



# CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS

---

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## The First Freedom **LIFE**

***“Roe was egregiously wrong from the start. Its reasoning was exceptionally weak, and the decision has had damaging consequences. And far from bringing about a national settlement of the abortion issue, Roe and Casey have enflamed debate and deepened division. It is time to heed the Constitution and return the issue of abortion to the people’s elected representatives.” – Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito***



# ALL IN AN ETERNITY'S WORK!

Story By Lyda Longa, Sierra Vista Herald, Thanks To Bishop Buckon!

At this Army installation, nourishing the soldier's soul is just as critical as making sure the soldier is ready for his or her mission. At Fort Huachuca in California, this is done by the availability and performance of religious services for various faith groups and anyone who wants to worship. If a particular religious service is not performed on the base, chaplains will connect the soldiers, their families and civilians with a source that will provide them with the spiritual program they are looking for.

In the Chaplains Corps, the slogan is "perform or provide," said Garrison Chaplain LTCOL Shay Worthy. "We perform the services we can perform, but we also provide everything. If we can't perform something, we connect soldiers to the right source. If someone says: 'this is my faith, this is what I need,' I'll say I can't do that for you, but I can make it happen for you." Whether Catholic, Jewish or Muslim, there is a religious service available at the installation.

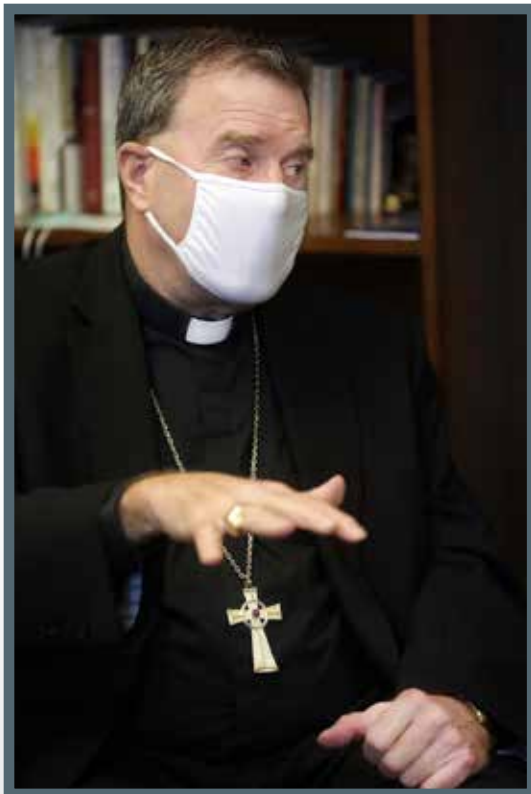
Chaplain Worthy recently hosted the annual visit of Bishop Neal Buckon of the Catholic Archdiocese of Military Services and both men talked about the importance of religion and spirituality in the life of a soldier.

Bishop Buckon is also currently the Commander of the Southwest Region of the Catholic War Veterans. He notes "we have a Chaplain Corps that guarantees the free exercise of religion. The tradition goes back to George Washington, who requested Chaplains for his troops."

In a 1941 speech at Trinity College, Army Chief of Staff GEN George C. Marshall said: "The soldier's heart, the soldier's spirit, the soldier's soul are everything. Unless the soldier's soul sustains him he cannot be relied on and will fail himself and his commander and his country in the end."

The chapels on post are for everyone, they are neutral spaces. There is a meditation room in the chapel that is available to all religious and spiritual beliefs. Aside from Jewish religious services on the post, the Army also offers Jewish religious instruction on Fort Huachuca for anyone interested. Rabbi Benzion Shemtov, who contracts with the Fort, has been teaching classes.

While most of the religious services are performed by individuals the installation contracts with, there is an active duty chaplain who is a Catholic priest. He is the unit Chaplain and has responsibility for caring for his unit and the congregation. Bishop Buckon mentioned that because 22 is the average age in the Army, Chaplains have a "young adult ministry" to tend to. COL Worthy says, "like every young adult, they are kind of seeking more. The search for significance is something we all go through. Chaplains must connect with their soldiers by going to them. They are not necessarily going to come to the chapels. We are Chaplains to all, but pastors to some. We are here for all soldiers, family members and civilians."



