

**NEWSLETTER
MARCH 2022
VOLUME 11 - 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

438 on Battalion Facebook Page

PATTON BATTALION - USABOT

ILLINOIS - INDIANA - KENTUCKY - TENNESSEE

Time is flying by. We already almost through with April and running into May! With the current state of the economy our sales for the monument project have slowed to a stop. Phil Wilburn has been busy getting quotes on the monument project and seeing what we can get done. I hope we can get this rolling soon and finished.

The Patton Museum at Fort Knox is approaching the 50th anniversary of the current location and museum. I thought it would interesting to take a look back at the original museum. When I first started this I asked if anyone had any photos of the original museum which was a wooden building like the old wooden barracks. I went so far as to see if the National Archives might have the blue-prints for the building. Unfortunately, they did not have the blueprints.

So in order to find photos I had to use postcard photos and other photos I could find online or from previous articles. I did get help from Michael at the Patton Museum and Matthew Rector from the first article you will read. I was able to find an article from 1949 that gives a pretty good description of the museum at that time.

Next up is a story of a man and tank from WWI. It will require a little extra curricular activity. I heard this story from an amazing podcast called *Battles of the First World War*. The podcast will really set the tone for the story. Mike Cunha does a great job of sound, story and painting a picture that puts you there in WWI. As I was driving when I was listening to this story I found myself trying to rotate the turret, fire the gun, reload the machine gun, and I was covered in sweat when I finally got where I was going.

As I am about to get to the end of my reading stack which I showed in January I wanted to share information on one of the books which is not tank related. *Fire Mission, Battery Adjust!* Filip Willems has put together a great book covering the 463rd Parachute Artillery.

The Sullivan Cup and Armor Ball are just a few weeks away! USABOT has its Support Team busy preparing for the event.

The World War II event at the Indiana Military Museum will be on May 7 & 8. Be sure to check out their website for more information. www.indianamilitarymuseum.com. They upgraded their website and its very worth a new look.

KP Morris
Patton 6



[HTTPS://DOUGHBOY.ORG](https://doughboy.org)
[WWW.USABOT.ORG](http://www.usabot.org)
[HTTPS://19SERIESCLOTHING.COM](https://19seriesclothing.com)

Patton Museum at 50

The Patton Museum is approaching the 50th Anniversary of the opening of the museum it is currently in. I wanted to see if anyone had any photos from the original museum I was wanting to share them. I don't ever remember going to the original museum. So I had to find some old articles and photos from post cards.

Rediscovering Fort Knox - 1949: Patton Museum opens doors to community

Thursday, July 5, 2018 at 11:00 am (Updated: July 5, 11:01 am)

By MATTHEW RECTOR and ALICE HART

The Patton Museum of Cavalry and Armor was originally located in a World War II mobilization building located on Old Ironsides Avenue across from present-day Boudinot Hall.

Named for the famed 3rd Army commander, General George Patton Jr., the museum was officially dedicated May 30, 1949, 3 1/2 years after the general's death. Among the dignitaries who spoke before the crowd of approximately 5,000 was Beatrice Ayer Patton, widow of the general.

The museum remained at that location until 1972, when a new building was constructed at its current location with funds raised by the Patton Museum Foundation.

In 2010, as a result of a base realignment and closing action, the Armor School and the Cavalry and Armor collection were relocated to Fort Benning, Georgia. The collection of General Patton's artifacts remained at Fort Knox, however, and completely renovated exhibits opened in 2012 at the same location under the newly-titled General George Patton Museum of Leadership.

Today's museum showcases the foremost collection of artifacts related to General Patton, including his famous ivory-handled pistols. The collection is used in exhibits and programming to educate and inspire cadets, Soldiers and public visitors with lessons from Patton's life and from the lives of other Army leaders.

The latest chapter of the museum's history includes building renovations that will enhance visitor experience and prepare the facility for future interpretations of ROTC and Fort Knox history. The museum is scheduled to reopen to the public on September 1.

