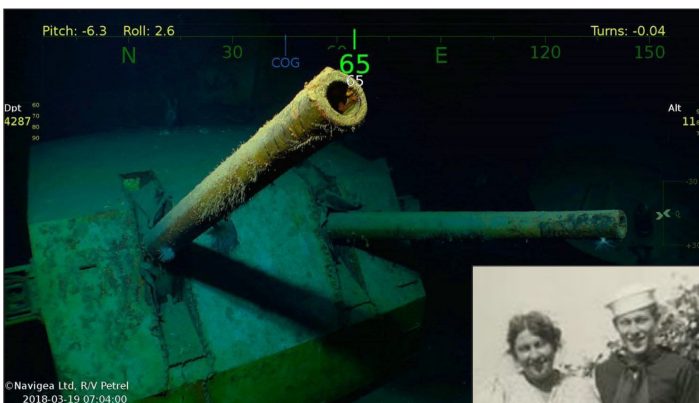


*Last of five siblings finally gets closure*

# Wreckage of brother's ship found



Above, underwater video image of USS Juneau, courtesy of Paul Allen. Right, S1C Philip D. Quinlan with his mother on his last visit home.

The discovery of the wreck of the *USS Juneau* in March by philanthropist and Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen was stunning news.

The Navy cruiser is infamous for being the ship that the five Sullivan Brothers of Waterloo, Iowa, perished aboard. But for AWON-er Miriam Quinlan-Towey, one brother lost was too much. S1C Philip D. Quinlan also went down with the ship off the coast of the Solomon Islands after a Japanese torpedo cut the Navy cruiser in half on November 13, 1942 during the Battle of Guadalcanal. There were only ten survivors; most were killed by the explosion but about a hundred others perished waiting over a week in the open ocean for rescue.

"Sad," was the response Towey gave a reporter for the *Salem News* (Massachusetts) when asked for her reaction about the *Juneau's* discovery. "It was on St. Patrick's Day, and my mother died on St. Patrick's Day. She never gave up hope."

Towey is a native of Peabody, near Salem, where she and her brother grew up. Towey, who now lives in Arlington, Virginia, wrote her story for *The Star* in December 2007 (Issue 47). She remembers the day in January 1943 when the Western Union telegram arrived at her parents' home.

"My mother had been busy doing her household chores upstairs when she heard

## Inside:

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...continued on page 9

# Time to vote and other news to know now

In this issue of *The Star* is a lot of organizational information about AWON.

First, this is the election issue. Biographies for eleven candidates for the Board of Directors appear on pages 4-9. The ballot to vote for up to nine candidates appears on page 21. Be sure to read the biographies and ballot instructions carefully.

Second, you will find the AWON Financial Report, which has appeared in *The Star* yearly. The report always covers several previous years, plus the current budget year, for comparisons. Monthly financial information also appears in all board meeting minutes.

Speaking of minutes, board minutes always appear in every newsletter, always in the back for easy reference. The minutes may lag a couple months due to the newsletter being a quarterly publication, and the fact that the minutes from one meeting are approved at the next

meeting, and are not published until approved. The minutes outline various topics and work that comes before the board, such as the lack of interest by other war orphan groups to merge or collaborate, except for the White House Memorial Day Breakfast.

In February AWON mailed lapsed members and those who inquired but never became members. The mailing covered lapses back to 2009 and included more than 1,400 addresses. The board conducts lapsed mailings about every other year. These mailings have been done for many years.

Lastly, the names and emails of AWON Directors always appear in *The Star*, usually on this page. The AWON Board provides information through *The Star*, email and AWON ListServ, and welcomes and responds to questions and comments. Now it's your turn to share - vote!

## AWON Director Email Addresses

Norm Burkey	<a href="mailto:norburk@gmail.com">norburk@gmail.com</a>
Mike Forgý	<a href="mailto:mikeforgy@gmail.com">mikeforgy@gmail.com</a>
Norma Nicol Hamilton	<a href="mailto:rlhnnh@comcast.net">rlhnnh@comcast.net</a>
Billie Meeks	<a href="mailto:billiemmeeks@gmail.com">billiemmeeks@gmail.com</a>
Gerry Morenski	<a href="mailto:dbmanager@awondb.org">dbmanager@awondb.org</a>
Bonnie Oates	<a href="mailto:oatesb@twc.com">oatesb@twc.com</a>
Ed Peters	<a href="mailto:edpeters2@mac.com">edpeters2@mac.com</a>
Jerry Pinkerton	<a href="mailto:jerry.pinkerton@sbcglobal.net">jerry.pinkerton@sbcglobal.net</a>
Diane Pollard	<a href="mailto:dahpollard@gmail.com">dahpollard@gmail.com</a>



### AWON FOUNDER

Ann Bennett Mix

### AWON OFFICERS

#### President

Norm Burkey

#### Vice President

Gerry Conway Morenski

#### Secretary

Bonnie Oates

#### Treasurer

Jerry Pinkerton

### AWON DIRECTORS

Mike Forgý

Norma Nicol Hamilton

Billie Meeks

Ed Peters

Diane Pollard

### AWON ADMINISTRATION

**Database Manager** Gerry Morenski

**Dues** Jerry Pinkerton

**Bookstore Manager** Walt Linne

**The Star Editor** Kathy Le Comte

**Webmaster** Rik Peirson

**ListServ Moderators** Judy Hathaway,  
Judy Hoffinan

**Regional Coordinator** Barry Barr-Finch

[www.awon.org](http://www.awon.org)

email us at: [awon@awon.org](mailto:awon@awon.org)

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Issue #88 1M (04-18)

**'No Veteran Shall Be Buried Alone'**

## **'Arlington Lady' to give talk at Gala**

**M**iriam Quinlan-Towey, the sister of sailor S1C Philip D. Quinlan who was lost on the *USS Juneau* (see front page story), will give a short talk about the Arlington Ladies at Arlington National Cemetery during the 2018 AWON Gala Gathering, September 28-29, in Washington, D.C.

Towey is an original member of AWON, having attended the *No Greater Love* founding ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery in 1991. She was born in Salem and raised in Peabody, Massachusetts - the youngest of five children, the oldest of whom was Philip, whom she called "Sill" because she couldn't pronounce his name. Upon completion of business school in Boston, Towey accepted a position with the Central Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C., where she worked for 35 years, retiring in 1991. Looking for a volunteer activity, she came across a piece about the Arlington Ladies in *The Washington Post*. She's been an Arlington Lady for 21 years.

The Arlington Ladies organization was created in 1948 when Gen. Hoyt Vandenberg, then-Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force, observed a funeral service at Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) where no one was present except himself, the chaplain, and the Honor Guard. He mentioned it to his wife, Gladys, that evening, after which she took it upon herself to personally attend all Air Force Services.

That prompted her to solicit volunteer Air Force women - wives, widows, sisters or active duty/retired - to share in this activity. In 1973, Gen. Creighton Abrams' wife, Julia, founded the Army's version of the group. The Navy followed in 1985 and the Coast Guard in 2006. The Marines do not officially have a group as



*An Arlington Lady being escorted to a grave in 2008.  
credit: wikipedia.org*

they send a representative of the Marine Commandant to every funeral.

The Arlington Ladies work one day each month; they report to the ANC Administration Building where an office is reserved for the four military services. Under the supervision of a volunteer chair lady, two ladies from each service are assigned to each week day. Ladies wear a name tag.

There are approximately 30 funerals from all branches on any given weekday. Services are conducted in all kinds of weather, irrespective of federal government closings.

