

★ ★ National ★ ★ WWII Memorial

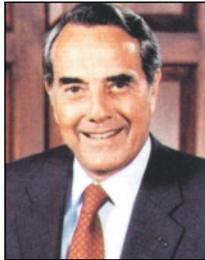
Volume 5, Number 1

A Newsletter of the World War II Memorial Society

Spring 2002

Message From the National Chairman

Senator Bob Dole



I am pleased to report that work is progressing on schedule at the memorial construction site. For the first eight months and for several months to come, the focus is below the surface—moving utilities, installing utility vaults, and building the foundation.

By this time next year, however, the memorial will begin taking shape as the granite structures are installed. It's an exciting time after years of struggle to get the project underway. Although still too early in the construction schedule to pinpoint a dedication date, the spring of 2004 continues to look good.

Following last September's terrorist attacks, the national focus shifted to helping the victims and their families. But the American people also continued to generously support the WWII Memorial. We now have total cash and pledges of \$184 million, and we continue to hear from folks who want to honor their WWII generation family members.

Your generosity has provided us with the funds we need to cover current estimated project costs. At the direction of Congress, any funds left over will remain in the WWII Memorial Trust Fund for use solely to benefit the memorial in the future.

For now, the only future we are focused on is the spring of 2004, when we will at long last dedicate a National WWII Memorial.

Thank you for all you have done to support our effort over the past five years. God bless you and God bless America.

Construction Moving Forward on Schedule

If construction were tracked by a box score, the National World War II Memorial line would read: 9 down, 21 to go.

Nine months into a 30-month schedule, construction of the memorial on the National Mall is progressing on schedule for completion and dedication in the spring of 2004. Work began at the construction site in late August 2001.

"We've got a great team of contractors working on the project, and we've been blessed with good weather thus far," said Barry Owenby, the American Battle Monuments Commission project executive. "The entire design, construction, and management team understands the urgency and is committed to building a world class memorial to the World War II generation."

During the first several months of construction activity, the joint venture of Tompkins Builders and Grunley-Walsh Construction completed site preparation (site surveys and installation of project trailers, temporary parking and utilities, and security fencing); tree protection, relocation and removal; erosion control measures; and much of the utility relocation work planned in the construction area.

The first phase in building the

See *Construction*, p. 4



Workers pour a guide wall that will be used to guide the clamshell bucket used to dig the slurry wall trench. (Photo by Stefano Terricola)

NANA AND GRANDPA “GO TO WAR”

Sixteen million Americans served in uniform during World War II. Many millions more “went to war” on the home front, contributing to the war effort in a variety of ways to support those taking the fight to the enemy. This reminiscence by Stanley Morrison of Chesapeake, Va., describes life at home with two dedicated home front “warriors.” His story is sure to rekindle similar memories for many readers.

My grandparents, John and Lillie Hohl, were two great Americans, and I loved them dearly.

Circumstances required that I live with them during most of World War II. I had just turned 10 years of age when the war started. My memory of that time is somewhat vague, but certain things really stand out.

Grandpa was the breadwinner, but Nana was the driving force in our small family. She took on the full support of the war effort as her personal quest. “Nothing is too good for the boys in uniform,” and she made no bones about it.

I distinctly remember Sunday afternoon, Dec. 7, 1941, when it was announced over the radio that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor. Nana could cuss like a sailor, and she let out a string of words I had never heard before for five minutes and she never said the same thing twice.

Nana and Grandpa had a son, my Uncle John, in the Army, who rose from private to colonel by war’s end and was a veteran of Anzio Beachhead. My stepfather, Frank, was in the Navy for the duration. So Nana proudly hung her little flag with the two blue stars in the front

window, and prayed daily that they would not turn to gold.

Grandpa was an ordnanceman at the Naval Ammunition Depot in Portsmouth, Va. His job was to measure the high explosive fill for all caliber of projectiles. He made sure that each round had his stamp of approval on it.

He was also an air raid warden for our block. I remember him, in his white helmet with the Civilian Defense logo, going up and down our street during air raid drills yelling for people to “turn out those lights, don’t you know there is a war on?”

Nana did volunteer work as an airplane spotter in the war room at the federal building in Norfolk, Va., two or three nights a week. The Army sent a staff car to pick her up and take her home. She was where the action was and really loved that.

