Message from the national chairman

Senator Bob Dole

There can be no better time than Veterans Day to remember why we embarked on our campaign to build a World War II Memorial in our nation’s capital.

Sixteen million Americans willingly and honorably served in uniform during World War II. Their duty to our Republic in defense of liberty deserves lasting recognition. Like no other generation before or since, the citizen soldiers of World War II defined the era while distinguishing themselves.

From the beaches of Normandy to the jungles of Guadalcanal, they fought against tyranny and aggression to preserve our way of life. With their heroic actions — which many times included the supreme sacrifice for their nation — they forged opportunities and dreams for the countless generations to follow.

Now, once again, countless Americans are responding to another call — to complete our memorial before the generation we seek to honor passes forever into the history their service helped define. While I am pleased to report that we are making tremendous strides toward reaching our goal, we still have much to do if we hope to break ground by Veterans Day 2000.

None of this would be possible without your support and encouragement. I ask you to continue that support, while trying to enlist more of your friends and neighbors to join our campaign.

Together, we won a great war. Together, we will build a memorial that proudly and rightfully reflects that effort.

Disabled American Veterans present memorial $500,000

AFL-CIO Executive Council endorses memorial campaign


Noting that the memorial honored not only those who served in the armed forces, but also the millions of working men and women on the home front, the statement encouraged AFL-CIO affiliates to support the campaign “as a stirring reminder for generations to come of the commitment and determination of an entire nation to triumph over tyranny in the name of peace, freedom, and democracy.”

Thanking the Executive Council, General Herrling noted that “without Labor’s pivotal role in building America’s arsenal of democracy, our fighting forces could not have prevailed in World War II.

“Now, in our campaign to honor that heroic generation, Labor’s participation will once again provide crucial support to reaching our goal.”
Sam Galluzzo was a high school student in Lawrence, Mass., when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in December 1941. Eager to serve, he and several friends promptly tried to enlist after graduating the following spring.

Galluzzo, now retired and living in Methuen, Mass., shared his World War II experiences during a recent interview.

“One of the guys suggested we all sign up with the Air Corps, so we sent our papers in to them,” Galluzzo said. “We waited for a few months, but for some reason, only the guy who suggested the Air Corps in the first place heard back from them. So the rest of us signed up for the Navy.” Soon afterward, Galluzzo was inducted and sent to Newport, R.I., for basic training.

That autumn, Galluzzo and some other new sailors were sent to Camden Navy Yard in Camden, N.J., where they were to be assigned to a new light aircraft carrier. Upon arrival, they learned that their ship was not prepared to take on its first crew.

“I don’t think they knew what to do with us,” he recalled. “So they put us on a destroyer — USS Black — where we swabbed decks for three weeks.” After a quick cruise to the North Atlantic with several other ships, Black returned to Camden. By this time, Galluzzo’s carrier, Monterey (CVL-26), was ready for duty, and on Sept. 20, began her transit to the Pacific.

Monterey was one of many ships rushed to completion in the months following the Pearl Harbor attack. In early 1942, the U.S. desperately needed more carriers. Consequently, President Roosevelt ordered shipyards to convert nine partially-built Cleveland-class cruisers into light carriers.

These ships, renamed the Independence class, included Independence, Belleau Wood, Princeton, Cowpens, Cabot, Langley, Bataan, San Jacinto, and Galluzzo’s ship, Monterey. Although cramped, the small carriers proved highly successful, and saw extensive combat throughout the war. Only Princeton was lost to enemy action.

“Monterey was a very good ship, and had a good crew,” said Galluzzo. “I thought it was a pretty good carrier considering it started out as a cruiser!” Galluzzo was assigned to the E Division as an Electrician’s Mate, where he helped to ensure that the ship’s electricity and engines ran smoothly.

“On board ship, each division is like a little family,” he said. “We took care of each other. We helped each other out. Like a family, though, we would have an occasional squabble!”