Bishop Neal Buckon



Chaplains Worthy and Buckon

# 2022 NATIONAL CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENT

It is time to gather for the 87th Catholic War Veterans National Convention on August 22nd - 28th 2022.



Location is the **Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel**  
300 S. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21201

**Finalize your plans now by using this form to reserve your rooms, Commander's, President's, and Chaplains' luncheon, Convention Banquet, a Star Spangled Bus Tour of Historic Baltimore, Dinner Cruise, and Orioles Ball Game.**

PROGRAM JOURNAL & ADVERTISEMENT INFORMATION	
Submission Deadline is July 31st 2022	
Booklet size is 8.5" X 5.5" (landscape 8.5" x 11" paper folded in half). Please provide high quality images and please make sure images are not reduced when sending. If you are having trouble sending large files, we recommend sending via wetransfer.com; you can send up to 2GB through this free service.	
Size	Color
Outside Back Cover*	\$300
Inside Back Cover*	\$250
Inside Front Cover*	\$250
Full Page	\$150
Half Page	\$100
Quarter Page	\$75
Business Card	\$50
Sponsor(Max. 75 Characters)	\$50
Supporter (Max. 50 Characters)	\$40
Booster (Max. 30 Characters)	\$30
*Equivalent Full-Page ad will be substituted if cover position is not available	
Please CIRCLE the type and price of the ad you are placing. Art work and symbols can be sent electronically to: admin@cwv.org	
Advertiser's Name _____	
Seller's Name _____	
Post# _____ Phone# _____	
Sponsor / Supporter / Booster message: _____	
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LUNCHEON AND BANQUET INFORMATION		
Submission Deadline is July 31st 2022		
Commander's, President's, and Chaplains' Luncheon Thursday, August 25th		
qty	Entrée	total
	Buffet x \$45 each person	\$
<b>Buffet Includes:</b>		
Fresh Field Green Salad, Grilled Chicken with Garlic Mushrooms Vegetarian Lasagna, Milanese Grilled Vegetables Rolls and Butter, Fruit Topped Cheesecake Coffee, Tea, Assorted Herbal Teas, & Soft Drinks (Pepsi Products)		
Convention Closing Banquet - Saturday, August 27th		
qty		total
	Buffet x \$75 each person	\$
<b>Buffet Includes:</b>		
Pasta w/ Minced Garlic Asparagus Tips And Cherry Tomatoes w/ Herb Butter Sauce Freshly Baked Rolls w/ Creamy Butter Mixed Field Greens w/ Wild Mushrooms, Yellow Teardrop Tomatoes & Cucumbers, & Raspberry Vinaigrette Dressing Sliced Flat Iron Steak w/ Demi-Glace Reduction Maryland Crab Cakes w/ Remoulade Sauce Lemon-Lime Herbed Marinated Grilled Chicken Vegetarian Dish Available (Chef's Choice) Grilled Vegetable Medley, Roasted Rosemary Potatoes Assorted Cheesecakes & Tortes Coffee, Tea, Assorted Herbal Teas, & Soft Drinks (Pepsi Products)		
TRIP & ACTIVITY INFORMATION		
Reservation Deadline is July 31st 2022		
qty	Activity	total
	<b>STAR SPANGLED BANNER BUS TOUR</b> Aug 23rd - \$50.00	\$
	<b>Baltimore Orioles Baseball Game</b> Aug 24th - \$50 ea. Only 50 Tickets Available!	\$
	<b>Harbor Dinner Cruise</b> Aug 25th- \$50 ea.	\$
<b>Total Amount for Activities</b>		<b>\$</b>
HOTEL RESERVATIONS		
Reservation Deadline is July 31st 2022		
\$135 Per Night, Cash or Check made payable to the CWV Convention Corp		
<a href="http://cwvstore.org/87th-national-convention-hotel-reservations-august-22nd-august-28th-2022-see-description-below-for-more-info/">http://cwvstore.org/87th-national-convention-hotel-reservations-august-22nd-august-28th-2022-see-description-below-for-more-info/</a>		

**PAYMENT AND SUBMISSION OPTIONS**  
All Deadlines are as stated on this flyer. Mail this form and a check or money order to:  
**CWV Convention Corporation**  
237-20 92nd Rd., Bellerose, NY 11426  
Or if paying by credit card thru the CWV Store, mail this form to the above address AND Go to: cwvstore.org  
An additional 2% will be added to the total order for processing costs.

