



**NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2018
VOLUME 6 - NO. 6**

IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ 22 Challenge 10K Ruck March
- ◆ Defense POW/MIA Family Briefing
- ◆ BG Irzyk ROTC Hall of Fame
- ◆ WW1 Event Shelby County Library
- ◆ MVPA National Convention Info
- ◆ Patton and the US Tank Corps Monument Update
- ◆ Battalion Information

Patton Battalion - USABOT is a chapter of the US Army Brotherhood of Tankers and is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit.

Patton Battalion - USABOT covers Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky & Tennessee.

The Blood and Guts Newsletter covers events and activities within our area and USABOT National.

EIN:
And registered with the state of Kentucky

Patton Battalion - USABOT

Total: 93 paid members

24 Lifetime Members

53 Annual Members

2 Associate Member

451 on Battalion Facebook Page

PATTON BATTALION - USABOT

ILLINOIS - INDIANA - KENTUCKY - TENNESSEE

May has come and gone and here we are in June! The 22 Challenge 10K Ruck March was once again a great event. Several of the regulars couldn't make it this year but we still had a good presence. The weather held out and it was good rucking weather.

Larry Kehrwald along my wife and I, attended the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency Family Briefing in Louisville that same Saturday. If you ever want to see interagency cooperation with the US Government you will see it with DPAA. This is probably the best Joint based operation I have seen first hand. All aspects of the Department of Defense seemed to be represented at the briefing and working together in the field.

I went to the WW1 Event held at my local library here in Shelbyville, KY on Wednesday June 6th. Very good turn out with about thirty folks in attendance. There were several kids there also. I learned a lot about KY in the Great War. I am still amazed that no one had heard about the World War 1 Commission that was there. There was no information about the WW1 Commission KY chapter either.

BG(R) Albin F Irzyk was inducted into the ROTC Hall of Fame on June 14, 2018. I have concluded that this was a chapter meeting of the Fort Knox Chapter of the Association of the US Army. They were celebrating the birthday of the US Army and had the ceremony for Gen Irzyk. Since Gen Irzyk wasn't able to attend his son, Albin, Jr., accepted on his behalf. I met his son last year at the 100th birthday for Gen Irzyk but there were some 200 guests there that day. It was great to visit with him and his wife and talk about Al and Evelyn.

The MVPA National Convention was a lot of fun. We set up our table on Wednesday night and were almost done when we were pushed out the door as they were closing. I believe everyone had fun, saw things they haven't seen before and got photos with the M-1917. We did not do as well as I had hoped but hopefully our brochures will produce some results.

As I was at the convention I ran into Glen Back and Glen Searcy who joined USABOT at the last convention in Louisville. I also took some time to think about someone who was not there and that was Bryan Seifert.

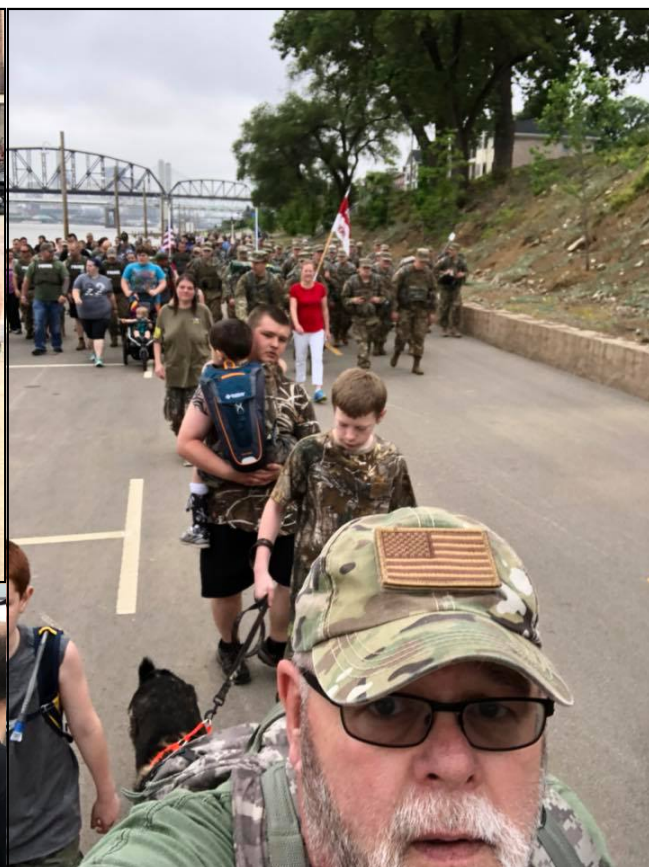
It was during the convention that I was notified that USABOT National was donating \$3,000.00 to our project. As explained later in the monument section we are now reaching almost \$13,000.00. We are getting closer and closer!

