



# The Star



Issue #103

"We Speak Their Names"

Winter 2022

## The Adventures of The Super Sidekicks!

By Brittany Jones, Granddaughter of Jamie Duke McCollum



Above: PVT James Dodson Duke with his wife Grace and daughters Jamie and Madelyn. Private Duke was killed in action November 20, 1944, in Aachen, Germany.

The Adventures of the Super Sidekicks all started in 1981 when I was born. My Gammy was ready and waiting to claim her sidekick - me! From there, Gammy and I went on to have many amazing adventures, but none were as special as our journey to help my Gammy find her dad.

In 2008 I received a call from my Gammy - whom some readers may know as Jamie Duke McCollum - and my Grandpa Jimmie McCollum, with an invitation. They wanted me to travel to Germany to see where their brave fathers fought in World War II. Who could say no?

Along for the journey were my cousin Callie, Aunt Cindy, and Uncle Mark. We went to many places and towns including the Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial where my great grandfathers were honored. It was the closest I had ever felt to my Great-Grandpa James D. Duke, of the First Army, 1st Division, 16th Infantry, Company G, as well as my Grandpa Jimmie's father, PVT Clarence E. McCollum of the 84th Infantry Division, 334th Regiment, Company I.

During our time in Europe, our amazing Dutch friends kindly took us all around the Netherlands, Paris and Germany. They showed us so many WWII locations and told us of much history we'd never learned in school. They drove us around the entire time and dedicated all of their time to ensure we had the best history lesson ever.

It was a feeling like no other, to have people you have never met in person be so grateful for you and your family members, those who gave their lives in WWII.

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# President's Message

*by Walt Linne*

Aside from the nuisance of COVID-19, AWON continues to move forward on many fronts into 2022.

First, I want to introduce our newly elected Board of Directors Member Bob Holliday and thank him for stepping forward to help out AWON. Bob has been highly active along with several of our members - Rondy Elliott, Marilyn Lieurance, Rik Peirson, and the late Susan Hadler to encourage the American Battle Monument Commission to reinstate its overseas Flower Program. More about Bob on Page 20.

Secondly, we are in discussions with Tony Cordero of Sons and Daughters in Touch (The Gold Star children of the Vietnam War) to create a Census Survey to help create a database of historical information. This database would help America understand who we are, what became of us, how we have carried on the legacies of our Fathers, and how to meet the needs of Gold Star Families.

Thirdly, we continued to keep our members informed and up to date via our AWON Facebook Page, MeWe, our AWON.org website and STAR newsletter programs managed by Barry Barr-Finch, Lorin McCleary, Rik Peirson and Kristin Holmes accordingly. Job well done!

Next our National Conference Co-chairs Walt Linne and Barbara Kelly and Penny LeGrand, Ex Officio, continue to plan and prepare for the AWON "Honor and Remember" National Conference at the National WWII Museum in New Orleans, May 4 – May 8. At the present time the authorities in New Orleans require masks to be worn in public places and proof of vaccination to access amenities including dining and fitness facilities. Please see the registration form and other conference information on Pages 8-13.

Finally, our Annual Financial Summary document on Page 14 shows that we met our 2021 budget goals thanks to our active members who continue to support the organization. Again, a BIG thanks to all our siblings for your continued support of AWON. Much love and good health going forward in 2022. See you in New Orleans, 4-8 May 2022, at the National WWII Museum, where we'll be dedicating our AWON Memorial Victory Paver.



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...Super Sidekicks, from front page



Above: In 2008, author Brittany Jones, her Gammy Jamie Duke McCollum, and other members of the Duke-McCollum family visited Netherlands American Cemetery at Margraten, where PVT Clarence E. McCollum was laid to rest.

We also went to Germany, traveling through towns where you could still see the bullets and bullet damage in the sides of the buildings from World War II. The most emotional part of the trip for me was going into the Hurtgen Forest and going into the bunkers and trenches that my Great Grandfathers were in.

The pinnacle of the emotional journey was when our Dutch friends took us to the top of a hill and then pointed at an area in the forest. This was the approximate location of where my Great Grandpa marched and fell in battle.



The descendants of PVT James Duke visit the spot at which he fell in battle, November 20, 1944

To share this experience with my Gammy and Grandpa Jimmie was like no other. The chills, tears, and beat of my heart were at a level I'd had yet to experience in my life before that moment.

Our trip to Europe was amazing, but the Super Sidekicks weren't done yet!

The next adventure I had with my Gammy came in September of 2014 (her birthday month). It only seemed right that I give her as special a trip as the one she'd given to me. So I printed pages of a book I put together to surprise my Gam Gam with a journey she had always talked about. I planned it with my Grandpa Jimmie and Aunt Cindy as a surprise for her.

Gammy had always talked about wanting to take me to show me where she grew up and where her mother Grace Duke and father James Duke raised her. I mailed the book to my grandpa and video chatted with both of them. As we were on the video chat Grandpa Jimmie gave Gammy the book describing our upcoming trip to Birmingham, Alabama, her birth place. My book explained what we were getting ready to do and where she had to meet me at the airport to fly to Alabama.

Our first surprise was that I'd reserved an economy rental car, but when we arrived to pick up our car, all that was left were sports cars. Happily, they gave that to us at the same price as the car we booked. I let Gam have her pick, and she chose a blue convertible Mustang. We toured Alabama in style!

Below: Gammy shows off her great taste in automobiles, selecting a blue convertible Mustang!



Sidekicks, Continued page 4



The first stop on our road trip was to visit the graves of the Duke family where my Great Grandpa Duke was buried. That in itself started our emotional and heartfelt journey through the life of my Great Grandpa & Grandma Duke and my Gam Gam and her sister Madilyn Duke.



Above: James D. Duke was laid to rest alongside his family members in his home state of Alabama.

Below: Jamie Duke McCollum visits her father's grave during the trip of a lifetime, courtesy of her "sidekick", granddaughter Brittany Jones.



## We're HALFWAY there!

We are over halfway to our goal of purchasing a commemorative Victory Paver at the National WWII Museum in New Orleans, in celebration of AWON's 30th anniversary.

To learn more about the Paver and how YOU can help AWON remember our Fathers, please see pages 12-13.

The next stop led us to Elyton Village, Apt. 420, where the Duke family made many precious memories together. We then went to my Gammy's grade school Graymont Public School (active 1908 to 1950), now the Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity. There we met four lovely ladies that gave us a warm Southern welcome, singing for us and posing for a picture.

After that we took a drive to see where my Great Aunt Josephine - Great Grandpa Duke's sister - raised her family. We may or may not have found a steep hill where we put the car in neutral and enjoyed the ride down (safely of course). This little adventure then took us to the high school where my great-grandparents met!!! We followed that up by a visit to the First Baptist Church of Woodlawn they also attended.

Then we moved on to Cullman County where PVT James Dotson Duke was born March 17, 1917. As we crossed through Cullman County, we went to many great spots including the Ave Maria Grotto, the Crooked Creek Civil War Museum, and the Clarkson Covered Bridge.

We finished our trip with some of the best BBQ and cheese grits I have ever had in my life at Saw's Soul Kitchen. Other spots we visited in our trip for fun included Vulcan Park, the Civil Rights Trail, the National Landmark 16th St Baptist Church, Railroad Park and last but not least the Birmingham Barons Baseball stadium. Gammy had taken me to a Barons game when Michael Jordan (yes, the basketball player) played for them back in 1994.

Needless to say, we had an amazing trip, and that feeling I had at the top of the hill in Germany, was felt many times over and over again. To see where my favorite and only Sidekick in the whole entire world was raised and to honor the memory of my Great Grandpa Duke whom I never had the opportunity to meet, was truly a life-changing experience.

Yes, to this day THE ADVENTURES OF THE SUPER SIDEKICKS still go on! Not the end!

## AWON Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren! Help keep AWON going into the future!

This month's AWON STAR front page article is extra-special because it was written by one of our AWON grandkids, Brittany Jones. Brittany is the descendant of two AWON fathers, PVT James Duke and PVT Clarence McCollum. Thank you for sharing your story, Brittany!

But what about YOUR family's story, AWON Grandchildren? As the years pass, we will need more and more grandchildren and great-grandchildren to become active, participating AWON members to keep the memories of our Fathers, Grandfathers, and Great-Grandfathers alive and never forgotten. Grandchildren and great-grandchildren also bring their own totally unique perspective to AWON that we would love to share.

Grandkids, great-grandkids, even great-greats, consider joining AWON and be sure to contribute to THE STAR! - we want to hear from you!

**Remember -Your stories matter!**  
**And AWON Orphan Members-**  
**We want to share your story too!**  
**Contribute to *The Star* today!**



As we move forward into AWON's FOURTH decade, we here at *The Star* want to urge every AWON member to share with us the story of your Father's life, your family's loss, and your personal journey of self-discovery. Don't hesitate - contribute! It's easy - our editors will do all the hard stuff, we just need to hear from YOU! Submit today!

### Roomie Wanted!

A female AWON Member is seeking a roommate for the upcoming conference. If interested please message [awon@awon.org](mailto:awon@awon.org) for more information!



The new MeWe ListServ



Be Sure to Follow AWON on Social Media!!!

### ***The Star* Guidelines for Submitting Material**

We want to tell your story and your family's story. We accept submissions both electronically and via US mail. If you have an article or picture and aren't sure how to submit it, that's ok. Message *The Star* and we will work with you.

Please keep text reasonable in length. 500-1000 words or 1 page is a good guideline, but we publish longer pieces too. Preference is given to material written by, for, and about AWON members and families.

