

LST534 Newsletter

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WW II Memorial - and tribute

"HERE IN THE PRESENCE OF WASHINGTON AND LINCOLN, ONE THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY FATHER AND THE OTHER THE NINETEENTH CENTURY PRESERVER OF OUR NATION, WE HONOR THOSE TWENTIETH CENTURY AMERICANS WHO TOOK UP THE STRUGGLE DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR AND MADE THE SACRIFICES TO PERPETUATE THE GIFT OUR FOREFATHERS ENTRUSTED TO US: A NATION CONCEIVED IN LIBERTY AND JUSTICE."

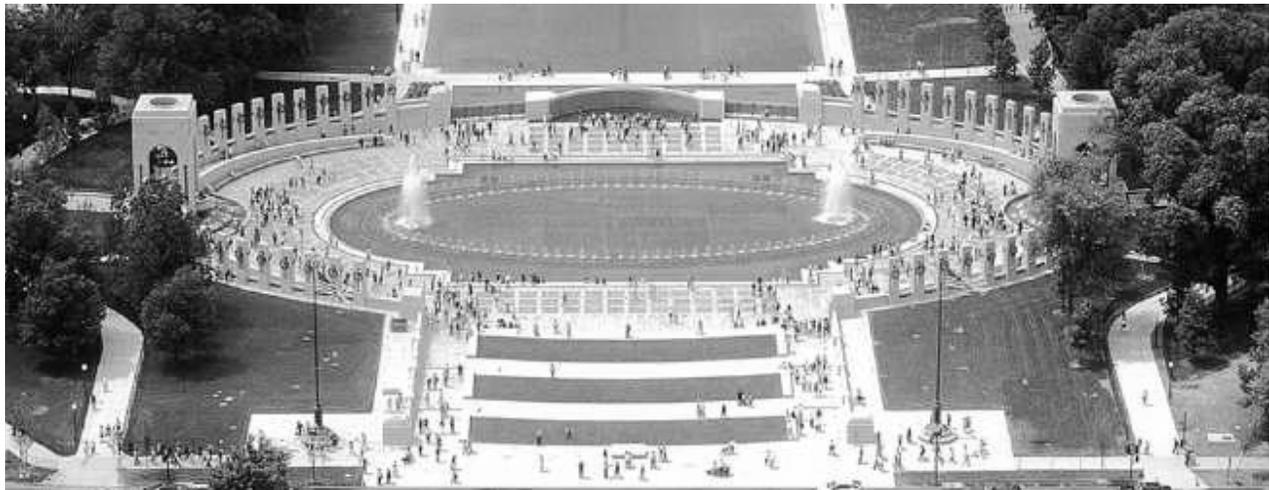
— So reads the Announcement Stone inscribed in the World War II Memorial on the Mall in Washington, DC.

The WWII Memorial honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the US during

WWII, the more than 400,000 who died, and the millions who supported the war effort from home. It will inspire future generations of Americans, deepening their appreciation of what the WWII generation accomplished in preserving democracy. Above all, the memorial stands as an important symbol of American national unity, a timeless reminder of the moral strength and awesome power that can flow when a free people are at once united and bonded together in a common and just cause.

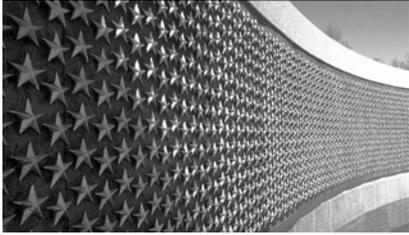
On April 29, 2004, as a service and tribute to members of the WWII Generation, the National WWII Memorial opened for

public viewing. Exactly one month later, the memorial was formally dedicated. Designed by architect Freidrich St. Florian, it is the size of a football field and cost \$174 million. There are two 43-foot arches at each end of the memorial, one for the war's Pacific Theater and the other for the Atlantic campaign. Fifty-six small granite pillars encircle a sunken plaza and pool. They represent each state or territory and the District of Columbia that supplied troops for the war. Within a commemorative area at the western side of the memorial is recognized the sacrifice of America's WWII generation and the contribution of our allies. A field of 4,000 sculpted gold



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stars on the Freedom Wall commemorate the more than 400,000 Americans who gave their lives.