Since Nana was somewhat lame from severe arthritis, it became my lot to do the heavy work for her – tending the Victory Garden; flattening cans; going through the neighborhood collecting paper, scrap metal and other items for which there was always a drive on; helping render fat to take to the butcher for use in making explosives; and tending her prize roses and flowers. Every weekend I went with her to the Naval hospital in Portsmouth to take two or three bouquets of fresh cut flowers to the wounded boys.

Never did a Thanksgiving or Christmas go by without having servicemen at our table for dinner. She would call the YMCA in Norfolk and tell them to “send me a sailor, a soldier, and a Marine. I don’t care what color they are or what their

religion is, just send me three homesick boys.” She would always have some little gift for each one of them under the Christmas tree.

As the war went on and the tide turned for the Americans and the Allies, Nana and Grandpa took great pride in the fact that they had done their part on the home front to bring this about.

Near the end of the war, I joined my mother and stepfather on the west coast for a year, but I returned home to Nana and Grandpa after V-J Day to start high school in September 1945. Her boys came home also, and there was much rejoicing in our home for quite some time. Nana took down her flag with the two blue stars and prayed to God that she would never have to use it again.

Nana died a young woman by today’s standard, only six days after I left her for Air Force basic training in January 1949. Grandpa survived the loss of his lifelong mate for a few years, but he eventually passed on to join her in a better life.

My grandparents’ love for me sustained and nurtured me in my so-called formative years. They instilled in me their sense of values and morals which have served me well throughout my life. As I approach my senior years, I cannot begin to imagine what I may have become without them to guide me on the path to manhood.

May God bless their memory.

(The author is a veteran of the Korean War. He spent nearly four years in the U.S. Air Force, then later retired from the U.S. Army Reserve as a lieutenant colonel.)

Korean War Vets Say Thanks with Gift to Memorial



American Battle Monuments Commission Secretary, Maj. Gen. John Herrling, USA (ret), poses with Ken Davis (center) and Buck Wisner of Chapter 142, Korean War Veterans Association, prior to the Frederick, Md., chapter's \$2,000 donation to the National WWII Memorial. (Photo by Bob Patrick)

Members of Chapter 142 of the Korean War Veterans Association donated \$2,000 to the National WWII Memorial in April.

Buck Wisner led the chapter's fund-raising efforts, putting a jar out at last year's Frederick Air Show in Maryland. He collected \$700 at the show, added a \$300 personal donation that brought the amount to \$1,000, which then was matched by his Frederick, Md., chapter.

The donation brought the total received from Korean War Veterans Association chapters and members to more than \$10,000, designating the association as a Defender Level campaign contributor.

The gift was part of an effort by the Frederick chapter to support other veterans and bring public notice to the 50th Anniversary of America's involvement in the Korean War.

Have You Entered a Name in the Registry of Remembrances?

If you wish to honor someone for their service to their country during World War II – perhaps a family member, a buddy you served with, or even yourself – you may enter the name in the Memorial's Registry of Remembrances. Members of the U.S. Armed Forces or citizens who helped on the home front are both eligible. The Registry of Remembrances will be available for viewing on site at the Memorial and over the internet.

Please see the enclosed entry form for details and instructions on how to enter a name in the Registry. If you wish to enter more than one name, please make a copy of the entry form for each name and return it to the address listed.



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Construction, continued from p.1

foundation of the memorial – constructing a concrete cutoff (slurry) wall extending from ground level down to bedrock – began in early February and should finish in June. The slurry wall serves a dual function of providing a barrier to prevent migration of groundwater under the memorial and anchoring the outside perimeter of the foundation.

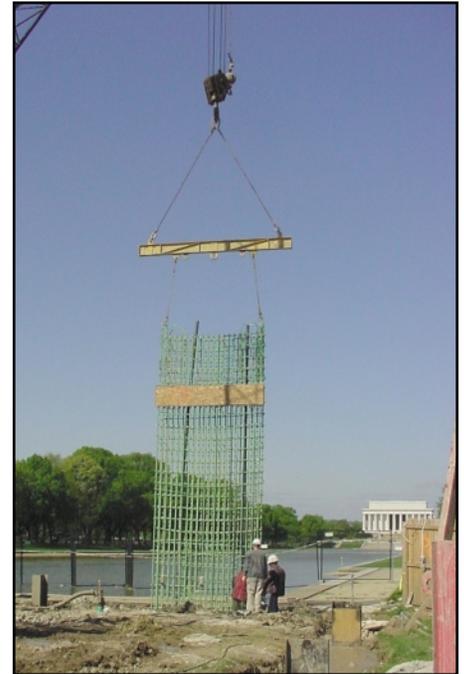
Following a short break for the annual 4th of July celebration on the Mall, work will transition into the next phase in building the foundation. The rest of 2002 will be spent driving steel piles into bedrock to provide structural support for the foundation; excavating the memorial plaza, which will be recessed six feet below street level when completed; constructing underground utility vaults; pouring the concrete foundation; and reconstructing the Rainbow Pool in the center of the plaza.