Authors retain copyright to published original writing. Permission to reprint should be obtained from the author by contacting the editor.

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# Chocolate - A Soldier's Savior, Sweet to Savor

*by Kristin Holmes*

They say an army runs on its stomach, but they also say man cannot live by bread alone. Taking this wisdom to heart, in 1937 the US Army contacted the Hershey Company with a challenge - to create a bar of chocolate that could be enjoyed anywhere on Planet Earth. With the potential for a war on the horizon, troops might need to go into areas of extreme cold and terrible heat, and the Army wanted a bar of chocolate that stood up to the pressures of wartime.

It was the British who first gave their soldiers chocolate as a morale booster and pick-me-up during the fighting in WWI. The chocolate bar, a simple pleasure we consider common, even ubiquitous, today was not available till the late 1800s, when James Nestle invented the treat. Amazingly, the machine gun was invented before the candy bar! Before Nestle came along, people drank their chocolate in the form of cocoa. Even after the creation of the earliest chocolate bars, it took chocolatiers some time and experimentation to turn a bitter, hard, dry-textured bar of choc into the delicious melt-in-your-mouth goodie most of us eat far too much of nowadays. Chocolate remained relatively unpopular till after the turn of the century, and was fairly uncommon in the US. But when America joined the fighting in 1917, the Army copied the Brits and sent chocolate in the soldiers' rations, and a generation of boys came home with a taste for the stuff.

With war looming again, the Army knew they'd need chocolate for their soldiers, if the USA were pulled into the fighting. Hershey had what the Army wanted - chocolate and lots of it. In addition to being able to withstand temperature extremes, military chocolate needed to weigh no more than four ounces, be high in food value, and to taste "a little better than a boiled potato." This last request was important, because if the candy tasted TOO good, the troops would eat it immediately rather than saving it for when it was needed!

Hershey came up with the D Ration Bar, also called the Logan Bar, after Army Quartermaster Paul Logan.



*Above: The Hershey Chocolate Company created the D Ration Bar and the Tropical Bar to help sustain America's troops fighting overseas during WWII.*

Three D Ration Bars would provide 1800 calories, the minimum sustenance recommended for one fighting man in a day, and was heat resistant to 120 degrees.

The D Ration was made from sugar, oat flour, cacao fat, skim milk powder, and artificial flavoring, and fortified with thiamine to prevent beriberi. Because the chocolate was temperature resistant, special equipment had to be built to push the chocolate - which melted only at very high temperatures - into preset molds. But even with the new equipment, the formula was so thick it would not flow at any temperature! Hershey had to develop entirely new production methods to produce the bars. Each four-ounce portion had to be kneaded, weighed, and pressed into a mold by hand. Once the candy was finished, workers wrapped the bars in a poison- and gas-proof packaging.

Unfortunately, many of the men said they'd rather have the baked potato! The taste of the bars was so terrible that some of them even ended up in the garbage rather than being eaten. Sugar and skim milk were simply not enough to counteract the bitterness of the chocolate, and adding more fat and sugar to the mix would have caused the chocolate to melt at high temps. Men with poor teeth couldn't chew the hard candy, and even



...Chocolate, continued from prev. page



*Above: The Hershey Chocolate Company's D Ration Bar was so notoriously difficult to eat that it had to come with how-to instructions for confused soldiers!*

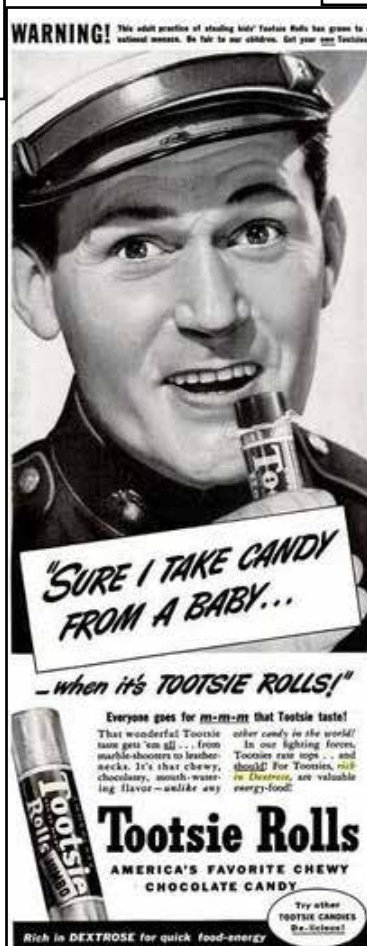
those with good teeth often had to whittle off ribbons of the stuff with the edge of a knife to eat it. The candy had other unforeseen effects as well; troops began to call it "Hitler's Secret Weapon" because it had a very unfortunate effect on the digestive tract of those who ate too much.

Hershey went back to the drawing board and in 1943 came up with the Tropical Bar, which was made to withstand the even harsher environment of the Pacific Theater. It was also formulated to taste better, with more sugar, milk solids rather than the stomach-churning skim milk, and added vanilla flavor. The oat flour was removed entirely. It wasn't much of an improvement, and soldiers traded most of it away. Or at least they did at first; once the locals got a taste they refused to take it any more! Regardless of the flavor, the Tropical Bar was much easier on the belly than the D Ration. The Tropical Bar came to be known as the Dysentery Bar because it was often the only food that soldiers with dysentery could tolerate.

During the war years, Hershey produced over 3 billion of the D ration and Tropical Bars. At the start of production in 1939, Hershey factories were capable of making 100,000 ration bars a day. By the end of the war this had risen to 24 million a week. The Hershey Chocolate Company was issued the Army-Navy 'E' Award for Excellence for exceeding expectations for quality and quantity not once but five times.

Luckily for the troops' tastebuds, Hershey Ration Bars weren't the only chocolate treat they received in their rations. Not only did Tootsie Rolls come individually wrapped on the homefront and so were familiar reminders of happier times, the little chocolate flavored taffies held up a lot better in the heat than milk chocolate. And because they lasted a long time if not chewed and swallowed, soldiers tucked them into their cheeks and kept a little taste of home on their tongue all day long. The relationship between the Army and Tootsie Roll was so strong that the company had an unofficial contract with the US government that allowed them to stay open making candies even as other confectionary companies were forced to shut down or else turn their factories over to be used for war goods.

Chocolate, cont. Page 16



*Left: Tootsie Rolls were one of the most popular treats for soldiers and sailors, because they stood up well to extremes of heat, could be shipped easily, and were edible even when stale.*

*Below: M&M's were originally invented with the military in mind. The slogan "melt in your mouth, not in your hand" meant that soldiers and sailors could enjoy M&M's candy without making a mess. During the war years they were only available to the military, which is why they could honestly claim themselves "100% at War!"*



# Register Now for AWON's 2022 Conference:

[https://group.curiocollection.com/\\_AmericanWWIIOrphanNetworkAWONBiennialMeeting](https://group.curiocollection.com/_AmericanWWIIOrphanNetworkAWONBiennialMeeting)



AWON is pleased to announce our upcoming 2022 "Honor and Remember" conference. It will be held at the Higgins Hotel and Convention Center at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans, May 4-8, 2022.

Since its opening in 2000, the National WWII Museum has become a popular destination for history lovers, war buffs, and families. The museum's stated mission is to tell the story of the American experience during the Second World War, or in their words, "the war that changed the world" - why it was fought, how it was won, and what it means today - so that all generations will understand the price of freedom and be inspired by what they learn.

At first blush, a hotel like the Higgins, part of the distinctive Curio Collection by Hilton, built alongside a war museum seems a strange pairing. But when that museum is the National WWII Museum - the #3 museum in the United States and amazingly, the top destination in tourist mecca New Orleans - it only makes sense to give the museum's hundreds of yearly visitors a place to stay while they explore one of the most important chapters in our nation's history.

The Higgins Hotel and Conference Center provides a luxury hotel experience only a minute's walk from the National WWII Museum, and ample meeting space for organizations like AWON to conduct

their business. Named after shipbuilder Andrew Higgins, whose company, Higgins Industries, built the amphibious LVCP (Higgins Boat) widely used in WWII, the Higgins Hotel features spectacular Art Deco stylings with all the modern amenities, including a free fitness center. Free coffee and bottled water is available in every room. Please note, at present New Orleans requires masks to be worn in public places, including group gatherings, and proof of Covid vaccination to access amenities including dining and fitness facilities.

The National WWII Museum features a vast array of displays, exhibits, and much more. And great news! The Hilton has agreed to throw in one set of FREE tickets to the National World War II museum for every room booked. That's a \$60 value! Due to the pandemic, we have reduced our number of rooms reserved at the Higgins to forty. If you want to stay at the Higgins, don't delay, book today. More people can still attend the conference, however - you will just need to stay elsewhere if the Higgins gets full.

To book your room for \$155 per night, please call 833-357-1172 with your credit card at the ready. Know your desired arrival and departure date and if you would like a room with a king bed or two queen beds. Your group code will be **AWONCI** and the group name is the American WWII Orphans Network. This will make it easier for the booking agent to find the right group for your reservation. Or, use the handy link found under our title above and at the bottom of this page to book online!

After booking, you will receive an automated confirmation email. Participants are due to arrive at the "Honor and Remember" convention May 4, 2022, and depart May 8. However, should you wish to extend your stay, the booking agent can help you with that when you call to make arrangements.

Guests will be able to earn Hilton Honors points according to their membership. Parking fees will be \$32 per night.