"Two weeks ago on a day she (Towey) was working and assigned five to six services to attend, it was rainy and cold and stormy. Yet she was out there attending the services," noted AWON Gala co-chair and AWON Board Director Diane Pollard. "My hat's off to her dedication and spirit."

A uniformed escort is assigned and drives the chaplain and Lady to the gravesite. Following presentation of the flag at the conclusion of the service, the Lady steps forward and presents a condolence card from the service chief, her own note, and a few words of comfort.

Each Service has approximately 60 volunteers, including substitutes. To be eligible for membership, an applicant must be sponsored by an active member who vouches for her character, morality, and suitability for performing the sensitive duties required of the Arlington Ladies. Towey is an auxiliary member as the sister of a serviceman. The organization receives no government funding and relies strictly on donations to support expenses that might occur.

Arlington Ladies consider it an honor and privilege to be in attendance at services at ANC.

*...continued on page 10*



# 2018 AWON Board of Directors Election

## Candidate Biographies

Below and on the next five pages are the biographies of candidates for the AWON Board of Directors. Biographies are listed in order of materials received (biography and photo), and have not been edited. The ballot is at the back of this newsletter and must be photocopied or cut out. Be sure to read each biography, and carefully read and follow the instructions on the ballot for submitting a valid ballot. Ballots are due by June 1, 2018.

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### **Lorin D. McCleary**

**Previous Board Experience:** Organizer of AWON First Founders Meeting; Member- AWON First Founders; AWON First President; Past AWON Board member; Recipient

of AWON's Col. Jack O. Forgy Distinguished Service Award.

**Special Skills:** Enthusiasm for AWON's mission and its members! Extensive business experience and organizational skills. Effective written and electronic communicator. Good at formulating plans and implementing them.

**Vision for AWON for Next Two Years:** Restore AWON to health and vibrancy following threat of dissolution in 2018. Renewed emphasis on member services, membership recruitment and retention. More responsiveness to membership input and needs. Encourage AWON Regional development and meetings.

**How You Can Best Serve AWON as a Board Member:** Participate in organizational planning and communications.

**Personal:** B.S. Indiana University M.S. University of Pittsburgh Married, 2 daughters, 4 grandsons and 1 granddaughter. Have been a member of AWON since 1993. Membership in AWON literally changed my life, en-

abling me to come to terms with my father's death in WWII and to honor his service and sacrifice. I want to make sure that our organization will continue on so as to make these things possible for others.

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### **Paul C. Bremer**

**Previous Board Experience:** AWON: Co-Chair, 2016 National Conference. Fidelity Bankshares, a public financial institution Served on the Board of Directors from August 2000

until the bank was sold in January 2007. Nicklaus Children's Health Care Foundation Board Member 14 years, Treasurer, 14 years. Children's Healthcare Charity, Inc. The Honda Classic Board Member, 13 years, President, 8 years, Treasurer, 1 year. Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches, Board Member, 10 years, President, 1 year. Kiwanis Club of West Palm Beach Board Member, 8 years, President, 1 year. Kiwanis Club of West Palm Beach Foundation, Board Member, 10 years, President, 1 Year. Palm Beach Atlantic University Founder and Chairman of Audit Committee since inception in 2010.

**Special Skills:** I am a retired CPA with significant financial experience as noted above. I was a partner in a local firm that merged into Ernst & Whinney, an organization that eventually became Ernst & Young. I retired

# 2018 AWON Board of Directors Election

## Candidate Biographies, continued

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after 35 years in the practice of public accounting in Palm Beach County, Florida.

**Vision for AWON for Next Two Years:** We need to enhance membership communication to all members so we can communicate and educate our members as to activities going on in their areas. In addition, we should encourage meetings among members within Geographical areas that would not require extensive travel or put a burden on them due to personal limitations. We should insure that every member receives a copy of the STAR every quarter.

**Personal:** B.S., Stetson University. Married for 52 years to Barbara, two daughters, two grandsons and one granddaughter.



**Gloria Zuccarella B. Layne, CPM, CSW, CSA**

**Previous Board Experience:** AWON Board & President (2 terms). Bright Side Manor Board & Chairperson. Tenaflly Senior Citizens Committee Chairperson.

Vestry Church of the Atonement. Bergen County Office on Aging Advisory Council. Englewood Hospital Advisory Council.

**Special Skills:** Management & administration; PR; event planning; assessing needs & finding creative ways to meet those needs; establishing outreach programs & ability to connect people/organizations; experienced with government programs and seeking financial and in-kind support for programs.

**Vision for AWON for Next Two Years:** I would like to have a survey requesting information from new and all current and lapsed

members to learn what their interests are, i.e. conferences, regional meetings, help with research, an AWON buddy, etc. I would also like to increase the use of the available list server as well as provide more personal interactions with members by calls and notes to keep members more engaged in the planning of programs and gatherings. I am also interested in working on projects already begun by our current Board.

**How You Can Best Serve AWON as a Board Member:** I would be helpful with establishing outreach programs as well as acting as liaison to government officials and other organizations, i.e. the new Army Museum, the WWII Museum and supporting the projects of other members of the Board.

**Personal:** I have experience working in private industry, the non-profit world and with both federal and county governments. I love to travel; I am a 'Margraten kid'; I enjoy being with family and friends and I enjoy my current role as a "professional volunteer".



**Walter P. Linne**

**Previous Board Experience:** St Mary Elementary School, Board Member 1776-1978. Scecina Memorial High School, Board of Governors 1990-1998. AWON Board of Directors,

1993-2003.

**Special Skills:** Retired USAF Command Pilot and Retired Asst. Director of Opera-

*Biographies continue on next page*



# 2018 AWON Board of Directors Election

## Candidate Biographies, continued

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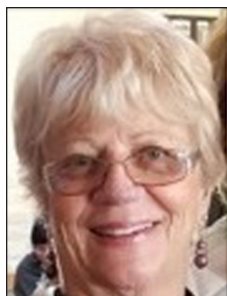
tions, Indiana University. Served in numerous leadership positions in the military and civilian service.

**Vision for AWON for Next Two Years:** Continue to reach out for WWII orphans and to keep our Father's sacrifice alive.

**How You Can Best Serve AWON as a Board Member:** Serve as needed on the AWON Board.

**Personal:** Team player.

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### Penny Legrand

**Previous Board Experience:** Over the years I have participated on many Boards from Youth Athletics, to Travel Clubs. Most recently I was Secretary for the San Pedro Valley Pilots Association.

**Special Skills:** Because my profession was a Travel Consultant, I was able to help AWON with coordinating or Chairing the conferences since 2002 (all but 2016). I also helped Gerry Morenski coordinate three of the Margraten trips as well as Ardennes and Henri Chapelle group. I've helped the BOD get their hotel for meetings. And, I coordinated the first group cruise for AWON members post Seattle conference in 2014.

**Vision for AWON for Next Two Years:** Keeping AWON alive and well for the next few years is my main goal. Membership seems to be the key issue at hand.... finding the lapsed members, nurturing the present members, and welcoming/helping the new members find information about their fathers. I'd like to see, possibly, combining

efforts with another Orphan group (Korean through to Desert Storm, Iraq/Afghanistan).

**How You Can Best Serve AWON as a Board Member:** Because I am a better listener than speaker, I would like to apply for Secretary. I can also help with what I have been doing as a volunteer coordinating the conferences.

---



### Arthur D. Chotin

**Previous Board Experience:** I served on the Board of People for the American Way from 1986-1990 and was on the Board and an Officer of Temple Sinai in Washington, DC. I have not previously been on the Board of AWON.

