



## NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2020

VOLUME 8 - NO. 3

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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

453 on Battalion Facebook Page

# PATTON BATTALION - USABOT

## ILLINOIS - INDIANA - KENTUCKY - TENNESSEE

Hard to believe it is March already and that this month has slipped by. March will be a month and year we will remember for some time as the year of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). I don't think anyone reading this has not been affected in some way or fashion. As I am about to put this issue out I will say now that there is not anyone that is not affected now. This is something that has brought us all to a standstill and will forever change the way we do things. My family and I hope that everyone is doing ok and that you are staying safe and washing your hands.

During this period we will look at how we do business and commerce differently. It may be some time before we get back to business as usual. I will continue to put out the newsletter monthly as long as I can and will try to bring some interesting stories so as not to bore you as this may be something you look forward to reading each month. Please be careful and stay safe!

In this issue you will read about "proposed" changes to our Patton & the US Tank Corps Monument. I say again that these are "proposals" to see if we can get this monument built cheaper and look more like the other monuments in Memorial Park. Please read through the proposals and let me know your thoughts or ideas. We are looking into to it see what this will do.

Next I have some stories on a new veteran village going up in Louisville, KY. There is a story that the University of Louisville had some students work on the designs. These tiny home villages are popping up all over the country. In the section "My Vision of a Veteran Community" I wanted to share an idea that I have had for several years now. There is also an article about the success of one of these tiny home villages in Wisconsin.

I talk about this more in the section "Something to Think About." I was surprised to see that Nine Line Foundation is behind two of these villages in Georgia. One other thing I talk about is a recent podcast I heard some information on suicide that I found interesting. Its was actually two fold. It talks about looking at what you plan to do over the next decade vs just the next year. I think that if we look at these two items differently over the next 10 years we can have a huge impact on the issue.

I did make contact with the group that is building the tiny home veteran village in my hometown of Shelbyville, KY. I was told that if you wish to volunteer you should go to [serveshelby-county.com](http://serveshelby-county.com) to connect with the group. When you click the *Sign up now* button you can provide your information and the skills you can provide. After that you can select a date to volunteer.

If you are not sure if one of these tiny home villages is going up in your area please go to the Internet and search your state or city. There were over 100 of these that popped up when I searched about them.



KP Morris  
Patton 6

[WWW.WORLDWARICENTENNIAL.ORG](http://WWW.WORLDWARICENTENNIAL.ORG)  
[WWW.USABOT.ORG](http://WWW.USABOT.ORG)  
[HTTPS://19SERIESCLOTHING.COM](https://19SERIESCLOTHING.COM)



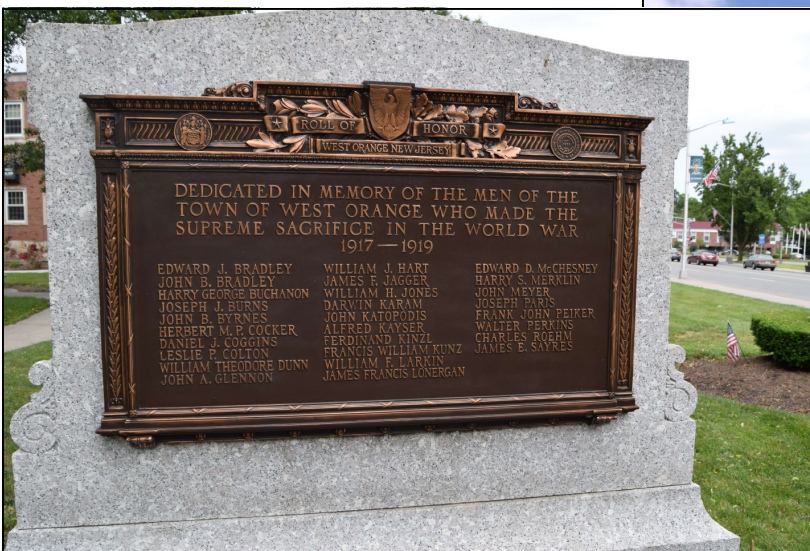
## Proposed Changes to the Patton/Tank Corps Monument

I want to take some time and talk about the Patton & the US Tank Corps Monument and some “proposed” changes that we are looking at. Now with that being said I want to point out that we are looking for options that may be more affordable than the design that we had. We are going to get pricing and see if this may be an option.

Why change? As I have been seeing new and restored monument of WW1 I have noticed that most are of a particular design or use of stone. As I was seeing these monuments it made me think about our monument and look it presented. I am looking at changes so that maybe the new monument would match the other monument in Memorial Park and not be too different. It would also look more like the original in Bourg, France.