To book online, use this link or copy/paste this address into your browser bar:

[https://group.curiocollection.com/\\_AmericanWWIIOrphanNetworkAWONBiennialMeeting](https://group.curiocollection.com/_AmericanWWIIOrphanNetworkAWONBiennialMeeting)





# Registration

New Orleans WWII Museum • Higgins Hotel • May 4-8, '22

**Please return registration and fee by April 1, 2022**

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first AWON Conference? Y N Do you want your name listed in the conference roster? Y N

Do you have special needs?: \_\_\_\_\_

*Registration Fee (includes Reception, Banquet, Meeting Room Fees and WWII Museum Admission)*

\_\_\_ Members & Guests X \$200 . . . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ New Members & Renewals X \$225 (includes 1 year AWON Membership Dues) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Registration Fees enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Name Tag Information (please print clearly – and include State of Residence)*

Your Name: (include maiden name) \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Guests Names: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Serviceman's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Service Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Rank First Middle Last

Circle One: KIA MIA Died while on Duty Date of Death: \_\_\_\_\_ Country Died: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail Registration Form with check or money order payable to AWON to:**

AWON 2022 National Conference  
5745 Lee Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46216



# Airport

New Orleans • WWII Museum Higgins Hotel • May 4-8, '22



**Louis Armstrong New Orleans  
International Airport**

*Airport Code*

**MSY**

**Address ~** 1 Terminal Drive  
Kenner, LA 70062

**Phone ~** 504/464-083



**Distance to the Higgins ~**

*15 Miles*

**Drive Time ~**

*25 Minutes*

Type	Typical Minimum Charge
Limousine	115.00 USD
Super Shuttle	24.00 USD
Rental Car	40.00 USD
Taxi	36.00 USD



# Schedule

New Orleans • WWII Museum • Higgins Hotel • May 4-8, '22

- 5/4**
- Wednesday ~**      *Noon - 5:00 PM - Conference Registration*  
                              *5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Free Time*  
                              *7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Informal Welcome – Hospitality Room*
- 5/5**
- Thursday ~**      *9:00 AM - Noon - Conference Registration*  
                              *Noon - 1:00 PM - Free Time*  
                              *1:00 PM - 1:30 PM - Welcome by Museum Representative*  
                              *1:30 PM - 3:00 PM - Presentations*  
                              *3:00 PM - 5:00 PM - Sharing Circles*  
                              *5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Free Time*  
                              *7:00 PM - 9:00 PM - Welcome Reception*
- 5/6**
- Friday ~**      *9:00 AM - 10:00 AM - Dedication of Father's Commemorative Paver*  
                              *10:00 AM - 11:00 AM - Memorial Service*  
                              *11:00 - Closing - Museum Tour*
- 5/7**
- Saturday ~**      *9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Business Meeting*  
                              *11:00 AM - 5:00 PM - Free Time*  
                              *6:00 PM - 6:30 PM Cocktails*  
                              *6:30 PM to 8:00 PM - Dinner*  
                              *8:00 PM - Presentations and Entertainment*
- 5/8**
- Sunday ~**      *Free Day*  
                              *7:00 PM - 9:00 PM - Farewell – Hospitality Room*



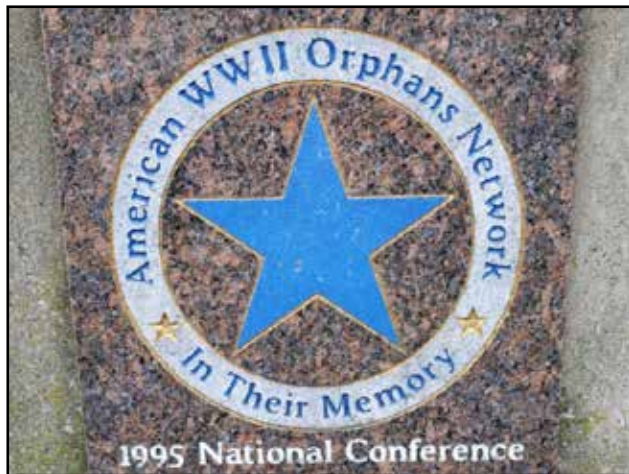


# AWON Memorial Fund Raiser

## National WWII Museum Victory Paver

Over the years AWON has dedicated a memorial or plaque at most of our national conference sites to commemorate our organization and our Fathers.

The first AWON Memorial was established on the waterfront in Bremerton, Washington at our first national conference in 1995. Subsequent memorials have been in the form of AWON plaques presented to the host conference site as a memorial to our visit and to our Fathers.



Of course, the dedication of the National WWII Memorial in Washington DC was celebrated by AWON, along with the nation, at our 2004 National Conference.

AWON raised several thousand dollars for the memorial that honored all WWII veterans.

And AWON was involved in the design process, ensuring that the Gold Stars be added to the National WWII Memorial to commemorate our Dads and all who died in the war.



In keeping with AWON tradition, a commemorative Victory Paver has been purchased at the National WWII Museum in New Orleans, in celebration of AWON's 30th anniversary. The cost is \$3,000.00, of which we have raised \$1,625.00 so far.

This Victory Paver will be installed in the heart of the National WWII Museum campus on the Colonel Battle Barksdale Parade Ground and Founders' Plaza, commemorating the selfless sacrifice of our Fathers and guaranteeing that AWON's commemorative Victory Paver honoring our Fathers will be appreciated by hundreds of thousands of Museum guests every year.



The commemorative Victory Paver will be located in the Founders' Plaza pictured at left, the largest gathering area at the National WWII Museum.

The size of the Victory Paver is illustrated at the bottom right of this page - 18" x 12", the largest size available.

**To donate:**

**American WWII Orphans Network  
Victory Paver  
5745 Lee Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46216**

Any donations above \$3,000.00 will roll over to the AWON Wreath Fund. Thank you!

AWON's commemorative  
Victory Paver at the National WWII  
Museum will contain the lettering  
featured below:

**AWON  
AMERICAN WWII  
ORPHANS NETWORK  
183,000 CHILDREN  
LEFT FATHERLESS  
"IN THEIR MEMORY"**



AWON 2021 Financial Summary

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1	AWON Financial Summary 2021	Proposed														
2		2020 Budget	2021 Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Accumulative
3																
4	<b>Budgeted Operating Income</b>															
5	Membership Dues	\$10,888.00	\$12,000.00	\$985.00	\$1,132.00	\$1,187.00	\$2,130.00	\$611.00	\$1,171.00	\$723.00	\$831.00	\$215.00	\$48.00	\$499.00	\$325.00	\$9,857.00
6	Bookstore Income	\$203.00	\$200.00				\$31.00		\$48.00	\$119.00		\$20.00				\$218.00
7	Interest	\$115.04	\$200.00		\$0.37	\$0.45	\$0.39	\$0.41	\$0.40	\$0.41	\$0.40	\$0.43	\$0.40	\$0.39	\$0.41	\$4.46
8	<b>Total Operating Income</b>	\$11,206.04	\$12,400.00													\$10,079.46
9																
10	<b>Non Budgeted Income</b>															
11	Conference	\$10,755.00	\$5,000.00	\$339.50								\$825.00				\$1,164.50
12	Donations	\$1,459.00	\$1,000.00	\$25.00	\$94.00	\$120.00	\$377.00	\$60.00	\$40.00	\$182.00		\$25.00				\$923.00
13	Amazon Prime	\$0.00	\$200.00													\$0.00
14	<b>Total Non Budgeted Income</b>	\$12,214.00	\$6,200.00													\$2,087.50
15																
16	<b>Designated Purpose Income</b>															
17	Wreath Income	\$1,615.00	\$1,000.00	\$195.00	\$60.00	\$257.00	\$687.00	\$577.00	\$227.00	\$578.00	\$100.00			\$62.00	\$10.00	\$2,753.00
18	Victory Paver	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00							\$25.00	\$500.00	\$50.00		\$1,000.00	\$4,575.00
19	<b>Total Designated Income</b>	\$1,615.00	\$4,000.00													\$7,328.00
20																
21	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	\$25,035.04	\$22,600.00													\$19,494.96
22																
23	<b>Budgeted Expenses</b>															
24	<b>Bookstore</b>															
25	Bank Fees (Bookstore Account)	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$60.00
26	Merchandise	\$210.00	\$100.00													\$0.00
27	Postage	\$66.45	\$50.00				\$4.01		\$8.94	\$4.15		\$36.60				\$53.70
28	<b>Total Bookstore Expense</b>	\$336.45	\$210.00													\$113.70
29	<b>Conference</b>															
30	Administrative Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
31	Bank Fees (Conference Account)	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$60.00
32	Chairperson	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
33	Hotel	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
34	Audio/Visual	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
35	Banquet	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
36	Deposit	\$1,500.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
37	Meeting Rooms	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
38	Entertainment	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
39	Founder Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
40	Material/Supplies	\$92.03	\$0.00													\$0.00
41	Postage	\$15.75	\$0.00													\$0.00
42	Refunds	\$10,545.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
43	<b>Total Conference Expense</b>	\$12,712.78	\$60.00													\$60.00
44	<b>Database</b>															
45	Manager	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
46	Software (Claris)	\$577.80	\$500.00												\$577.80	\$577.80
47	Hosting (Triple B)	\$179.40	\$500.00	\$14.95	\$14.95	\$14.95	\$14.95	\$14.95	\$14.95	\$14.95	\$14.95	\$19.95	\$19.95	\$19.95		\$179.45
48	Value Added (Support Group)	\$0.00	\$400.00													\$0.00
49	<b>Total Database Expense</b>	\$757.20	\$1,400.00													\$757.25
50	<b>Designated Purpose Expense</b>															
51	<b>Wreath and Banner</b>															
52	Banners	\$0.00	\$200.00													\$0.00
53	Wreath Reimbursement	\$167.79	\$0.00					\$35.75				\$570.99				\$606.74
54	Shipping	\$0.00	\$200.00													\$0.00
55	<b>Victory Paver - WWII Museum</b>		\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00												\$3,000.00
56	<b>Total Designated Purpose Expenses</b>	\$167.79	\$3,400.00													\$3,606.74
57																
58																