Photos courtesy of General George Patton Museum \ Mrs. Beatrice Ayer Patton, widow of the famed 3rd Army Commander, was photographed speaking before a crowd at the formal dedication of the Patton Museum on May 30, 1949.

Exterior view of the first building that housed the Patton Museum.

Interior view of the first Patton Museum and featuring three vehicles associated with General Patton that remain in the museum at Fort Knox.



Patton Museum at 50 - Cont.

APRIL 2, 2021

FLASHBACK FRIDAY

Items from the "Patton Collection" have been at Fort Knox since late 1946, but the official dedication of the museum to General George Smith Patton, Jr. arrived on May 30, 1949. General Lucius D. Clay was photographed as he delivered the principal address at the formal dedication of the Patton

Museum at its original location in a World War II mobilization building located on Old Ironsides Avenue. "I am honored to be here today to pay tribute to General George Patton. I am proud that Mrs. Patton wanted me to be here. Even more than that, I am grateful for the opportunity, on this my last full day of active service, to be here because I feel that in no way can I indicate the love and reverence in which I hold the Army than to be here to pay my respects to the Soldier who embodied its highest tradition," said the former Commander in Chief, European Command and Military Governor of the United States Zone of Germany. Clay retired the next day after 32 years of service.

Mrs. Beatrice Ayer Patton, widow of the famed 3rd Army Commander, offered remarks after Clay's address. She is pictured in the lower right corner of the photograph sitting next to Major General William G. Livesay, Fort Knox commanding general.



Patton Museum at 50 - Cont.

General Patton Collected Souvenirs
Inside the Turret. Monday May 30, 1949.

General George S. Patton, Jr., like a lot of other American soldiers, liked to collect souvenirs. However, General Patton didn't bother with small Nazi daggers, watch fobs, P-38's (pistols) or other such trivial things. He went for items like tanks, anti-tank guns, weapons carriers, field artillery pieces and so forth.

He didn't restrict himself to items made by the Germans either. He also collected Czechoslovakian, Russian, French -- in fact he tried to collect one of every type weapon used in Europe against the American armies.

The weapons from other countries were captured by the Nazis, then rebored and rebuilt to fit German munitions. His purpose was not to keep these playthings in his back yard, but to send them back to the States for examination by experts, and to be used for training purposes.

After General Patton died in December, 1945, the War Department shipped the collection back to the U.S.A. In November, 1946, the collection was forwarded to Fort Knox -- Home of the American Armor -- with orders that arrangements be made to display this collection to the public.

A gunnery instruction building on Old Ironsides Ave. was taken over and the collection moved into. (BG Albin F. Irzyk told me over the phone one time that the call came down for any section at Fort Knox that could donate a building for the Patton Museum come forward. He donated the gunnery instruction building as he said it was best suited for holding the collection.) The museum was opened to the public in March 1947 and since the approximately 62,550 people have viewed this collection.

The field artillery pieces range from small 37mm anti-tank weapons to a 20-ton 170mm German rifle. All of these pieces were picked up on the battlefield. Of this there can be no doubt, shell fragment holes in the gun shields tell a story of screaming shells and spilled blood.

The armored vehicles range from a small German armored car to the large 45-ton Mark V Panther tank. A Mark VI Tiger tank was with Patton's original collection but because of its large size it wasn't shipped to Fort Knox. When the Panther tank was shipped to Knox it was necessary to cut off the outside row of bogie wheels in order to conform to railroad clearances. Like the field artillery pieces these instruments of war were knocked out in combat. For the curious type of person, steps have been built beside these vehicles and electric lights hung inside to permit close inspection of their interior.

A special attraction at the museum is the personal jeep and mobile CP used by Patton. The jeep, no doubt, has the same motor and chassis that all of its brothers do, but there the similarity ends. The fenders have been worked over to give them a streamlined look and upholstered spring cushions have replaced the flat pads with which it was issued. The mobile CP looks to be a former mobile ordnance repair truck, but it is equipped with a bed, washing facilities and a large map board.