# NATIONAL 2021 VETERANS DAY POSTER CONTEST



**GRAND PRIZE WINNER, POST 870**  
Kamila A. Rivera  
St. Sebastian Academy, New York



**1ST RUNNER UP, DEPT OF IL**  
Camile Winkeler  
St. Paul School, Highland IL



**3RD PLACE, POST 1916**  
Carter Mitts, Christ the King,  
Springfield, IL

## AND THE WINNERS FROM POST 1 IN NEW YORK FROM IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC ACADEMY ARE:



**1ST PLACE**  
Helena Adler



**2ND PLACE**  
Ismael Leon



**3RD PLACE**  
Benjamin Maca

# NATIONAL KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS CONTEST



**1ST PLACE**  
Hawk Lance  
St. Ursula School, MD  
St. Casimir CWVA #766



**2ND PLACE**  
Alise Grillot  
Russia Local School, Ohio  
St. Remy Post #661

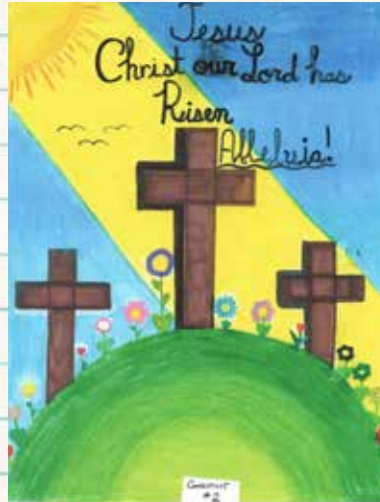


**3RD PLACE**  
Anastasia Herring  
St. Nicholas School, PA  
Pottsville Auxiliary 1051

# AND THE EASTER BUNNY BROUGHT PRIZES TO

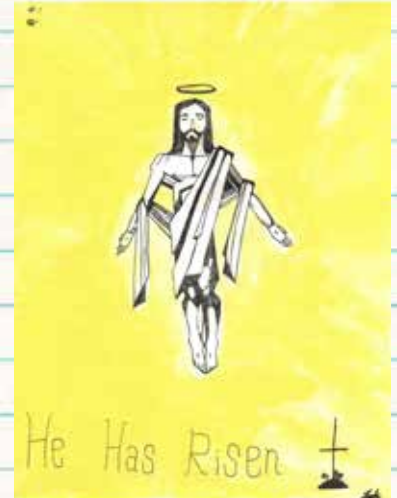
## THE WINNING ENTRY

by Michelle Twizere, Saint Joseph's School, Magadore, Ohio.  
Sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes Post 1325.



## 2ND PLACE PRIZE:

Alessandra Alvarez, St. Mary-St. Michael School, Derby, CT.  
Sponsored by St. Michael Post 1562.



## 3RD PLACE:

Lanila Fatica, Mater Dei Academy, Wickliffe, Ohio. Sponsored by St. John Paul II Post 1959.

# STUDENT PROGRAMS

## MAKING MERRY IN MARYLAND!



Student Arden Shilling, both Post and State winner, is congratulated by Gerri Graziano, President CWV Aux 766, Nick Accord, 3V/C St. Patrick and St. Casimir Post 766, and Noreen Heffner, Principal, St. Casimir School.

## SPELL-ABRATION IN PENNSYLVANIA!



CWV officers congratulate winners of the annual Spelling Bee co-sponsored by Norristown Post 1182 and Bridgeport Post 1683. (From left to right), Post 1683 CMDR Ken Nadwodny; 4th Place finisher Samantha Petrucelli of Holy Rosary School; spell-ing bee judge Kelly Brodoski; Talia Ponzio, 3rd Place from Visitation BVM School; 2nd Place Abigail Porter of Holy Rosary School; 1st Place Winner Gianna Procaccino, also of Visitation; CWV PA State CMDR Nick Taylor, spelling bee judge Charles D'Abbenny, Enunciator Mark Ciccerone, and CWV Post 1182 CMDR Earl Galloway.