Again, we are looking for options that may allow us to get the ball rolling on this project.

As I have seen some new monuments being posted on the WW1 Centennial Commission social media here are some examples of what are being posted.





## Proposed Changes to the Patton/Tank Corps Monument - cont.

As you can see the majority of the new monuments are with white stone/marble/granite. As I was thinking about our monument design with the black granite I feel that it would stand out too much. Originally I asked the Army if there were regulations regarding the monuments in Memorial Park as to type of stone there were no guidelines found.

The monument in Bourg is of white stone and I feel that maybe this is the route we should go. This would make our monument match or be similar to the monuments of WWII in the park. I think it is something we should consider and look at cost.

So here are the proposals I would like to look at for the monument. Its not a complete redo but some changes.

First the white stone/granite. I have seen many monuments made of this stone with the rough edge. I think this may be a good look for our monument. So here are some examples.



The white stone with the bronze plaque really stands out. This would be a much better look than the bronze on a black stone.

The monument in the lower left has an engraved insert in the monument. And it also has engraved "ROUGH RIDERS" I would like to see TANK CORPS and USABOT engraved into our monument.

All things to think about as we are in year three of fundraising and still are hovering at the halfway point.

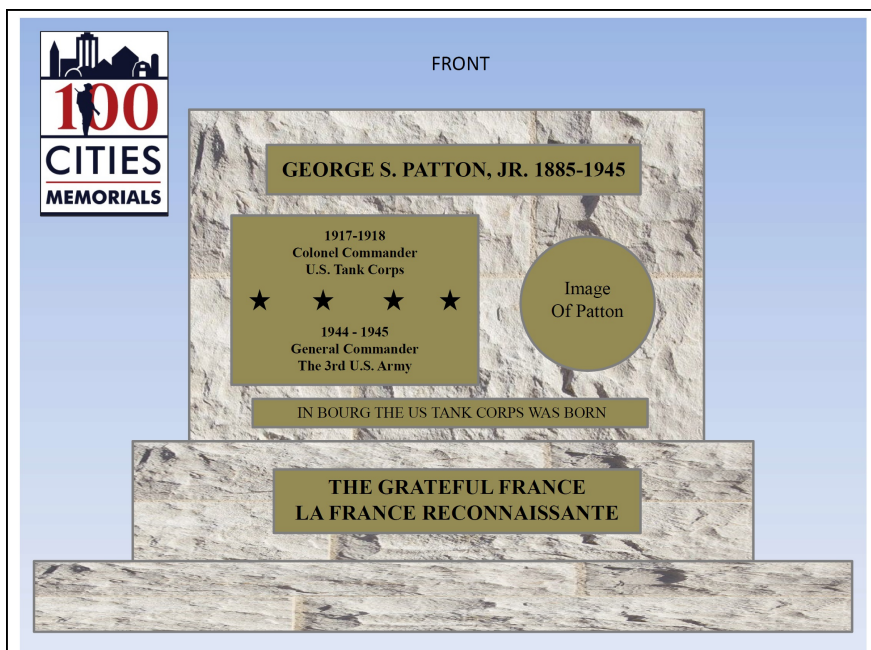
Changes like this would also allow some other changes to the overall monument base.

Let me show you what I am thinking.





## Proposed Changes to the Patton/Tank Corps Monument - Cont.



So this is the rough design I have for the proposed change. This is not 100% accurate but should give you an idea.

One of the things we could do is have the stones with wording engraved stone and then have the image of Patton in bronze. (again its an idea) Maybe we could get the image in stone?

The bronze plaques are the expensive parts of the monument.

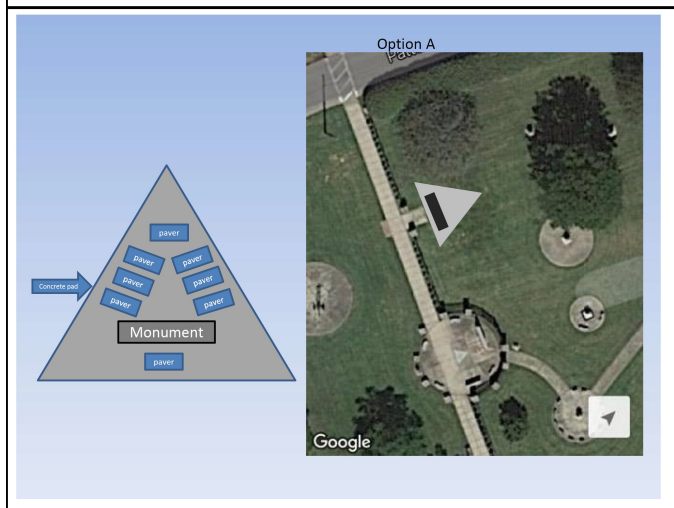


So the back side of the monument is another item for change. So this could go two ways. We can take the Patton information and put those on pavers in the pad for the monument or we can take the Tank Corps and WWTCA information off and put it on pavers in the monument base.

