verizon.net (Ph 972-596-8756)

Please make your check payable to Carole Lester and write "Oflag 64 Reunion" on the memo line.

HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

Please make your <u>Crowne Plaza Suites</u>, <u>Dallas – Park Central</u> reservations by calling 1-972-233-7600 and referencing group code "OFL" or by visiting their website at: http://www.cpdallas.com/index.php

The group reservation is under "Oflag 64" at the rate of \$85+tax per night and applies 3 days prior to and 3 days following the reunion. Group Code is "OFL"

Dallas Reunion Schedule

Thursday, October 7

12:00 – 5:00 Check in, hospitality room open all night

Friday, October 8

7:30 – 8:30 Breakfast on your own **

8:45 – 11:30 Business meeting

11:30 Board buses to Dallas

12:00- 1:30 Lunch on your own in the "West End"

1:30 -5:00 The Holocaust Museum presentation and the Sixth Floor Museum

5:00 Return to hotel

5:30 Dinner on your own and free time

Saturday, October 9

7:00 – 8:00 Breakfast on your own**

8:00 – 3:00 Tour of Fort Worth area, Amon Carter Museum – Lunch on your own at the

Fort Worth Stock Yards

6:00 Drinks and social hour

7:00 – whenever Banquet and entertainment

Sunday, October 10

8:00 Breakfast (provided)

9:00 Memorial Service and good byes

The hospitality room will be open every day for those wishing to visit.

^{**} Note: The hotel has a breakfast buffet in the restaurant daily. We have arranged for a special coupon to be added to your room for a nominal price if you desire. Sunday breakfast is plated.



MAIL CALL



IAN DAVID BAILEY from England recently found our website and asked for any information we have about his late father, George Delville Bailey. He said: "I am curious about my long deceased father's role in WW2. I have an original War Office document informing my late Grandmother of her son's transfer from Stalag XX1D to Oflag 64 on the 18th June 1943. His name was George Delville Bailey. As my father was attached to the 5th Btn Border Regiment he was certainly not an American Officer. He was a British soldier. He never told us anything about the war and died in 1977, but I still wonder what I may have learned from him if he had lived longer. He was very mysterious about what happened to him. Any info would be great." Thank you, lan, for writing. We notice that your father's name is not on our POW Database but If anyone has information to share, I will be in touch with you. Please contact us again.

ABE BAUM from San Diego CA recently called and we chatted a few minutes about the Hammelburg Affair. He was interested in the information we have posted on the website and wanted the information to give to



Richard Baron, one of the men who with Abe, produced Abe's RAID! book. We sent the web address both to Abe and to Richard. Abe's supply of his books is gone but can be ordered on Amazon.com. Thank you, Abe, for contacting us. It was good to hear from you again. We hope you were able to find the information you were looking for online. Please let us hear from you again.

BARBARA BICKERS from Prospect Heights IL (daughter of the late Kriegy Jim Bickers) recently sent the following: "I am sending the Chicago Tribune link for Dad's obituary and guestbook. We have lost another giant among men, but my greatest joy was tending him in his home with mother, as his needs were ongoing. Our hearts are broken, but oh, so proud to have called him our own!. http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/chicagotribune/obit uary.aspx?n=james-f-bickers&pid=140993215

She also mentioned that the online guestbook has already been gathering condolences and expressed thanks "for all the sympathies to the Bickers family. We are touched and uplifted." Thanks, Barbara for letting us know of your father's passing. We have included his obituary in the TAPS section of this ITEM. We've definitely lost another great patriot and hero and as you say "a giant among men". We know

he will be greatly missed but please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Please write again.

RUSS BOLLING from Coppell TX (son of Kriegy Alexander "Bud" Bolling) called the other day to say that his dad has recently been moved to an extended care facility in Dallas. Bud has been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease and finds it difficult to do the things he used to do but is happy in his new surroundings. Thanks so much, Russ, for letting us know about your dad. We were sorry to hear about his Parkinson's but are happy that you are close to him and are able to visit him often. We hope you'll keep in touch.

STEVEN BURGAUER (friend of the late Kriegy William C. Frodsham, Jr.) recently found our website and asked to be added to our email list. He also sent us a link to his new book, Duty & Drill, Courage & Capture, an historical novel based on the diary and notes of William Frodsham. We've posted it on our website Links page. Welcome, Steven, to our Oflag 64 family and thanks for the link to your book. Our Kriegies have great stories to tell and we appreciate that you've shared your book link with us. Please write again.

MARK BYRUM from Goleta CA (nephew of the late Kriegy Frank Masonheimer) has written to see if anyone has information about a possible list of Kriegies who were infirmed while at Oflag 64. If you have information that can help Mark, please contact us. We will forward the information on. Thanks, Mark, for writing. We will send your request to our email group as well. Hopefully you will receive the information you seek soon. Please keep us posted on what you learn.

HELEN CHAPPELL from Kauffman TX sent an update on Jenny Durgin who has been a long-time supporter of the Oflag 64 family. Jenny is the widow of George Durgin. She said she would like to attend the reunion with Helen if



possible. Thank you, Helen for sending this information. Hope you and Roy are doing as well as can be expected. We look forward to seeing you, Jenny, and other family members at the Dallas reunion. Please keep in touch.

BILL CORY from Naples FL wrote not long ago and sent a very generous donation to use wherever needed. He also referred to the MIS-X information in the 1st Quarter ITEM. Bill's primary responsibility at Oflag 64 was digging



the tunnel with "Spud" Murphy, Hervey Robinson, and Bill Fabian. He wrote that would like to continue receiving the ITEM by mail. Thanks, Bill, for your thoughtful and generous donation. Now that we have a new ITEM printing/mailing source, with your donation, we should be able to build our Postage Fund back up a little. Would love to see you at the Dallas reunion. We enjoy hearing from you. Keep those letters coming.