AWON 2021 Financial Summary

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
59	<b>Membership Committee Expenses</b>															
60	Chairperson	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
61	Advertising	\$0.00	\$500.00													\$0.00
62	Direct Mail	\$0.00	\$200.00													\$0.00
63	Materials	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
64	Postage	\$0.00	\$100.00													\$0.00
65	<b>Total Membership Expenses</b>	\$0.00	\$800.00													\$0.00
66	<b>Newsletter</b>															
67	Editor	\$3,500.00	\$4,200.00	\$325.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$4,175.00
68	Data Processing	\$0.00	\$320.00			\$25.96				\$25.94					\$25.92	\$77.82
69	Lettershop - Print/Label	\$979.03	\$6,288.00	\$442.52		\$378.07				\$532.82					\$230.03	\$1,184.44
70	Fulfillment	\$0.00	\$0.00							\$21.13					\$49.46	\$70.59
71	Postage	\$0.00	\$1,482.72	\$119.06		\$127.82				\$139.85					\$198.56	\$585.29
72	<b>Total Newsletter Expenses</b>	\$4,479.03	\$12,290.72													\$6,492.14
73	<b>Operation/Administration</b>															
74	Archives	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
75	Arlington Wreath	\$0.00	\$200.00													\$0.00
76	Awards	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
77	Bank Fees (Money Market - eIn 4/1)	\$316.00	\$200.00	\$28.00	\$28.00	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	\$56.00
78	Board Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
79	BOD Elections	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
80	Contingency	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
81	GoToMeeting	\$171.56	\$500.00													\$0.00
82	Headquarters															\$0.00
83	Insurance - Hartford	\$500.00	\$500.00								\$500.00					\$500.00
84	Postage	\$32.16	\$100.00													\$0.00
85	Supplies		\$100.00													\$0.00
86	Board	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
87	Miscellaneous	\$70.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
88	Non-Profit Requirements	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
89	Secretary Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
90	State Fees	\$0.00	\$50.00													\$0.00
91	Tax Preparation	\$0.00	\$200.00													\$0.00
92	Treasurer	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
93	<b>Total Operation/Admin Expenses</b>	\$1,089.72	\$1,850.00													\$556.00
94	<b>Outgoing Donations</b>															
95	American Legion	0	500													\$0.00
96	Arlington Wreath	0	200													\$0.00
97	West Point - Cancelled 7/5	0	250													\$0.00
98	Miscellaneous	0	0													\$0.00
99	<b>Total Outgoing Donations</b>	\$0.00	\$950.00													\$0.00
100	<b>Regional Coordination</b>															
101	Mailing	0.00	100.00													\$0.00
102	Materials	0.00	100.00													\$0.00
103	<b>Total Regional Coordination Expenses</b>	0.00	200.00													\$0.00
104	<b>Website</b>															
105	Webmaster	\$0.00	\$0.00													\$0.00
106	Software (Adobe Cloud)	\$0.00	\$300.00													\$0.00
107	Hosting 1 Netic (Formerly Impulse)	\$949.50	\$1,000.00									\$900.00	\$24.96	\$300.00		\$1,224.96
108	Hosting 1 Squarespace		\$250.00													\$0.00
109	<b>Total Website Expenses</b>	\$949.50	\$1,550.00													\$1,224.96
110	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>															\$12,810.79
111																
112	Total Income	\$25,035.04	\$22,600.00													\$19,494.96
113	Total Expenses	\$20,168.35	\$32,886.72													\$12,810.79
114	<b>NET INCOME / MINUS</b>	\$4,866.69	\$3,113.28													\$6,684.17



# Solving The Mystery at the Heart of the Universe

by Eric Rosen



"There is a Mystery at the Heart of the Universe that we will never be able to fully understand not through lack of effort but because it cannot be understood."

*Why Faith Matters, Rabbi David Wolpe*

My father's name was Samuel "Sonny" Rosen. He came from an immigrant family and had two brothers and two sisters. My father enlisted in the Navy Reserves at age 27 in 1936. He was activated around 1940. He was a Boatswain's Mate First Class aboard the USS Spence. His squadron was known as the Little Beavers. It saw duty in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters.

My father and mother, Ethel Dorfman, married after not having seen each other for five years. He proposed and she accepted by mail. They were married on September 10, 1944; he returned to his ship, on September 27. The Spence sank in a typhoon along with two other ships on December 18, 1944 while in support of the invasion in the Philippines.

The telegram came in January of 1945. "We regret to inform you... that after careful investigation there is no hope..." My father had been killed at the age of 35. I was born six months after that terrible day - June 13, 1945.

The father/son events, the camp fairs where both parents attended, my bar mitzvah, high school basketball games the well-meaning coach who asked, "Eric, do you have a living father," my high school and college graduations, even my admission to the bar were bittersweet. There was celebration and loneliness, a hole in my heart that could never be filled.

And then the first miracle. My uncle, Barney Rosen, dying of pancreatic cancer, contacted me. I was moving back here in 1977 at the very time that he contacted me. For fourteen months before he died, I spent countless



*Above left: Boatswain's Mate First Class Samuel "Sonny" Rosen, KIA 12-18-44. Above right: Sonny Rosen's pocketwatch, missing since 1944. Below: Father and son, united across time by the recovery of this precious item.*



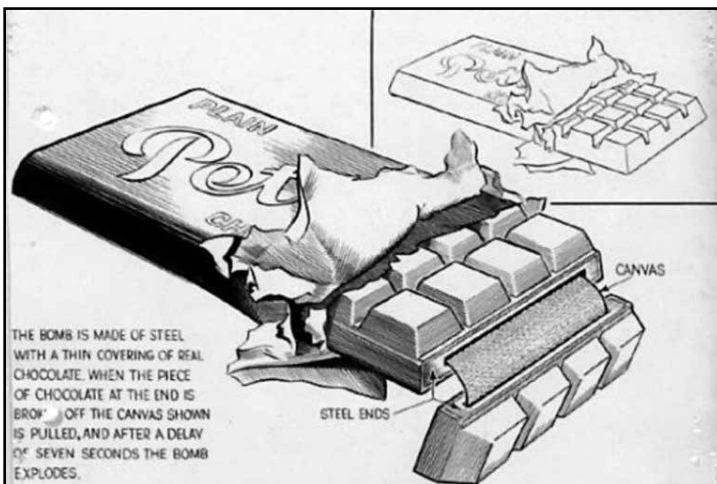
hours with him learning the details of the life of the father whom I never knew. I met and was brought back into the Rosen family. Barney attended our wedding a month before he died.

I had wonderful stories and a lifetime of pictures of my father, and yet nothing tangible that he had touched with his own hands. I am an only child, so any connection to my father feels especially precious, and I had long wished for something that belonged to him, something I could also touch and hold myself.

Then the second miracle. One of the cousins that I met in 1977, now 89 years old, contacted me. "I have your dad's watch that he entrusted to me before he left for active duty in World War II, and I want you to have it." And now I do. In January, 2022, seventy-seven years after the telegram, I received his pocketwatch. I believe my father rests more peacefully since I have come to know him, first through AWON and now, at long last, through his watch.

One beloved candy created specifically with the war effort in mind is M&M's. Though we take them for granted today, the design for the cheerful little hard-candy-coated chocolates wasn't patented until 1941. Candymaker Forrest Mars created the candy based on his memories of having seen soldiers in the Spanish Civil War attempting to eat chocolate pellets with a harder chocolate shell quickly, before they melted. It occurred to Mars that using a solid sugar shell would prevent sticky fingers, and the rest is history. Though for a few months M&M's were sold commercially, after Pearl Harbor the candies, 200,000 lbs a week, were exclusively for military purposes - or as the company put it, "100% at War." M&M's were put into C Rations and sold in the service stores aboard ships, in post exchanges, and at commissaries around the world. The Red Cross also handed out cellophane packages of M&M's to soldiers recovering in hospitals.

With so much chocolate going to the fighting men, at home, most people had to go without. Powdered cocoa was sometimes available, as was a low fat, low sugar product called "ration chocolate" said to be as palatable as a piece of cardboard. But since sugar and cooking fat were also rationed, it was tough to make anything out of them. Advertisements in newspapers and magazines served as a constant reminder of the reasons why civilians were sacrificing so much.



*Above: A hand-drawn schemata produced by British Intelligence of the "chocolate bomb" device planned by the Nazis to take out chocolate lover Winston Churchill and many members of his War Cabinet.*



*Left: A lucky girl gets a visit from a beau in uniform, bringing with him some Whitman's chocolate. Those on the homefront went months, even years at times, without enjoying a chocolaty treat, so chocolate candy was a popular gift from servicemen to give their sweethearts.*

British civilians were even more deprived of chocolate than Americans were. Authorities urged that what little chocolate was available, be given to children, who needed the calories and nutrition more than adults. While most complied, it wasn't always an easy sacrifice to make. The caricature of chocolate-wielding Yank soldiers wooing British land girls with candy they couldn't otherwise get is said to be largely true! And this yen for chocolaty treats went all the way to the top - Winston Churchill himself was purported to love chocolate, and occasionally enjoyed a smuggled black market bar.