In addition to the personal collection of "Old Blood and Guts" there are other mementos of World War I and II.

Standing outside the building are three tanks from World War I. Two of these were the type used in combat, but the other, built by Ford, was not used because the war ended before it could be placed in combat.

Just inside the museum door, mounted on an easel, are the flags used by BG S. D. Rockenback, commander of the tank forces in World War I. These flags are triangular and have the same color combinations as is used today in the Armored shoulder insignia.

Behind the flags of Gen Rockenback stands a piece of German ship which was not picked up on the battlefield. This is an exact copy of a table given to Hitler by Dr. Todt, chief of German Work Program, upon the occupation of Hitler's 50th birthday. This is a large round table, big enough for 10 or 12 men to play poker on, and has a metal inlay of the entire German Autobahn (super highway) System built by the Third Reich between 1933 and 1939. This table was given to the museum by General John W. Leonard when he left the post in June, 1948.

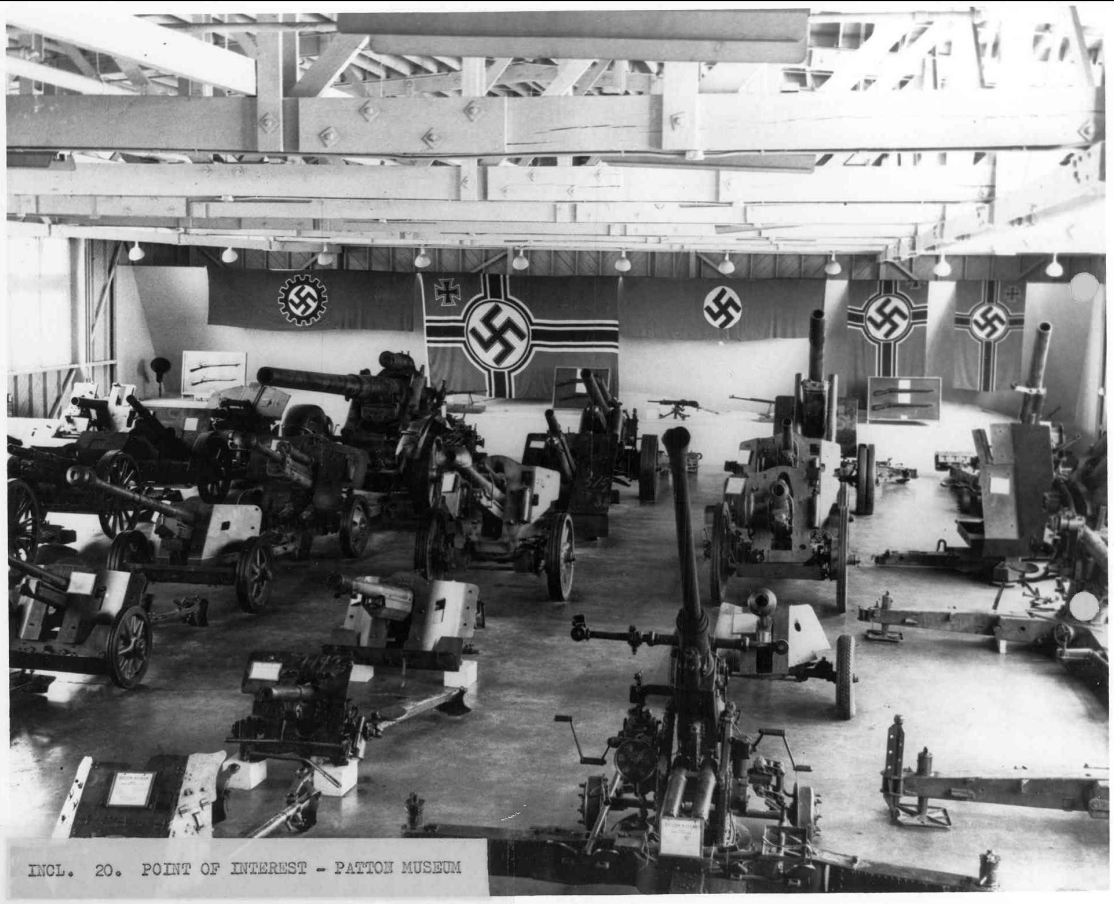
Two large items of interest are hanging from the ceiling. A 10x15 foot Nazi flag taken from Nazi Headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany, and a large metal sign, "Cross the Rhine with dry feet. Courtesy of the 9th Armored Division." This sign hung near the west end of the Remagen Bridge at Dusseldorf, and the capture of this bridge by the 9th Armored Division gave the Allies a foothold on the eastern bank of the Rhine. Among the smaller armament are various types of Japanese equipment which has been donated by interested parties. The latest piece of Japanese equipment to come in is a light tank. This was received late in November and has been placed with the other armored vehicles.