Phil Wilburn and I will be doing a podcast with the WW1 Commission next week. I will post more information about it airing when we find out. In the mean time be sure to go to the WW1 website at www.worldwar1centennial.org. Under the Communicate tab you can learn more about the podcasts and download past editions. I would also suggest signing up for the WW1 Dispatch newsletter.

KP Morris
Patton 6

WWW.WORLDWAR1CENTENNIAL.ORG

22 Challenge 10K Ruck March



This years marchers were:
James Journey, Roy O'Brien, Bradley Alan, Ken Markham, and Glen Searcy.
Thanks again Tip McCurdy and Scott Ham for the event!



Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency Family Briefing

The reason I could not make it to the 22 Challenge 10K Ruck March was because I was invited to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency Family Briefing in Louisville. I was invited to represent USABOT and the Patton Battalion. I can tell you that I, nor my wife, we prepared for the amount of professionalism that we were to see on display nor the amount of emotions we would go through.

When we arrived at the Crown Plaza hotel and started toward the event room I noticed a Marine officer in his dress uniform. I was a little shocked but as we approached the door there were probably fifteen Sailors, Air Force, Marine and Army officers and NCO's in full dress waiting on families and taking them to their tables. I was suddenly underdressed. After giving my contact information I was ushered to a table in the corner of the room. As we approached we were met by Matthew Kristoff, a fellow USABOT member and Senior Analyst on Vietnam War cases. We met up with fellow Patton Member Larry Kehrwald and then he took me to meet the director. Now I never imagined that he meant "the" director. The director of the DPAA Mr. Kelly McKeague!

Shaking hands we quickly exchanged greetings and short stories and were pointed to our seats. Mr. McKeague was up introducing everyone and after the members of the American Legion and VFW he introduced Larry and I! When we sat down we both leaned over and said "I wasn't expecting that." The main reason my wife and I attended was due in part to my wife's great uncle, PVT Pete Junk, who was with the 60th Coast Artillery on Corregidor in WWII. He died at a Japanese Military Hospital in Manchuria in December 1942. He was buried in the Camp Houten cemetery there. In 1945 he was disinterred and move to Schofield Barracks. In 1949 he was buried again at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. We were here to learn more about obtaining medals for him so there her family may finally have something to remember him by.

I cannot explain the amount of information we learned at this meeting. I had no idea of the level of work that is ongoing to recover MIA's from the United States Military. The detail that is taken in researching the location, the level of attention on location, and the level of scientific knowledge used to determine an identity. The high level of accredited lab work is unreal. The only lab in the country with the certification and advanced level of technology is second to none.

One of the other aspects I was not prepared for is the level of emotion that will come over you. Cindy Stonebraker, who sits on the Board of Directors of the National League of POW/MIA Families, which is the largest POW/MIA family organization; it's focus is the Vietnam War; and one of their members designed the POW/MIA Flag, shared her story with DPAA. Her father lost in Vietnam and not recovered is why she is in contact with DPAA. She told the story of how her family did not speak about her father for years. That is wasn't something to talk about. Not until one day when she saw some bikers hoisting a POW/MIA flag at a rest stop. She approached them and said that her father was MIA. She said that they all hugged here and invited her to a rally in Georgia. It was there that she met and learned about others who were like herself.

She has since made a trip to Vietnam and was possibly close to the area where her father may have crashed. She has met the pilot who bunked in the room with her father and shared tales about their time in Vietnam. I can tell you there was not a dry eye in that room. Or should I say that there was some onions being cut somewhere in there.

The families were allowed to get up and say some things about the serviceman they were there for. Those were just as difficult as the story from Cindy. The stories covered WWII, Korea and Vietnam. Fathers, brothers, uncles, cousins all there looking for new information on their missing and unaccounted for service members. As all of these events were going on the families were being pulled aside for personal updates on their cases. One of the families did report at the event that their loved one had finally been identified. A success story.

At the end of this event I thanked Mr Todd Livick, DPAA's Director of Outreach and Communications (he's also a retired tanker), for allowing us to attend. I explained to him that I do not know what our group can do to support this effort other than to share the stories and information posted by the website and social media about other success stories. I don't think that this is the type of event you would want to invite outsiders to. Those who understand military service would find it very rewarding to attend. I have learned things and seen a level of professionalism and commitment by the US Government that I have never witnessed before.

My wife and I were honored and humbled to be there and see this firsthand. It is something that I will not forget.