The first thought was to take the Gen Patton information off the back of the monument. So this is what it would look like if we did this.

The lower stone is where I would like USA Brotherhood of Tankers would be carved out.

The Armor Triangle is something that we originally thought of as a bronze plaque but would like to see this as a color item.



The base: so this is where we would be making the biggest change. As you can see we would have a triangular base, with pavers in the base.

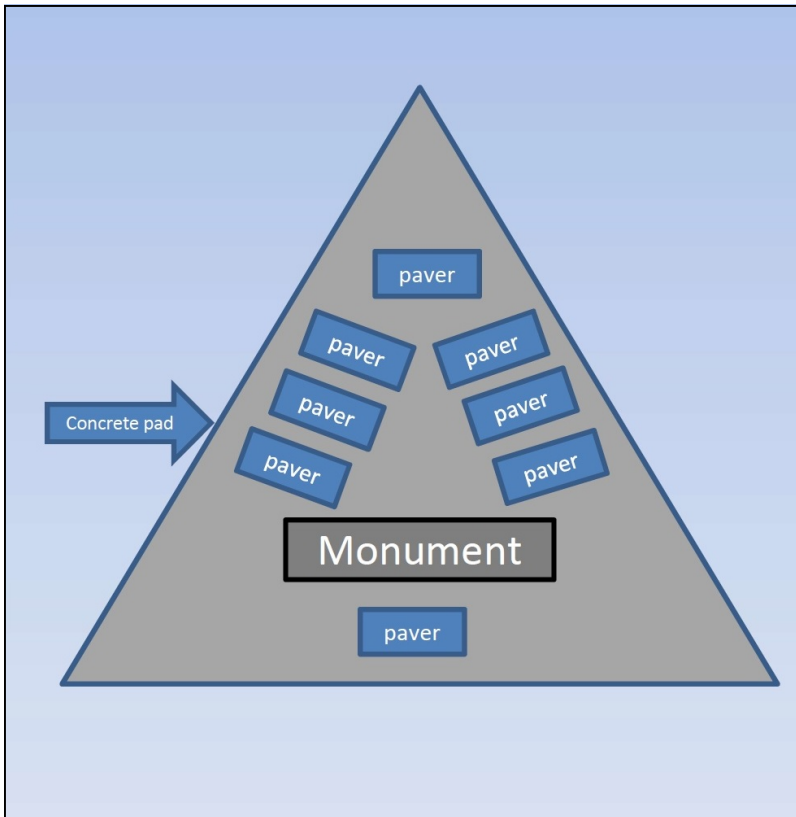
These pavers could have the information on Gen Patton which was on the back of the monument. This would allow you to walk along and follow the key moments in his timeline during WWI.

Or if we leave the Patton information on the back of the monument we could then put the Tank Corps information on the pavers and the information on the World Wars Tank Corps Association.

I can show examples of what I am talking about.



## Tanker Tales - Cont.



This arrangement of the pavers is not final or anyway exactly how this would look.

The pavers if we were talking about Gen Patton would be like the example below.

Based on the amount of wording we had on the back of the monument with Patton information there would be about 6 pavers.

If we were to do the pavers for the Tank Corps and WWTCA there would only be two pavers.

The paver in front of the monument I thought about a statement. So this is what I would like to put on that paver.

*“Before you stands a monument similar to one in Bourg, France. The monument in Bourg is dedicated to Gen George S. Patton, Jr.. This monument is for the men of the US Tank Corps and their service in WWI.*

*As you look beyond the monument you will see a field of monuments dedicated to the Armored Force of World War II. Those men were the second generation of tankers. Those monuments are dedicated to their service in World War II.*

*100 years after the formation of the US Tank Corps the United States Army still has Armor and tankers. And the esprit de Corps, élan, and the basics of the Armor Branch were instilled by Captain George S Patton, Jr. ”*

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.

### EXAMPLE OF PAVER



## Veteran's Club breaks ground on tiny home community in Louisville

Veteran's Club breaks ground on tiny home community in Louisville

By Sean Baute | March 6, 2020 at 6:25 PM EST - Updated March 6 at 7:28 PM

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (WAVE) - After months of planning and hours of volunteering, a tiny home community for veterans is one step closer to welcoming America's heroes.

Veterans were taken by limousine to the groundbreaking of Camp Restoration on Friday, at the end of Stuart Avenue off of Dixie Highway.