MICHELLE CRAIG from Omaha NE (daughter of the late Kriegy William Higgins) sent a great power point presentation on the sequence of European Theater battle front events which happened during WWII. The map showed the countries taken over by Germany, the advancing of the Russians, how the British, American, and French armies pushed back and the eventual fall of the Nazi regime. Please contact us if you're interested in viewing this power point presentation. Michelle, thank you so much for sharing this presentation. For those of us who didn't experience WWII, it really puts things in perspective. Hope to see you in Dallas. Please write again.

TOM DETMERS from Jacksonville FL (son of the late Kriegy Arthur V. Detmers) recently found our website and asked to be added to our email list. He also shared information about his father during his POW years and sent a group POW photo taken at Oflag 64 which included his father and Robert S. Oshlo. It will be included later in this ITEM. If you can identify the other men, please contact us. Thank you very much, Tom, for sending the photo of your father's POW group and the scans of his related information. We are happy to welcome you to our Oflag 64 family and hope you'll continue to share what information you have.

LESTER EDSALL from Sidney OH recently sent a donation to the Postage Fund along with compliments on the ITEM. He stated: "Edie and I continue to be blessed with reasonably good health and are able to volunteer at our hospital four days a month. (Edie has 44 years as a Red Cross Grey Lady at the hospital). We are happy in our lovely home in the Presbyterian Retirement Community. At age 90 though, I think this will be my last "good" vegetable garden on the back of our lot. It was so good to hear from you, Lester. Thank you very much for your thoughtful and generous donation to the Postage Fund as well as for your compliments on the ITEM. We wish you a wonderful garden and enjoyable experiences as you volunteer at the hospital. Please write again.

JULIE GIONFRIDDO from Ft. Collins CO (daughter of the late Kriegy John Rathbone) recently emailed that she would not be able to attend the Dallas Reunion. As a veterinary ophthalmologist, she attends a variety of



meetings and is required to attend one this year on the same weekend as our Reunion. Julie, we wish there was a way you could attend, but we know that other things sometimes get in the way. We'll be thinking of you, however, and will post pictures and things on the web site when it's over. Please keep in touch.

JEANETTE AND WALTER HARLES from Skokie IL (friends of the late Kriegy Jim Bickers) sent a donation in memory of Jim. We're so appreciative Jeanette and Walter of your thoughtful and generous donation to our Oflag 64 Association. It will be put to good use. Please contact us again any time.

LIBBY HIGGINS from Greenville SC (daughter of the late Kriegy George W. Tate) sent a donation to the Postage Fund. She would still like to communicate with any living members of her father's company. He was at Oflag 64 beginning September 44. Thanks, so much, Libby for your thoughtful and generous contribution to the Postage Fund. Your donation will help mail future ITEMs to those without email. Keep us posted on new information about your father or his company.

WILLIAM R. HUNKER (son of the late Kriegy, Donald R. Hunker) sent a WWII photo of his father and one other man. William would like to identify the other man as well as the location of the photo, which can be found in the Information Station section of this ITEM. Donald never spoke with his family about his war experiences. If you are able to help, please contact us. Thank you, Bill, for sharing this photo. We hope others will be able to fill in the missing information. Keep us posted on your progress. Hope to hear from you again soon.

MALGORZATTA JAGIELSKA from Poland, along with her library coworkers, are in possession of a book (diary) which belonged to Father Stephen W. Kane from Oflag 64. We have recently received a scanned copy of a few pages of his book and are waiting for the remaining pages. Thank you and your coworkers for sharing information with us. We eagerly await the remaining pages. Hope to hear from you soon.

L. MARTIN JONES from Lawrence KS recently sent thanks for sending the ITEM to him over the years. He was a POW at Hammelburg, not Oflag 64, but has enjoyed association with many of our Oflag 64 Kriegies. He made a trip



to Germany and Poland with the Military Historical Tours group, which included some of our Kriegies, a few years back. Thanks, Martin, for writing. We appreciate hearing from Kriegies who were held in POW camps during WWII, including those held at Hammelburg. What amazing experiences you all had!

GEORGE JUSKALIAN from Centerville VA sent a donation to the Postage Fund recently. We're grateful for such supportive Kriegies and family members. *Thank you, George, for your thoughtful and generous contribution to the Postage*



Fund. What would we do without such wonderful supporters. We hope you are doing well. Would love to hear from you again.

ANNE KREUTZER from Woodbridge VA (daughter of the late Kriegy Nathaniel Hoskot) sent a donation to the Postage Fund and said: "I am so happy to contribute what I can in honor of all of



the great men who gave so much." Thank you, Anne, for your very thoughtful and generous donation to the Postage Fund. What would we do without our great contributors? Hope to see you in Dallas. Please keep in touch.

ROYAL LEE from Monkato MN has sent several emails containing stories, philosophies, food for thought, WWII information, political "essays" and some forwards with some very cute pictures attached. Thanks very much,



Royal, for taking the time to send these emails to us. It's interesting to get those little glimpses into the past that we might not get otherwise. Please let us hear from you again.

HERMAN LITTMAN from Spokane WA sent a donation to the Postage
Fund along with a short note which said:
"Thought I'd add a drop to the bucket.
Hope I last long enough to make it to
the reunion. A lot of my family plan to



be there." Herm, thank you very much for your thoughtful donation to the Postage Fund. It's much appreciated. We certainly enjoy hearing from you and look forward to seeing you and your family in Dallas. Please write again.

JANET LOWE from Phoenix AZ (widow of the late Kriegy Lewis Lowe) sent a donation to the Postage Fund along with a short letter saying that she was able to make contact with the Boy Scout who, along with his father, interviewed Lew for his Eagle project. Janet said: "We now have pictures of Lew and a written story of Lew's POW experiences during WWII in the museum at Gilbert AZ. Janet has recently moved to a retirement community in Phoenix AZ and

says it's "quite an adjustment after living in this home for 58 years." Thank you very much, Janet, for your thoughtful and generous donation to the Postage Fund. We greatly appreciate all our contributors. Hopefully all will go well with you between now and the reunion and that we'll see you there. Please keep in touch.