Website: WWW.DPAA.MIL

Facebook: Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

Twitter: Def POW/MIA Acct Agcy

National League of POW/MIA Families:
www.pow-miafamilies.org



Cindy Stonebraker

Mr. Kelly McKeague

BG Albin F Irzyk Inducted into the ROTC Hall of Fame

On Wednesday May 30th I got an email from BG Irzyk's son, Al, Jr. He emailed me to tell me about Gen Irzyk being inducted into the ROTC Hall of Fame at Fort Knox, KY on June 14th. I was invited to attend with the event as Al, Jr. would be accepting on his fathers behalf. I had heard about his being nominated about this time last year. This is a distinct honor for such a great officer from the ROTC ranks.

So on June 14, 2018 as we celebrated the US Army birthday there was a ceremony for the induction of BG Irzyk. This was a meeting of the Fort Knox Chapter of the Association of the US Army. There were many distinguished guests there and a large birthday cake was available for all.

This was the first time that I had really had any time to talk to Gen Irzyk's son. We had met at the 100th birthday for the general but there were some 200 guests there that day. Even on this day he was always being pulled away for meeting people. I was able to talk with his wife Terry for a short time and it was very enjoyable to tell tales of the Irzyk's.

Other officers being inducted into the Hall of Fame were:

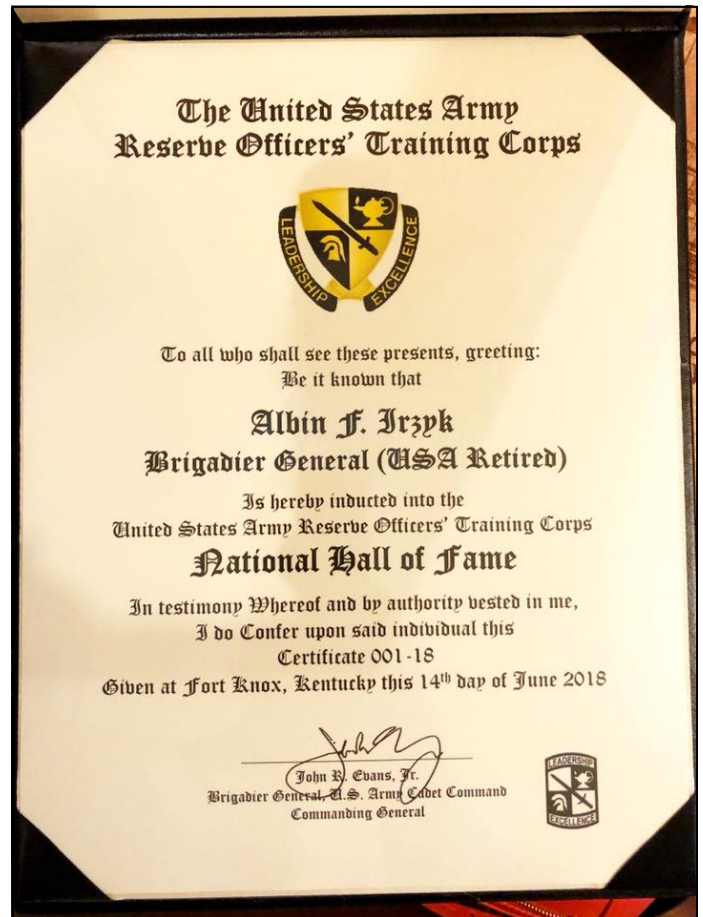
LTG Bruce T Crawford, US Army Chief of Information Officer/G6

MG Paul Disney, *Posthumous Inductee*

MG William M. Matz, Jr., US Army Retired, Secretary of the American Battlefield Monuments Commission.

COL Edward R. Schowalter, Jr., *Posthumous Inductee*, Medal of Honor Recipient.

LTG Leslie C. Smith, US Army The Inspector General.



World War 1 Event at Shelby County Public Library

On Wednesday June 6 Sofie and I attended a World War1 event at our local library here in Shelby County. This being the 100th Anniversary of the United States participation in World War I, the library will held a "Kentucky in the World War" program, with an emphasis on Shelby County and it's part in the Commonwealth's war effort. Brandon Slone had a display with records, books, letters, After Action Reports, posters, and handouts. Slone has given numerous lectures and programs to Army Officer Advanced Courses and college/university classes. Slone's services were provided by the Kentucky Department of Military Affairs.

This was a great event. I learned a lot about the Kentucky National Guard and key leaders from Kentucky in WW1.

I was allowed to get up and talk about the monument project. One of the first questions I asked was if anyone if was familiar with the World War 1 Commission. No one raised their hand. So I told them about the WW1 Commission and efforts going on around the US. I also talked about the Kentucky World War1 chapter and things that they are doing. I was very surprised that a World War 1 event was going on and there were no mention of these organizations and their on going efforts.

When the event was over I was approached by several interested in the monument project. One person was a reporter from the Lexington Herald-Leader, Jack Brammer. He was very interested in the project and asked if I would send him information so that he could do an article about it. I emailed him the following day. He is currently talking with his editor about doing the article.