Churchill's love of chocolate almost led to disaster. A Nazi plot was discovered in which explosive devices were to be coated in thin layers of chocolate and then wrapped in expensive black and gold paper marked "Peters" to emulate high-end chocolate bars. The plan was for double agents to smuggle these bombs into the rooms used by Churchill and his War Cabinet and wait for the Prime Minister to indulge his sweet tooth. Once opened, then broken or bitten into, the bomb would detonate, killing everyone in the vicinity. Fortunately this diabolical plan was discovered by MI5 and brought to the attention of Lord Victor Rothschild, head of B1C (Explosives and Sabotage), who put a stop to the scheme by calling public attention to the possibility of counterfeit chocolate bars.



## But Where Does It All Go ?



Every soldier's emergency ration is there from chocolate bars to tinned fruit. There is even a special ration for the "tough guys" who are sent to the front lines.



Food for the battlefield is the key to victory. A special ration of chocolate is sent to the front lines. The troops are sent to the front lines.



Food for the battlefield is the key to victory. A special ration of chocolate is sent to the front lines. The troops are sent to the front lines.



When the fighting is over, the "tough guys" who are sent to the front lines are sent to the front lines.



Emergency rations of the army are sent to the front lines. The troops are sent to the front lines.



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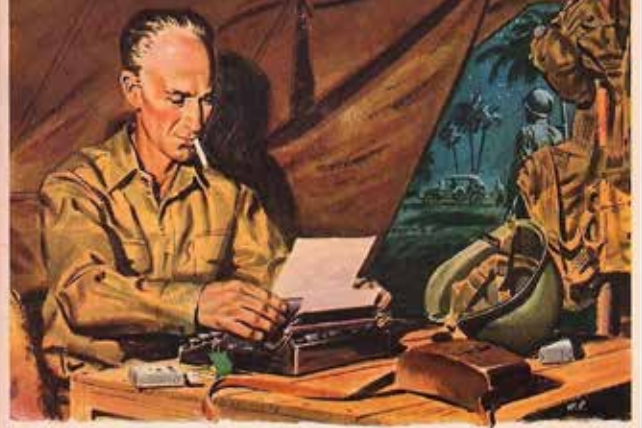
### Chocolate is a Fighting Food!

Supplies of chocolate products for troops are limited.

If you can't always get your favorite Hershey's, Mars, or other brands of chocolate, don't worry. There's always a way to get your chocolate fix.



ERNIE PYLE writes a column for the folks back home...



### "U.S. TROOPS FIGHT ON CHOCOLATE DIET"

"When our industry gives us a big push, each man gets three bars of Hershey's chocolate, enough to last one day. He takes no other food."

This is the way I feel now. I'm a soldier. I'm a fighting man. I'm a fighting man.

And what I need is chocolate. You might like to have some.

Yes, chocolate is a fighting food. It supplies the greatest amount of energy.

When our industry gives us a big push, each man gets three bars of Hershey's chocolate, enough to last one day. He takes no other food."

This is the way I feel now. I'm a soldier. I'm a fighting man. I'm a fighting man.

And what I need is chocolate. You might like to have some.

Yes, chocolate is a fighting food. It supplies the greatest amount of energy.



"SAVE YOUR BLOOD"

... They say it's best to eat a little and keep on going. That's the way to win. That's the way to win. That's the way to win.



...HERSHEY'S MILK CHOCOLATE BARS; SEMI-SWEET CHOCOLATE WAFERS; EVERYBODY COCOA.

This page: Three of the many pro-chocolate propaganda ads that ran in magazines across the US during wartime. Even beloved journalist Ernie Pyle got into the act of promoting chocolate as a "Fighting Food!"

After the war, the Allies "conspired" to get chocolate into Germany a different way. Pilot Gale Halvorsen started a program called "Operation Little Vittles" - an effort to raise morale in post-war Berlin by dropping candy via miniature parachute to the city's residents. Halvorsen began his candy-dropping adventures after seeing several hungry German children split two pieces of gum between themselves, making sure that everyone had a share. Over the next year Halvorsen became a national hero with support from all over the United States. Americans - both everyday citizens and candy companies alike - donated candy and handkerchiefs from which the candy parachutes were made. Eventually, Halvorsen's operation dropped over 23 tons of candy to the residents of Berlin. While best known as the "Berlin Candy Bomber", the children of Berlin called Halvorsen "Uncle Wiggly Wings" due to his habit of waving his wings up and down to let the children know he was on his way with a sweet treat! Halvorsen won the Cheney Award for his humanitarian efforts, was honored with a Congressional Gold Medal, and continued to serve his country in the Air Force, eventually

Chocolate, cont. on Page 20

"Don't these guys ever eat anything but Baby Ruth?"

Well, Soldier, anywhere and anytime you do "fatigue" duty, you'll think the same...

Because wherever our fighters go, Baby Ruth goes too. And so do many other fine foods produced and packaged by Curtiss Candy Company.

Our big food plants are working day and night to keep pace with the demands of the Armed Forces... and the home front as well.

Active, hard-working people realize that Baby Ruth and Butterfinger are great candy bars, rich in delectable sugar, providing real food energy to help folks fight fatigue, to carry on their work and play.

While we are not always able to keep all dealers supplied with Baby Ruth and Butterfinger, we promise you our best efforts to produce both the quantity you demand and the quality you expect of these great American Candy Bars.

WHEN YOU DON'T FIND BABY RUTH IN THE STORE, REMEMBER... ENDORSE A SUGAR COOK BOOK WITH AN EYE FOR YOU.

CURTIS CANDY COMPANY • Producers of Fine Foods • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



# Call for Tributes!

**Add a Tribute to the AWON Website!** This could be one of the most long-lasting and satisfying ways to remember your Father, Grandfather, Brother, or Uncle. Just be a current AWON Member!

**Here's How:** 1. Have a look at our website's TRIBUTE section at [www.awon.org](http://www.awon.org) (click "Our Fathers") to see what others have done; 2. Check the web page on "How to prepare a Father Tribute" – (at [www.awon.org/check5.html](http://www.awon.org/check5.html)); then 3. Scan (or have a Kinko's scan) your best picture of your loved one in uniform; 4. Collect your thoughts, memories, and service record of your loved one; 5. Send your JPG-formatted image and between 500 and 1,100 words to our Tribute Stager, Nancy Sue Johnson. Her E-Mail address is . . . [janceysue@gmail.com](mailto:janceysue@gmail.com). If you need her snailmail address, just call Nancy Sue at 406/529-2315.

**Don't let another day go by.** AWON is honored to help you honor your Father or loved one! . . . a Tribute page is yours for the asking.



## YES! The 2022 AWON National Convention - HONOR AND REMEMBER - is STILL ON!!!

It's official! After a LONG two years of pandemic, we have decided to proceed with our "Honor and Remember" conference at the World War II Museum in New Orleans!

Some of you have expressed concern about the conference being cancelled at the last minute, and have put off booking your reservations until more is known. But now's the time! The call has been made, and the Board of Directors has decided that we will not be cancelling under any circumstances.

We've discussed the situation with the people at Hilton Hotels and the National WWII Museum, and they believe that levels of Covid-19 in New Orleans are dropping rapidly, and they expect that the disease will be



in full retreat by May. Our researchers here at *The Star* have confirmed these claims, with Louisiana State Health Officer Dr. Joe Kanter claiming that Omicron has peaked and that he expects to see significantly lower numbers in just a few weeks. The latest data from the Louisiana Department of Health also supports the idea that omicron is waning in the Big Easy. There are no guarantees, of

course, but all signs point to a big reduction in cases by May. Masks and proof of vaccination will likely still be required.

The National World War II Museum is a lifetime "bucket list" trip for most of us that we hate to miss. So the Higgins Hotel has thrown in two free tickets to the National WWII Museum for every room booked. That's a \$60 value!! WOW! That's something we'll likely never see again.

Though this was a tough call for the Board to make because we do want to see as many of you as possible and we are still hoping for excellent turnout, just in case some of you decide to stay home, we have reduced our number of reserved rooms to forty. Rooms are already being booked, so if you've been delaying your reservation, act fast before it's too late. Booking info and registration form can be found on Page 8-9.

Even if you can't make it, don't forget to take out a memorial ad for your Father in the Honor and Remember Conference Program. For more details on the commemorative ads, please see Pages 22-23.

Hope to see you there!

# AWON Board of Directors Board Meeting Minutes - Oct 10, 2021

## MINUTES

AWON 2020 BOD

Regular Tele-Meeting

Sunday, 10/10/2021

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm EST by President Walt Linne.

Present: Lorin McCleary - LM, Rik Peirson - RP, Walt Linne - WL, Barry Barr-Finch - BF, Judi Kramer - JK, Bob Meek - BM, Barbara George - BG, Gloria Layne - GL, Star Editor Kristin Holmes - KH. Excused: Ann Mix, Paul Bremer

WL reported that Paul Bremer will be stepping down from the Board of Directors effective January 1, 2022 due to health reasons. We should announce the vacancy effective on January 1 in The Star and on social media. WL will send a draft document with the suggested text of the announcement to KH.

## Treasurer Report:

Was presented by Treasurer Bob Meek who reported that we are on trajectory to hit our expected revenue of \$22,600. We have received \$15,900 so far. Expenses are under budget by about 40% at \$8900. Projected to the end of the year we will be at about 60% to 65% of our budgeted expenses.

## Membership Report

LM reported membership:

Membership as of 2021\_0124

Orphan Active 302

Family Active 35

Supporting 4

Associate 0

Total 341

Orphans lapsed in 2021 so far 40, of whom 5 are deceased.