In mid-October 1943, Monterey arrived at Pearl Harbor loaded with aircraft and troops it had ferried from San Diego, Calif. After several weeks of test runs, the ship was ready for action, and the Navy ordered her to join friendly forces attacking the Gilbert Islands.

Monterey arrived on Nov. 19, just in time to aid in the attack on Makin Island in the northern Gilberts. After four days of frustrating combat, American troops — many in action for the first time — finally secured the small island with relatively light casualties. Unfortunately, during the battle, Japanese submarines had crept toward the naval task force supporting the ground troops. Only a mile from Monterey, a torpedo attack sank the escort carrier Liscomb Bay, killing 644 men — ten times more than the Army had just lost taking Makin.

Galluzzo recalled the experience of the ship’s first brush with combat in the Gilberts.

“It was scary, but wasn’t at the same time. You wonder, ‘Am I going to survive?’ Guys below were looking at each other, thinking about how they were sealed up inside that compartment...’

With Makin secure, Monterey and its task group began guarding against a possible attack from the Japanese-held Marshall Islands to the northwest. On the evening of Nov. 26, Galluzzo’s 19th birthday, the enemy struck at the task group.

An air-launched torpedo missed Monterey’s bow by six yards — the first of several close calls throughout the war. The Japanese plane was not as lucky, destroyed by fire from one of the carrier’s anti-aircraft guns.

Monterey soon headed west and spent the following weeks around the Solomon Islands and the Bismark Archipelago east of New Guinea, participating in attacks

“It was scary, but wasn’t at the same time. You wonder, ‘Am I going to survive?’ Guys below were looking at each other, thinking about how they were sealed up inside that compartment...’
on Japanese installations at Kavieng. In January 1944, she returned eastward to aid in the fighting to capture Kwajalein and Eniwetok in the Marshall Islands.

From February through July, Monterey joined Task Force 58 in raids in the Carolines, Marianas, northern New Guinea, and the Bonins. One notable raid was on Truk, a major Japanese naval base. Galluzzo admitted being “scared to hell!”

“Anyone who says they weren’t scared was lying or stupid,” he said. “We were kids and we didn’t know what from what!” Fortunately, resistance was surprisingly light.

However, a later attack against Truk on April 29 marked a day “I will never forget,” he said. Enemy aircraft fought through the American fighters flying combat air patrol (CAP) and attacked the task force. Galluzzo was on deck manning an anti-aircraft gun to help defend the ship.

“The CAP stopped the dive bombers, but not the torpedo bombers. They targeted the carriers and I was really scared!” At the time, Monterey was cruising near the escort carrier Bunker Hill. Both ships were firing furiously as the planes came in.

Galluzzo described the action: “I saw two torpedoes launched at Bunker Hill and turned to see a plane coming toward us dead ahead. It was hit, but just as she hit the drink, she released the torpedo. I hit the deck, but nothing happened. Turns out that it went under the ship.”

“Another plane came after us off the starboard beam. We hit it, and he started to dive to try to crash into us, but he exploded in the air.”

When the attack ended, Monterey’s “flight deck was covered with shrapnel from five-inch shells fired by Bunker Hill,” Galluzzo said. The shrapnel had rained from the sky as the nearby carrier fired at attacking planes flying over Monterey.

In December 1944, a typhoon gave Monterey the beating the Japanese had been trying to deliver. Water crashed over the flight deck as hundred-knot winds and huge swells rocked the ship, which was “like a flying submarine” as it rose up on the crest of waves and then plunged down into the trough.

In the midst of the storm, several planes broke loose, crashed into others, and started several fires on the hangar deck.

“I’d rather fight fires than face that storm,” Galluzzo recalled. By the time the situation was under control, three men had died. Ultimately, the two-day storm scattered Task Force 38 over a sixty-mile area, destroyed many carrier aircraft, and sank two destroyers.

In January, Monterey arrived in Bremerton, Wash., for an overhaul and well-deserved 10-day leave for its crew.