I emailed Brandon Slone the day after the event to see if there are plans to do this briefing at other local libraries in the state. When I hear back I will post the information.

This month 100 years ago

Today in Tank Corps 100:

June 6, 1918 - Patton reorganized the tank center in order to accommodate a second battalion. With this larger command under him, Patton needed a larger staff. He therefore appointed Gibbs his Chief of Staff, Herbert his adjutant, Knowles reconnaissance officer, and Robinson supply officer. He placed Captain Viner in command of the 1st Battalion - formally named the 326th Tank Battalion (later it would be redesignated the 344th), with Company A under Compton, Company B under Weed, and Company C under English. He put Captain Brett in command of the 2nd battalion - formally the 327th Tank Battalion (later redesignated the 345th), with Company A under Semmes, Company B under Williams, and Company C under Bernard. Lieutenant Baldwin commanded the 301st Repair and Salvage Company, which serviced and repaired the tanks.

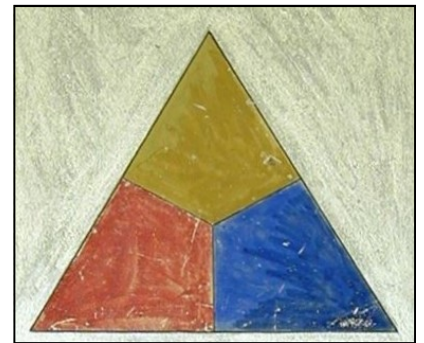
With Patton in command of this organization, he became the equivalent of a regimental commander, another significant step up the chain of command.

Patton Papers Vol I, p539

Letter, Will G Robinson (Secretary, South Dakota Historical Society, Pierre, S.D.) to LTC Arthur J Jacobson, July 6, 1961

I went to France in 1917 with the 147th FA and one day, General Patton, then a captain, came down to Montrichard looking for an adjutant, as St Aignan nearby, was the replacement center...He made the Tank Corps look good to me and I got 200 volunteers from the 147th and other troops down there, truck drivers, mechanics and machine gunners and went to Bourg, a little village near Langres, where the Light Tanks had their headquarters.

Not long after arriving, some division, or advance elements came in, I believe it was the 82nd, and they had shoulder patches. The first we had ever seen. Patton at mess that night said "I want you officers to devote one evening to something constructive. I want a shoulder insignia. We claim to have the firepower of artillery, the mobility of cavalry and the ability to hold ground of the infantry so whatever you come up with it must have red, yellow and blue [the traditional colors of artillery, cavalry and infantry] in it". I was billeted with a medico, LT Howard, and we spent all that evening with some crayons....in front of a fire place figuring out use of colors and design....



At breakfast the next morning everybody showed up with their attempt. I guess we were the only ones that had managed to get colors on ours. In any event Patton adopted our design [a pyramidal figure] and pulling (out a) \$100 dollar bill, the first I had ever seen or at least held in my hand, he told me to take one of thevehicles.....and go into Langres and get as many of our shoulder patch made up as I could get and get them back by Retreat.

I managed to get the three colors in felt at the Belle Jardineer a bid store on the Place Diderot and took them into a hat and cap shop next door and persuaded the old lady in charge to start her crew making shoulder patches. They did a good job of them and I had one sewed onto my overseas cap, as a possible idea of a new use of them and got two or three hundred of them out to Bourg before Retreat.

Patton was tickled about it. If there was anything he wanted it was to make the Tank Corps tougher than the Marines and more spectacular the Matterhorn. That triangle [shoulder patch] was the first step. A few days later he conceived the idea that our overcoats were too long and he ordered them cut to knee length and the surplus made into belts. We were different all right.

Patton Papers Vol I, p540-541

June 17, 1918 - Patton attended the third course of studies at the Army General Staff College at Langres, France. It was good experience, for he came to understand the complex duties of staff work in a modern army, and he came into contact with some of the best soldiers in France.

Among those who would graduate with Patton's class were Major H. R. Bull, who would be the G-3 or Operations Officer of Eisenhower's Supreme Headquarters, AEF, in 1944-45, Major W. H. Simpson, Patton's classmate at West Point who would command the Ninth Army in Europe during the same period, Captain Joseph Stilwell, future theater commander in China and Burma, and Major John S Wood, later the commander of the 4th Armored Division and probably the most intelligent disciple of Patton and the most vigorous exponent of his methods of tank warfare.

Patton would complete the course August 20, 1918

Patton Papers Vol I, p544-545

MVPA National Convention - Louisville KY



Our table at the MVPA Convention manned by Joseph Theriot, David Skaggs, his wife Sandy, and myself.

The Patton Battalion did man a table at the MVPA Convention from Thursday June 14th until Saturday June 16th.

The convention was light on traffic this year. We did have a lot of people come by and several brochures were taken but the net amount took in was \$60.00.