Camp Restoration is a chance for homeless veterans to put a roof over their heads and get back on their feet.

Army veteran Megan Karr has struggled with homelessness herself, despite her efforts as an advocate for other veterans fighting that same fight.

As a veteran, Karr said what the Veterans Club is doing for veterans in Louisville is a huge step forward.

"You can get people to say thank you for your service, which I'm so appreciative of," she said. "But to be able to take it a step further, and this is just leaps and bounds further than that, it feels good."

Tiny homes inside shipping containers, making up an entire community, is the premise.

"I grew up ... in the same neighborhood about a mile away, and so it's very sentimental to me to be here to bring something like this to this part of town," Veterans Club founder Jeremy Harrell said. "It's a very emotional day. I'm an Army guy. I was a drill sergeant in the Army, so I have a good way of putting that away but I know it's going to hit me soon."

Harrell and the rest of the Veteran's Club is entirely volunteer-based. This project relied pro-bono work from other Louisville-based companies. It's about a community coming together for one another.

"Band of brothers: that's what the marine corps is," Marine veteran David Willis said. "And when I think of veterans being left behind, I don't like it. As a country, we need to support our veterans. I've been blessed and I want to pass that on to other veterans who aren't as blessed as I am."

Willis is also a member of the Veterans Club.

Karr said she believes Camp Restoration will be a great tool for homeless veterans to have people to talk to about their problems.

"Here, you're going to have somebody sitting next to you," she said. "In person being able to talk to somebody is huge."

They will also have resources available to them that they may not otherwise have while they're staying at Camp Restoration.

The Veterans Club hopes to have people in the homes by 2021.

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## U of L interior design students to design tiny homes for veterans in need

U of L interior design students to design tiny homes for veterans in need  
Lexie Ratterman Mar 5, 2020 Updated Mar 5, 2020

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (WDRB) -- Homeless Louisville veterans will soon have a warm place to sleep thanks to a group of University of Louisville students.

Students in the school's interior design program are designing tiny homes made from large shipping containers. The homes populate a new community for homeless vets created by the Veteran's Club. That community, called Camp Restoration, will be located just off of Dixie Highway, near Stuart Avenue. It will consist of 25 tiny homes, a community center and a wellness center for veterans and their families.

On Thursday morning, the design students shared their ideas with Jeremy Harrell, founder and chief executive of the Veteran's Club. Harrell said the students are challenged with more than just designing a tiny dream home. Each home has to be tailored to veterans who may have PTSD or other mental challenges.

"For example, the exits. The exits have to be there," he said. "The ability to go from one room to the other has to be there ... Safety is a big deal, right? And we want to provide that for them, and they often don't have that, being homeless."

Jeremy Harrell, founder and chief executive of the Veteran's Club

Harrell said he was absolutely floored with the designs he saw. Some or all of them will be selected for the community.

Each veteran will get at least a year to live for free in the community, but they must meet requirements while they're there. After a year, the Veteran's Club hopes the residents are able to get out and live on their own.

The Veteran's Club, along with Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer and other community members, will break ground on the project Friday. They hope to have veterans actually living in the homes sometime in 2021.



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## My Vision of a Veteran Community

### Keys to Veteran Village/Community

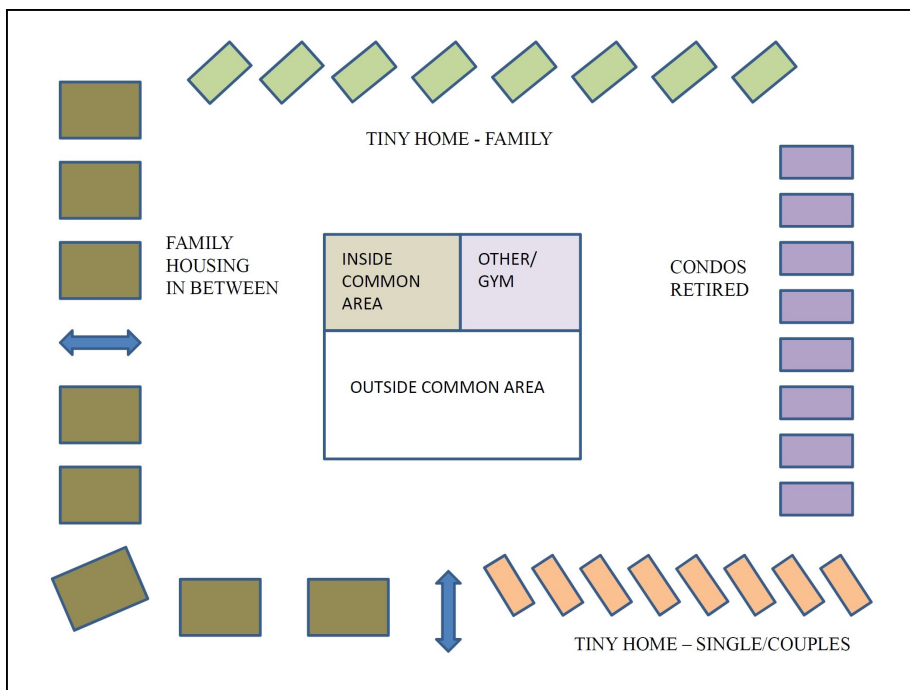
1. Retired Living/Condos
2. In between living (not Retired)
3. Tiny houses (homeless/transition)
4. All housing available for single and family living
5. Common area (indoor and outdoor)
6. An oath to be a member of the community.