Orphans Lapsed 2020 71

Orphans Lapsed 2019 92

Orphans Lapsed 2018 44 Conference

Orphans Lapsed 2017 72

Orphans Lapsed 2016 49 Conference

Orphans Lapsed 2015 32

Orphans Lapsed 2014 49

Total 409

## Committee Reports:

Associate Organizations (Taps, Gold Star, NMWA, etc.)  
GL:TAPS-presentation about the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was given which was the majority of the meeting. There was a discussion of the Gold Star Remembrance Resolution and whether or not the mention of veterans in the resolution represents a change in the regulations awarding the Gold Star. GL discussed the use of the survey done by SDIT concerning the Gold Star designation. LM read the text of U.S. Code § 1126 - Gold star lapel button: eligibility and distribution to the directors. Directors unanimously felt that the definition of Gold Star eligibility should remain as it presently is defined.

## Star Newsletter

KH is working on the upcoming issue of the Star and asked that all materials be submitted very soon.

## Website

RP: In the previous month, the website had 247 visits, representing 232 unique visitors. KH asked about the posting of past issues of The Star to the website. RP will try to put up the past issues as soon as he can.

## Facebook

BF: 242 members on Facebook site

LM: MeWe site has 97 members. AWON will soon complete the first year of listing every AWON father on the date of his death, including his name, rank, military unit and the place of his death.

## National Conference

WL: the President of the WWII Museum will provide opening comments for the conference. He hopes we can have a meeting with their officials concerning increasing AWON's involvement with the WWII Museum. WL asked that Directors send any comments about increasing our involvement in the WWII Museum on to him.

## PayPal

BM: PayPal has a non-profit rate which would be 99 cents on a \$25 renewal with funds deposited directly into the AWON accounts. 1.99% + .49 per transaction. After discussion, the Board agreed to offer PayPal as a payment option. BM will follow through with PayPal to get the procedures set up.

....Minutes, 10-10, continued from page 19

#### Amazon:

BM needs to follow-up with Amazon to get our funds from the Amazon Smile program.

#### Letter in support of Bob Holliday

RP: Will make a final draft of the Holliday letter which can be sent out to the Board.

#### New Business

##### Wreath program for stateside cemeteries

BM: presented wreaths at the Memorial Day ceremony at the WWII Memorial. Would like to see this continued in future years. LM: has been working to correct the entries for the various US cemeteries. Two thirds of those who died in WWII are buried in a US cemetery. RP suggests we begin this program initially for Arlington and Jefferson Barracks to start. WL suggests adding a 3rd cemetery on the West Coast. LM: will send out a summary list of number of AWON fathers for the US cemeteries.

#### Forge Awards

WL: JK, Jeanne Rhinehart and WL are on the nominating committee for the Forge Award. Please send any suggestions for nominees to WL.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

...Chocolate, cont. from Page 17

rising to the rank of Colonel. Halvorsen continued his efforts to shower children with sweets, delivering candy to kids around the world, including places as far flung as Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Iraq, Japan, and Guam, among others. Believe it or not, this true American Hero is still with us at the age of 101, and recently defeated Covid as well! Personally, I suspect it was all that chocolate he ate along the way.

It's the little things in life that help us through hard times. Warm socks, a good book, a little chocolate to savor. Our Fathers were no exception - every little taste of home that came their way surely must have given them great comfort during hard times. As WWII vet and beloved *Peanuts* cartoonist Charles Schulz famously said, "All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt!"

## Please Welcome AWON's Newest Board Member!!

By Walter Linne

In accordance with AWON By-laws, AWON Member Robert Holliday has been duly elected by the AWON Board of Directors to fill the vacant Board of Director position for calendar year 2022.

Robert Holliday has been an AWON member since 1991. He is the son of Captain Karl O. "Hap" Holliday, KIA 13 April 1945, Klotz, Germany. Robert's Father is buried in the Netherlands American Cemetery in Margraten, Holland.

Bob has been a practicing lawyer since 1970 with Sullivan and Ward P.C. Law Firm of Des Moines, Iowa. Bob was a football official for 36 years, with 22 years at the major collegiate level. He has served as a Board Member of the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum for 26 years and has been the current Chairperson for the past 19 years.

Bob's chief area of concern involves the ABMC Flower Program. In 2015, without input from the families of the soldiers laid to rest in their cemeteries, the ABMC dropped the Flower Program, seemingly permanently. This wonderful program served as the only direct connection between our government and our Fathers buried overseas. Because Bob's father was buried overseas, he understood that this change would not sit well with many of us. Since that time, he and several other AWON members have been working to reinstate the Flower Program.

As we live in the most free country in the history of our planet, we all need to be front and center in letting our wishes be known. After all, it was our Fathers who all died protecting these outstanding freedoms and way of life. AWON stands as a wonderful entity to encourage the ABMC to reinstate the Flower Program. It is fantastic to have Bob's wisdom, passion, and drive to help us assist in this process moving forward.

Join me in welcoming Bob Holliday to our Board!



## WWII Valentine's Day Movie Night: *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*

If you're looking for an affordable date this upcoming Valentine's Day, and would enjoy something with a World War II theme, a darling little movie available for streaming is *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, available both on Netflix (free for subscribers) and to purchase on Amazon (and don't forget to use your Amazon Smile account to earn a little money for AWON when you order!)

*TGLPPS* takes place in the immediate aftermath of WWII, on the island of Guernsey, one of the Channel Islands halfway between Britain and France. The Channel Islands were the only British lands that Hitler ever captured, and so in the film the residents of Guernsey are still dealing with the fallout of the Nazi occupation. One of the ways in which they coped with the presence of enemy troops in their midst was starting a book club - but the *GLPPPS* was really a more than just an ordinary book club!

Post-war, when a writer named Juliet Ashton arrives on the island to research an article about the importance of literature during hard times, she gradually learns the various secrets that the book club members were trying to protect. And in her spare time, she manages to fall in love with a hunky shepherd named Dawsey Adams, who is fully embroiled in the intrigue surrounding what appears to be a sleepy little book club on a sleepy little island.

It's all very sweet, and it was quite refreshing to see a film about something other than superheroes and supernatural creatures. The scenery is spectacular and the wardrobes are to die for. Beyond that, it's quite an educational movie for anyone interested in the war years. (Editor's note - Even my husband liked *TGLPPS*, and he is not one for romantic movies!)

Grab that guy or gal you love and cuddle up with a movie that is both historically interesting AND romantic this February 14!

The Friends of the National WWII Memorial has put together an incredible Monthly Educational Conference Series on a variety of WWII-themed subjects. Several members of AWON have been featured so far in this series, including Sam Tannenbaum, Arthur Chotin, Janice Powers, Robert Meek, Gerry Morenski, and Nancy Kragh among others.

Additional videos have been made by historians like Friend of AWON Alex Kershaw, and even some videos made by veterans themselves.

These videos can be accessed easily at the [Friends of the WWII Memorial Site](#) (just click the link on your e-device) or by searching for "monthly video series" in the Friends' search box, with the magnifying glass.

Ed. Note - Be sure you click on the point of the "play" arrow in the lower corner of the video, rather than the back or center of the icon, as I had trouble getting them to play at first.

### AWON Members -

Is your father buried in a national cemetery?

Check out the Veterans Legacy Memorial (VLM)!

VLM is an online memorial space managed by the National Cemetery Administration (NCA). NCA manages over 150 national cemeteries to honor our Nation's veterans, and memorializes more than 3.7 million veterans interred in those cemeteries in a digital memorial, providing a VLM profile page for each veteran, to which personal touches like photos and tributes can be added.

Find out more by visiting their homepage at:

[www.va.gov/remember](http://www.va.gov/remember)

### Your 2022 AWON Board of Directors:

Barry Barr-Finch - [barrfinch1@gmail.com](mailto:barrfinch1@gmail.com)  
 Barbara George - [blgeorge935@gmail.com](mailto:blgeorge935@gmail.com)  
 Bob Holliday - [BHolliday@sullivan-ward.com](mailto:BHolliday@sullivan-ward.com)  
 Judi Kramer - [ladybug5@juno.com](mailto:ladybug5@juno.com)  
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 Robert Meek - [rhmeekjr@gmail.com](mailto:rhmeekjr@gmail.com)  
 Ann Mix - [annmix@gmail.com](mailto:annmix@gmail.com)  
 Rik Peirson - [Rik@dayone.com](mailto:Rik@dayone.com)



"Honor and Remember"  
your Father while  
celebrating AWON's  
30th year!  
Take out an ad  
in AWON's

### Honor and Remember Commemorative Conference Program!

Looking for more  
information about  
how you can take part  
in AWON's upcoming  
2022 "Honor  
and Remember"  
Conference? Please  
see pages 8-11 in this  
edition of *The Star*.  
We hope to see you all  
there!

Lest We Forget Line  
(100 character limit)- \$10

Quarter Page Ad  
(4 1/16" x 5 13/16")- \$25

Half Page Ad  
(8 1/4" x 5 13/16")- \$50



Full Page Ad  
(8 1/4" x 10 3/4") - \$100

If you're curious about  
what your ad in the "Honor and  
Remember" Program  
might look like, below you'll see  
some examples that will help  
you picture what the final result  
will be. Sizing and pricing at left.


Order Deadline: March 15, 2022  
Earlier orders are VERY welcome!