“Being of Italian-American descent, the biggest thing I missed while on duty was the big family gatherings,” Galluzzo remembered. “Thanksgiving and Christmas were always special!”

Returning home to Lawrence on leave, Galluzzo’s family made up for his missed holidays by throwing a big celebration attended by the extended family.

“It was the usual festivities — eating mainly!” he laughed. “It was wartime, though, so there wasn’t any gas to go cruising around.”

With its crew back aboard, Monterey returned to action with Task Force 58, supporting operations against Okinawa. She then rejoined Task Force 38 for the final strikes against the home islands in July and August, when Japan finally surrendered.

The end of the war brought Galluzzo’s most memorable moment — the signing of the surrender documents in Tokyo Bay.

He described the scene: “I was standing on the fantail of Monterey and all you could see in every direction were ships surrounding the Missouri where the treaty was signed. When news of the signing was announced, it was really ecstatic! One thing I remember was the fly-over by Air Corps B-29s and Navy planes. They filled the sky, and when you looked up you were just mystified by the power of them!”

After the war, Galluzzo returned home to civilian life. He took aircraft maintenance courses at the New England Aircraft School, then worked at Fairchild in Baltimore, Md. He later returned home to Lawrence, where he married Beulamae Patrick. The Galluzzos raised two children, John and Shereen, and enjoy three grandchildren.

Galluzzo heartily supports the National World War II Memorial.

“I think the World War II veterans have been a little bit forgotten over the years. We definitely should have a national memorial so that younger generations can look at it and remember what the war was all about.”

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**Editor’s Note:** President Gerald Ford, an honorary chairman of the National World War II Memorial Campaign, also served aboard Monterey in the Pacific Theater during the war.
The Rose Monroe Society

The Rose Monroe Society will also promote the importance of nationally recognizing America's unity and strength through the National World War II Memorial. At the same time, the Society will educate younger generations on the enormous impact World War II had on American and world history.

The kick-off event for the Society will be held on Mar. 12, 1999, the birthday of Rose Monroe. Other special events honoring women will be held on “Bring Your Daughters to Work Day” and Labor Day. On Mother’s Day, a tea will be held for mothers and daughters.

For more information about the Rose Monroe Society, call Angela Welsh at (703) 696-0827 or (703) 696-6650.

Year-end tax-deductible contributions honoring a mother, grandmother, wife, sister or friend who participated on the home front during the war, may be sent to:

The Rose Monroe Society, Attn: Rosie
The National World War II Memorial Campaign
2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 501
Arlington, Virginia 22201

“Rosie” poster update

In the last newsletter, we mistakenly identified Rose Monroe as the model for the famous “Rosie the Riveter” poster. In fact, the poster was released before Hollywood “discovered” Rose at the Ford Willow Run aircraft factory in Ypsilanti, Mich.

When film star Walter Pidgeon journeyed to the Willow Run plant to make a documentary promoting war bonds, he learned that the factory actually had a riveter named Rose. Upon meeting her, he realized that she fit the image of the poster and asked her to appear in the film.

Like Pidgeon, we selected Rose Wil Monroe to serve as a real-world embodiment of the women who worked for victory on the home front during World War II.

VFW Ladies contribution provides big campaign boost

The Veterans Affairs Directorate of the World War II Memorial Campaign kicked off the month of September on an especially high note, receiving two checks totaling $55,971 from the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States. The donations were presented by National President Connie Atkinson to Maj. Gen. John P. Herrling, secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission, at the Auxiliary's national convention in San Antonio, Texas.

Atkinson designated the World War II Memorial as the national president's Special Project for 1997-1998. The check included a donation from the National Organization of the Ladies to the VFW.

“This year my special project was the World War II Memorial Fund,” Atkinson said, “and I’m very pleased to say that our members sent in $30,971 to national headquarters. Our National Council of Administration also approved a $25,000 donation, so I am pleased to present $55,971 to General Herrling for this very worthwhile project.”