(Submitted by Ken Nadwodny)

# LOCAL RESTAURANT AND CWV VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER HONOR STUDENT CADETS

The Texas Roadhouse Restaurant of Benton, Arkansas lent its full support to observing Veterans Day by serving approximately 200 Veterans with a sit down or carry out meal on the holiday. Manager Sheree Smith also gave away 800 gift certificates for future meals at the restaurant.

As part of the day's activities, for the first time, members of the local high school ROTC Unit attended and had a wonderful experience mingling with Veterans, and being recognized with student awards. They are already looking forward to making it even bigger and better next year!



Veterans and ROTC Students get acquainted in front of the restaurant that managed the community event.



Medals and Certificates Await Students!



A group photo after the awards presentation. Manager Sheree Smith, red shirt is at left.



The Bryant High School's ROTC Unit provided a Color Guard to enhance the ceremony.



Proud cadet receives her certificate.



ROTC Director Sergeant Major Rodriguez thanks Janet and William Malloy for their assistance in putting together the honors.



CWV Veterans Service Officer Janet Malloy

# OKLAHOMA POST



Catholic War Veterans Post 168 in Midwest, Oklahoma is a proud supporter of a number of patriotic events that take place in its hometown. Recently, the post shared a few with our magazine! Thanks a bunch to Susan Chavez!



Assembled proudly in this photo are 13 of the 14 local U.S. Navy Recruits prior to receiving their Military Spirit Awards.



A proud mother beams as she and her Navy daughter stand beside a 4-foot wooden replica of the Military Spirit Medal.



Post 168 Founder & first Commander Bob Lambert, and Historian Ralph Gosselin joined the Carl Albert High School ROTC drill team (shown presenting the colors) at a ceremony marking the 74th birthday of the U.S. Air Force.

## CWV COMBAT VETERAN IS A “HALL OF FAMER!”

Submitted by  
James Formato

Michael C. Lutz, 3rd Vice Commander and Service Officer of Joseph R. Farina CWV Post #386 in Newburgh, New York has been inducted into the New York State Veterans Hall of Fame. The Hall was created to honor and recognize outstanding veterans from the state who have distinguished themselves in both military and civilian life.

After graduating high school in 1965, Michael began what would be 35 years of military service across three different branches of the military. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy, attended Radioman “A” school and served aboard the destroyer USS CHARLES S. SPERRY (DD 697). He then joined the Mobile Riverine Force in Vietnam and would earn four Battle Stars.

After a few years with a paper company in Nyack, NY, Mike joined the Army National Guard 101st Signal Battalion. He then transferred to a Medical unit in the Army Reserves, serving at the 815th Station Hospital at Stewart Army Sub post from 1973-1976. In 1985, he joined the 105th Air National Guard at Stewart Air Guard Base in Newburgh, NY, in the Planning and Scheduling Section as a Maintenance Scheduler on the C-5A Galaxy Airplane. He retired at the rank of Master Sergeant (E-7) in 2007.

Beginning in 2000, he assisted as a Eucharistic Minister at masses at the 105th Airlift Wing Chaplain’s Office, as well as St. Francis Church in Newburgh. Mike is also a member of VFW Post 1161, where he is Service Officer and Post Chaplain. He is the proud father of seven children and ten grandchildren. Following in his footsteps, his eldest son joined the Air National Guard and later switched to active duty Navy. Mike Lutz is the second CWV Post #386 member to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. The first was the Post founder and namesake, Joseph R. Farina.



# SUPPORT FOR DEPLOYED TROOPS!



A number of our military units were rapidly deployed to several European countries in contingency support due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Logistical support has been necessarily delayed. CWV answered the call to provide immediate needs such as toiletries and, of course, snack items!

The National Office immediately ordered a supply of special mailing boxes and customs forms from the Postal Service, to send supplies at a special rate. Individual donations from our members are defraying the cost of postage. Some posts, such as St. Sebastian 870 in Woodside, NY and St. Anne's Post 1979 in Glen Oaks, NY have gone above and beyond in soliciting items from members and supporters. "Care Packages" have also included cards, drawings and messages of appreciation from elementary school students. More than 25 cartons have already been shipped to U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps units in theatre.

# SUPPORT FOR OUR VETERANS, TOO!



John J. Hickey Post 731 in Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania hosted a luncheon honoring Monsignor Henry McKee on his retirement from active priesthood and as Chaplain of the Post and Auxiliary after more than 25 years. (From left to right) Mary Quilter, Auxiliary President, MSGR McKee, and John Lynch, Post Commander.