**Special Skills:** Experienced at public speaking before both large and small audiences. Effective in transmitting ideas both in writing and electronically. Have worked in business, government and political arenas.

**Vision for AWON for Next Two Years:** Develop long-range plan for survival of AWON either as a standalone organization or in partnership with other organizations that have a similar mission. Engage children and other relatives of members so that the organization has more "young blood".

**How You Can Best Serve AWON as a Board Member:** Speaking before groups, to the press or to governmental entities.

**Personal:** J.D. Brooklyn Law School. B.A. Brooklyn College. Attorney with U.S. Department of Justice and in the private sector, Deputy Director of a National Advocacy organization, businessman in the legal/financial printing industry. Married, two

# 2018 AWON Board of Directors Election

## Candidate Biographies, continued

---

sons and one granddaughter. Member of AWON since 2015 when I learned of the organization during the period leading up to speaking at the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Netherlands American Cemetery.

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### **Ann Bennett Mix**

**Previous Board Experience:** Founder and Executive Director AWON. Grant Country Housing Authority Board 10 years. Political elected offices and Boards. Media and Tech Chair. Founder, organizer, of

other politically related groups. Community Service Boards.

**Special Skills:** Data Base creation and management. Website and Facebook creation and management. Public Relations all media. Press Releases. Radio. TV. Newspapers and Magazines. Newsletter Editor. Liaison and Networking in Washington DC. Writing. Research. Speaking. Conference planning. Non-profit creation. Family History and genealogy.

**Vision for AWON for Next Two Years:** Serving Orphans and family of WWII dead. Acquiring historical records and stories; preserving and sharing them on the Internet, at the WWII Memorial and at Overseas ABMC cemeteries. Reaching out and networking with other relegated groups including international. Education of public and schools with speakers.

**How You Can Best Serve AWON as a Board Member:** Educational Speaking. Public Relations and Media. Data Base Management. Historical knowledge of AWON. Inspiration and creative input. Organizational.

**Personal:** When I retired from AWON I needed  
e-Star • April 2018

some private and family time. When asked to return I felt ready and refreshed with new ideas and energy and like I had a lot I could still contribute. Also missing the companionship of my fellow orphans! I hope I can help keep AWON alive with focus on the Legacy of Orphans and our Fathers and finish some projects not completed.

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### **Jean Rinehart**

**Previous Board Experience:** I have been a past board member of AWON. At present time I am a board member of Grace United Methodist Church. And church treasure.

**Special Skills:** I have a positive attitude and can easily communicate with people. Also have a willingness to work tirelessly for AWON.

**Vision for AWON for Next Two Years:** I am willing to work with the board on many projects. I also plan to reach out to meet the needs of AWON members.

**Personal:** I have been a member of AWON since shortly after I saw the "No greater Love" article. I am a mother of 3, grandmother of 6 and a great grandmother of one. It has always been my hope and dream to keep AWON alive and well for as long as possible. I feel we still have family members of men "who gave their all" who could benefit greatly, as I have from my membership in AWON. Meeting and interacting with other orphans has been one of the highlights of my life. The friendships made through AWON will last forever for me. I feel a shared loss is eased by sharing heartache.

*Biographies continue on next page*





# 2018 AWON Board of Directors Election

## Candidate Biographies, continued

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### **Barry Barr-Finch**

**Previous Board Experience:** AWON BOD, Mason County Education Association, BOD of the Cursillo movement of the Diocese of Olympia

**Special Skills:** I tend to get along with everyone. I am very knowledgeable about history, especially Seattle.

**Vision for AWON for Next Two Years:** I want our board to work on our mission to reach out to orphans whom we have not met. To develop a better method of recruiting local regional coordinators. I would like to see a paid publicity person who knows what he/she is doing to lead and coordinate this effort. I want the AWON Board to develop more ways to be responsive to the needs of our membership.

**How You Can Best Serve AWON as a Board Member:** By continuing my role as Director of Local Regional coordinator. Working on backing up each role of the board so that if a board member were unable to continue, there would be someone in place who is knowledgeable about that role and could take over. Creating a who is who of AWON jobs so that all members can see who does what.

**Personal:** I have never been convicted of a crime, or served time in jail. An asset is that Tom Brewer is my husband and he is a font of ideas and creativity.

**Special Skills:** Public speaking- good communicator and listener. Ability to lead. Organizational- (co-chair 2014 Seattle conference)

**Vision for AWON for Next Two Years:** Involve more members- better communication with members. Reach out to them- ask what they want to get from AWON. Listen to the members. Insure that funds are used wisely.

**How You Can Best Serve AWON as a Board Member:** Be a committed member of the board. Listen to all points of view and make appropriate decisions for the good of AWON.

**Personal:** Member of AWON since 1991. Attended all conferences. Volunteer in my community: Cancer/breast cancer/heart awareness.



### **Rik Peirson**

**Previous Board Experience:** American Advertising Federation – Santa Barbara. American WWII Orphans Network. Unity Shoppe. Victoria Street Community House. Vietnam Veterans of America - 218th

(Current).

**Special Skills:** Planning. Marketing. Advertising. Design. Branding. Primary Research. Web Development. Media Relations.

**Vision for AWON for Next Two Years:** Assuming Board Agreement – AWON 2.0 . . . Reviewing, Prioritizing, and Supporting AWON Missions; A True Website Upgrade - incorporating ALL good ideas; More OUTreach – to boost Awareness and Membership; More INreach – actual Polling of and Input from the Membership; More Board Transparency; Automatic Information Sharing of Critical Resources; More Timely Posting of Min-



### **Judi Kramer**

**Previous Board Experience:** Past AWON Board of Directors - 6 yrs. Member of various teams and organizations while working.



# 2018 AWON Board of Directors Election

## Candidate Biographies, continued

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utes; Volunteerism; Closer Coordination between the AWON Website and The Star; Liaison Assignments for Infrastructure NOT represented on the Board; Greater Tribute Participation by Membership; Restoration of the ABMC Flower Program and By-Name Remembrances.

**How You Can Best Serve AWON as a Board Member:** INSIDE – Through a Management Style based on Collaboration and Consensus; OUTSIDE – Through increasing Membership and

Membership Services, Researching, Remembering, & Honoring our Fathers.

**Personal:** Excellent Health. Married 36 years: Di-anna. Children: Lindsey; Grandchildren: Zack & Tanner.

**END OF CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES  
BALLOT IS ON PAGE 21.**

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*...Juneau, from front page*

an alarming sign from Dad," she recalls. Her father was home that day because his brother had passed away. Towey's teen-aged brother, Richard, a year younger than Philip, was killed in an accident in 1936. "She rushed downstairs and together they shared the ghastly, shocking news." Towey, who was age 10 at the time, received the news when she came home from school for lunch.

"For reasons that were never made clear, I was sent back to school for the afternoon session – heavy heart, confused, grieving privately," Towey wrote for *The Star* in 2007. Today, Towey has a theory.

"I think my mother was in denial and she was trying to keep everything normal," she told the *Salem-News*. "It was probably years later that all these things sink in. We never really had any closure."

Now, there is some closure – and the timing couldn't have been more surreal. First, the discovery was on the same day Towey's mother passed away 30 years earlier. Second,

Towey was emailing with *The Star* about her activities as an Arlington Lady (see story on page 3) when she received the news.