Referring to the $100 million campaign goal, General Herrling said, “With organizations like yours working with us, it can be done. The power of people united to accomplish a common goal — like the World War II generation was so many years ago — will make this campaign a success.”

The Veterans Affairs Directorate continues to receive strong support from the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW through interest in local fund-raising campaigns.
Two new aerial views of the National World War II Memorial design concept depict the scale of the memorial and its prominent placement on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. In the view above, the relationship of the memorial to the Lincoln Memorial and Reflecting Pool is clearly shown. Artist Michael McCann has painted a watercolor rendering of this view. A 16” x 20” print of the watercolor, suitable for framing, will soon be available and will be provided as a benefit of membership in the World War II Memorial Society to donors who have contributed a total of $100 or more to the campaign.

The view below provides a bird’s-eye look at the memorial plaza surrounding the Rainbow Pool, and illustrates how Friedrich St. Florian’s design concept complements its park-like setting on the National Mall. An 8½” x 11” print of this view was recently sent to all World War II Memorial Society members.

(Computer renderings by Christopher Stack)
Grassroots hero

A key fund-raising component for the Veterans Affairs Directorate are Grassroots Campaigns. These organization and community-based campaigns, run by volunteers and aided by direction and materials from the Veterans Affairs staff, are helping the memorial reach its $100 million goal.

Our star Grassroots campaigner of the quarter, Colonel A. Park Shaw, Jr. of Carefree, Ariz., is setting a stellar example. Colonel Shaw serves as chairman of the Board of Directors for Chapter 7202 of the Association of the United States Army. A World War II veteran, he earned three battle stars in the Pacific and a bronze arrowhead for participating in the initial assault wave on Luzon.

As of publication time, Colonel Shaw had personally collected donations totaling over $7,500 — in less than two months. His inspiring success prompted John “Skip” Shannon, director of veterans affairs, to remark: “If we had a thousand of these guys, we could all go home! These grass-roots campaigns have enormous fund-raising potential!”

In a letter to Colonel Shaw, Senator Bob Dole, national chairman of the World War II Memorial Campaign, offered these words of praise: “It is not surprising that a soldier of your distinction has taken up a leadership role in this cause. Unselfish dedication and commitment are difficult habits to break.”

Besides a personal dedication to the World War II Memorial Campaign, Senator Dole and Colonel Shaw share another distinction: both men are in the Infantry Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Anyone wishing to initiate a grassroots campaign within a veterans organization or local community should contact John Slepetz at (800) 639-4WW2.

State lawmakers begin push to aid memorial fund-raising campaign

State governments across the nation are quickly following Nebraska’s lead and introducing legislation to donate $1 for every resident who served in World War II.

Last June, Nebraska Governor E. Benjamin Nelson presented a check for $52,900 to Senator Dole. Eighteen states indicated they will introduce similar legislation during the 1999 legislative session, and more states are expected to follow.

You can help the National World War II Memorial Campaign break ground on Veterans Day 2000 by letting your state governor and state representatives know you fully support your state introducing this legislation. For more information, please contact Carol Lindamood by e-mail at lindamoodc@exchange-hq-abmc.hq.usace.army.mil or by phone at (800) 639-4WW2.

Society members spread the word!

More Americans are learning about the National World War II Memorial through the efforts of memorial society members.

A recent mailing to donors included a pre-addressed postcard to a media outlet in the donor’s geographic area. The postcards encouraged editors and news directors to call the campaign staff for memorial press kits.

To date, nearly 400 press kits have been requested by newspapers and radio and television stations across the nation. These have generated numerous interviews with campaign staff and donors.
Mail Call

We welcome your letters and will print a selection in each issue of the newsletter. Letters are subject to editing and should be sent to Editor, WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL Newsletter, 2300 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 501, Arlington, VA 22201. Please include a daytime phone number.

THE AMERICAN VETERAN

As I enjoy the rights of freedom I can't help but stop and pause. It was the sacrifice of veterans that protected freedom's cause.
As I breathe the air of freedom, and travel freedom's lands, I know that human freedoms, were won by veterans' hands.