Commander Crum recognized the students of MSGR McClancy Memorial High School in Elmhurst, NY who donated \$2,218 to the Catholic War Veterans from a recent dress down day event.

Thank you, Mary Quilter!





# NATIONAL BOARD MEETING

## HAMPTON INN, NEW YORK

### MAY 5-7, 2022

Attendees join Bishop Coffey after Mass celebrated at CWV's founding church, Immaculate Conception, prior to closing Communion Breakfast.



From left: Commander Dave Crum presided over the quarterly meeting, National Adjutant Nick Taylor, National 1st Vice Commander Ben Nunez and



Those who could not be present participated virtually via Zoom.



National Commander Dave Crum and National Auxiliary President Marylyn Crum confer with Bishop Protector Joseph Coffey during a break.



Board members enjoy a break.



Members of the National Board listen attentively to progress reports from officers and committees.



His real name was Frank “Rocky” Fiegel. He was born in 1868 in Poland and, as a child, immigrated to the United States with his parents, who settled down in a small town in Illinois. As a young man, Rocky went to sea. After a 20 year career as a sailor in the Merchant Marine, Fiegel retired.

He was later hired by Wiebusch’s Tavern in the city of Chester, Illinois as a “bouncer” to maintain order in the rowdy bar. Rocky quickly developed a reputation for always being involved in fighting (and usually winning). As a result, he had a deformed eye (“Pop-eye”). He also always smoked his pipe, so he always spoke out of one side of his mouth. In his spare time, Rocky would entertain the customers by regaling them with exciting stories of adventures he claimed to have had over his career as a sailor crossing the “seven seas.”

The creator of Popeye, Elzie Crisler Segar, grew up in Chester and, as a young man, met Rocky at the tavern and would sit for hours listening to the old man’s “sea stories.” Years later, Segar became a cartoonist and developed a comic strip called “Thimble Theater.” He honored Fiegel by asking if he could model his new comic strip character, “Popeye the Sailor Man” after him. Naturally, Fiegel was flattered and agreed. Segar claimed that “Olive Oyl,” along with other characters was also loosely based on an actual person. She was Dora Paskel, owner of a small grocery store in Chester. She apparently looked like the Olive Oyl character in his comics. He claimed she even dressed much the same way.

Through the years, Segar kept in touch with Rocky and always helped him with money, giving him a small percentage of what he earned from his Popeye illustrations. Who didn’t love the cartoons? We watched them religiously ... so funny, so moral ... each story had a good ending ... wonder if kids these days even know who Popeye is? Who knew he was a real man? Awesome!

## ST. PATRICK’S DAY PARADE IN NEW YORK!





## NEW NAVY SHIP TO CARRY THE NAME OF THE **NOTORIOUS RBG**



### FLEET OILER TO BE NAMED AFTER LATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICE **RUTH BADER GINSBERG**

The U.S. Navy will name one of its new John Lewis-class fleet replenishment oilers after the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg. The future USNS (United States Naval Ship, “in service” as opposed to USS, “commissioned”) RUTH BADER GINSBERG (T-AO 212) will be the eighth ship in the T-AO series and the first U.S. Navy Ship to bear her name.

In announcing the ship’s name, Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro noted: “As we close out Women’s History Month, it is my absolute honor to name the next T-AO after this historic figure who vigorously advocated for women’s rights and gender equality. As Secretary of the Navy, it is my aim to ensure equality and eliminate gender discrimination across the Department of the Navy. She is instrumental to why we now have women of all backgrounds, experiences and talents serving within our ranks, side by side with their male Sailor and Marine counterparts.”

The John Lewis-class replenishment oilers are all named after human rights leaders and activities. The class and lead ship is named in honor of Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga). Justice Ginsberg was the second woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court when she was nominated by President Bill Clinton in 1993. She died at age 87 in 2020. Secretary Del Toro also named Justice Ginsberg’s daughter, Jane Ginsberg, as the ship’s sponsor.

The T-AOs, which are operated by the Military Sealift Command, are designed to transfer fuel to the Navy carrier strike groups and measure 742-feet in length, with a full loads displacement of 49,850 tons. The oilers have the ability to carry a load of 162,000 barrels of oil, maintain significant dry cargo capacity, aviation capability and a speed of 20 knots. It will be built by General Dynamics NASSCO.