TONY B. LUMPKIN III (grandson of the late Kriegy Tony B. Lumpkin) sent photographs recently that he found while transcribing his grandfather's diary. (See the Information Station section of this ITEM.) Many of the photos include our Oflag 64 Kriegies. He also sent complete copies of early ITEMs to be added to our website. Thank you, thank you, thank you Tony, for sending copies of photos and ITEMS. We are in the process of adding them to our website now. We hope others will be able to identify some of the individuals in these photos, previously unavailable to us. Please write again as time goes by.

WILLIAM R. MAKEPEACE IV from Atlanta GA (grandson of the late Kriegy William R. Makepeace, Jr.) recently found our website and asked to be added to our email list. He also inquired about his grandfather's friend Thomas T. Rush who also resided for a time at Oflag 64 saying that his grandfather and Thomas Rush escaped together near the end of the war. He has a few WWII photos of his grandfather including his POW ID card. Thanks for writing, Bill, and welcome to our Oflag 64 family. We are always happy to find family of our deceased Kriegies. We'd love to see your WWII photos and hope you'll keep in touch.

DON MCALPINE from Sun City AZ recently wrote that these days he spends most of the year each year in Arizona. He said: "We were originally from MN and still spend four summer months there, June-Sept. Our main address now is 14207 N. Tumblebrook Way, Sun City AZ 85351. We are here eight months. While I am writing you I might just tell you that I was Lt. 16th AFA Bn. 9th Armored Division. Captured in the Battle of the Bulge Dec. 22 1944 near ST. Vith Belgium. Was therefore in Oflag 64 for only a short time. On about the 3rd day of the March out of Camp I escaped along with Lt. Lester Folwell, a pilot shot down near the same area near St. Vith. We stayed with a Polish Farmer for several days and than made contact with the Russian Army. They sent us to Odessa. We then were on a British ship which took us to Port Said Egypt, another English ship to Naples, Italy and then a US ship back to the states. I then was an Artillery Instructor at the Armored School located at FT. Knox KY until the war was over and we were discharged." Don also mentioned that Lester Folwell passed away on March 15, 2008. We will post the information we have in the TAPS section of this ITEM. Thank you very much, Don, for all your updates. And thanks for the information on Lester.

We will send your ITEMs to your new address in sunny and warm Arizona. We look forward to hearing from you again.

CHRIS MCCAIN from Brenham TX (grandson-in-law of the late Kriegy Charlie Buerger) sent copies of various pages from Charlie's war diary. Some of these pages are included in the Information Station section of this ITEM. Charlie didn't talk much about the war, but opened up to Chris not long before Charlie's death. Thanks, Chris, for sharing pages from Charlie's diary with us. It's so interesting to see how different, yet how similar the notes are that were kept by our Kriegies. Please keep in touch.

RICHARD OLDFIELD from Bergenfield NJ (son of the late John C. "Cliff" Oldfield) recently found our website and asked to be added to our email list. He also said that he would be interested in attending the Dallas reunion. Welcome, Richard, to our Oflag 64 family. We have a great group, always willing to share experiences and what they know. Keep watching for reunion information. Hope to see you there and to hear from you again.

BOB O'NEILL from Prescott AZ read the request from Ian Bailey regarding his father from Britain who was at Oflag 64. He responded: "I talked to Robert Rivers (Bob) today about the inquiry. Bob was there in 1943. He was a



fighter pilot in Africa early in the war and was shot down and captured, eventually winding up in Oflag 64. When he was there, the camp was housing only US Army air crews and British Army prisoners. Bob said the Brits and US prisoners intermingled. However, full names of people were not usually used. "Nick" names were common. As you probably know, the US crews and the Brits were moved when the US Army officers were being moved in to Oflag 64. I would imagine that the US and Brits were sent to separate camps at that time. If the British military, and or organizations have groups like ours it might be a source to refer this gentleman to them as I very much doubt that any one of our group would have ever contacted his relative....Bob has also continued to update us as to the airing of Kriegy interviews done at the Ft. Collins reunion. No air date or time has yet been announced. Thanks Bob for writing. We weren't able to find Mr. Bailey's father in our Database but perhaps your explanation says why. Thank you for checking on Mr. Bailey's request and also on an air date for the Kriegy interviews. Please keep in touch.

LANCE OTTO, a researcher, recently found our website and is looking for the following information: "I'd like to determine what distinctions existed between Heer and Luftwaffe camps and their administration; how these differences affected the

quality of life for prisoners; I'd also like to find anecdotes about what one did to fool the Germans-even if it was a single occurrence--or what one may have done to make camp less or more endurable, little activities that would not occur in life outside a prison camp. I've read works by Durand and others regarding Stalag Luft III in Sagan, and I know a body of knowledge still exists to elude me, but I'll persevere." In a separate communication Lance expressed thanks to POWs for their service to our country. If you have information to share with Lance, please contact us and we'll forward it on. Thanks, Lance, for contacting us and welcome to our Oflag 64 family. We wish you success as you work on your project and would be interested in hearing the results of your research. Please write again.

ROCCO PRAVIDICA from Rockford IL sent a short note along with a donation to the Postage Fund not long ago. He said that he enjoys reading the ITEM and asked if there was a way he could get Abe Baum's RAID! book.



(He will be sent a copy as soon as we receive our new shipment.) Rocco is now 88 and was among the first to settle in at Oflag 64. Thanks, Rocco, for your thoughtful donation to the Postage Fund. We so appreciate your support. We're working on getting you a copy of Abe's book. We hope you'll be able to make it to the Dallas Reunion. Keep us posted.

RICK PORTER recently found our website and asked about a plaque that was in his late father's possession. The front of this plaque reads: Oflag – 1944 – IX/AH and the back has a small signature slightly above the circle. Photos of this plaque are included in the Information Station section of this ITEM. If you know anything about plaques of this nature, please let us know. We will share your information with Rick. Thanks, Rick, for sharing these photos. We hope you find the information you seek. Please keep us posted.