These are things that I think would be good for a veteran community. I thought about this several years ago and I still think about it.

As we in USABOT have seen from just a Facebook page. We can stop suicides, help people find jobs, help people relocate, and be there for each other.

There should be a place for veterans or those who have served to use as they transition or relocate to find work. This is also a platform for that.

This layout is just an idea that I have had. I see it as a way for those who are a Soldier for Life to find that place that they can fit in and find that stability after their service.



I am all for the small house communities for veterans but I don't want to term these all for homeless veterans. I think that these need to be communities of veterans. Veterans of all types. Those who are retired, those who have left the service and still working or trying to find a job, and those in transition, the ones who need that place to help them get on their feet. It would be better if we have those other veterans in the community also. Much like a mentorship and support program so that everyone is in a good place and or trying to find that good place.

Below is one of the communities that has been in place and this kind of covers what I am talking about. If you hit the internet looking for stories on these projects there are many just coming on board.

### Village of tiny houses for homeless veterans in Racine Wisconsin almost full. 14 of the 15 tiny houses are now home to veterans.

Posted: 6:18 PM, Mar 13, 2018 Updated: 8:05 PM, Mar 13, 2018

By: Pete Zervakis

A village of tiny homes built to house homeless veterans in Racine is almost completely full. When non-profit organization Veterans Outreach of Wisconsin cut the ribbon on the Veteran Village late last year, veterans moved into four of the tiny houses. Now, 14 of the 15 tiny homes are occupied, according to Veterans Outreach of Wisconsin Executive Director Jeff Gustin.

"We have a couple applications we're in the process of going through right now, and that house will probably be filled by the end of the week," Gustin said. Veterans Outreach of Wisconsin provides free housing and food to the residents of the tiny homes. Gustin said the goal is to give veterans a place to stay, for up to two years, where they can focus on saving money and formulating a plan to find and maintain stable housing.

The group's approximately \$280,000 yearly budget is covered almost entirely through private donations. Gustin said about five percent of the funding comes from state grants. As more residents have moved in, programming at the community center in the middle of the village has picked up. The programs include art therapy, music therapy, money management classes, support groups for PTSD, and support groups for substance abuse.

Gustin said the activities at the community center provide needed assistance to the veterans, while also helping them prepare to eventually return to living on their own. "There's the socialization aspect of it," Gustin said. "If you're going to be productive in society, you have to be able to socialize with other people."

Veteran Michael Kane said he was homeless before he moved into one of the tiny homes in December. He said interacting with the other vets at the village is therapeutic. "This little community, we all understand each other," Kane said. "We're all broken in some way, shape, or form. But our brokenness is healed among each other."

Kane added he would not be able to access all of the help provided through the programs at the Veteran Village if he was still living on his own. "Never in the deepest part of my mind would I have ever thought a community like this would be here for the veterans," Kane said.

(<https://www.tmj4.com/news/local-news/village-of-tiny-houses-for-homeless-veterans-in-racine-almost-full>)