"I just learned that the wreckage of the *Juneau* was found near the Solomon Islands; watch the evening news, if possible," Towey informed *The Star* in an early afternoon email. "My sainted mother fantasized about that until her passing – wreckage was found yesterday." A few minutes later she followed up with, "The wreckage was found on Saturday, March 17 (the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my Mother's passing)." Timing was on her mind almost immediately.

In 2002, Towey took a cruise of the South Pacific on a World War II tour and threw flowers overboard at Iron Bottom Sound, the name given to where the *Juneau* and many other ships and planes were lost during the Battle of Guadalcanal.

In yet another coincidence, Towey will be returning to Peabody on Memorial Day to receive a World War II Victory Medal by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The day certainly will hold a different meaning now.

# Have a 'blast' at September Gala

With the 2018 AWON Gala Gathering just five months away, keeping up with the latest news in a fast-changing world is essential. To address that need, members now will get the latest Gala announcements, hotel and event location details, and reminders via 'blast' emails. Emails will come directly to your email inbox. All you need to do is open and read them - no typing, clicking or scrolling needed. Co-chairs Billie Meeks and Diane Pollard hope that receiving a few emails between now and September will be an effortless way for members to stay up-to-date on Gala plans. The first 'blast' was sent to all members in late March. Future blasts will occur about once a month. If you have not received an email, please contact the co-chairs.

The Gala celebration, "Honoring Their Legacy / Honoring

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*...Arlington Lady, from page 3*

Each Lady has her own motivation for performing this activity. They believe it is important for families to know that the military has not forgotten the sacrifice their loved ones made in service of their country.

"All (services) are moving (but) my most moving ones were when I was the only one present, other than an attorney for the deceased," Towey said.

Towey will speak at Arlington National Cemetery when AWON attends a program there during the 2018 Gala Celebration, September 29.

Our Legacy," will be held Friday and Saturday, September 28-29, 2018, at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C. Members and their guests will arrive on Thursday, September 27, and depart Sunday, September 30.

One of the highlights of the weekend will be a tribute performance by the Mergelland Men's Choir of the Netherlands. The choir also will be guests at a reception Friday evening. There will be a casual evening reception on Thursday, and a cash bar reception and banquet Saturday night.

Day-time activities include an open board meeting Friday, when the next AWON Board of

Directors will be installed, and a wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery and a memorial service at the National World War II Memorial on Saturday. No events are scheduled for Sunday.

Other activities, guests and information will be published in the July newsletter and in email blasts. Contact Billie Meeks at [billiemmeeks@gmail.com](mailto:billiemmeeks@gmail.com), or Diane Pollard at [dahpollard@gmail.com](mailto:dahpollard@gmail.com), if you have any problems with the email blasts.

Hotel information is below. The Gala registration form appears on the next page, and a form for placing a memorial ad in the Gala program book appears on page 17. Registration and memorial ad forms are both due by July 1.

## Hotel Reservations for AWON Gala

### Crystal Gateway Marriott Arlington, VA

#### Option 1:

Copy and paste to your web browser, then follow prompts:  
<https://aws.passkey.com/event/49583672/owner/1487/home>

#### Option 2:

Call 800-228-9290, mention bloc of rooms  
for the American War Orphans Network

#### Details:

Room Rate \$149/night. Suggested NIGHTS Sept. 27, 28, 29.  
Sept. 26 also available at special rate. Free hotel-airport  
shuttle to/from Reagan International Airport ONLY.  
Credit card needed to make reservation.





## 2017 AWON FINANCIAL REPORT

	Actual '14	Actual '15	Actual '16	Actual '17	Budget '18
<b>Budgeted Operating Income:</b>					
Membership Dues	15,790	13,460	14,406	8,393	6,000
Bookstore Income (net)		1,500			1,000
Interest			567	527	250
	15,790	14,960	14,973	8,920	7,250
<b>Non-Budgeted Operating Income:</b>					
Conference Net Income		2,748	6,500		2,250
Donations	825	805	1,026	782	500
Other		17			
	825	3,569	7,526	782	2,750
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>16,615</b>	<b>18,529</b>	<b>22,499</b>	<b>9,702</b>	<b>10,000</b>
<b>Designated Purpose Income:</b>					
Death March Markers				970	
Margraten Bench	9,148	2,850			
Wreath Income	1,000	2,051	4,889	917	500
<b>TOTAL DESIGNATED INCOME</b>	<b>10,148</b>	<b>4,901</b>	<b>4,889</b>	<b>1,887</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>26,763</b>	<b>23,430</b>	<b>27,388</b>	<b>11,589</b>	<b>10,500</b>
<b>Budgeted Expenses:</b>					
Newsletter expenses	5,301	5,089	4,561	4,094	4,200
Newsletter editor			3,600	3,600	3,600
America Online	456	301	66	96	100
Insurance & State Fees	637	540	540	560	700
Regional AWON Coordinators	70				250

Above is AWON's summary financial report for the past four years (2014-2017) and the approved budget for 2018. The summary report includes income from all sources, and expenses by category. Beginning in 2015 a financial report is being published to provide financial information for the membership. Following are some comments and explanations:

The Board approved offering multi-year dues payment options in 2012. As expected, later years' dues renewals have decreased. Additionally, overall membership has been trending downward slightly every year.

Most Bookstore income comes from sales at the National Conference. Space and logistics on the 2016 Cruise Conference did not accommodate the bookstore so no income was received. We anticipate income following the Washington D.C. Gala.

The AWON National Conference net income is received shortly after the conference, but sometimes the next year. Conference registration fees were lowered starting in 2012 to the level estimated to cover convention costs. The 2018 Gala is anticipated to break even, so we have budgeted return in 2018 of the funds advanced in 2017 for the Conference.

With the adoption of the current Wreath Program in 2016, the Wreath Coordinator transferred the remaining Wreath Funds to the Treasury restricted to use for wreaths. Wreath collections in 2016 of \$4,889 exceeded costs by over \$2,000. After 2016 there has not been a direct wreath solicitation by wreath coordinators;

## 2017 AWON FINANCIAL REPORT

	Actual '14	Actual '15	Actual '16	Actual '17	Budget '18
Database Manager	1,894	3,709	1,440	1,309	2,500
Database Supplies	219	107	190		250
WP Listserv Donation	500	500	500	500	500
Website	1,173	900	900	1,112	1,200
Conference Expense (founder)					5,000
American Legion Donation	500	500	500	500	500
Archive Expenses	2,663	85	85	88	100
Membership Care and Outreach	37	183	411		200
Board Meeting		6,732		6,171	
Tax Return and Treasurer Expenses	50	522	565	526	600
Conference Advances		2,000	50	2,250	
BOD Election	721				
Website redesign	3,825	3,420			
Other	12	106			250
	18,058	24,694	13,408	20,806	19,950
<b>Non-Budgeted Expenses:</b>					
Archives					2,500
Death March Markers				750	220
Website Creation and Maintenance					11,000
Cromarty Margraten Fund		1,135	425		
Margraten Bench	5,185	6,813			
Wreath Expenses			2,852	2,477	3,000
	5,185	7,947	3,278	3,227	16,720
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>23,243</b>	<b>32,641</b>	<b>16,685</b>	<b>24,033</b>	<b>36,670</b>
<b>INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,520</b>	<b>(9,211)</b>	<b>10,703</b>	<b>(12,444)</b>	<b>(26,170)</b>

however some members have and continue to donate to the Wreath Fund via our membership/renewal form, including many members whose fathers are buried in the U.S. Wreaths are purchased by wreath coordinators who are reimbursed from the Wreath Fund. The accumulated wreath balance of \$12,264 at year-end 2017 is sufficient to cover wreath program costs for several years.