SARA SHADE from Muncie IN (granddaughter of the late Kriegy W. W. Bishop) recently sent a donation to the Postage Fund and asked for a copy of Clarence Meltesen's ROADS TO LIBERATION. Sara is eager to learn all she can about Oflag 64. Thanks Sara, for your thoughtful contribution to the Postage Fund. We appreciate all our contributors. We hope you enjoy reading about Oflag 64. We're fortunate to have the information that has been saved by our Kriegies and their families for so many years. Please write again.

ROBERT D. SLINGLUFF and his brother JOHN K. SLINGLUFF, JR., both from Baltimore MD (sons of the late Kriegy John K. Slingluff, Sr.) have found our website recently and have asked to be added to our email list. New information from them shows that

their father was attached to the 175th Infantry Regiment rather than the 155th, of the 29th Division. They also shared: "He was captured with Col. Paul Goode who was accompanying his company "G" company on a mission when the Germans mounted a counter attack. Dad kept a diary of his time at Oflag 64 and when he arrived in the States his first cousin, William L. Marbury, who was Under Secretary of War, arranged to have a stenographer record a presentation Dad made." In a subsequent email Robert "Dev" wrote: "Dad kept a diary. He made entries as he could. He was wounded and fairly immobile when they brought him into Oflag 64 and after a while taken to the infirmary. When he was able, he spent time in the library where he made most of his entries." Welcome to our Oflag 64 family and thank you both for sharing information about your father. We would love to learn more. We hope you'll keep in touch.

FRANCIS SOULIE DE MORANT from France contacted us a few weeks ago with an interesting request. He said: "My father, a captain in the French Army, was kept a prisoner from July 1940 to March 1945, in OFLAGS XB, IVC (Colditz) and IVD. My mother kept all his letters. I noticed he had written some of these letters in a particular way, by splitting words in 2 or 3. I remember my mother saying that they could correspond secretly this way, and that he'd told her before Barbarossa: "If the Germans ("les Boches") attack the Russians, they are finished." Does anyone know about this secret code? Thanks, Francis, for contacting us. We hope you find the answer to your question and would be interested in learning what you find out. Please contact us again.

JACK (JOHN W.) STEWART from Lincoln NE sent a donation to the Postage Fund along with a nice note. He would like to continue receiving the ITEM by US Mail due to physical disabilities that make it very difficult for him to use email. He wrote: "It's wonderful that you are willing to be the editor of this publication which I enjoy reading. I don't know many Oflag 64 Kriegies because I didn't arrive there until November 1944 and left in January 1945, then went to Luckenwalde early in February." Thank you very much, Jack, for writing. It was good to hear from you again. We also appreciate your thoughtful donation to the Postage Fund. Hope all is well with you and that you'll contact us again.

LORI TORRES RICHINS from AZ (granddaughter of the late Kriegy Reid Ellsworth) recently found our website and asked to be added to our email list. She wrote: "I've been doing some research for my local American Legion Post #37. My Commander asked me if I could contribute something from Grandpa's POW experiences." Lori, welcome to our Oflag 64 family. Grandpa would be happy to know you are reading his book again and learning of his

experiences. Best wishes on your project. Please let us hear from you again soon.

DON WAFUL from Syracuse NY recently sent the sad news that his wife, Virginia, passed away with cancer in January of this year. Her obituary is included in the TAPS section of this ITEM. Don also sent a donation to the Postage Fund. Don



says he's still holding his own health-wise, at age 93, except for macular degeneration in one eye. Don, it was good to hear from you again. Thanks so much for writing, for sending your thoughtful donation to the Postage Fund, and for letting us know about your dear wife. We send to you our heartfelt condolences and wish you well. May wonderful memories sustain you during this time. Please write again.

DARWYN WALKER from Springfield MO sent a donation to the Postage Fund not long ago. Thank you so much, Darwyn, for your thoughtful and generous contribution to our Postage Fund. We are so appreciative of the continued support



of our members. Please let us hear from you again.

JOHN WARTHEN from Vidalia GA (son of the late Kriegy Bill Warthen) has 3 books still available. These books were part of Bill Warthen's library. They are free of charge and will be sent to you upon request. If interested, let me know and I will contact John. The books still available are:

- 1. THE 84th INFANTRY DIVISION IN THE BATTLE OF GERMANY (Draper--Viking Press)
- 2. PRISONERS OF WAR (Bailey--Time-Life)
- 3. PARATROOPERS' ODYSSEY: A HISTORY OF THE 517TH PARACHUTE COMBAT TEAM (edit. Clark Archer-- self-published)

Thanks, John, for your update on the availability of your dad's books. We very much appreciate your family's willingness to share with members of our group. Hope to hear from you again as time goes by.

DAVID WHITTAKER a fairly new member of our Oflag 64 family, is looking for any information or photos available on Jane Walker MBE. Dave wrote: "Jane Walker was a penpal of my wife's late mother. I was fascinated to read of her exploits on a page of Nazi extermination camps by Bob Keith Charleston. She was a member of the Polish Underground Movement and died in a Bexhill nursing home in the UK in 1962. I would love to know more about this brave woman. Hoping you can help." Thank you, Dave, for writing and welcome to our Oflag 64 family. It's interesting to learn of the experiences many had relating to Nazi Germany during WWII. We hope you find the information you're looking for on Jane. Please keep us posted on what you learn.

INFORMATION STATION

From time to time, we receive photos of our Kriegies at Oflag 64 and also photos of diary pages or other memorabilia they kept while there. We are happy to share them with you as we're able. If you have information regarding the photos below, please contact us at any of the contact addresses on the front page of this ITEM. We thank everyone for submitting these pieces of history.