Granite should begin arriving at the site in February or March next year. At that time, the memorial will begin to take shape as the stone architectural elements of the memorial are assembled.

Periodic construction updates and photos are placed on the memorial web site at www.WWII Memorial.com. The updates will become more frequent as construction moves closer to completion and changes in the site's appearance become more apparent.



*The large clamshell bucket on the right is used to dig the slurry wall trench down to bedrock, a distance of approximately 35-40 feet below ground level at the construction site.
(Photo by Stefano Terricola)*



*When trenching is completed, a large rebar cage is lowered into the slurry, a chocolate pudding-like mixture of bentonite and water that keeps the trench intact until the concrete wall is poured.
(Photo by Stefano Terricola)*



*A construction crew works on installation of a new water main at the memorial site. All of the aged utilities that traversed the site are being replaced and rerouted as part of the memorial project.
(Photo by Stefano Terricola)*



*National World War II
Memorial Site
– Spring 2002
(Photo by Richard Latoff)*

Granite Selections Made; Fabrication Underway

Although granite won't be seen at the memorial construction site until February or March 2003, quarrying and fabrication of the stone is well underway.

The memorial will be constructed of bronze and granite. Many factors contributed to the selection of granite over other possible stones, such as marble or limestone. Design architect Friedrich St. Florian chose granite because of its aesthetic appeal, superior strength, durability and water resistance.

The two principal granites selected for the memorial are Kershaw, which will be used for all of the vertical architectural elements, and Green County, which will be the primary paving stone for the main plaza and other horizontal areas. Kershaw is quarried near Camden, S.C., and the Green County quarry is just outside Greensboro, Ga.

Two green granites – Rio Verde and Moss Green – will be used for accent paving on the plaza. Both are quarried in Brazil and were selected because of their vibrant green color.

Academy Black and Mount Airy granite will be used to reconstruct the Rainbow Pool in the center of the plaza. Mount Airy, quarried in N.C., is the original coping stone of the Rainbow Pool. An apron of Academy Black, quarried in Calif.,



A stone cutter at the New England Stone Industries plant in Smithfield, R.I., fabricates the top of a pillar for the National WWII Memorial. (Photo by Larry Rebel)



Design architect Friedrich St. Florian (center) inspects the rough finish of a pillar segment at the New England Stone Industries plant in Smithfield, R.I. Observing are ABMC Project Executive Barry Owenby (left) and New England Stone Industries President Tony Ramos. (Photo by Larry Rebel)

will be used for vertical interior surfaces to enhance the aesthetic appearance of the water surface of the pool. The black granite will also form the bottom of the two fountains beneath the memorial arches.

New England Stone Industries, the overall granite sub-contractor, has stone fabrication of the pillars and vertical walls underway at its plants in

Smithfield and Quonset Point, R.I.

The arches are being fabricated by Rock of Ages at Barre, Vt. North Carolina Granite Corporation is fabricating the plaza and pool stone at Mount Airy, N.C.

Granite selections were approved by the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Planning Commission last summer.



*National World War II Memorial Site
– Spring 2004
(Rendering by Joowan Lee)*

MAIL CALL

We welcome your letters and will print a selection in the newsletter as space permits. Letters are subject to editing and should be sent to Editor, NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL Newsletter, 2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 501, Arlington, VA 22201. Please include a daytime phone number and, if available, an e-mail address.

ALWAYS A SOLDIER; ALWAYS A GENTLEMAN

Lt. Gen. Thomas John Hall Trapnell died on Feb. 13, 2002 at Fort Belvoir, Va., where he had lived for many years with his late wife, Elizabeth. He would have been 100 in November.

At the time of his death, he was the senior ranking and oldest survivor of the Bataan Death March and one of the last American officers to command a horse cavalry unit in combat.

Col. G. A. Clausing, a friend of many years, remarked that the general "was always a soldier; always a gentleman."