In the building, but not part of the Patton collection are approximately 1,000 pictures, which if you take time to study, will give you a pictorial history of the development of armor.

The museum, which is open from 8am to 4pm, Sunday through Saturday, is maintained by MSG Charles Parker, MSG Robert L. Irely, MSG Luther Hoggard and SFC Ernest Masey.

To Patton the tank was a mechanical modern version of the horse, an implement to wage lightning-fast and paralyzing war.

Patton Museum at 50 - Cont.



INCL. 20. POINT OF INTEREST - PATTON MUSEUM

PFC John Lewis Barkley - WWI

Private First Class John Lewis Barkley

www.firstworldwarpodcast.com

You must first go to the *Battle of the First World War Podcast* and listen to episode #79 *Meuse Argonne – Army of One*.

This is the story of Private John Lewis Barkley and the events that lead up to his Medal of Honor. The description:

“On October 7th, 1918, PVT John Lewis Barkley, a scout in the 3rd Division AEF, decided “to make things interesting for the Germans for a while.” With a captured machine gun and some four thousand rounds of ammunition, he engaged an enemy battalion-sized unit.

Single-handedly.

From inside an abandoned tank.”

Its from the book *Scarlet Fields: The Combat Memoir of a World War I Medal of Honor Hero* (Modern War Studies) by John Lewis Barkley.

ASIN: 0700620192

Publisher: University Press of Kansas; Illustrated edition (August 15, 2014)

Language: English

Paperback: 288 pages

ISBN-10: 9780700620197

ISBN-13: 978-0700620197

Item Weight: 12.4 ounces

Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.75 x 8.25 inches

Scarlet Fields

The Combat Memoir of a World War I Medal of Honor Hero

By John Lewis Barkley,

Introduction and Notes by Steven Trout,

Afterword by Joan Barkley Wells

The train was packed with men. Men lying as still as if they were already dead. Men shaking with pain. One man raving, jabbering, yelling, in delirium. Everywhere bandages . . . bandages . . . bandages . . . and blood.

Those words describe the moment when Private John Lewis Barkley first grasped the grim reality of the war he had entered. The rest of Barkley's memoir, first published in 1930 as *No Hard Feelings* and long out of print, provides a vivid ground-level look at World War I through the eyes of a soldier whose exploits rivaled those of Sergeant York.

A reconnaissance man and sniper, Barkley served in Company K of the 4th Infantry Regiment, a unit that participated in almost every major American battle. The York-like episode that earned Barkley his Congressional Medal of Honor occurred on October 7, 1918, when he climbed into an abandoned French tank and singlehandedly held off an advancing German force, killing hundreds of enemy soldiers. But Barkley's memoir abounds with other memorable moments and vignettes, all in the words of a soldier who witnessed war's dangers and degradations but was not at all fazed by them.