The first few photos are from the late Kriegy, Charlie Buerger's war diary and were submitted by Chris McCain, Charlie's grandson-in-law. These notes are a little difficult to read but show some of the information Charlie studied while at Oflag 64. As you can see, Charlie educated himself in electronics. This served him well, as he was an electrician in Texas for many years after the war.

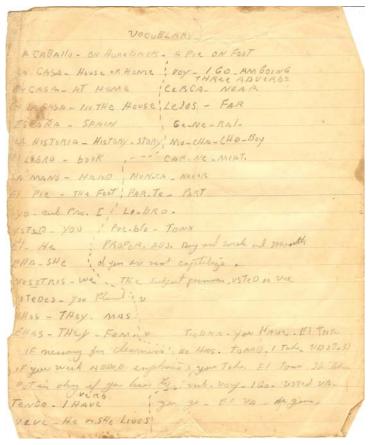
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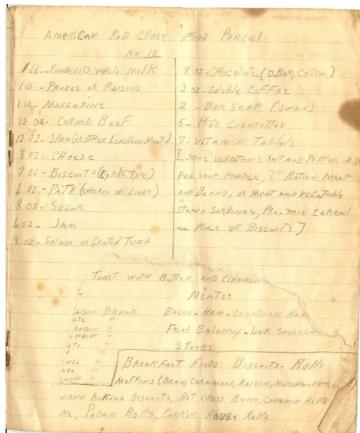






The first picture below shows vocabulary notes Charlie took while taking a Spanish class at Oflag 64. The second picture lists items contained in an American Red Cross Food Parcel.



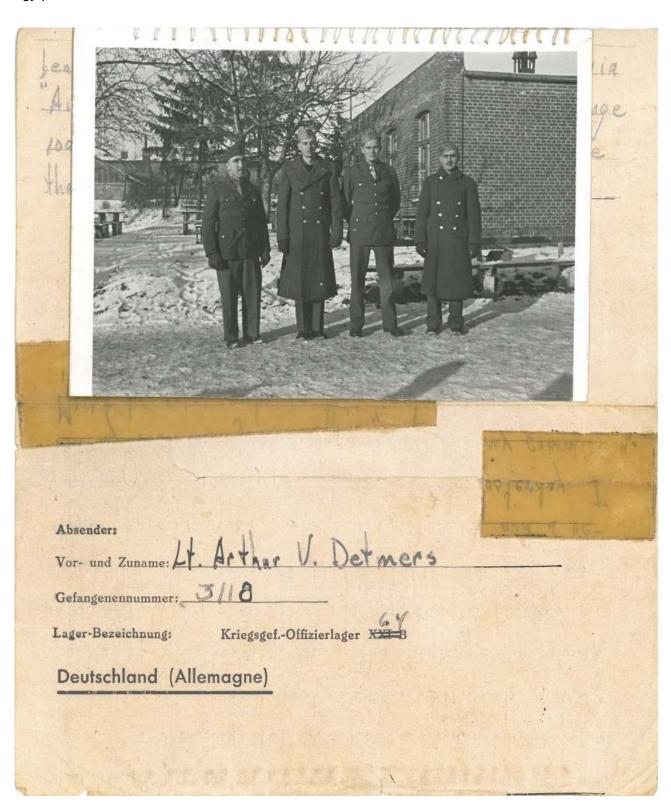


Rick Porter sent the following photos of a plaque his father brought back from the war. He is not sure how his father came to have it, but is curious as to it's origin. Rick's father served in WWII with a troop that liberated concentration camps, but was not a POW. The photos below show the front and back of the plaque. The back is signed but the signature is difficult to read. If you have seen one of these plaques or know anything about them, please let us know.





The photo below was sent by Tom Detmers, son of the late Kriegy Arthur V. Detmers. It was hand-stitched, interestingly enough, to a letter that Arthur sent home to his family. We are looking for the identity of the men on the far left and far right. Pictured second from left is Arthur Detmers and next to him, second from right, might be Robert Oshlo. If you can help identify these men, please contact us. This photo is now on our website at www.oflag64.us in the photo gallery under Kriegies, then In-Camp Kriegy photos.





This photo was sent by William R. Hunker, son of the late Kriegy Donald R. Hunker. He has identified his father on the right, but would like to be able to identify the man on the left as well. If you know who this man is or can identify the location of the picture, please contact us at one of the contact addresses on the front page of this ITEM.



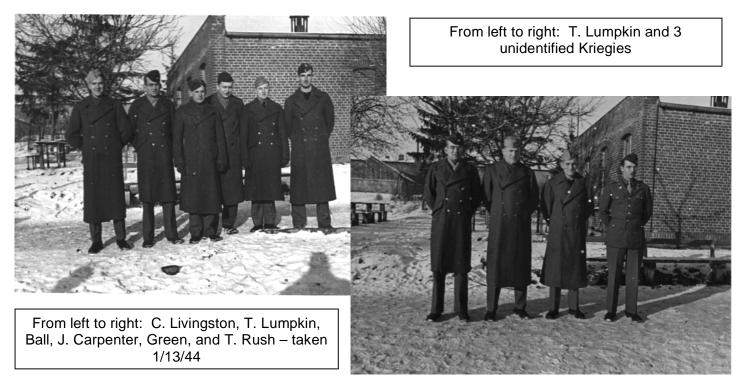


These photos were submitted by Tony B. Lumpkin III, who has been transcribing his grandfather's diary. Several other photos have been found, as well as complete copies of the ITEM published while at Oflag 64. Left photo taken 9/24/43.

This photo was also submitted by Tony B. Lumpkin III. We are able to recognize many of the men's faces in the picture below but need help identifying others. If you are able to help, please contact us at one of the contact addresses or phone numbers on the front page of this ITEM. If you can identify the location, when, and why the photo was taken, please also contact us.



The photos below are part of the group of photos submitted by Tony B. Lumpkin III and have previously been unavailable to us. Some of the men are identified but some are not. Please let us know if you recognize any of them so we can update our website. Other photos will be forthcoming.