Nothing exemplified those remarks more than Gen. Trapnell's last public outing, a visit at age 97 to Memorial Day ceremonies at Arlington Cemetery in May 2000. After standing patiently in a long line, a

protocol official spotted the general and moved him to reserved seats next to Lt. Gen. Willard Scott, former West Point superintendent, and his wife. Shortly after taking their seats, the guests moved to where they could see the president lay the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

While standing at the top of the steps at the front of the amphitheater, Mrs. Scott offered to find Gen. Trapnell a seat. He declined her offer and stood tall and erect until the president arrived nearly 40 minutes later. After the ceremony, several generals came over and paid their respects. So did Senator and Mrs. Bob Dole and Secretary of Defense William Cohen.

As he was leaving the ceremony, President Clinton stopped and Col. Clausing introduced him to the general and told him that Gen. Trapnell had survived the Bataan Death March and three and a half



*Lt. Gen. T.J.H. Trapnell in 1959
U.S. Army photograph*

years as a POW. The president shook his hand and said, "I'm honored. I am truly honored."

So are all of us who knew and worked with and loved Gen. Trapnell as a commander, friend, and hero.

*John Bradley
Houston, Texas*

(Mr. Bradley previously contributed a "Chronicles of War" feature on Gen. Trapnell that appeared in the Spring 1998 issue of the newsletter.)

GERMAN SURRENDER

It was with great interest that I read the article in the Fall 2001 newsletter about the surrender of the German division under the command of General Elster.

My late husband, then 1st Lt. Isadore Hamlin, was the Order of Battle specialist for the Intelligence Section of the 83rd Infantry Division under the command of Gen. Macon. He told me that when the surrender was to get underway, he was in charge of setting up the means to accurately count every one of those 20,000 German soldiers and their officers. A turnstile

arrangement was set up to do this. He also interviewed the officers and supervised his staff, who interviewed other soldiers for intelligence purposes for future battles.

On a trip to Sydney, Australia, I visited the newly opened Jewish Museum. On an upper floor dedicated to WWII and the role of the American Army in liberating many of the German concentration camps, I saw a well-preserved copy of the New York Times front page of Sept. 13, 1944, describing the surrender.

You can imagine my emotions on seeing the article again and recalling the stories my husband

later shared. I appreciated reading the article in the newsletter very much. I am pleased to be a supporter of the WWII Memorial.

*Helen R. Hamlin
New York City, N.Y.*

85th INFANTRY DIVISION

A memorial honoring the 85th Infantry Division will be placed on the parade grounds at Camp Selby, Miss., in October. We are seeking all members and families interested in attending the dedication ceremony. All are welcome!

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The division included the following units: 85th Division Headquarters and Headquarters Company; 85th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, Mechanized; 85th Counter Intelligence Corps (detachment); Military Police Platoon, 85th Infantry Division; 85th Division Band; 337th, 338th and 339th Infantry Regiments; Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Division Artillery; 328th, 329th, 403rd and 910th Field Artillery Battalions; 310th Engineer Battalion; 310th Medical Battalion; 785th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company; 85th Quartermaster Company; and 85th Signal Company.

For more information, contact Frank Ruth at (419) 774-9802 or Mark Mueller at (303) 756-3866.

Mark G. Mueller
Denver, Colo.

SEEKING INFORMATION

I am looking for anyone who may have served on board the destroyer USS Taylor (DD/DDE 468) starting in August 1942. Please contact me at 11020 Winding Brook Court, Manassas, VA 20111; at (703) 257-5474; or by e-mail at POZIPF@CS.com.

Otto A. Zipf
Manassas, Va.

Pvt. Harold E. Mull was my father. I was five months old when he went to war and never got to know him. He was killed Oct. 27, 1944, in Auchen, Germany. He was in the 9th Army, 30th Division. I would appreciate any information from anyone who was with him during this time. My address is 757 W. Pershing Court, Salem, OH 44460.

William M. Mull
Salem, Ohio

My father, PFC Morris N. "Moe" Rothenberg, from Lebanon, Pa., was wounded in the Battle of St. Lô on July 30, 1944. He was a light machine gun squad leader, serving in Normandy, northern France, Rhineland and Central Europe. He was with Co. A 388th MP Bn. He arrived in the ETO on May 24, 1944.

If anyone remembers serving with him, I would be grateful for information regarding his time in the Army and in Europe. He died in 1978 at the age of 55 and I was never able to learn much about his time in the service. I can be contacted at 1602 Baldwin Lane, Harrisburg, PA 17110 or by e-mail at MAbams257@aol.com.

Marilynn R. Abrams
Harrisburg, Pa.

See Letters, p.8

THE WAR OF JUSTICE DONE

This is the tale of the men
Who sailed the seas of the globe,
Who stormed across scores of beaches
And flew many millions of miles.