I am not sure if we could done anything different or more to have a better event. I heard several folks talking about the light turnout.



I did run into a friend of the battalion, Lani Ropkey found me at the M-1917 and asked for a photo to send to Skip. He was not at the MVPA event.

Lani did tell me that everything was sold at the museum.



I was able to get in the drovers hole of the M-1917!!!
(Note: Our track pad was the top pad on the left track)

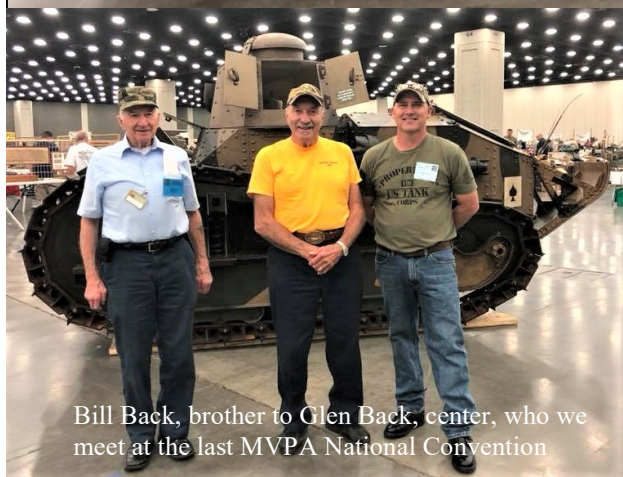
Wearing my Dehner's in the M-1917!!!



MVPA National Convention - Louisville KY



The Indiana Military Museum display



Bill Back, brother to Glen Back, center, who we meet at the last MVPA National Convention



Patton Monument Report for 2017



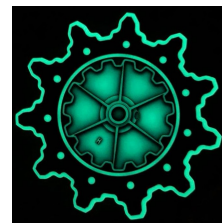
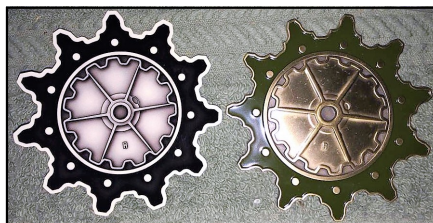
We got 53 orders for the last run. Production for the shirts started 6-19-2018.

As of June, 2018, the Monument fund has \$7,345.00. We have \$511.54, in the Patton Account for the certificates and the plaque. On June 13, I got a call to pay for the certificates and the plaque. That total is \$411.00. That will come from the \$511 I put in the Patton Account. These are to be paid by the end of the month.

On Thursday June 14th I was informed that USABOT National was donating \$3,000.00 to our project. This is a major boost to the project.

In bank account: \$7,345.00
 WW1 Commission Grant: \$2,000.00
 USABOT donation: \$3,000.00
 USABOT monument link: \$100.00
 PayPal: \$447.00
 From MVPA show: \$60.00
 Total: \$12,952

I spent \$60.80 of the remaining \$100 in the Patton account to design and purchase a 3" glow in the dark sprocket sticker. We got 25 and currently have but 15 left. We are asking \$4 each for these.



Patton Battalion Funds / Memberships / Dues

The Patton Battalion, as of June 20th, has 454 members on our battalion Facebook page. Out of those 454 members we are currently at 93 paid members. The Patton Battalion has \$ in funds in the PayPal account, \$110 of that is for the battalion. We have \$7,345.00 in the Patton Monument Account. There is \$100 in the USABOT Donation Bin. We have \$ in the Patton Operating account. Of that \$322.65 is Patton Battalion funds.

In order to be a paid member of the battalion you must be a paid member of USABOT National. Again, a paid first year membership of \$15.00 which gets you a free battalion patch. Since we now have the battalion patch in the larger size both in color and subdued you have a choice as to which one you want free with your paid membership.

Both patches are also available for \$5 EA.

Your annual membership renewal will be \$10.00 every year after that.
Annual dues for the battalion are now due in June of each year!

You can pay for your battalion membership through Paypal at:
pattonbattalion@outlook.com or
patton.battalion@usabot.org.

If you don't have a Paypal account you can send a check or Money Order to:

Patton Battalion - USABOT
 1432 Flood Road
 Shelbyville, KY 40065



ATTENTION

USABOT Memberships can be renewed and purchased By mail at

USABOT
 68 West Marion ST
 Doylestown, OH 44230

Make checks payable to USABOT
If at all possible try to go the USABOT Store Online and register there so that the G4 can track.