Newsletter costs have decreased due to more e-Star subscriptions and culling of addresses that once received a free issue yearly. Beginning in 2016 the AWON Board determined to contract with *The Star* editor so that AWON could continue to use her expertise.

AWON gives donations to westpoint.org and the American Legion for providing to AWON at no cost its Listserv and Indianapolis office space and services, respectively. AWON also has included donation options on the membership/renewal form.

AWON pays the expenses of its founder when she attends AWON national conferences; she did not attend the 2014 and 2016 conferences. We have estimated that her costs for the Gala will be \$5,000. Board members receive reimbursement of expenses to attend an in-person board meeting during the year between conferences, as required by AWON bylaws.

...continued on page 14

## Welcome New Members

Norma Yates Brubaker, KY, dau of TECH4 Chester R. Yates, Army  
Geri DeMicco, NY, dau of PFC Gennaro J. Demicco, Army  
Lois Vandercar Ciccone, NJ, dau of SSGT Harry Vandercar, Army  
Brittany Jones, FL, great-granddau of PVT James D. Duke, Army

(new members since the January issue of *The Star*)

### *...Financial Report, from page 13*

The AWON Board of Directors has investigated options for the future archiving of AWON hard copy and digital records. Expenses in 2014 were for the board's archive project leader to meet with other archivists in pursuit of this goal. The 2015 Board meeting was held in Boston so that the Board could meet with a potential provider of some archives services. In 2016 and 2017 investigation of possible archives alternatives continued, including negotiations with the National WWII Museum in New Orleans for preservation of AWON Archive Materials. The AWON Board agreed to begin placing certain AWON organizational items with the National World War II Museum in order to establish an archival relationship with the museum, to establish a protocol for turning over AWON materials to the museum, and to make the items available to researchers and historians sooner rather than later. The Board believes that beginning the archival process now will make future archiving of organizational materials easier.

The AWON member who previously donated the preparation of AWON's non-profit tax return retired, so beginning in 2015 AWON now pays an outside firm to prepare the return.

There was not a BOD election in 2016 and no costs are anticipated for the 2018 election.

In 2014 the board authorized a project to upgrade AWON's database in order to store Father Tribute text and images from the AWON website. The upgrade was completed in 2015.

In 2017 the AWON Board investigated developing a new website to be capable of linking with the AWON database to make Father Tributes searchable online, plus other pages that would best serve the needs of the public. Also discussions were held with the Friends of the National World War II Memorial to investigate the possibility of merging at some future time with the Friends' organization in order to have an AWON presence on the Friends' website. For several meetings the Board discussed whether to go forth with the new website project with Ablespark Development Services. The AWON Board will work closely with Ablespark over the next few months to ensure that any AWON updated information is placed on the new website. After a timely and thorough discussion of the description and proposed terms of services with Ablespark, at the January 2018 meeting the Board unanimously agreed to enter into a contract for the new website, expected to be operational by mid-year 2018, and budgeted \$11,000 for its creation and maintenance. The Board will inform the membership when the new website is launched.

At the end of 2017 AWON had checking and money market accounts totaling \$75,841, including \$12,263 designated for the Wreath program.

AWON currently enjoys sufficient financial resources to operate, thanks to the generosity of the membership; however, the AWON board wishes to remind members about AWON's future financial needs. AWON has reached the point where many services previously provided by volunteers of necessity require outsourcing. This includes but is not be limited to AWON's tax return, database management, and the newsletter editor.

Additionally, costs will continue in order to maintain the AWON database, costs associated with archiving AWON's records at a repository to be accessible in the future by researchers, and to continue operations. All of these issues may require more financial resources than the current decreasing annual membership and attendant dues, both multi-year and annual, can sustain. *Jerry Pinkerton, Treasurer*



***Want ordering process reinstated***

## **Meeting set with ABMC over floral program**

**D**ear AWON Family,  
Some of us in AWON were alarmed, a while ago, to learn that the ABMC had ended the Floral Fund Program, also called the grave decoration program. We would like to update you and ask for your support. Here's the story:

The ABMC started the flower program soon after the end of World War II because they realized that the soldiers buried overseas had been young and healthy and almost all of them had suffered a violent death in service to our country. They also realized that family of those buried overseas could not just climb into the family car to visit and bring flowers to their loved one's grave.

The flower program allowed us to easily order, pay for, and send flowers to our father's grave or, in my case, to the Wall of Missing. We knew with certainty that the flowers would be placed by a person who cared and a photo of the decorated grave or Wall of Missing would be sent back to us. It was a comfort to know that many people from around the world who visited the cemeteries could see that the soldiers buried there are still remembered and loved. Many of you used the program and understood that it was a concrete way to honor and remember our fathers

with the support and involvement of the executive branch of our government, the ABMC.

The program worked. It cost the government pennies as we paid for the flowers ourselves. The Floral Fund Program, as administered for us by the ABMC, operated as the only ongoing direct link for us through our government to our loved one buried overseas. It proved and represented the honor and integrity of the government in acknowledging us and our relationship to our fathers who gave up everything - their family, kids, grandkids, friends, the chance to grow old - when they died defending our freedoms and way of life.

Just before Memorial Day 2015 the ABMC announced it was dropping the program and turned all of us over to FTD, thus abandoning that direct link between the government, our fathers, and us. We are unaware that any family member was consulted. This implies that those in the ABMC who made this decision have little understanding that, unlike later wars, it has been the families of those KIA in World War II who were left to pick up the pieces.

A small group of us has been tracking this since the decision was made. Three of us traveled to Washing-

ton, D.C., where we had an in-person meeting with the three top-paid ABMC employees. While we had hoped to convince them to reinstate the flower program, we were essentially patted on the head and told to go away. We continue to remind them we are still here and we are not going away. There is now a new slate of commissioners appointed to operate the ABMC, including Maj. Gen. William Matz (ret.) as the secretary who has agreed to meet with us on June 27, 2018.

Among others, we have the support and backing of The Society of Former Guards of The Tomb of The Unknown Soldier. Most important of all, we are requesting that you, our AWON family, support us in this, and that our new board will write a letter of support, requesting the ABMC put the grave decoration program back in place where it rightly belongs. Please contact me or Bob Holliday with any questions or suggestions as we move forward for all of us. *Susan Hadler, daughter of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. David S. Johnson Jr., KIA April 12, 1945, Wall of the Missing, Luxembourg American National Cemetery and Memorial, Luxembourg; Bob Holliday, son of Capt. Karl "Hap" Holliday, KIA April 13, 1945, Netherlands American National Cemetery and Memorial, Margraten.*

***Started first ship-to-ship sea battle since Spanish American War***

## **Gun Club reveals truth about USS Duncan**

In *The Gun Club: U.S.S. Duncan at Cape Esperance*, author Robert Fowler confronts every lead to develop an incredibly detailed account of the *Duncan* in a little-known South Pacific battle, and how his father's death was caught in the battle's partial cover-up.