Please send check or money order  
payable to AWON, along with your  
completed form to Kristin Holmes,  
PO Box 242, Creston, WA, 99117, or  
email your relevant info to:  
[atomicagebrush@gmail.com](mailto:atomicagebrush@gmail.com)

**Honoring**  
Private Henry L. Tannenbaum  
85<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. 331<sup>st</sup> Inf. Regt. Co. F  
KIA January 11, 1945 • Otrre, Belgium (Battle of the Bulge)  
and  
Bertha F. Tannenbaum


**Remembering the Sacrifice**  
Beloved Parents, Grandparents and Great-Grandparents  
Samuel V. Tannenbaum & Rachel E. Tannenbaum  
Lisa Tannenbaum Wals & Carol Michael Wals  
Jayna I. Wals & Jesse "Shai" E. Wals (Henry's namesake)  
Irma Jorloff & Henry F. Jorloff



Wider Death - Remembrance for a great soldier, Pvt. Henry L. Tannenbaum, Otrre, Belgium, January 1945.  
Is one of remembrance photographer Tom Wals's and Barry Wals's photo ops.

Nothing Gold Can Stay  
Nature's first green is gold  
Her hardest hue to hold.  
Her early leaf's a flower;  
But only so an hour.  
Then leaf subsides to leaf.  
So Eden sank to grief,  
So dawn goes down to day.  
Nothing gold can stay.

by Robert Frost



Remembering My Daddy  
Lt. Vere Becker  
Love, Cathy Becker Light  
(Naty)

**IN LOVING MEMORY**  
PFC Maurice Joseph Ott  
29<sup>th</sup> Division, 116<sup>th</sup> Infantry  
Landed on Omaha Beach D-Day June 6, 1944  
Killed in Action June 22, 1944  
Couvains, France




Loving and  
Proud Daughter  
Janice Ott Buterbaugh  
and Grandsons Steve,  
Michael and Mark  
and their families





2LT David Baird Finch November 1944  
Philippines  
Zelpha Galloway Finch April 1990  
Seattle  
*Together again...*  
Love you, Mom and Dad  
Barry Barr-Finch

Remembering my father,  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Kenneth E. Lechrone



on his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday March 6<sup>th</sup>  
and those 71 years I missed  
not knowing him since he was  
KIA April 23, 1945, before I  
was born on May 9, 1945.



Your daughter and only child,  
Lynne Carol Lechrone

# 2022 AWON National Conference "Honor and Remember" Program 30th Anniversary Memorial Ad Order Form

If you would like to place a memorial ad honoring your loved one in the AWON 30th Anniversary Commemorative Program, please fill out the form below and enclose a COPIED photo or email a JPG image separately. PLEASE do not send original photos as we cannot guarantee their safety. If sending via US mail, please identify the subject on the back of the picture. If emailing, please identify the subject by file name (such as JohnDoe.jpg). If possible, please send resolution of 300 DPI jpg file or better. If you can't print this form, please neatly copy the relevant information onto a separate piece of paper with your name and contact info OR send an email with the info to [atomicsagebrush@gmail.com](mailto:atomicsagebrush@gmail.com). Thank you!

## Forms and Payments Due March 15, 2022 (But orders placed sooner are GREAT!)

If you need more time to provide photos or art, we can work that out when you place your order.

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

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select one of the following options:

Full Page \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Half Page \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ Quarter Page \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

\$10 \_\_\_\_\_ "Lest We Forget" Line (100 character limit)

For example: Walt and John, In memory of our Mother,  
Wife of S/SGT Walter John Linne, KIA 3/2/45

Everyone placing an ad will receive a program book whether or not they attend the conference.

Message: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Make checks and money orders payable to AWON and mail forms, photos, and payment to:

Kristin Holmes

PO Box 242

Creston, WA, 99117

or email your relevant information and digital artwork to [atomicsagebrush@gmail.com](mailto:atomicsagebrush@gmail.com)



# In Memoriam: AWON First Founder Clint Frederick and AWON Treasurer Paul Bremer



**George Clinton  
"Clint" Frederick**

**Nov. 24, 1943 -  
Nov. 15, 2021**

AWON First Founder Clint Frederick passed away November 15, 2021 in Scottsdale, AZ. He was 77 years old.

Clint grew up in Farlington, Kansas, graduating high school in 1961. He received his Bachelor's degree in accounting from Pittsburg State University and became a successful CPA, specializing in the telecommunication industry. Eventually Clint started his own accounting firms, firstly in Kansas, and then later on in Arizona.

Clint was an avid World War II history buff, driven by the loss of his father in WWII. Not only was Clint an AWON First Founder, but an accomplished author. The life and relationship of his parents, Captain George Frederick and Cleo, is memorialized in the book that their son authored: *World War II: A Legacy of Letters – One Soldiers' Journey*.

Despite having faced major health challenges since childhood, Clint had a very strong will to live and to make the most out of life. He always kept a positive and optimistic attitude no matter what life presented him. He enjoyed life to the fullest and wanted everyone to enjoy it with him.

Clint is remembered as a loving husband, father and grandfather. All who knew him will miss him. His wife of 52 years Kathy Frederick, daughters Randi Smelko (Bob Smelko), Kim Tuttle, and Kari Points (Tom Points), grandkids Zak and Zoey Tuttle (Izaak McKenzie) and Kampbell and Kade Points survive him, along with his AWON siblings.

Following his wishes, no services will be held at this time. Memorial contributions may be made in lieu of flowers to the American Heart Association at <https://www.heart.org/>.

**Paul C. Bremer**

**May 4, 1943 -  
Nov. 26, 2021**



Paul C. Bremer, longtime AWON Board of Directors member and Treasurer, passed away peacefully at his home in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, November 26, 2021. He was 78.

He will be forever remembered as a beloved husband, father, and grandfather, AWON brother, a pillar of service in the community, an avid golfer, and a widely respected leader with a servant's heart.

While born in Queens, NY, Paul relocated to Lake Worth, FL in 1947 after his father, Private Ludolf Bremer, made the ultimate sacrifice for our country in WWII. He graduated high school in 1961, and Stetson University in 1965. Paul had a long career in finance with Ernst & Young, where Paul was a Partner until his retirement in 2000. He also served many different charitable organizations, using his leadership skills and financial abilities to their benefit.

Paul is survived by his wife of 56 years, Barbara Frostic Bremer, two beloved daughters, Debbie Bremer Pullon (Steve Pullon) of Tequesta, and Linda Bremer Graham (Jeff Graham) of Atlanta, and three grandchildren whom he adored, Alton Garrett Pullon, Noah William Pullon, and Grace Anne Graham.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing to continue Paul's legacy of service may consider a donation to the Paul C. Bremer Endowed Scholarship, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Development Office, PO Box 24708, West Palm Beach, FL 33416 – please designate "Paul C. Bremer Endowed Scholarship".

# Membership



This is a

- ☐ New Membership  
☐ Renewal  
☐ Family Membership  
☐ Database Registration Only

## About You:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mobilephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 If you're renewing, skip to the Dues Section  
 Your Relationship to Serviceman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 How did you hear about AWON \_\_\_\_\_

## About your WWII Service Member:

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 First Name \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hometown & State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Military Unit \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Service Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_  
 Burial Location \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wife's Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Additional information on your WWII Service Member's  
 Military Service, Death, or Burial. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send your check:**

Payable to AWON, include it with this form and send it to:

**AWON Treasurer**  
**5745 Lee Road**  
**Indianapolis, Indiana 46216**

## Membership Types:

☐ **Orphan Member:** Any son or daughter of a member of the US Armed Forces, Coast Guard, or Merchant Marine who was killed, remains missing in action, or who died in the line of duty, or who later died of wounds or injuries sustained during WWII.

- ☐ **Family Member:** Other relations who are not a son or daughter.  
☐ **Supporting Member:** Other individuals with an interest in WWII, who wish to support us and participate in our outreach activities and programs.

## Membership Dues:

**Basic Orphan Member Dues** are \$25 a year – starting when we receive your check. This includes your AWON Membership Card, a Web Tribute for your father, a physical or E-version of our quarterly newsletter, **The Star**, a personal account on the AWON online List-serv, and an account on the AWON Facebook Page.

**Family Member Dues** are \$25 a year – including a printed Star – OR \$10 a year for Membership with an E-Star.

**Supporting Member Dues** are \$25 a year – including either version of **The Star**.

## Membership Dues Levels:

Please circle your Dues Level below:

	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years
Orphan	\$25	\$48	\$70
Family (Printed Star Version)	\$25	\$48	\$70
Family (E-Star Version)	\$10	\$20	\$30
Supporting	\$25	\$48	\$70
Gold Star (Increased Donation)	\$100	\$192	\$280

## Donation Considerations:

Memorial Day Wreath Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 General Operations & Outreach \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Dues & Donations Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Submittable  
 Online >>>



AWON (American WWII Orphans Network) is a humanitarian, non-profit, nonpolitical service organization under Section 501(c)3 of the US Federal Tax Code. (EINB #91-1538912) Membership is not required to be entered into the Database. For more information, the AWON Website is at [www.awon.org](http://www.awon.org).