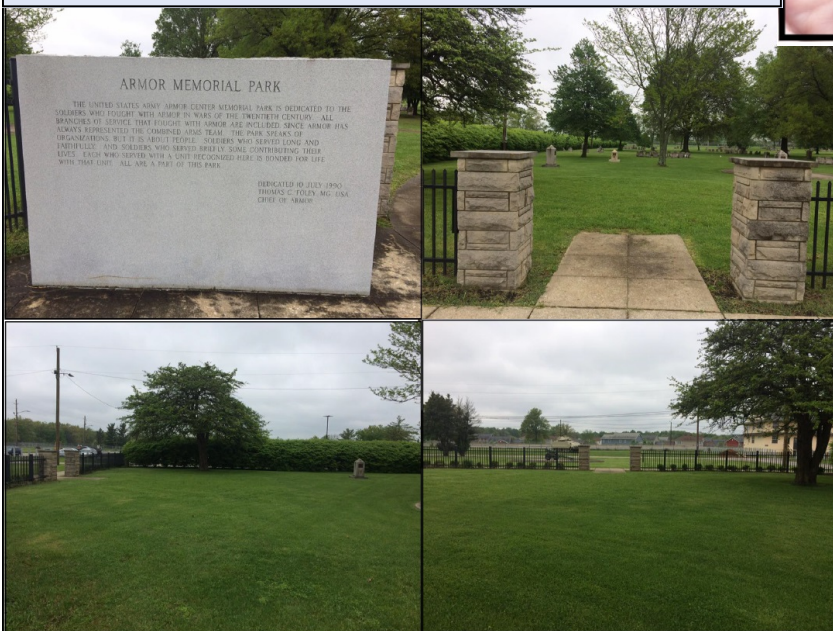
WWW.USABOT.ORG

Patton Joins the US Tank Corps Monument



We are currently suspending the Tan and OD green tee shirts for the time being. Looking at some different options. I do have some OD Green tee shirts on hand from the last printing mistake. The sale of these will be split between the Monument fund and shipping for future items. I have Small – 1, Large – 5, XL – 3, 2XL – 4, 3XL – 2.

The Coins I still have: 317, 337, 339-342, 346-349, 356, 358-359, 361-362, 370-376, 378-394.



Patton Monument Report for 2017

Proposed wording for back of monument - Left Side

Captain George S. Patton, Jr., during WWI, while assigned as the first officer to the U.S. Army Tank Corps, 10 November 1917, built the U.S. Army Light Tank School at Bourg, France, developed training, tactics, techniques and procedures for light tanks and help develop the first U.S. built tank, the M1917.

Letter from Captain Patton to Commander-in-Chief A.E.F, Subject: Command in the Tank Service. October 3, 1917.

1. I understand that there is to be a new service of "Tanks" organized and request that my name be considered for a command in that service.
2. I think myself qualified for this service for the following reasons.
 - A. The duty of "Tanks" and more especially of "Light Tanks" is analogous to the duty performed by cavalry in normal wars. I am a cavalryman.
 - B. I have commanded a Machine Gun Troop and know something of the mechanism of Machine Guns. I have always had a Troop which shot well so think that I am a good instructor in fire. It is stated that accurate fire is very necessary to good use of tanks.
 - C. I have run Gas Engines since 1917 and have used and repaired Gas Automobiles since 1905.
 - D. I speak and read French better than 95% of American Officers so could get information from the French Direct. I have also been to school in France and have always gotten on well with Frenchmen.
 - E. I believe that I have quick judgment and that I am willing to take chances. Also I have always believed in getting close to the enemy and have taught this for two years at the Mounted Services School where I had success in arousing the aggressive spirit in the students.
 - F. I believe that I am the only American who has ever made an attack in a motor vehicle.
3. This request is not made because I dislike my present duty or am desirous of evading it but because I believe that when we get "Tanks" I would be able to do good service in them.

November 10, 1917: Order for tanks approved by GHQ AEF General Order 153, Paragraph 37.

On November 16, 1917, Captain Patton and 2nd Lieutenant Elgin Braine, the second person assigned to the US Tank Corps, were sent to the French Tank School at Champieu, France and began learning about French Light Tanks.

"Light Tanks" was the first paper submitted by Captain Patton. The double-spaced, fifty-eight-page report was submitted on 12 December 1917. It served as the foundation for subsequent tank developments in the AEF. The report, divided into four sections, including a detailed mechanical description of the Renault light tank, recommendations for the organization of tank units, a discussion of tank tactics and doctrinal theory, and proposed methods for the conduct of drill and instruction.

Patton described the light tank as a self-propelled armored vehicle capable of delivering predetermined firepower on the battlefield whenever needed. It had to be able to overcome all terrain obstacles in its path, provide maximum protection to both crew and engine, and be armed in order to accomplish this mission. He further specified that the vehicle must be easily manufactured in large numbers, have a power-to-weight ratio proportionate to the potential of its engine and traction, and be transportable to training or battle areas by either rail or truck. In later years when Patton was arranging his files, he wrote in pencil across the top, "This paper was and is the Basis of the U. S. Tank Corps. I think it is the best Technical Paper I ever wrote. GSP, Jr."