In October 1942, the *Duncan* was among several destroyers escorting carriers and transports reinforcing Guadalcanal. On the night of October 11/12, *Duncan* and her group came across

approaching Japanese ships. The American force reversed course but, on a moonless night, the *Duncan* mistakenly closed in on the enemy. Lt. Robert L. Fowler III, as torpedo officer, fired two torpedoes, sinking a Japanese heavy cruiser before being mortally wounded by shellfire. The *Duncan* was the first Al-

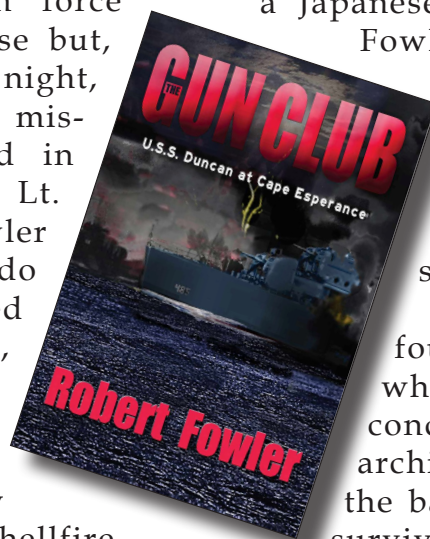
lied warship to penetrate a Japanese battle-line, and

Fowler the first to fire upon it. The mystery was who fired on the *Duncan* - and why it had to be a secret.

Fowler, who was four months old when his father died, conducted extensive archival research into the battle, interviewed survivors, reviewed the official investigation and then conducted his own.

"My goal, almost 75 years later, was to understand what really happened," Fowler said.

After reading *Gun Club* the reader will understand, too, being absorbed into each minute of the night-time battle, naval strategy, technical details about the *Duncan*, the assembling and duties of the crew, the larger-than-life personalities of its top two officers, vivid accounts of a deadly night in shark-infested waters and, finally, the homecoming that turned into a PR campaign. One reviewer calls *Gun Club*, "one of the most detailed and compelling accounts of a war cruise ever written." *Gun Club* is available in the AWON Bookstore as well as online at [thegunclubbook.com](http://thegunclubbook.com) and other retailers.



### **Poems Wanted for AWON Poetry Book**

Searching through past newsletters we discovered numerous orphan-authored poems. The sentiments expressed by these orphan poets are emotionally breathtaking, beautiful and loving, and meaningful. Our intent is to publish these poems in a book and add them as a collection to the AWON Archives.

We found 60-70 orphan-authored poems in *The Star* newsletters. With help from AWONers Judy Hathaway and Susan Hadler, the poems are being gathered, organized and prepared for publication.

If you are the author of one of these poems, or have a new poem, and want to know whether your poem is included in this collection, please let us know. Contact us or send your poem by June 1, 2018 to:

**AWON Headquarters  
Orphan Poems  
5745 Lee Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46216  
or email [wlinne@iupui.edu](mailto:wlinne@iupui.edu)**

Walt Linne   Judy Hathaway   Susan Hadler



# AWON BOOKSTORE

## Price List / Order Form



### BOOKS

Authors in **bold** are orphan or family members • Items marked with an asterisk (\*) include P&H

\_\_\_\_ *The Gun Club: U.S.S. Duncan at Cape Esperance*  
by Robert Fowler **NEW!!** \$15.99

\_\_\_\_ *Collateral Damage, A World War II Orphan: Lost and Found*  
by **Reda Reynolds** **NEW!!** \$9.00

\_\_\_\_ *Feisty: Chronicles & Confessions of an Old PR Warhorse*  
by **Joe Finnigan** **NEW!!** \$12.99

\_\_\_\_ *A Bit of Earth*  
by **Wendy Crisp Lestina** **NEW!!** \$13.95

\_\_\_\_ *K.I.A.: An Orphan's Search for His Father Through the Fog of War*  
by **Patrick Audinet** \$10.00\*  
All proceeds from Audinet book benefit AWON

\_\_\_\_ *The Beauty of What Remains: Family Lost, Family Found*  
by **Susan Johnson Hadler** \$15.00\*

\_\_\_\_ *In Search of A pilot: Hanford "Rusty" J. Rustand*  
by **Marilynn Rustand Lieurance** \$7.00\*

\_\_\_\_ *My Father: More than a Picture, a Beer Bottle and a Flag*  
by **Jerry W. Pinkerton** \$12.00\*

\_\_\_\_ *The Measure of a Man: My Father, the Marine Corps, and Saipan*  
by **Kathleen Broome Williams** \$28.00\*

\_\_\_\_ *The Lost Submarine: A True Story of Love and War*  
by **Nancy Kenney** \$16.00

\_\_\_\_ *"Daddy's Gone to War": The Second World War in the Lives of America's Children*  
by William M. Tuttle Jr., PhD \$30.00

\_\_\_\_ *In My Father's Words: Letters From a WWII Soldier*  
by **Bill McElvain** \$16.00

\_\_\_\_ *Farebersville 1944*  
by **Jeff Wignall** \$18.95

\_\_\_\_ *A Soldier's Daughter*  
by **Lois Brown Klein** \$17.00

\_\_\_\_ *The Ordinary Infantrymen: Heroes Then, Heroes Again*  
by **Imogene Woods** and Twelve WWII Infantrymen \$15.00

\_\_\_\_ *Full Fathom Five: A Daughter's Search*  
by **Mary Lee Coe Fowler** \$29.95

\_\_\_\_ *Love Always, Ben*  
by **Huey Tyra**, nephew **REDUCED!** \$2.00

\_\_\_\_ *Sporty Course (bomber pilots)*  
by Col. Jack Swayze \$10.00

\_\_\_\_ *The Hotton Report (about The Battle for Hotton)*  
by Robert McDonald \$13.95

\_\_\_\_ *World War II: A Legacy of Letters - One Soldier's Journey*  
by **Clinton Frederick** \$26.95

\_\_\_\_ *An 8th Air Force Combat Diary*  
by John A. Clark \$49.95

\_\_\_\_ *When I See a "Forty and Eight" ... I Remember World War Two*  
by Lt. Col. Jacques Adnet USAF (ret.) **REDUCED!** \$5.00

\_\_\_\_ *In Their Memory: American WWII Orphans Network*  
by Turner Publishing Company  
Standard Book was \$49.95 **REDUCED!** \$10.00  
Leatherbound Book was \$79.95 **REDUCED!** \$25.00

\_\_\_\_ *The Fighting Tigers: The Untold Story Behind the Names on the Quachita Baptist University WWII Memorial*  
by William Downes \$24.95

\_\_\_\_ *The War Journey of Major Damon "Rocky" Gause*  
foreword by **Damon L. Gause** \$21.95

\_\_\_\_ *No Greater Sacrifice, No Greater Love: A Son's Journey to Normandy*  
by **Walter Ford Carter** **REDUCED!** \$18.00

\_\_\_\_ *D-Day + 60 Years: A Small Piece of Airborne History*  
by Jerome J. McLaughlin \$25.00

\_\_\_\_ *They Also Served: Women's Stories from the World War II Era*  
by Jeanie Sutton Lambright  
NEW PRICE!! hardcover \$20.00 softcover \$10.00

\_\_\_\_ *Finding Billy*  
by **Diana Thompson Dale**, niece \$16.95

\_\_\_\_ *Father Found: Life and Death as a Prisoner of the Japanese in World War II*  
by **Duane Heisinger** \$13.95

\_\_\_\_ *Shobun: A Forgotten War Crime in the Pacific*  
by **Michael J. Goodwin** \$19.95





# AWON BOOKSTORE

## Price List / Order Form



### CD / DVD

\_\_\_\_ *Leather and Strings*  
by Mark LaPointe, grandson of Sgt William G. Aubut  
featuring *Somewhere in Germany*, written and sung by Mark  
at AWON's 10<sup>th</sup> 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 \$ 3.00\*