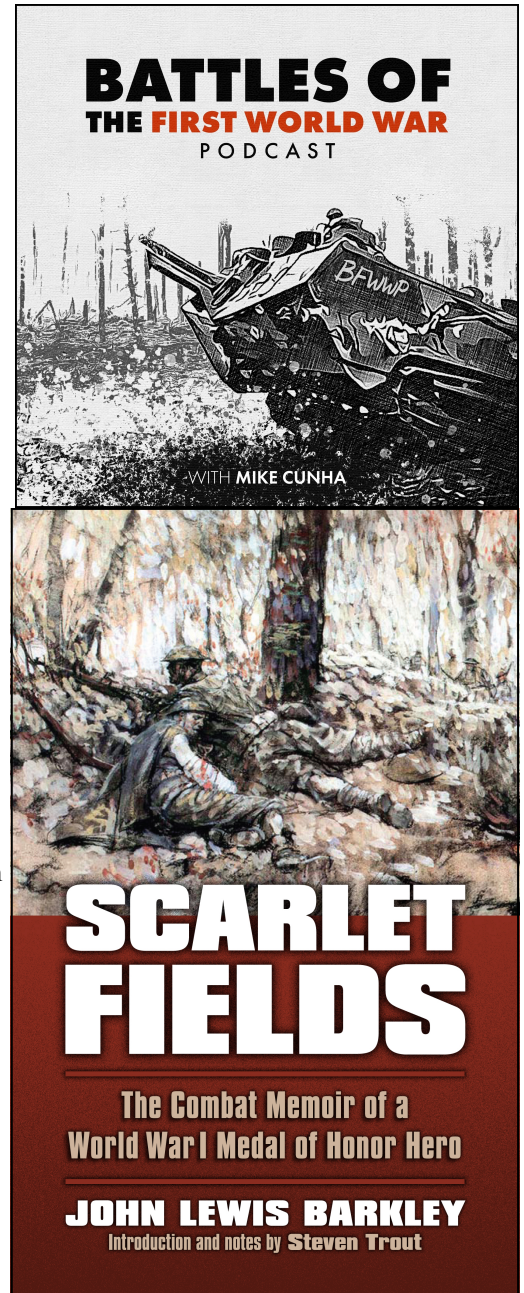
Unlike other writers identified with the "Lost Generation," he relished combat and made no apology for having dispatched scores of enemy soldiers; yet he was as much an innocent abroad as a killing machine, as witnessed by second thoughts over his sniper's role, or by his determination to protect a youthful German prisoner from American soldiers eager for retribution. This Missouri backwoodsman and sharpshooter was also a bit of a troublemaker who smuggled liquor into camp, avoided promotions like the plague, and had a soft heart for mademoiselles and frauleins alike.

In his valuable introduction to this stirring memoir, Steven Trout helps readers to better grasp the historical context and significance of this singular hero's tale from one of our most courageous doughboys. Both haunting and heartfelt, inspiring and entertaining, *Scarlet Fields* is a long overlooked gem that opens a new window on our nation's experience in World War I and brings back to life a bygone era.

About the Author

Steven Trout chairs the English Department at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. His most recent book is *On the Battlefield of Memory: The First World War and American Remembrance, 1919–1941*.

<https://kansaspess.ku.edu/978-0-7006-2019-7.html>



PFC John Lewis Barkley - WWI - Cont.

John Lewis Barkley
MEMORIAL ID: 6403314
Find A Grave Information

World War I - U.S. Army
JOHN LEWIS BARKLEY

Details

Rank: PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

Conflict/Era: WORLD WAR I

Unit/Command: COMPANY K, 4TH INFANTRY, 3D DIVISION

Military Service Branch: U.S. ARMY

Medal of Honor Action Date: OCTOBER 7, 1918

Medal of Honor Action Place: NEAR CUNEL, FRANCE



Citation: Pfc. Barkley, who was stationed in an observation post half a kilometer from the German line, on his own initiative repaired a captured enemy machine gun and mounted it in a disabled French tank near his post. Shortly afterward, when the enemy launched a counterattack against our forces, Pfc. Barkley got into the tank, waited under the hostile barrage until the enemy line was abreast of him and then opened fire, completely breaking up the counterattack and killing and wounding a large number of the enemy. Five minutes later an enemy 77-millimeter gun opened fire on the tank point-blank. One shell struck the drive wheel of the tank, but this soldier nevertheless remained in the tank and after the barrage ceased broke up a second enemy counterattack, thereby enabling our forces to gain and hold Hill 25.