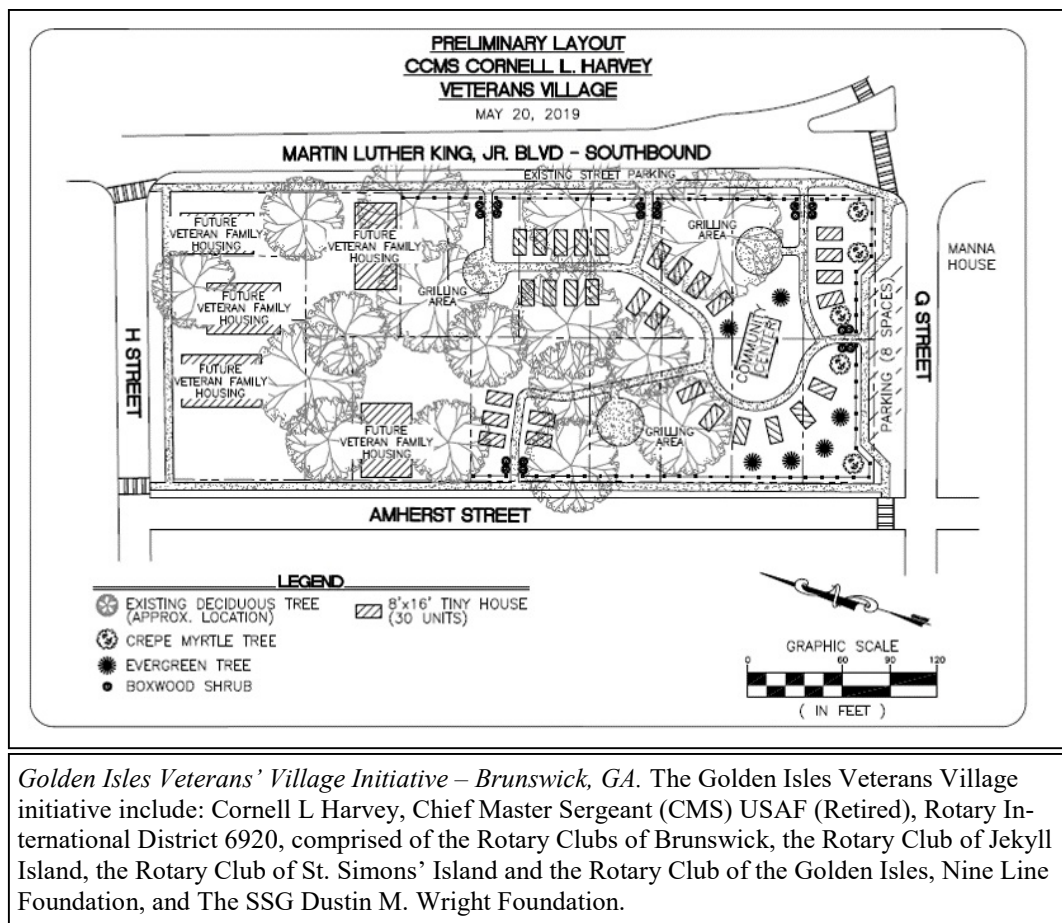
## Something to Think About

This is a layout for a tiny home village in Brunswick, GA. This is the first one that I have seen where future plans include veteran family housing. This is also the first one I have seen with Nine Line Foundation involved. After researching this they have two that they are working on. One in Brunswick, GA and one in Savannah, GA.

I have not been able to find any layouts for the other village. The majority of these villages are all tiny homes. I see this as something that could be more. A real community and similar to the experience of living on a military installation.

One of the other villages has a food pantry that is visited by some 100,000 veterans each year. Now that is something that I have not seen at any of the other villages that have been talked about.

By having an open mind and putting ideas together there is a lot we can do to help our fellow veterans.



So I listen to podcasts and I listen to a variety of different ones. Recently I was listening to Armchair Expert with Dax Shepard and his interview with Ashton Kutcher (episode #184, February 24, 2020). In the interview one of the first things that came up was Dax asking Ashton what his new year resolution was for 2020. And Ashton said something that really made me think. His answer was he was not doing a yearly resolution but doing a decade resolution. A resolution to see what changes or improvements he can make in this decade, 10 years. Ashton also talked about how some businesses can do a century resolution, where can the company be in 100 years. But I want to go back to the decade, 10 years, concept. I started asking myself where do we see USABOT in 10 years? Where do we see the Patton Battalion in 10 years?

Well, we haven't been around 10 years yet. So we don't have ten years to look back on. But we have almost ten years to look back on and that may help us see ten years down the road.

In this podcast there was discussion about how data can show things we don't see otherwise. Dax mentioned a new book, "Talking to Strangers" by Malcolm Gladwell, and in one of the chapters talked about how poet Sylvia Plath (1932-1963) committed suicide in 1963 by sticking her head in an oven and using the gas to kill herself. He went on to mention that when London changed the type of natural gas being used the suicide rate dropped by the same number of those committed. Here is an article I found.

