# LST534 Newsletter

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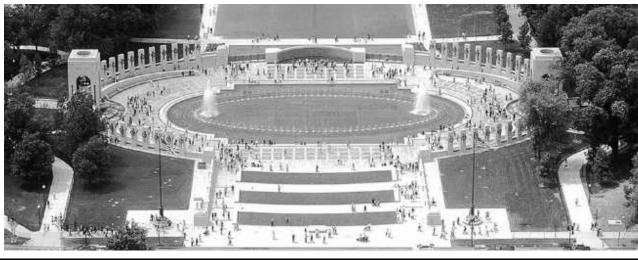
# WW II Memorial - and tribute

"HERE IN THE PRESENCE OF WASHINGTON AND LINCOLN, ONE THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY FATHER AND THE OTHER THE NINETEENTH CENTURY PRESERVER OF OUR WE NATION, 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.

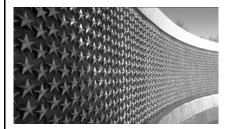
The WWII Memorial honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the US during WWII, the more than 400,000 who died, and the millions who supported the war effort from home. It will inspire future generations of Americans. deepening their appreciation of what the WWII generation accomplished in preserving Above all, the democracy. 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 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 the war. Within 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.

#### NEW\$:

#### **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 The issuance of an veterans. 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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The Purple Heart stamp and keepsakes are available at Postal Retail Stores, by calling 800-STAMP 24 or by visiting www.usps.com/shop.

#### REUNION:

Time is running out to sign up for and attend the LST 534 reunion in Philadelphia. This promises to be one of our best reunions. We all arrive on Sunday to decorate our suite.

Monday is our opening prayer and candle lighting ceremony. We will watch past reunion tapes and have our group pictures taken. Be sure to wear your shirts! Monday night is game night. Tuesday is a tour of Philadelphia with a colonialthemed lunch included. The cost is \$65.00 per person. You can pay Linda at the reunion. We will visit the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall and Penn's Landing as well as 300 years of historic and architectural sites, that deemed Philadelphia "the" place to live.

Wednesday is crepe day. Matthew is again making his delicious crepes for breakfast. Then we show the program, "Inside Baghdad" and have Matthew tell us about his journey to Iraq. After lunch we pack up and go rest before the annual banquet.

It promises to be a fun-filled, lively reunion.

See you in Philly!

#### **EMAIL ADDRESS CORRECTION**

Jim & Sandy Miller sjmiller1939@msn.com

~~~GET WELL WISHES~~~

Spencer Graham Opal Gray Duncan Robey

Success is to be measured not so much by the position one has reached in life as by the obstacles he has overcome while trying to succeed.

--Booker T. Washington

#### HOLIDAYS:

#### <u>July</u>

- 1 Canada Day
- 4 Independence Day
- 25 Parents Day

#### **A**UGUST

- 6 Hiroshima Day
- 9 Nagasaki Bombed
- 26 Suffrage Day

#### **SEPTEMBER**

- 6 Labor Day
- 11 Patriot Day
- 12 National Grandparents Day
- 16 Rosh Hashanah
- 22 First Day of Autumn
- 25 Yom Kippur



#### BIRTHDAYS:

#### August 11

Larry Gray 101 Forrest Hill Drive Taylors, SC 29687

#### August 12

Robert Goldsmith 95 Shepherd Drive Wakefield, RI 02879

#### August 16

Luther Lyles 2407 Reynolds Road Wauchula, FL 33873

#### August 23

Sammie Porter 5813 Seminole Ct. Oklahoma City, OK 73132

#### October 1

Robert Ware 2602 Darwood Ct. Mobile, AL 36605

#### October 2

Emmett Cull PO Box 1885 Portolla, CA 96122

#### October 4

Leo Wilson 5 Malvern Road Norwood, MA 02062

#### October 27

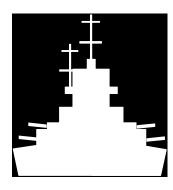
Johnny Medeiros c/o Sheila Sexton 1505 NE 55th Street Ocala, FL 34479

#### October 31

Oscar Cress 9841 41st Street, North Pinelles Park, FL 33782



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

"Caing area and the internat"

Jim Sarres
h a s
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

- . Sag, You're It!
- 2. Hide and Go Pee
- 3. 20 Questions Shouted Into Your Good Far
- 4. Kick The Bucket
- We all know 5. Red Rover, Red Rover, The Nurse Says how Judge Bend Over
  - can 6. Muscle Recliners
    - us 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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