Additional Details

Accredited To: BLAIRSTOWN, HENRY COUNTY, MISSOURI

Awarded Posthumously: NO

Born: AUGUST 28, 1895,
BLAIRSTOWN, HENRY
COUNTY, MO, UNITED
STATES

Died: APRIL 14, 1966
Buried: FOREST HILLS
CEMETERY (PM) (50-132),
KANSAS CITY, MO,
UNITED STATES

Location of Medal: NA-
TIONAL WORLD WAR I
MUSEUM AT THE
LIBERTY MEMORIAL,
KANSAS CITY, MO

[https://www.cmohs.org/
recipients/john-l-barkley](https://www.cmohs.org/recipients/john-l-barkley)

Cunel, France is just outside
of the Meuse-Argonne
American Cemetery.



Patton Museum Employee / Fire Mission-Battery Adjust!

There were four men listed as working at the Patton museum in the 1949 article on pages 4 and 5. I could only find information on one of the men

Topeka State Journal Thursday 31 Aug., 1972, pg. 13:

WAMEGO -Services will be Saturday at Stewart Funeral home here for Robert Leonard Irej, 77, Wamego, who died Tuesday at a Manhattan hospital where he had been a patient for 2 weeks.

He was born Sept.9, 1894 at Waverly and had lived in Wamego since 1950. He retired from the US Army in October, 1950 after 30 years' service including duty in World Wars I & II & Korea. After retiring he operated a television and radio repair shop until 1969.

He was a member of the Union Lodge No. 7, AF&AM, Harold Johnson American Legion Post No. 172 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1258, all at Wamego, and the Retired Enlisted Assn. at Junction city.

He was married March 25, 1935 to the former Genevieve E. Collins. She survives at the home. Other survivors include a sister, Mrs. Mary Jones, Iola.

Masonic Graveside services will be conducted by Union Lodge No.7, AF&AM at Wamego Cemetery. VFW Post 1258 and American Legion Post No. 172 will perform a flag cemetery.



FIRE MISSION! BATTERY ADJUST!

If you're a fan of artillery and want to learn about some Parachute Artillery you need to get in contact with the author for this one!

Fire Mission! Battery Adjust! By Filip D. Willems.

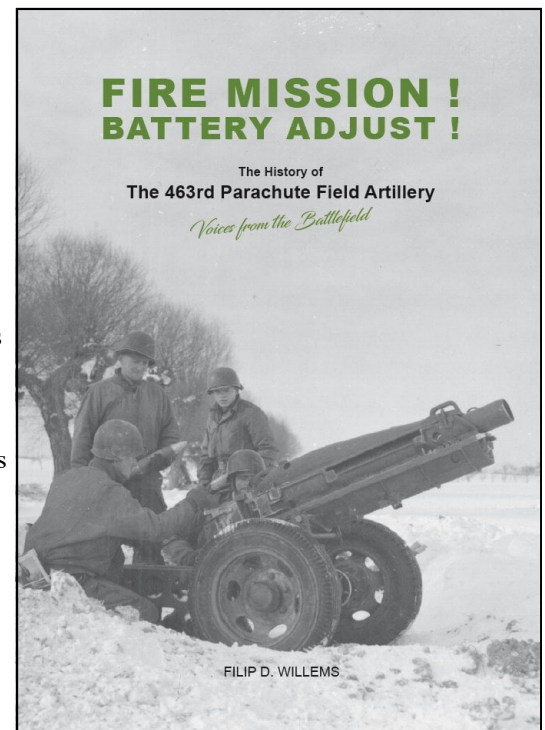
The book is available through the website ww2airborne.net. A great website dedicated to telling the story of this unit in World War II.