In addition to USNS John Lewis, the shipyard is currently in production of USNS Harvey Milk (T-AO 206), USNS Earl Warren (T-AO 207) and USNS Robert F. Kennedy (T-AO 208). The future USNS Lucy Stone (T-AO 209), and USNS Sojourner Truth (T-AO 210) are also under contract.

## **CWVA MOURNS THE LOSS OF LTC (RET) ELIZABETH “BETTY” KRUGER**



The CWVA Family joins the Department of Maryland in mourning the passing of Elizabeth Anne Kruger, LTC (Ret.) after years of struggle with leukemia and congestive heart failure. Maryland Department Commander Gil Barker noted: “Our Creator said

enough is enough and has taken her soul to that special CWVA Post in the heavens.” The former “CWV Veteran of the Year” retired from active duty as a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army after decades of nursing duties that had taken her all over the world.

Betty was a Vietnam Vet “in country,” a combat veteran who received a Bronze Star, among other ribbons

of achievement, for her military service. She was a profound writer and story teller, all about Betty’s real life occurrences. She came from a family of eleven children. She was one of those folks who never had an ill word for anyone, and she will be missed. Commander Barker summarized it best: “As the notes of “Taps” send Betty off, we all stand and salute our veteran in our final farewell.”

Marylyn Crum, National Auxiliary President, added: “It saddens my heart to hear of Betty’s passing. She was a gentle lady. Hearing her stories of Viet Nam created a fuller picture of what our servicemen and servicewomen endured during that time. Always fun, especially at Anna’s Elvis luncheon. I cherish the video of her dancing. I will always remember her enjoying life. Betty, enjoy God’s care now.”

Thanks to National Executive Director Mike Kasinskas!

# USCGC CLARENCE SUTPHIN JOINS THE FLEET



**TALK OF THE TOWN:** USCGC CLARENCE SUTPHIN is the first ship to be commissioned in New York City in more than 10 years. The New York native served aboard landing craft in WWII. During the Battle of Saipan in 1944, he swam a towline to a stranded landing craft, saved another boat on the beach under enemy fire, and came to the aid of 8 Marines who had been struck by a mortar round. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for “exceptional bravery under fire.”



## U.S. COAST GUARD COMMISSIONS NEWEST CUTTER IN NEW YORK CITY

USCGC CLARENCE SUTPHIN is a 154-foot Sentinel Class cutter named for Bronze Star recipient and New York native BM1 Clarence Sutphin. Delivered by Bollinger Shipyards, the cutter will work for the U.S. Navy’s 5th Fleet out of Bahrain. Sutphin is the sixth and final Bahrain-bound Fast Response Cutter. It will be home ported in Manama, Bahrain in support of Patrol Forces Southwest Asia (PATFORSWA), the Coast Guard’s largest overseas presence outside the United States.

The cutter also marks the 170th vessel Bollinger has delivered to the Coast Guard over a 35-year period and the 47th Fast Response Cutter (FRC) delivered under the current program. The FRCs are replacing the Coast Guard’s aging 110’ Island Class Patrol Boats, built some 30 years ago.

Bollinger President and CEO Ben Bordelon proudly announced that: *“ensuring the brave men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard have the most state-of-the-art, advanced vessels as they work to build and maintain the necessary regional alliances to ensure maritime security in the area is a top priority.”*

Earlier this year at the commissioning ceremony of the USCGC Charles Moulthrop, Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Karl SCHULTZ lauded the “enhanced safekeeping” capabilities of the Bahrain-bound FRCs, saying: *“these ships are truly going to be game changing in their new theater of operations, offering increased opportunities for integrated joint operations with our Navy and Marine Corps colleagues.”*

PATFORSWA is composed of six cutters, shoreside support personnel, and the Maritime Engagement Team. The unit’s mission is to train, organize, equip, support and deploy combat-ready Coast Guard Forces in support of U.S. Central Command and national security objectives. PATFORSWA works with Naval Forces Central Command in furthering their goals to “conduct persistent maritime operations” to forward U.S. interests, deter and counter disruptive countries, defeat violent extremism and strengthen partner nations’ maritime capabilities in order to promote a secure maritime environment.