On December 17, 1917 Patton and Braine went to Langres, France where they reported to the Commandant of the Army Schools for the purpose of establishing a Tank School.

In late December Patton and Braine reconnoitered land that would be suitable for the tank School. They found and looked over ground near Bourg and decided that it was exactly what was needed for a school, tank park and maneuver ground. At Bourg, five miles south of Langres on the road to Dijon, the land was in the Bois d'Amour, a rising piece of ground crowned by a wood and flanked by two good roads and a railroad. Bourg, with nearby villages of St. Geosmes and Brennes, as well as Langres, were conveniently located for billets.

Promoted to Major, Temporary, January 26, 1918.

Assigned formally as the Commandant of the 1st Light Tank School, February 14, 1918.

Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, Temporary, April 3, 1918.

Organized 1st Light Tank Battalion with himself commanding, April 28, 1918.

Organized 2nd Light Tank Battalion, with himself in command of the Regiment, June 6, 1918.

Captain Patton, after seeing division patches on units arriving in France, said "I want you officers to devote one evening to something constructive. I want a shoulder insignia. We claim to have the firepower of artillery, the mobility of cavalry and the ability to hold ground of the infantry so whatever you come up with it must have red, yellow and blue [the traditional colors of artillery, cavalry and infantry] in it". The winning design was a triangular patch with equal parts of the three colors. The winning designer was awarded a \$100 dollar bill. Patton wanted to make the Tank Corps stand out from everyone else. That triangle [shoulder patch] was the first step.

Student, General Staff College, Langres, France, August 20, 1918.

Organized and assigned himself Brigade commander 304th Tank Brigade, August 24, 1918.

On 12 September 1918, Colonel Patton led the 304th Tank Brigade, consisting of the 326th and 327th tank battalions, that he trained, into combat during the Battle of St. Mihiel.

Led the 304th Tank Brigade during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive. The Distinguished Service Cross Citation reads: for extraordinary heroism in action while serving with the Tank Corps, A.E.F., near Cheppy, France, 26 September 1918. Colonel Patton displayed conspicuous courage, coolness, energy, and intelligence in directing the advance of his brigade down the valley of the Aire. Later he rallied a force of disorganized infantry and led it forward, behind the tanks, under heavy machine-gun and artillery fire until he was wounded. Unable to advance further, Colonel Patton continued to direct the operations of his units until all arrangements for turning over the command were complete. General Order No. 113 (1918)

Promoted to Colonel Temporary, October 18, 1918.

His leadership, esprit de corps, élan, fundamentals and the combat aggressiveness that he instilled into the U.S. Tank Corps, continued into World War II through Korea, the Cold War, Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom and continues on to this very day...."Treat'em Rough!"

Patton Monument Report for 2017

Proposed wording for backside of Monument (Right Side Rear)

TANK BATTALIONS THAT SERVED IN COMBAT

301st Heavy Tank Battalion
306th Tank Brigade
331st Tank Battalion

304th Tank Brigade
344th Tank Battalion & 345th Tank Battalion

ST. MIHIEL

• ESSAY • NONSARD • JONVILLE • PANNES • ST. MAURICE • WOEL • BENEY •

MEUSE-ARGONNE

• VARNNES • MONTBLAINVILLE • EXERMONT • CHEPPY • CHARPENTRY • CHAPAL CHEHERY •
• BAULNY • VERY • SOMMERANCE • MONTREBEAU WOODS • KANDRES-ET-ST. GROERGES •

WITH BRITISH FORCES

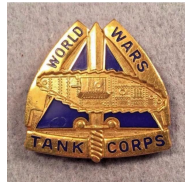
• BRANCOURT • FRESNOY • LA-HAIE MENNERESSE • ST. SOUPLET •
• CATILLON-ET-GIMBRAMONT FARM • LE-CATELET BONY •

MEDAL OF HONOR

2

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

50



WORLD WARS TANK CORPS ASSOCIATION

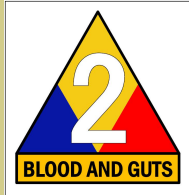
In 1919 the movement began to create Tank Corps Posts as a part of the newly formed American Legion. The purpose of the organization was to promote and maintain public interest in tanks as an arm of the service and to form a bond between its members by means of social and fraternal activities. These tankers created Tank Corps Posts formed in Chicago, New York, St Louis, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. just to name a few. The group was fond of the two men who made great impressions on them during World War 1, General Dwight D. Eisenhower and General George S. Patton, Jr.

The WWTCA lobbied the Post Master General in 1953 to create a General George S Patton, Jr. stamp. The stamp was unveiled on November 10, 1953 on General Patton's birthday.