\_\_\_\_ *AWON 2000 Conference: Journeys - Finding Our Fathers*  
(VHS) by Justin Taylan was \$15.00 \$ 5.00\*

\_\_\_\_ *Sleep My Sons: The Story of the Arisan Maru*  
by **Shawnee Brittan** **REDUCED!** was \$30.00 \$20.00\*

### AWON Logo Products

Close-Out on the following AWON merchandise:

\_\_\_\_ Hat \$15.00  
\_\_\_\_ Scarf (royal blue fleece) \$15.00  
\_\_\_\_ **AWON 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Totebag** **REDUCED!\*** \$5.00  
    \* small, P&H included  
\_\_\_\_ Tote bag (large) \$20.00  
\_\_\_\_ **20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Garden Flags** \$15.00  
    without holder

AWON Gold Star crystal pendant (no chain included):  
\_\_\_\_ Gold Star crystal pendant 1 1/2" (40mm) \$20.00

\_\_\_\_ \*AWON lapel pin \$10.00  
\_\_\_\_ \*AWON button (2 1/4 inch) \$3.00  
\_\_\_\_ \*AWON lanyard and name tag/ticket holder  
    (4" x 6") blue with white lettering \$6.00  
\_\_\_\_ \*AWON note cards w/envelopes (pkg. of 20) \$20.00  
\_\_\_\_ \*AWON bookmarks  
    (circle amount: 1/\$1.00, 5/\$3.00, 10/\$5.00)  
\_\_\_\_ \*AWON holiday ornament \$10.00

### The Star NEWSLETTERS

\_\_\_\_ \* Individual issues \$2.00 includes P&H  
\_\_\_\_ \* All archived issues: \$35.00 includes P&H  
\_\_\_\_ \* Special! Most recent five issues: \$7.50 includes P&H

### Ordering Information

Postage and handling: \$8 for each item. Items marked with an asterisk (\*) include P&H. For multiple purchases:  
Up to \$40: \$10 P&H \$40-\$60: \$12 P&H Over \$60: \$15 P&H Washington State residents add 7.8% sales tax.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Send check or money order to:  
**AWON Bookstore**  
5745 Lee Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46216  
email: [bookstore@awon.org](mailto:bookstore@awon.org)

For more information and color photos go to: [www.awon.org/bookstore/bookstore.html](http://www.awon.org/bookstore/bookstore.html)

# AWON Connections

Pictures and Stories of Members  
Gathering Around the Country



In January eight members of the Southern California AWON Lunch Bunch met at The Point Loma Cafe in San Diego. Pictured, left to right, are Leslie Brumley, Mike Brumley, Sharon Connor, Ann Pogue, Dale Roybal, Roger Connor, Linda Porter and Bob Porter. Dale brought a model of a B-17 - the legendary Flying Fortress, her father's plane - and it served as a centerpiece. We've been meeting for several years and we always have a lot to talk about. Today, the topics ranged from our fathers to the upcoming AWON Gala, current events, AWON's future after the Gala, diet and nutrition, etc. For at least the last two years we have met in San Diego proper because we don't have a suitable place to meet in the northern reaches of our area. Linda said she would scout around in North County for a suitable place for us to meet next time. Mike and Leslie were not receiving *The Star* and were not on the AWON ListServ, as they did not realize their memberships had lapsed. They have rejoined. I will send out a reminder to the entire So-Cal group to contact Gerry Morenski (dbmanager@awondb.org), if they are in doubt about the status of their membership. *Roger*

## 2018 AWON National Conference *Honoring Their Legacy / Honoring Our Legacy* Conference Program Book Memorial Ad Form

If you would like to place a memorial ad in the conference program book, complete the form below and include a photo(s) or email an image. **Forms and payment are due by July 1. Please do not send originals.** Identify the subject of the photo on the back. If you email a photo, please send a high-resolution jpg.

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

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

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

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

Select one: (8½ x 11 page)

\$100 \_\_\_\_ full page

\$50 \_\_\_\_ 1/2 page    \$25 \_\_\_\_ 1/4 page

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

(example: Rachel & Sam, in memory of Dave Stanek,  
son of PFC Aloysius Stanek, KIA 11/29/44)

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

Message (enclose separate sheet if necessary):

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Make check payable to **AWON**  
and mail form, photos and payment to:  
Kathy Le Comte  
1004 Williams Blvd.  
Springfield, IL 62704  
email: johnkath5@comcast.net

## AWON Board Business 19 December 2017

**Financial Report:** As of November 30, 2017 AWON had \$77,800 in cash, including \$12,200 restricted for Memorial Day wreaths and \$115 for Bataan Death March Markers. Year-to-date operating income is \$9,000 and incurred operating expenses are \$15,700. Memorial Day wreath donations total \$857. Dues receipts year-to-date are \$7,745, compared to \$13,008 for 2016, and interest income is \$503. Expenses year-to-date total \$21,200 which exceeds income by \$10,500. AWON is running behind in budgeted dues income.

**First Founders Letter:** A letter had previously been presented to the AWON Board by three First Founders and former board members expressing their desire for AWON to continue through 2025. The Board discussed the letter and agreed that it has been representing all members of AWON and will continue to do what is best for the membership. The board agreed to follow the normal rules of AWON and seek election of board members for the year 2018. A reply will be sent to the three former board members reminding them of the provisions included in the AWON Bylaws that need to be considered.

**AWON Gala Celebration:** Co-chairs **Diane Pollard** and **Billie Meeks** gave a report on the status of the Gala celebration. A long discussion followed on registration and menu costs. More discussion followed about the celebration spreadsheet of expenses. The Board approved a Gala registration fee of \$175 per person. The motion passed pending more in-depth review by Treasurer **Jerry Pinkerton** and the co-chairs.

**AWON Archives:** **Norma Nicol-Hamilton** gave a short review of her discussion with **Kimberly Guise** and **Ellen Clancy**, curators at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans. They have indicated an interest in the AWON quilt and newsprint portfolios. Due to lack of time, an extended review will continue at the January meeting. Norma will get information on both items and send to the curators. Norma also contacted **Kathy Le Comte**, editor of *The Star*, about sending a

subscription of the AWON newsletter to both curators.  
**AWON Nomination Committee:** Several names were suggested for AWON Nomination Committee Chair. These people will be contacted in time to have a chairperson in place by the January board meeting. Mike Forgy volunteered to be the board member on the committee.

Jerry Pinkerton confirmed that the AWON Ballot Committee will consist of **Jerry Temte**, **Patty Temte**, and **Judy Pinkerton**.

Addendum: On December 20, 2017, via email, Jerry proposed raising the Gala registration fee to \$190. The proposal was approved. On December 22, 2017, via email, Jerry nominated **Paul Bremer** as Chair of the AWON Nominating Committee. This nomination was approved.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting of the board is set for January 2018.

Bonnie Oates, Secretary

*This is a condensed version of the minutes. For the complete minutes, visit [awon.org](http://awon.org).*

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## AWON Board Business 30 January 2018

**Financial Report:** As of December 31, 2017 AWON had \$75,800 in cash, including \$12,264 restricted for Memorial Day wreaths and \$220 for Bataan Death March Markers. Year-to-date operating income is \$9,700 and incurred operating expenses are \$18,600. Dues receipts for 2017 to date are \$8,393. Year-to-date interest income is \$527. Expenses for the year total \$24,033. Year-to-date expenses exceeded income by \$12,400. The 2017 actuals include \$2,250 of seed money for the 2018 Gala which will come back in 2018. The board had a lengthy discussion about the 2018 AWON

## 2018 AWON ELECTION BALLOT

Names of the eleven candidates for the AWON Board of Directors are listed below, in order of their biographies, which appear on pages 4-9 of this newsletter. You may vote for up to nine but you do not need to vote for nine. Only members in good standing (dues paid) may vote.