The world still cries of bondage, "Down with tyrants' cruel reign!" And the veteran will be called upon to protect mankind again.

A veteran never talks or boasts of battles that were fought. No one will ever know the scars their fight for freedom brought. No one will ever know the pain those left at home endured. The waiting-watching-praying, until freedom was secured.

Too many have forgotten the sacrifices veterans made. They've forgotten health and lives were the price that veterans paid.

Let us keep the memory of the ones who answered freedom's call - Let us remember it was veterans who won freedom for us all.

JokeJhon M. Meweth
Orem, Utah

"IT MATTERED THAT WE WERE HERE"

As we look at the photos of our surviving World War II veterans, we see that we've become older and more aware of our mortality. As we approach and live out our remaining years, we are reminded by the plans for the World War II Memorial that our lives may or may not have achieved success, and have provided us with our share of fulfillments and disappointments.

There is one event in our lives that makes a difference: We played a role in the winning of World War II. For a very brief period in our lives, we performed deeds and made sacrifices that created a bond with our fellow veterans that makes us a special breed.

Putting aside the good or bad that has been dealt to us in later years, one very important fact remains in the bond of our association — it matters that we were here.

Harri Musnitsky
Penn Valley, Pennsylvania

SHORT LIVES REMEMBERED

My brother, T/3 Frank R. Cannizzaro, was a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne in North Africa. He was shot down over the Mediterranean on July 11, 1943, prior to the landings in Sicily. Frank was my hero, and my pride and joy. We often think about how different all our lives would have been had he lived. We all miss him very much.

Leonard A. Cannizzaro (ret.)
Rochester, New York

ROOSIE

I noted your story of Rosie the Riveter, who was frequently mentioned back in the dark days of '43-'44. You noted that Rose Monroe worked at a Michigan aircraft plant, which could well have been the Ford Willow Run plant. They made thousands of B-24 Liberator bombers, and I flew 29 missions in our 82nd Airborne in North Africa. He was shot down over the Mediterranean on July 11, 1943, prior to the landings in Sicily. Frank was my hero, and my pride and joy. We often think about how different all our lives would have been had he lived. We all miss him very much.

Jim VanNrostrand
Jackson, Wyoming

Editors Note: Rose Monroe did indeed work at the Willow Run facility.
Dole receives donation, award

Senator Bob Dole, national campaign chairman, recently received the 1998 Freedom Award and a donation to the memorial campaign from the International Republican Institute.

“In honor of your receiving the 1998 Freedom Award, IRI is proud to make a contribution of $10,000 to the World War II Memorial campaign,” said IRI Chairman Senator John McCain.

“I can think of no one more worthy of the IRI Freedom Award, by virtue of a lifetime of service to the cause of democracy both at home and abroad, than Bob Dole,” McCain said during the award dinner. “Again and again, when his country called, he answered. For the last 50 years, Senator Dole worked to expand and enhance freedom and democracy here at home and around the world.”

The award included a rare copy of the original handwritten note drafted by General Dwight D. Eisenhower taking responsibility if the D-Day invasion had failed, a photograph of the general addressing his troops on the eve of D-Day, and a first edition copy of Eisenhower’s Crusade in Europe published in 1948.

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<th>Society members</th>
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| The campaign has raised nearly $29 million thus far. With more than $70 million remaining to reach the $100 million goal, it is important to increase the national awareness of this long-overdue tribute to the World War II generation. Other efforts are helping this objective. Willard Scott’s recent promotion of the memorial campaign during the Today show on NBC resulted in hundreds of calls to our toll-free line. Senator Bob Dole, national campaign chairman, has made many radio and television appearances, each resulting in donations and calls for more information.

Anyone eligible for the Registry of Remembrances, or interested in helping build the National World War II Memorial, can learn more by calling 1-800-639-4WW2 or visiting the campaign web site at wwwmemorial.com.

**World War II Memorial Campaign**

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