## Who Was The First Woman To Receive A Purple Heart? Meet Beatrice Mary MacDonald!

A World War I Nurse, Beatrice Mary MacDonald was the first woman to be awarded the Purple Heart. Although serving in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, MacDonald was a native of Canada, where she grew up in a large family on Prince Edward Island. She had come to New York to get her training as a

nurse in 1905 and chose to live there afterward to pursue her career. When war came, she volunteered for the American war effort. She was part of a unit organized by Presbyterian Hospital, now part of New York-Presbyterian Hospital.

One night in August 1917 during World War I, a German aerial bomb exploded at a military field hospital in Belgium. It was about four miles behind trenches where hundreds of thousands of British, French, Belgium and German troops were fighting the Third Battle of Ypres, also known as Passchendaele. Metal shrapnel ripped through a tent at Casualty Clearing Station #61, where the 36-year-old was rising from her cot to start her shift caring for wounded Allied soldiers. Jagged shards struck her face, damaging her right eye so badly that it later had to be removed by doctors.

After a six-week recovery from her injury, MacDonald returned to duty serving in military hospitals in France and Belgium. After the war ended in 1918, MacDonald served with Allied forces in Germany until returning to the U.S. There, she resumed living in New York City to continue her profession, and later served as director of the Philadelphia Hospital School of Nursing for 23 years until her retirement in 1956.

The war had been over for years when MacDonald received her Purple Heart in 1936, four years after the award had been reestablished by order of President Herbert Hoover. MacDonald received numerous awards in recognition of her bravery, and is perhaps one of the most highly decorated women of World War I.



### ARCHBISHOP FOR MILITARY SERVICES TIMOTHY BROGLIO JOINS POPE FRANCIS IN CONSECRATING RUSSIA AND UKRAINE TO IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

On the solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, Archbishop for the military Services, USA, joined Pope Francis and fellow bishops worldwide in consecrating Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

At the exact hour the Bishop of Rome prayed over the warring nations in a penitential celebration at St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican, Archbishop Broglio repeated the same prayer in the Memorial Chapel at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall in Arlington, Virginia. More than 70 U.S. Military-affiliated Catholics and others participated in the Holy Mass and consecration.



At Noon on March 25th, 2022, Archbishop Broglio joined Pope Francis simultaneously at 5:00 P.M. (Rome time) in the consecration that took place in a military chapel in Arlington, Virginia.

# Be a Champ When You See A



# mailchimp

## A Message From Our National Executive Director Mike Kasinkas

Periodically, an email notification is sent out to the email addresses of all our Veteran and Auxiliary members using a service called **Mailchimp**. Previous examples include updated information for the convention in Baltimore; Christmas and Easter messages from our National Chaplains, death notices and obituaries of CWV/A senior officials; introduction of the new Challenge Coin, prayer requests and urgent or time-sensitive information which National Headquarters deems significant to communicate.

Mailchimp was chosen because it is the most efficient and cost-effective communications platform to reach our members who have an email address in the CWV/A database. *Please do not unsubscribe from Mailchimp because you may miss vital information, especially if you hold elected office in your, Post, Auxiliary, Department, Region or National echelons.* Also, if you joined the organization several years ago and did not have an email address, and have gotten one since, please send an email to (admin@cwv.org) to add your address to our database. Still don't have one yet? How about a son or daughter or neighbor who can receive and pass messages along to you? Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

## NEWS FROM THE HEARTLAND!



### THIS BUD'S FOR US!

Happy Birthday wishes go out to Former Northwest Region Commander George "Bud" Erlar of Loogootee, Indiana (Bishop Simon Brute Post 1976). Bud has retired to the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Gulfport, Mississippi where a birthday party was recently held in his honor.



### FANCY MEETING YOU HERE!

At a recent University of Notre Dame reunion, CWV's National Chaplain, Fr. John Sheehan, S.J., encountered another native of Loogootee, Indiana, Post Commander Jack Benchik of Fr. William Corby C.S.C. Post 1842 in South Bend, the home of the University's Campus. Fr. Sheehan is currently the Chaplain of the University of St. Francis in Fort Wayne, Indiana. That city is under consideration to host a future national convention of the Catholic War Veterans. Both of our members are active in alumni activities of the "Fightin' Irish!"