Many their homes of origin,
Many their places of rest;
Varied their manner and speech,
Thundered with one clear voice.

Six years they grappled with evil,
All over the earth they fought
For country, loved ones and God
'till victory, final and sweet!

Embarked on a journey to hell,
Well had they learned their skills;
Shoulder-to-shoulder they marched,
Hand-to-hand they fought.

Courage they had and strength
To prevail in the maelstrom of war.
Their sacrifice cleared the way
To binding up wounds and to growth.

'Neath the blistering sun,
Freezing in snow and ice,
Duty and honor came first,
Comradship unto the last.

In foreign soil they spilled
Their blood and left their broken
Bones in sand and mud,
Not ever to be found.

They sank in streams and oceans;
They gasped and swallowed oil
And choked in powder smoke
And fell from cruel skies.

In tanks and planes they burned,
In foxholes bled to death,
Chains they smashed and walls
They breached and streams they bridged.

The biggest of wars they fought,
The greatest of triumphs they won.
They shaped our world and lives
For centuries yet to come.

Hallowed their gift of themselves,
Sacred their living behest;
Ever their glory shines,
Never their memory fades.

Freedom and life they brought
To nations, enslaved and starved;
Safety and food they gave,
Respect and honor they saved.

Goodness and love won out!
Righteousness carried the day!
Dignity, hope were restored
And brightly was justice done!

Forget not their gift to you,
Betray not their simple trust;
Forsake not their sacred bequest
And cradle them well in your heart!

© 1997 Gerald Lewis Geiger
Chevy Chase, Md.
(Excerpted from *Mr. Geiger's book,*
America, Before the Storm –
Portrait of a Nation)

Sculptor Brings Symbolism to Life

Two memorial arches rise in tribute to victory. Fifty-six pillars stand as sentinels of the nation—individual states and territories united in a common cause. A field of gold stars bears silent witness to those who died that others might live free.

Friedrich St. Florian's powerful architectural elements combine to commemorate and celebrate America's participation in the Second World War. But his granite symbols will not stand alone in telling the story of the U.S. role in history's largest and most devastating war. Inscriptions and the artistic bronze creations of sculptor Ray Kaskey will bring the war years to life.

Kaskey's contribution to the WWII Memorial is extensive.

Within each arch, four bronze columns will support four American eagles that hold a suspended victory laurel.

A series of 24 bas relief panels along the ceremonial entrance will depict scenes from the war years at home and overseas.

The service seals of the Army, Navy, Army Air Forces, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine will be sculpted into the bases of flagpoles flanking the ceremonial entrance.

Each pillar will be accented with two bronze wreaths of oak and wheat reflecting America's role as the arsenal and breadbasket of democracy.

And 4,000 sculpted gold stars on the Freedom Wall will commemorate the more than 400,000 Americans who gave their lives.

Kaskey is a professional architect who began focusing on sculpture in 1980. His public commissions are numerous and include the

Ronald Reagan Courthouse in Santa Ana, Calif., the Olympic Centennial Park in Atlanta, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., the Harold Washington Library Center in Chicago, and the Portland Public Services Building in Portland, Ore.

"This undoubtedly will be the most important commission I will ever work on," said Kaskey. "I'm deeply honored to have been chosen. I wish my father, a World War II veteran who died in March, could have lived to see the completion of the memorial."

All of the sculptural elements except the bas relief panels have been approved by the Commission of Fine Arts and National Capital Planning Commission. The American Battle Monuments Commission will seek approval of the bas relief concepts this summer.

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I am trying to locate R.D. Hooker (bombardier) and John Hughes (flight engineer). Both were on B-17 crew 34, 447th Bomb Group, 709th Bomb Squadron. I can be contacted at 112 W. McGee, Sherman, TX 75092; at (903) 892-3990; or by e-mail at tjnurre@texoma.net.

Ted Nurre
Sherman, Texas

My brother, William Henry Baker, known as Henry, served with the 101st Airborne, Glider Infantry in England and France in 1944. He was wounded twice and received a Purple Heart w/Oak Leaf Cluster. I am searching for anyone who might remember serving with him. You may write me at Box 585, Payette, ID 83661, or e-mail me at mhartung@uswest.mnet.

Mary L. Hartung
Payette, Idaho



Ray Kaskey at work in his Brentwood, Md., studio on one of the majestic eagles that will hold a victory laurel aloft within the memorial arches. (Photo © Kaskey Studio, Inc.)