*"Prior to the 1950s, domestic gas in the United Kingdom was derived from coal and contained about 10-20% carbon monoxide (CO). Poisoning by gas inhalation was the leading means of suicide in the UK. In 1958, natural gas, virtually free of carbon monoxide, was introduced into the UK. By 1971, 69% of gas used was natural gas. Over time, as the carbon monoxide in gas decreased, suicides also decreased. Suicides by carbon monoxide decreased dramatically, while suicides by other methods increased a small amount, resulting in a net decrease in overall suicides, particularly among females.*

*Over time, rates of suicide began to increase again although not to the pre-1965 levels. One author has estimated that over a ten-year period, an estimated six to seven thousand lives were saved by the change in domestic gas content."*

*From the article "Means Saves Lives"*

(<https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/means-matter/means-matter/saves-lives/>)

Dax went on to say that the thought of "well if you stop this it just means they will find another way." No, the data shows that through coupling there is a reduction in the numbers. He also mentioned the Golden Gate Bridge jumpers. Of the 500 that were stopped only 25 ever went on to commit suicide.



## New Patton and the US Tank Corps Monument Items

So we have some new items on top of the tees and the mugs. I have decals/stickers that we have had made. The first is the Bourg oval decal/sticker. These are just like the Treat'em Rough decals. They are made for indoor and outdoor use. These are small but I wanted to see how these would do before diving head first. These are 2" tall and 4" long. I have 10 of these on hand.

The other item is the Tank Nerds Armor in History decal/sticker. These are slightly larger than the Bourg decal. These are 3" tall and 5" long. It is a clear decal with the image on it. I made the mistake of selecting Option II, black ink, for the first set. We can always get white ink but I will have order those. I have 20 on these on hand.

Another new item is the Tank Destroyer sticker. After some asking if this is something we would do I finally broke down and had Cricket Press make us a design that we could use. As always, they did a great job. I have 25 of these Tank Destroyer stickers.

All of these stickers we are offering at \$5.00 each.





## New Tank Corps Monument Item



The 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Bulge tee shirt. These are on a run like the shirts we did before. Colors are White, Grey, and OD Green. Sizes will run from Small through 3XL. These shirts are athletic cut and do run small in size. These are \$30 each, 3XL shirts are \$35 each. Shipping can be included. These shirts are printed as ordered.

**On Hand - 1 - Grey - XL**

Patton Battalion has a new item for the Patton US Tank Corps Monument Project.

Its an 11oz Diner Mug made here in the USA by Deneen Pottery. These are available for \$25 each and shipping if needed is between \$8 and \$10 depending on quantity and distance.



We now have Gloss/White (17) and Black (24) on hand. So they are going quick. Contact me or look for them on the 19Series Website. <https://19seriesclothing.com/>





## Patton Monument Report for 2020

As of March 25, 2020, the Monument fund has \$15,417.40. After paying for the second run of mugs and moving funds over to cover shipping costs.

Total in Monument Account: \$15,417.40.

The Bourg Tee Shirts we have on hand.

**Large:** Yellow - 3, Tan - 2, **2XL:** Yellow -4, Tan - 3, OD - 4, **3XL:** Yellow - 2, Tan - 2, OD - 1, **4XL:** Yellow - 2.

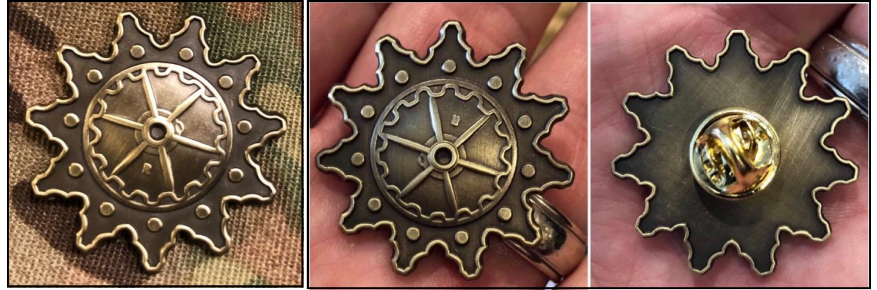
M4 Tee Shirt

**Large:** Tan - 1, OD -1.

**2XL:** Tan - 1

### Lapel Pins

We are looking at \$12 each for these.



I have over 40 of the Treat'em Rough stickers again! We are asking \$5 each, which includes shipping. If you want some please contact me!

### **Patton Battalion Funds / Memberships / Dues**

The Patton Battalion, as of March 25, has 451 members on our battalion Facebook page. Out of those 451 members we are currently at 93 paid members. The Patton Battalion has \$0.66 in funds in the PayPal account. We have \$975.63 in the Patton Operating account. Battalions funds are \$313.22.