ITEM COMMENTS

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

You keep on doing a terrific job!!!!!!!!!!!! ~ Abe Baum, San Diego CA

THANK YOU!

As always the latest Item is excellent. ~ Tom Cobb, Columbia SC

Your Item is full of wonderful information. ~ Bill Cory, Naples FL

Thanks for your efforts in putting together the "Item". Edie and I devour every word of each publication and appreciate the fantastic job you do. ~ *Lester Edsall, Sidney OH*

We really do appreciate all you and others do to keep the Item going. The Item is vital in keeping us all connected. ~ *Janet Lowe, Phoenix AZ*

Another wonderful ITEM. You do such good work. Thanks much. ~ Lucy Lussenden, Livonia MI

I would acknowledge your work as an editor of a newsletter! I know a lot of what you do can sometimes seems to be thankless, but I can also imagine that your work provides the forum for those voices which can no longer speak for themselves. ~ *Lance Otto*

I enjoyed the latest version of the ITEM ~ Sara Shade, Muncie IN

OFLAG 64 WEB CONNECTION

How Dad would have relished this Web site! He would have been online every day! Be sure to open the link: "The Item" is the Kriegies' legacy to history. It—coupled with their indomitable spirit—kept, keeps, and will keep their memory alive. ~ Jean Carlick (to her daughter), Rockville MD

Thank you all for the effort it took to create this web site....This web site is extremely interesting! Thanks again for keeping the men and this place in history alive. ~ *Tom Detmers, Jacksonville FL*

I want to thank you again for the work you do for the Oflag 64 family. I've pointed many of my relatives to the website and they are fascinated by all of the content. ~ *Tony B. Lumpkin III, Austin TX*

You do a fantastic job with the website. It is well appreciated. ~ Capt. John K. Slingluff, Jr., Baltimore MD

This site is wonderful! I am so happy to discover this site!! Bless You. ~ Lori Torres Richins, AZ

* * * * * * * *

New Visitors to our Oflag 64 Web Site

Steven Burgauer – Friend of the late Kriegy William C. Frodsham, Jr.

Tom Detmers – Son of the late Kriegy Arthur V. Detmers

William R. Makepeace IV - Grandson of the late Kriegy William R. Makepeace, Jr.

Malgorzata Jagielska – Works in a library in possession of the late Father Stephen W. Kane's war diary Richard Oldfield – Son of the late Kriegy John C. "Cliff" Oldfield

Lance Otto – Researching information on German POW camp administration

John K. Slingluff, Jr. – Son of the late Kriegy John K. Slingluff, Sr.

Robert D. Slingluff – Son of the late Kriegy John K. Slingluff, Sr.

Francis Soulié de Morant - Looking for information on a "secret code" used by his parents in WWII

Lori Torres Richins – Granddaughter of the late Kriegy Reid F. Ellsworth

David Whittaker - Looking for information or photographs on Jane Walker MBE

PUBLICATIONS

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

- Americans Behind the Barbed Wire by Frank Diggs, Story of Frank's trip across Russia in 1945. Publisher: Vandemere Press, P. O. Box 5243, Clearwater FL 22205 (New price is \$24.95/Hardcover) http://www.vandamere.com/diggs.htm or http://www.amazon.ca/Americans-Behind-Barbed-Wire-Inside/dp/0743474821
- 2. Diary of A Kriegie by Ed Beattie. Diary of Ed Beattie, A UPI Correspondent captured near the Moselle River in Sept '44. Publisher: Thomas Y. Crowell Co., New York NY http://www.amazon.com/Diary-kriegie-Edward-W-Beattie/dp/B0007E4AUA
- **3. Escape to Russia** by Howard "BOOMER" Holder. Story of Boomer Holder as he went across Russia in 1945. Publisher: Iberian Publishing Co., Athens GA http://www.amazon.com/Escape-Russia-Howard-Randolph-Holder/dp/B0006F7X72/ref=sr 1 1?ie=UTF8&s=books&gid=1226549191&sr=1-1
- **4. Home Was Never Like This**. Diary of Col Yardley. Publisher: Yardley Enterprises. Evergreen, CO. http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb ss b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=HOME+WAS+never+like+this&x=0&y=0
- **5. Justifiable Pride** by William D. Stevens, Jamal Books, 2340 Devoe Drive, Lincoln NE 68506, 402-488-6005 http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb-ss-b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-kevwords=Justifiable+Pride&x=13&y=17
- **6. Katyn Forest Video** (Beta or VHS). Ray Towers, Jr., 25105 Vista Greens Court, Hayward CA 94541, 415-582-4871
- 7. Kriegie by Kenneth Simmons. Diary of an Air Force Pilot. Publisher: Thomas Nelson and Sons. New York NY. http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_ss_b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Kriegie+by+Kenneth+Simmons&x=0&y=0
- 8. Kriegsgefangener 3074 (Prisoner of War) by Clarence Ferguson. Publisher: Texan Press, Waco TX http://www.abebooks.com/servlet/SearchResults?an=Clarence+Ferguson&sts=t&tn=Kriegsgefangener &x=43&y=14
- 9. OFLAG 64, 50th Anniversary Book. Anniversary Committee. Publisher: Evanston Publishing Co., Evanston IL. http://www.amazon.com/Oflag-64-fiftieth-anniversary-book/dp/1879260239/ref=sr 1 1?ie=UTF8&qid=1226550698&sr=1-1
- 10. Passages to Freedom, Joseph Frelinghuysen, 1990, Publisher: Sunflower University Press, 1531 Yuma (Box 1009), Manhattan KS 66502-4228, 800-258-1232 (\$17.95, includes S & H) http://www.amazon.com/Passages-Freedom-Story-Capture-Escape/dp/0897451317/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226550856&sr=1-1
- **11. Oflag 64: A P.O.W. Odyssey**, DVD, Robert Galloway, Osprey HD, 192 E Bay St, Ste 300A, Charleston SC 29401-2701, (\$29.95 plus \$5 S&H Please make checks payable to Robert Galloway, Osprey HD)
- **12. Raid! The Untold Story of Patton's Secret Mission** by Richard Baron, Major Abe Baum, and Richard Goldhurst (paperback) http://www.amazon.com/Raid-Untold-Pattons-Secret-Mission/dp/0440236096/ref=sr 1 1?ie=UTF8&s=books&gid=1254190748&sr=1-1