This is a very large soft cover book filled with photos and stories about the men and the unit of the 463rd Parachute Field Artillery Battalion. The book is 13 inches tall and 1 1/2 inches thick!

The book is filled with stories from members of the unit, documents from the unit and from conversations the author has had with veterans. It is filled with photos of the members, from the members, and of locations in the area they operated in.

The author shares a passion to ensure that the story of the men who served in World War II continues to be told and shared.

I would love to see this book added to museums across the United States and on military posts as there is much to be learned in the pages of this book.



Patton Museum Events for 2022

May 6th: 75th Anniversary "Thank You" wall dedication

Apr-May: KRDA Leader Lesson by Jim Iacocca BG (R) US Army and Beth Avey)

Jun 10th: Leader Lessons: Kevin M. Hymel, author of "Patton's War: An American General Combat Leadership"

Jun 10th-12th: Living History Encampment

Jun 28th: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

July 1st & 2nd: "July 4th Mini Event"

July 3th: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

July 8th: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

July 13th: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

July 18th: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

July 23rd: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

July 26th: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

July 28th: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

July 31st: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

Aug 2nd: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

Aug 5th: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

Aug 5th: Leader Lessons: Denny G. Hair, author of the "Patton Hidden in Plain Sight" series.

Aug 5th-7th: Living History Encampment

Aug 7th: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

AUG 12th: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

AUG 17th: CST Family Day at Patton Museum

Sep 9th & 10th: Sep 11 Global War on Terrorism Exhibit

OCT 1st: 2022, Sustainment Campaign Kicks Off

Oct 4th - 10th: Patton Week 2022 "A Salute to the Cold War Veterans"

Oct 21-22nd: 1st Annual Kilroy Military Vehicle Show & Swap Meet at Bullitt County Fairgrounds

Nov 11th - 13th: Veteran's Day Event

Nov 24th-28th: Closed for Thanksgiving

Dec 22nd-Jan 2nd: Closed for Christmas / New Year Break

DEC 31st: 2022 Sustainment Campaign Ends

Patton Monument Report for 2021

As of April 22, 2022, the Monument fund has \$26,263.00.

Total in Monument Account: \$26,26300.

The Bourg Tee Shirts we have on hand. **(UPDATED)**

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

M4 Tee Shirt

Large: Tan - 1.

2XL: Tan - 1

New Mugs!!!

We now have the 15oz Red Ball Express mug and the new 15oz Treat'em Rough Mug!

Lapel Pins

We are looking at \$12 each for these.



Patton Battalion Funds / Memberships / Dues

The Patton Battalion, as of April 22, has 438 members on our battalion Facebook page. Out of those 451 members we are currently at 93 paid members. The Patton Battalion has \$.27 in funds in the PayPal account. We have \$382.07 in the Patton Operating account after paying \$15 to state and a frame for Richard Laloge print. Battalions funds are \$382.07. There are no Monument funds in the Battalion account as of this time.

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**.

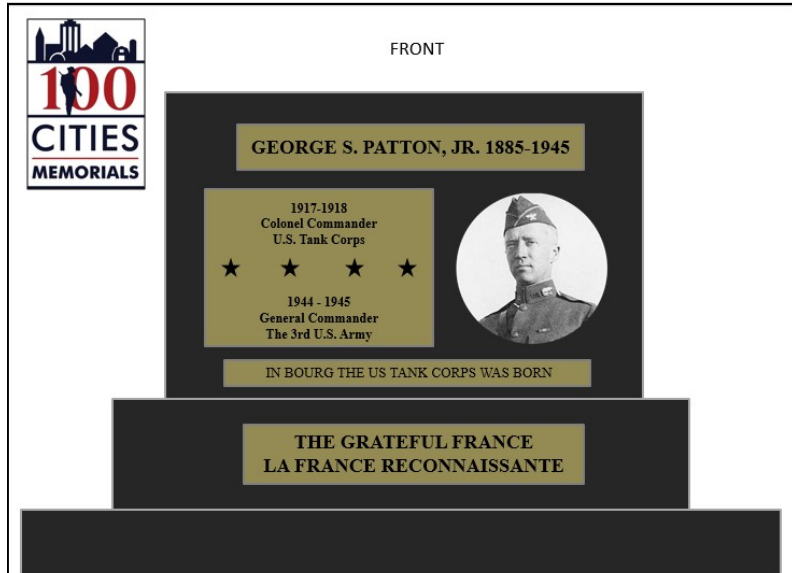
If you don't have a Paypal account you can send a check or Money Order to:

Patton Battalion - USABOT
1432 Flood Road
Shelbyville, KY 40065



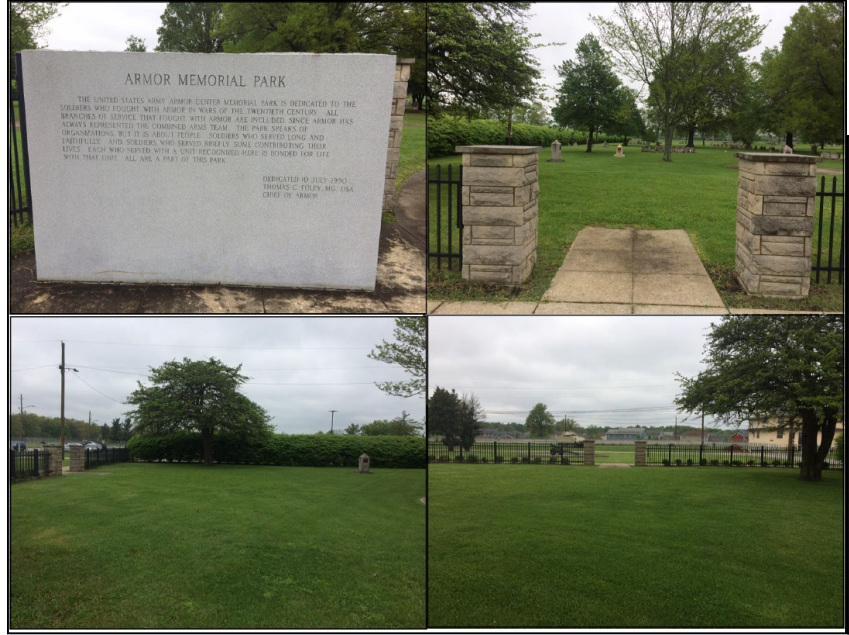
ATTENTION
USABOT Memberships can be renewed and purchased By mail at
USABOT
68 West Marion ST
Doylestown, OH 44230
Make checks payable to USABOT
If at all possible try to go the USABOT Store Online and register there so that the G4 can track.
WWW.USABOT.ORG

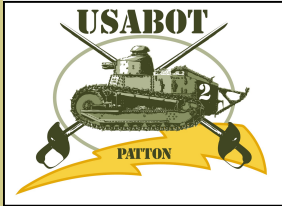
Patton Joins the US Tank Corps Monument



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

<https://19seriesclothing.com/>





Patton Battalion - USABOT

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Be sure to check us out on
Twitter @pattonbattalion



Coming up in the May Issue -

Upcoming Events

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

Indiana Military Museum Schedule 2021

WWI - April 2 & 3.
WWII - May 7 & 8.
Vietnam Appreciation Day - TBD
WWII Salute to Veterans - September 2 & 3.

Lee Robertson, 44th Tank Battalion turns 100! 16 June 2022!

Tenth Annual Tanker Homecoming - Gettysburg, PA. - October 13-16, 2022.

Sullivan Cup - Fort Benning, GA - Sullivan Cup – Best Tank Crew Competition, 2-6 May, 2022

Plans for the Gainey Cup to return around the same time in 2023.

Operation Anvil - Battle for Southern France 1944- Phil Moore Park, Bowling Green, KY, October 1, 2022.

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