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](mailto:pattonbattalion@outlook.com) or  
[patton.battalion@usabot.org](mailto: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

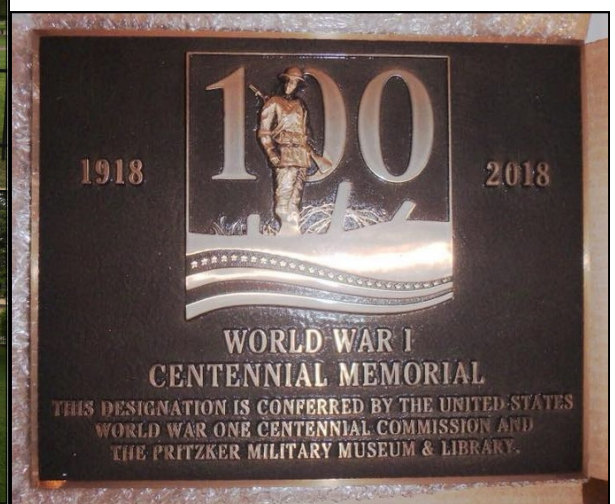
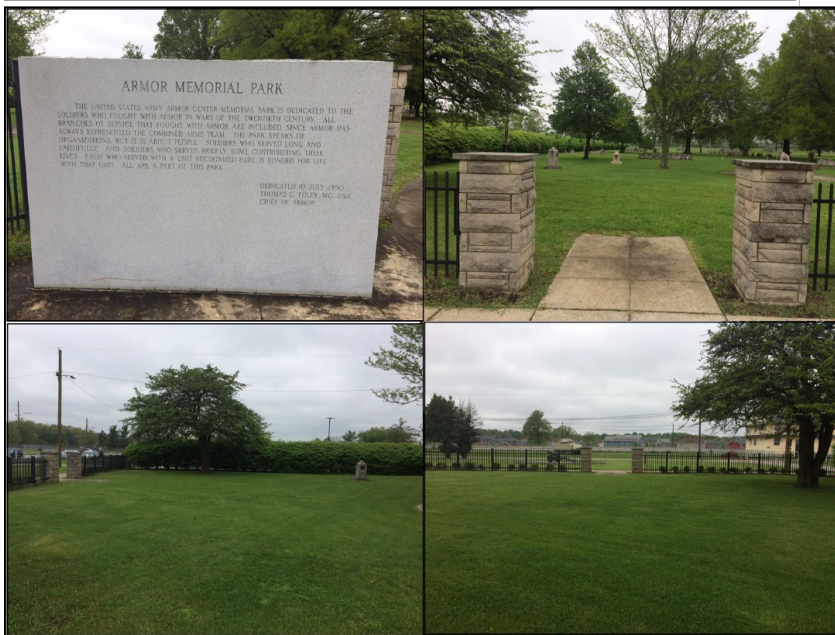
**Make checks payable to USABOT**  
**If at all possible try to go the USABOT Store Online**  
**and register there so that the G4 can track.**

**WWW.USABOT.ORG**

# Patton Joins the US Tank Corps Monument

The US Tank Corps shirts we still have few tees left!

<https://19seriesclothing.com/>





## Patton Monument Layout

### *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.
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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 to the new Chief of Tanks, B.G. Samuel D. Rockenbach. 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 1<sup>st</sup> Light Tank School, February 14, 1918.

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

Organized 1<sup>st</sup> Light Tank Battalion with himself commanding, April 28, 1918.

Organized 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 304<sup>th</sup> 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 Layout

*Proposed wording for backside of Monument (Right Side Rear)*

### TANK BATTALIONS THAT SERVED IN COMBAT

301<sup>st</sup> Heavy Tank Battalion  
306<sup>th</sup> Tank Brigade  
331<sup>st</sup> Tank Battalion

304<sup>th</sup> Tank Brigade  
344<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion & 345<sup>th</sup> 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

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Be sure to check us out on  
Twitter @pattonbattalion



Coming up in the April Issue - The Patton Battalion - USABOT over the next decade, 2020-2030.

Upcoming Events

**US Cavalry & Armor Association Chapter Fort Knox** - Stable Call monthly meeting, 3rd Thursday of every month, Location TBD - Fort Knox, KY.

**Sullivan Cup - Best Tank Crew Competition** - Fort Benning, GA, 4-8 May 2020. **(POSTPONED)**

**22 Challenge 10K Ruck March** - Jeffersonville, IN, May 16, 2020. **(PENDING)**

**Ninth Annual Tanker Homecoming** - Fort Carson, CO - September 23-26, 2020. **(PENDING)**

**World War II Event** - Indiana Military Museum, Vincennes, IN, 2020.

**Patton and the US Tank Corps Monument** - Fort Knox - **TBD**

From the US Army Armor School

Are you ready for Sullivan Cup 2020!?

The events will be held 4-8 May 2020 here at Fort Benning!

Official invites and further details to follow, but let's start getting excited about seeing who the best tank crew of 2020 will be!!!

**THE EVENT HAS BEEN POSTPONED DUE TO THE COVID-19**