### VOTE FOR UP TO NINE:

- ☐ Lorin D. McCleary
- ☐ Paul C. Bremer
- ☐ Gloria Zuccarella B. Layne
- ☐ Walter P. Linne
- ☐ Penny Legrand
- ☐ Arthur D. Chotin
- ☐ Ann Bennett Mix
- ☐ Jean Rinehart
- ☐ Barry Barr-Finch
- ☐ Judi Kramer
- ☐ Rik Peirson

**Instructions:** Clip or photocopy this ballot, vote for up to nine candidates, then return completed ballot to the address below. Postmark must be on or before June 1, 2018. **VERY IMPORTANT:** Your name and address must appear on the envelope so that membership status can be verified. Once verified, the ballot will be removed from the envelope and placed in a container. The envelope will be discarded. Your vote will remain anonymous. At least three people will be involved in the process to ensure anonymity. **Envelopes received with no name and address will be void.** Ballots with more than nine boxes checked will be void. Votes outside a box will not be counted. Ballots received after June 1, 2018 will be void. Mail ballot to:

Patty Temte  
AWON Ballot Chairman  
7206 Lane Park Drive  
DALLAS, TX 75225

**VOTING IS ONE OF THE PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP. PLEASE VOTE!**

**RETURN YOUR BALLOT IMMEDIATELY**



## Guidelines for Submitting Material for Publication

- Topics considered for publication in *The Star* include, but are not limited to, unit reunions, visiting battle or crash sites, cemeteries, ceremonies, seeking or finding families and veterans, poetry, etc.
- Email copy-ready articles and photos to the editor in Word, WordPerfect, RTE, formats, or in the body of an email. High resolution jpeg, bitmap, gif or tiff images are preferred. Text and photos also can be mailed. Photos returned upon request.
- Please keep text to one page (500 to 1,000 words),
- Preference is given to material written by and about AWON members.
- Authors retain copyright to published original writing. Permission to reprint should be obtained from the author by contacting the editor.

**Kathy Le Comte, Editor**  
1004 Williams Blvd.  
Springfield, IL 62704  
(217) 414-1400 (cell)  
johnkath5@comcast.net

**Deadline for the  
July Issue  
is June 1**

*...Minutes, from page 20*

Budget and 2019 Forecast Budget, taking each item one by one. The board approved the 2018 budget as amended in the board's discussion.

**AWON Archives:** After much discussion about continuing negotiations with the National World War II Museum in New Orleans regarding preservation of AWON archive materials, the AWON board agreed to begin the process of placing certain AWON organizational items with the New Orleans museum in order to establish an archival relationship, to establish a protocol for turning over AWON materials, and to make the items available to researchers and historians sooner rather than later. The board stated that beginning the archival process now will make future archiving of organizational materials easier. **Norma Nicol-Hamilton** has pictures of items to send to the museum and will update the board on progress.

**AWON Gala Celebration:** Co-chairs **Diane Pollard** and **Billie Meeks** gave a report on the 2018 Gala Celebration set for late September in Washington, D.C. The registration fee was set at \$190 per person. After review and discussion the board approved the bus contract and Treasurer **Jerry Pinkerton** was authorized to execute the necessary documents. **Mike Forgy** volunteered to buy the supplies for the Presidential Suite which also will host the AWON Bookstore.

**AWON Database/Website:** The board discussed at length the topic of a new AWON website. After a timely and thorough discussion of the description and terms of services by Ablespark Development Services emailed earlier to all members of the board, the board unanimously accepted by roll call vote the Ablespark proposal for developing a new AWON website. The motion passed pending the acceptance of Mike Forgy and **Ed Peters** who were absent. The board will work closely with Ablespark over the next few months to ensure that any updated AWON information is placed on the new website. Emails were later received from both Mike Forgy and Ed Peters with aye votes supporting the proposal for a new website making the full board vote unanimous.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the board is set for February 2018.

Bonnie Oates, Secretary

*This is a condensed version of the minutes. For the complete minutes, visit [awon.org](http://awon.org). Next scheduled meeting September 19, 2017*

# American WWII Orphans Network

## Application, Registration & Renewal Form

- ☐ I would like to become a member  
☐ Register my father/family member and me only  
☐ Renew my membership

### Information about You

(please print clearly)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (home, work, cell)  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Do you prefer to receive *The Star* electronically? Y N  
(Checking Y means you will not receive a copy in the mail. You will receive an email notification to read your copy online.)

### **Renewing members may skip to Dues Options**

Relationship to Serviceman \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Where did you hear about AWON? \_\_\_\_\_

### Information about WWII Serviceman

Be as complete as possible. If you do not have some information, leave it blank and we may be able to find it. Do not delay mailing application for lack of information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First M.I.  
Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Death \_\_\_\_\_  
Where Buried \_\_\_\_\_  
Military Unit \_\_\_\_\_  
Service Number \_\_\_\_\_

Additional details about serviceman's death or service: (rank, medals, etc. Add additional sheet, if necessary.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Town and State \_\_\_\_\_  
Wife's Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

Names and addresses of your siblings with same father, and/or additional family members:

(Please include information on another sheet, if necessary.)

### Membership Levels

Any child of a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, Coast Guard or Merchant Marine, who was killed, remains missing in action, or who died in the line of duty or later died of wounds or injuries sustained during World War II, is eligible to join as an **Orphan Member**. Any direct relative is eligible to join as a **Family Member**. Any individual, including friends of those killed in World War II, those who wish to participate in AWON activities, or organizations with an interest in and compatible with AWON's purposes and goals, are eligible to join as an **Associate Member**.

Check Your Membership Category:

☐ Orphan ☐ Family ☐ Associate

### Dues and Donation Options

Basic annual membership dues are \$25. Sponsor and Gold Star memberships also are available. Circle your option and total below:

	1 Year	2 Year	3 Year
Basic	\$25	\$48	\$70
Sponsor	\$50	\$96	\$140
Gold Star	\$100	\$192	\$280

Would you like to include a donation for:

AWON Memorial Day Wreath Fund? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

AWON General Fund? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Dues and Donations Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

AWON is a humanitarian, nonprofit, nonpolitical, public service organization under Section 501(c)3 of the U.S. Federal Tax code (EINB #91-1538912). Membership is not required to register in our database.

**Make check payable to AWON and  
mail it and form to:**

Jerry Pinkerton  
AWON Treasurer  
2848 Woodside St. #401  
Dallas, TX 75204

Editor, The Star  
1004 Williams Blvd.  
Springfield, IL 62704-2832

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage PAID  
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Permit No. 500

Address Service Requested

Is it time  
for you  
to renew?



## The Star

"Breaking Down the Wall of Silence"

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**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

Gerry Morenski      [dbmanager@awondb.org](mailto:dbmanager@awondb.org)

### Archives

Ann Whelan O'Connor      [awolaojr@earthlink.net](mailto:awolaojr@earthlink.net)

Norma Nicol Hamilton      [rlhnnh@comcast.net](mailto:rlhnnh@comcast.net)

### Bookstore

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

### Dues

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### First Inquiry Coordinators

Patty Temte      [AWON@awon.org](mailto:AWON@awon.org)

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

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### Regional Gatherings Project

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### The Star

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