- 13. A Ramble Through My War by Charles T. Marshall, Publisher: Louisiana State University Press, 1999. (\$29.95) http://www.amazon.com/Ramble-Through-My-War-Anzio/dp/0807126365/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226550977&sr=1-1
- **14. The Escape Factory** by Lloyd Shoemaker. Story of a secret organization in Wash DC that maintained contact with all POWs in WWII. St Martins Press. New York NY (A few are available on Amazon.com) http://www.amazon.com/Escape-Factory-Story-Mis-X/dp/0312925727/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&gid=1226551149&sr=1-1
- **15. The Water and The Rock** by Charles Jones. Diary of a man captured in Africa. Publisher: Anchor Publishing Co., Northwood, IA http://www.amazon.com/Water-Rock-Charles-L-Jones/dp/B000IXSZHO/ref=sr 1 1?ie=UTF8&s=books&gid=1226551381&sr=1-1
- **16. The Welcome Swede** by Frank Diggs. Publisher: Vantage Press, New York NY (\$11.00) http://www.amazon.com/Welcome-Swede-Thousands-Germanys-Prisoners/dp/0533078180/ref=sr-1-1 1 1?ie=UTF8&s=books&gid=1226551448&sr=1-1
- 17. 33 Months as a POW in Stalag Luft III by Albert P. Clark. Publisher: Fulcrum Publishing, 16100 Table Mountain Parkway, Suite 300, Golden CO 80403, 800-992-2908 (17.95 pb)

 http://www.amazon.com/Months-POW-Stalag-LuftIII/dp/1555915361/ref=sr 1 1?ie=UTF8&s=books&gid=1226551497&sr=1-1
- 18. Tours of Duty: World War II Veterans Personal Stories by Eleanor Bertrand. Includes stories of Jimmie Kanaya from Oflag 64, Martin Jones from Hammelburg, and Oscar Richard from Stalag I. Publisher: BookSurge Publishing (2/22/08). \$17.99 from Amazon.com, 1-800-201-7575 http://www.amazon.com/Tours-Duty-Veterans-Personal-Stories/dp/141968728X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551561&sr=1-1

Other Publications

The publications listed immediately below are out of print but the online versions can now be accessed by logging onto our website at www.oflag64.us. Click on the <u>Looking for Lost Men</u> link at the lower left of the Database page or click on the <u>Brave Young Men</u> link on the POW Accounts page.

Original Roster-Oflag 64
The Oflag 64 Directory
The Men of Oflag 64
Hammelburg Roster
Tribute to TF Baum

Database
Database
Database
POW Accounts

WRITE DIRECTLY TO THESE CONTACTS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

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

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

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

Vic Kanners Diary. Don Kanners, 3205 Jennella Dr, Commerce TWP MI 48390-1619, dkanners@comcast.net

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

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

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

TAPS

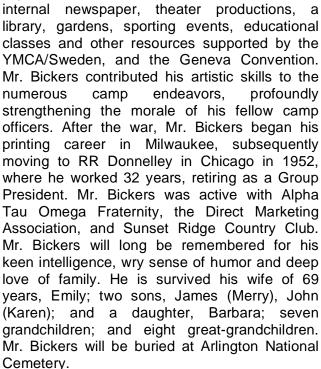
James F. Bickers 1919 - 2010



James F. Bickers, 91, former POW officer, and retired RR Donnelley Group President died peacefully in his home March 19, 2010 of heart and respiratory complications. After graduating from the University of Illinois with a

Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree, and serving in ROTC, Mr. Bickers joined the US 17th Field Artillery during WWII. He was captured early in the war in Tunisia, North Africa Feb. 14, 1943. Held 28

months in Oflag 64, in Schubin Poland, he and his fellow Kriegies organized camp life to include an



Jim's online obituary and guestbook will be available until 3/21/2011 and can be viewed using the following link:

http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/chicagotribune/obituary.aspx?n=james-f-bickers&pid=140993215

Lester D. Folwell 1919 – 2008

We have recently received word that Lester Folwell passed away on March 15, 2008 in Des Moines IA. No other information was available at the time of this printing.



William C. Frodsham, Jr. 1921 – 2003

William Charles Frodsham, Jr., 81, of Charlotte, died Friday, January 17, 2003 at Presbyterian Hospital. Arrangements are incomplete. No other information is still available on line



Published in the Charlotte Observer on 1/18/2003 and 1/19/2003

Charles ©. Van Gorder 1913 - 2002

We have recently learned that Dr. Charles O. Van Gorder passed away on November 28, 2002 in Andrews NC. No other information was available at the time of this printing.



Delores M. Amerell 1919 - 2006

We have recently learned of the death of Delores M. Amerell, widow of Otto C. Amerell. No online obituary or newspaper obituary information was available at the time of this printing.

Frances A. Evans 1920 - 2009

HUNTINGBURG, Ind. — Frances A. (Wheeler) Evans, 89, died Nov. 10, 2009 at The Waters of Huntingburg. She was a court reporter and member of United Methodist Church. Surviving are her husband, Warren (Bing); son, Mark; sister, Phyllis Bunkers; and four grandchildren. Services 11 a.m. EST Saturday at Huntingburg United Methodist Church, burial in South Dakota is pending. Visitation is 4 to 8 p.m. Friday at Nass & Son Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to the building fund of her church.