# AWON BOOKSTORE

## Price List / Order Form

### Books

Authors in **BOLD** are orphan or family members

Items marked with (\*) include P&H

_____ <i>Pieces of Us</i>	
<b>By Janice Crandell Powers</b>	<b>\$20.00*</b>
_____ <i>A Daughter's Quest: Retracing My Father's Footsteps During World War II</i>	
<b>By Laura Smail Sims</b>	<b>\$16.95</b>
_____ <i>The Gun Club: U.S.S. Duncan at Cape Esperance</i>	
<b>By Robert Fowler</b>	<b>\$15.99</b>
_____ <i>Collateral Damage, A World War II Orphan: Lost and Found</i>	
<b>By Reda Reynolds</b>	<b>\$9.00</b>
_____ <i>Feisty: Chronicles &amp; Confessions of an Old PR Warhorse</i>	
<b>By Joe Finnigan</b>	<b>\$12.99</b>
_____ <i>A Bit of Earth</i>	
<b>By Wendy Crisp Lestina</b>	<b>\$13.95</b>
_____ <i>K.I.A.: An Orphan's Search for His Father Through the Fog of War</i>	
<b>By Patrick Audinet</b>	<b>\$10.00*</b>
_____ <i>All proceeds from Audinet book benefit AWON</i>	
_____ <i>The Beauty of What Remains: Family Lost, Family Found</i>	
<b>By Susan Johnson Hadler</b>	<b>\$15.00*</b>
_____ <i>In Search of a Pilot: Hanford "Rusty" J. Rustand</i>	
<b>By Marilyn Rustand Lieurance</b>	<b>\$7.00*</b>
_____ <i>My Father: More than a Picture, a Beer Bottle and a Flag</i>	
<b>By Jerry W. Pinkerton</b>	<b>\$12.00*</b>
_____ <i>The Lost Submarine: A True Story of Love and War</i>	
<b>By Nancy Kenney</b>	<b>\$16.00</b>
_____ <i>"Daddy's Gone to War": The Second World War in the lives of America's Children</i>	
<b>By William M. Tuttle Jr., PhD</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>
_____ <i>In My Father's Words: Letters From a WWII Soldier</i>	
<b>By Bill McElvain</b>	<b>\$16.00</b>
_____ <i>Farebersville 1944</i>	
<b>By Jeff Wignall</b>	<b>\$18.95</b>
_____ <i>A Soldier's Daughter</i>	
<b>By Lois Brown Klein</b>	<b>\$17.00</b>
_____ <i>The Ordinary Infantrymen: Heroes Then, Heroes Again</i>	
<b>By Imogene Woods and Twelve WWII Infantrymen</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
_____ <i>Full Fathom Five: A Daughter's Search</i>	
<b>By Mary Lee Coe Fowler</b>	<b>\$29.95</b>

_____ <i>Love Always, Ben</i>	
<b>By Huey Tyra, nephew</b>	<b>Reduced! \$2.00</b>
_____ <i>Sporty Course (bomber pilots)</i>	
<b>By Col. Jack Swayze</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
_____ <i>The Hotton Report (About the Battle For Hotton)</i>	
<b>By Robert McDonald</b>	<b>\$13.95</b>
_____ <i>World War II: A Legacy of Letters-One Soldier's Journey</i>	
<b>By Clinton Frederick</b>	<b>\$26.95</b>
_____ <i>An 8th Airforce Combat Diary</i>	
<b>By John A. Clark</b>	<b>\$49.95</b>
_____ <i>When I See a "Forty and Eight"... I Remember World War II</i>	
<b>By Lt. Col. Jacques Adnet USAF (ret.)</b>	<b>Reduced! \$5.00!</b>
_____ <i>In Their Memory: American WWII Orphan's Network</i>	
<b>By Turner Publishing Company</b>	
<b>Was 49.95</b>	<b>Reduced \$10.00</b>
_____ <i>The Fighting Tigers: The Untold Story Behind the Names on The Quachita Baptist University WWII Memorial</i>	
<b>By William Downes</b>	<b>\$24.95</b>
_____ <i>The War Journey of Major Damon "Rocky" Gause</i>	
<b>Forward by Damon L. Gause</b>	<b>\$21.95</b>
_____ <i>No Greater Sacrifice, No Greater Love: A Son's Journey to Normandy</i>	
<b>By Walter Ford Carter</b>	<b>Reduced! \$18.00</b>
_____ <i>D-Day + 60 Years: A Small Piece of Airborne History</i>	
<b>By Jerome J. McLaughline</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
_____ <i>They Also Served: Women's Stories From the WWII Era</i>	
<b>By Jeanie Sutton Lambright</b>	
<b>New Price!</b>	<b>Hardcover \$20.00      Softcover \$10.00</b>
_____ <i>Finding Billy</i>	
<b>By Diana Thompson Dale, niece</b>	<b>\$16.95</b>
_____ <i>Father Found: Life and Death as a Prisoner of the Japanese In WWII</i>	
<b>By Duane Heisinger</b>	<b>\$13.95</b>
_____ <i>Shobun: A Forgotten War Crime in the Pacific</i>	
<b>By Michael J. Goodwin</b>	<b>\$19.95</b>



# AWON BOOKSTORE

## Price List / Order Form

### CD/DVD



\_\_\_ *Leather and Strings*

by **Mark LaPoint**, grandson of Sgt. William G. Aubet featuring *Somewhere in Germany*, written and sung by Mark at AWON's 10th conference memorial service \$6.00

\_\_\_ *Letters of Love and War* (CD for Mac or PC)

By 1LT John and Betty Peirson \$19.44

\_\_\_ *AWON 2004 Conference & WWII Memorial Dedication* (VHS)

Reduced!! Was \$5.00 \$3.00\*

\_\_\_ *We Speak Their Names: A Tribute to Our Fathers* (VHS)  
produced by Patrick Tierney and **Terry Boettcher**

Reduced! was \$15.00 now \$3.00

\_\_\_ *AWON 2000 Conference Journeys - Finding Our Fathers* (VHS)

by Justin Taylan was \$15.00 \$3.00\*

\_\_\_ *Sleep My Sons: The Story of the Arisan Maru*

by Shawnee Brittan Reduced! was \$30.00 \$20.00\*

## AWON Logo Products

*Closeout on the Following AWON merchandise*

\_\_\_ AWON Hat \$15.00

\_\_\_ Scarf (royal blue fleece - only 3 left!!) \$10.00

\_\_\_ 20th Anniversary Tote Bag (small)  
REDUCED! \$5.00

\_\_\_ Tote Bag (large) \$10.00

\_\_\_ 20th Anniversary Garden Flag (without holder) \$10.00

\_\_\_ \*AWON Holiday Ornament \$10.00

\_\_\_ \*AWON lapel pin \$10.00

\_\_\_ \*AWON Button 2 1/4" \$3.00

\_\_\_ \*AWON Lanyard w/ nametag and ticket holder (blue with white lettering, 4"x6"holder) \$6.00

\_\_\_ \*AWON notecards & envelopes (pkg of 20) (Only 2 left!!) \$20.00

\_\_\_ \*AWON bookmarks

Circle amount: 1 for \$1.00 5 for \$3.00 10 for \$5.00

## The Star Newsletters

\_\_\_ \*Individual issues: \$4.00 - Includes P&H

\_\_\_ \*All archived issues: \$40.00 - Includes P&H

\_\_\_ \*Special!! Most recent five issues: \$15.00 Inc. P&H

### Ordering Information

Postage and handling: \$8 for each item. Items marked with an asterisk (\*) include postage and handling.

For multiple purchases: Up to \$40 - \$10 P&H \$40-\$60 - \$12 P&H \$60 and up - \$15 P&H

Washington State residents please add 7.8% sales tax

For more information and color photos please visit <http://www.awon2.org/resources/bookstore.html>

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed** (check/money order payable to AWON): \_\_\_\_\_

Send check or money order to:

**AWON Bookstore**

**5745 Lee Road**

**Indianapolis, IN**

**46216**

email: [bookstore@awon.org](mailto:bookstore@awon.org)

Editor, The Star  
JH Geiger Operations Center  
5745 Lee Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46216

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### Address Service Requested

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## The Star

"Breaking Down the Wall of Silence"

AWON Headquarters  
5745 Lee Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46216  
[www.awon.org](http://www.awon.org)



### AWON Mission

To locate and bring together sons and daughters of those who died or are missing as a result of American involvement in World War II, honor the service and sacrifice of our fathers and provide information and support to these people who were orphaned by the war.

# AWON Directory

#### Address Corrections

Lorin McCleary [ldmccleary@gmail.com](mailto:ldmccleary@gmail.com)

**Archives** OPEN POSITION

#### Bookstore

Walt Linne [bookstore@awon.org](mailto:bookstore@awon.org)

#### Database Coordinator

Lorin McCleary [ldmccleary@gmail.com](mailto:ldmccleary@gmail.com)

#### Dues

Robert Meek [rhmeekjr@gmail.com](mailto:rhmeekjr@gmail.com)

#### Facebook

Barry Barr-Finch [barrfinch1@gmail.com](mailto:barrfinch1@gmail.com)

#### First Inquiry Coordinators

Lorin McCleary [AWON@awon.org](mailto:AWON@awon.org)

Janice Ott Buterbaugh [Janicebuterbaugh@gmail.com](mailto:Janicebuterbaugh@gmail.com)

**Friends of the National  
WWII Memorial Liason** Rondy Elliot

#### MeWe

Lorin McCleary [ldmccleary@gmail.com](mailto:ldmccleary@gmail.com)

#### Membership

OPEN POSITION

#### Memorial Day White House Event

Marilynn Lieurance [mlrustysgirl@yahoo.com](mailto:mlrustysgirl@yahoo.com)

#### Memorial Day Wreath & Banner

Jeanne Rhinehart [hart1003@comcast.net](mailto:hart1003@comcast.net)

Rik Peirson [rik@dayone.com](mailto:rik@dayone.com)

#### Regional Gatherings Project

Barry Barr-Finch [barrfinch1@gmail.com](mailto:barrfinch1@gmail.com)

#### The STAR

Kristin Holmes [atomicsagebrush@gmail.com](mailto:atomicsagebrush@gmail.com)

#### Washington, D.C. Liason

Gloria Layne [glayne731@gmail.com](mailto:glayne731@gmail.com)

#### Website

Rik Peirson [rik@dayone.com](mailto:rik@dayone.com)