Established by the American Battle Monuments Commission, the memorial honors all military veterans of the war, the citizens on the home front, the nation at large, and the high moral purpose and idealism that motivated the nation's call to arms.

NEWS:

CENTRAL PARK TURNS 150

On April 29th, First Lady Laura Bush joined Mayor Bloomberg and other luminaries at the Central Park Dairy to announce a season-long celebration of America's most famous urban park.

Since then, there have been a variety of celebrations from a Revolutionary War encampment, a bike race, al fresco dancing, fireworks and a dog parade—culminating in a dawn-to-dusk birthday party on July 19th.

Central Park was supposed to be a place where the rich could ride their carriages, like the fancy folk in Paris and London—and where the poor could find release outside the city's saloons.

Little did New York's commissioners guess when they acquired more than 700 acres from the middle of Manhattan for a measly \$5 million in 1853 that they were creating the soul of a city, thanks to designers Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux who turned 843 acres of swamp, hills and rock into an urban Eden.

Today, more than 14 million people visit each year—enjoying free Shakespeare and music under the stars, dining at Tavern on the Green and recalling Lennon's spirit in Strawberry Fields.

Did You Know?

- ◆ Central Park was built from 1857—1872.
- ◆ Sheep actually lived in the Sheep Meadow from 1864-1934.
- ◆ Central Park is 843 acres, nearly twice as big as Monaco.
- ◆ There are 32 statues, 9000 benches, 12 ball fields and 21 playgrounds.

PURPLE HEART STAMP

The oldest military decoration in the world in present use was commemorated with the issuance of the new Purple Heart postage stamp issued by the United States Postal Service on May 30.

The official first day of issuance ceremony took place at 10:30 am at George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens, located at the southern end of the

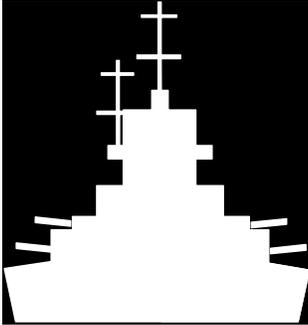
George Washington Memorial Parkway in Mt. Vernon, VA.

“General George Washington created the Purple Heart decoration as a way to honor and thank the brave soldiers who fought under his command,” said Postmaster General John E. Potter, who dedicated the stamp. “Now, it is our turn to do the same and continue Washington's patriotic tradition. With the issuance of this stamp, the Postal Service, along with the rest of America, can pay tribute to the men and women whose sacrifices have given all of us a country that is truly the ‘land of the free and the home of the brave.’ ”

The Purple Heart Medal is awarded to members of the armed forces of the United States who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who are killed in action or die of wounds received in action. It is unquestionably a combat decoration. This distinction has been bestowed on 1.8 million veterans. The issuance of an official US Purple Heart Medal postage stamp will serve as a tribute for the great sacrifices made by our men and women in uniform.



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Just for Fun
is a column
meaning just
that – FUN.

Jim Sarres
has
graciously
volunteered
to keep it
going.

We all know
how Judge
Sarres can
keep us
laughing!

Thanks Jim.

Just for Fun

“Going around the internet”

Games For When You Are Older

1. Sag, You're It!
2. Hide and Go Pee
3. 20 Questions Shouted Into Your Good Ear
4. Kick The Bucket
5. Red Rover, Red Rover, The Nurse Says Bend Over
6. Muscle Recliners
7. Simon Says Something Incoherent
8. Pin The Toupee On The Bald Guy

Nautical Terms:

*In memory of James Richard Drew who
contributed to this column until his passing.
Contributed by Willie Gunn.*

Crow's Nest: In cases of poor visibility, the Vikings used to rely on caged crows, released from the top of the mast, to plot a course to land. These land-lubbing birds' flight path invariably headed towards land. As the lookout stood his watch in a tub high on the main mast, the name “crow's nest” was created based on this Norse custom.

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