Her obituary was published in Courier Press on November 12, 2009. It is also online at: http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/courierpress/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=135835

Jane Drury Graffagnino 1920 - 2009

HAMILTON, GA — Jane Drury Graffagnino, 88, of Hamilton formerly of Columbus, died Monday, February 2, 2009 at Spring Harbor at Green Island, Columbus. Memorial services will be 2:00 p.m., Saturday, February 7, 2009 at Hamilton United Methodist Church with Rev Alan Barrett officiating according to Cox Funeral Home, Hamilton. Mrs. Graffagnino was born August 11, 1920 in Leominster, MA the daughter Sherwin Drurv and Florence Ralph She graduated Farnsworth Drury. from Leominster High School and was a 1942 graduate of Mount Holyoke College. Mrs. Graffagnino was a member of the St. Francis Medical Auxiliary, Columbus Historic Foundation, the Junto Study Club, Columbus Junior League and the Harris County Quilter's Guild. She was a longtime volunteer for the Columbus Museum, the Columbus Crippled Children's Clinic and sponsored foreign allied officers through Ft. Benning. Mrs. Graffagnino was the widow of Dr. Peter Carl Graffagnino who died in 1984. Survivors include two sons, Thomas D. Graffagnino of Hamilton, Robert D. Graffagnino of Columbus, OH; one brother, R. Sherwin Drury of Leominster, MA; five

grandchildren, Patrick, Maria, Robert, Christopher and Kathryn and Six great grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory may be made to Columbus Hospice, 7020 Moon Rd., Columbus, GA 31909 or a charity of your choice.

Published in Columbus Ledger-Enquirer on February 3, 2009

Virginia B. Waful 1917 - 2010



Virginia Blick Waful January 6, 2010 Virginia Waful, 92, passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by her loving family on Wednesday, January 6, 2010, in Atlanta, GA. Virginia was born in

Buffalo, NY, on September 27, 1917, and was the daughter of the late Flora and Franklin Hofheins and the sister of the late Robert Hofheins, all of Buffalo, NY. She will be missed by her devoted husband, Donald Roy Waful of Syracuse, NY; her two daughters, Virginia B. Benedict and Joan B. Alexander; her son-in-law, Frank S. Alexander of Atlanta, GA: and their families. Virginia graduated from the Buffalo Seminary School for Girls in 1935, attended Syracuse University from 1935 to 1938, then transferred to Wellesley College and graduated in 1940. During World War II, she worked as a nurse's aide. Virginia married Thomas Cleveland Blick of Buffalo, NY, in 1945. She enjoyed their life together for 35 years in West Hartford, CT, raising their family and developing many close friends. As a loyal Wellesley alumna, she stayed active in the Wellesley Club her whole life. She served as president of the Hartford Wellesley Club in the 1960s. Virginia loved her time at home gardening, decorating, playing bridge and supporting an active family. She predeceased by her husband, Thomas C. Blick, in 1980. "Grandma" delighted in her five grandchildren. After moving to Atlanta, GA, in 1993, she attended countless grandchildren activities and treasured each family moment. She easily adapted to the Southern lifestyle. Then her college sweetheart, Donald Roy Waful, reappeared in her life, and they married in October 2000. She moved back north to Syracuse, NY, with her husband, where she

again established a happy home. They enjoyed nine years together in Syracuse before health concerns led her back to family in Atlanta, GA. Her five grandchildren, their spouses, and three great-grandchildren are Sharon Lisa Benedict of Boston, MA, Cynthia Benedict Goering, and her husband Mark, of Seattle, WA, Daniel Huger Alexander, his wife, Sarah, and their three children, Avery, David and Jack of Raleigh, NC, Thomas Blick Alexander and his wife, Henriette of Chapel Hill, NC, and Joseph Graham Alexander and his fiancee, Elizabeth Cherry, of Raleigh, NC. Virginia lived her life with courage, determination and optimism. Her energetic and generous spirit endeared her to everybody she met. She loved her life, and we all loved her. A memorial service will be held at Northside United Methodist Church, 2799 Northside Drive, NW, Atlanta, GA, at 3 p.m. Sunday, January 10, 2010. The family would like to extend its heartfelt gratitude to the Home Instead Senior Care staff for their loving and devoted care and friendship. The family requests that in lieu of flowers memorial contributions be made to the Class of 1940 Scholarship Fund, Wellesley College, 106 Central Street, Wellesley, MA 02481.

Published in the <u>Syracuse Post Standard</u> on January 10, 2010, in the <u>Hartford Courant</u> on 1/10/2010, and in <u>The Atlanta Journal-</u>Constitution on 1/9/2010



MAIL CALL (Continued)

WALTER AND JEANIE PARKS from Austin TX recently sent a donation to the Postage Fund. Thank you both, Walter and Jeanie for your thoughtful and generous contribution to the Postage Fund. We greatly appreciate your support. Please contact us again.

Postage Fund Donors

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

William Cory
Lester Edsall
Jeanette & Walter Harles (memorial donation for Jim Bickers)
Libby Higgins



George Juskalian
Anne Kreutzer
Herman Littman
Janet Lowe
Walter & Jeanie Parks
Rocco Pravidica
Sara Shade
Jack (John W.) Stewart
Donald Waful



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

or

Darwyn Walker

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

Dear Oflag 64 Family,

Through mailing the ITEM each quarter, we find that some of our Oflag 64 family members move or pass away. We currently are looking for <u>Milt Koshiol</u> from Paynesville MN. The post office advises that he is "temporarily away". If you have a current winter address for him, we would appreciate hearing from you.

If you become aware of any of our dear Kriegies who have passed away, please let me know ASAP. I would appreciate knowing the name, the date of death, where the obituary can be found, contact information for the family, etc. Please use one of my contact addresses on the front page of this ITEM.

I would also love to have photos of all our Kriegies and of any family members, friends, or associates who write. If you have a photo that you would like me to include with your note when I print it in the ITEM, please either email a copy or send a copy to me at one of the contact addresses on the front page of this ITEM. I am able to edit photos to fit the space on the page. Thanks very much for your help.

Elodie Caldwell, ITEM Editor