The official combat badge of the American fighting tankmen was approved and released by the World Wars Tank Corps Association in April, 1957. Centered on the badge is a replica of the British Mark V tank running over the flaming sword symbolic of battle and in particular of Chateau Thierry. The background is blue and the inscription "World Wars Tank Corps." All armored combat men of both World Wars were eligible for the badge which was issued only through the World Wars Tank Corps Association. President Eisenhower received the first combat badge on July 7, 1958, at the White House.

The WWTCA lobbied the War Department to create a Combat Armor Badge after the success of Armor in World War II and the Korean War. In 1950's the WWTCA began to sponsor a measure before Congress to establish a Combat Armor Badge and Expert Tanker's Badge. The discussion would continue throughout the 1960's and 1970's during the Vietnam War and again in 1991 after Operation Desert Storm.

One of the last contributions made by this group was the Armored Force Monument located in Arlington National Cemetery.



Patton Battalion - USABOT

Board of Directors

Karlen P Morris
Dion Walker, Sr.
Phillip Wilburn
Matthias Martinez

Patton Battalion Commander

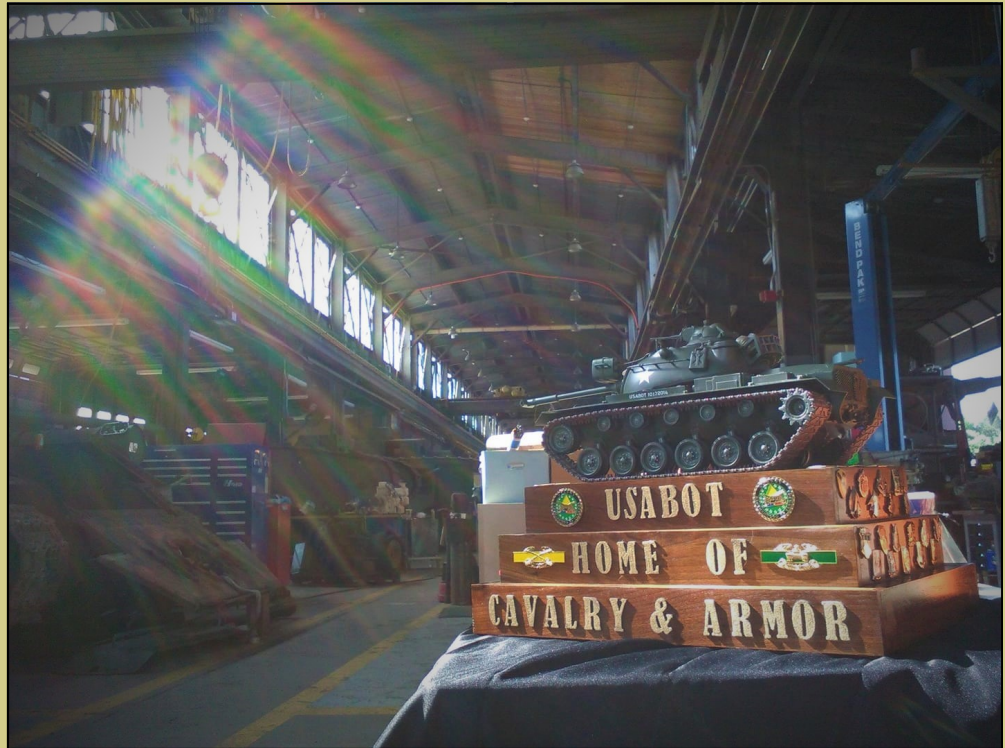
KP Morris

Executive Officer

Dion Walker, Sr.

Battalion Sergeant Major

Steven Vaughn



Coming up in the July Issue - MVPA National Convention in Louisville, KY

I will be making a trip to Washington, D.C. this summer. I should be meeting with the man who has the CPT Kit Varney DSC. I will be getting photos. I will also be going through the MG Holmes Dager collection.

Upcoming Events

Patton and the US Tank Corps Monument - Fort Knox - November 11, 2017 (*If we reach the \$30,000*)

June 3, 2018

On this day in Fort Benning history: Who says history doesn't repeat itself? In June of 1932, the tank school moved from Fort Meade to Fort Benning, and Infantry School students were given basic tank and infantry instruction. Tank students often combined instruction with community chores, like driving the tanks to collect garbage. The Army, Navy Register reported, "The location of the two schools at Fort Benning is regarded as one of the most important steps made in recent years toward improving the facilities for training the infantry." The Harmony Church area of post was commonly called Camp Tank until tank training ended at Fort Benning in 1940, when the Armor School opened at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

NEW ITEM!!!

Black Cat "Treat'em Rough" stickers!
Haven't arrived yet and I will have more information later.