## WORLD WAR II MARINERS AWARDED CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

Ten WWII Veterans of the Merchant Marine were in attendance to accept the Congressional gold medal on behalf of approximately 1,500 living merchant marine veterans. The U.S. Merchant Marine suffered the highest casualty rate of any branch of the U.S. military during WWII. Out of 243,000 mariners, 9,521 (roughly 4%) perished while serving.

American shipping operated commercial and non-naval ships to transport soldiers, tanks, airplanes, ammunition, fuel and food rations to

soldiers on the front lines. Merchant mariners also experienced some of the earliest action of the war due to German submarines attacking merchant ships in the Atlantic, disrupting supply chains to American allies. Yet these mariners were not even provided veteran status until 1988, nearly 40 years after the war ended.



## AND IN OTHER MARITIME NEWS



### 1ST FEMALE COAST GUARD COMMANDANT

The Senate voted by unanimous consent to confirm Admiral Linda Fagan as 27th Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, making her the first woman to lead a branch of the U.S. Armed Services. She will oversee 55,700 active duty, reserve and civilian members and 26,000 auxiliary volunteers. A 1985 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy, previous assignments included sea duty aboard USCGC POLAR STAR, Captain of the Port of New York, and 15 years as a Marine Inspector.



### 1ST FEMALE MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

The maritime industry welcomed the swearing in of RADM Ann C. Phillips, USN (Ret.) as the U.S. Maritime Administrator, the first woman to hold that position.

### PHILLY SHIPYARD AWARDED CONTRACT FOR FINAL NATIONAL TRAINING SHIP

The U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD) has awarded the 5th And final contract for the National Security Multi-Mission Training Ship (NSMV). These ships will serve as state-of-the-art training vessels for the nation's maritime academies. Numbered 1 through 5, the ships are designated for, in order, SUNY Maritime, Massachusetts Maritime, Maine, Texas and California Maritime. Shipbuilding began in 2020, with final delivery in 2026. The ships feature instructional spaces, a full training bridge, and have space for 600 cadets. Each ship will be equipped for humanitarian and disaster relief, with hospital facilities, a helicopter pad and the ability to accommodate 1,000 people.



# U.S. NAVY SINKS LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP PROGRAM!



**USS FREEDOM LCS-1**



**USS INDEPENDENCE LCS-2**

U.S. Naval Institute News reports that the nine Freedom-class Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) currently in Navy service—the youngest of which was commissioned in 2020—have been marked for disposal as part of the Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2023 budget proposal.

The ships—USS Fort Worth (LCS-3), USS Milwaukee (LCS-5), USS Detroit (LCS-7), USS Little Rock (LCS-9), USS Sioux City (LCS-11), USS Wichita (LCS-13), USS Billings (LCS-15) and USS St. Louis (LCS-19) - are part of the 24 ships the service has chosen to decommission in FY23 for an estimated \$3.6 billion in savings.

Initiated in February 2002, the program was aimed at reducing the time to acquire, design and build the ships. In 2010, contracts were ultimately awarded to two shipbuilders for a block of ten ships. The ships were outfitted with reconfigurable payloads, called mission modules, which could be changed out quickly. They would combine with crew detachments and aviation assets for complete mission packages, which would deploy manned and unmanned vehicles and sensors in support of mine countermeasures, anti-submarine warfare, or surface warfare missions.

In the Navy's last plan for the Littoral Combat Ship program, the Freedom-class ships had been tapped to shoulder the anti-submarine warfare (ASW) role with the LCS ASW mission package. The towed variable depth low frequency sonar (VDS) didn't perform properly, so the ships were left without a mission, this in addition to propulsion plant problems that have plagued the Freedom-class ships. The Navy intends to take the remaining six Freedom-class ships under construction and fit them with a variation of the surface warfare mission package for operations in U.S. Central and Southern Commands.

The Navy also plans to decommission another 15 ships during the fiscal year—five cruisers, four dock-landing ships, two submarines, two oilers, and two expeditionary transfer docks. Sixteen of the ships, including the LCSs, will require a waiver to be decommissioned before the end of their service lives. Relatively new to the fleet, the ships cost about \$500 million per vessel to procure.

The LCS construction program was split between two shipbuilding contractors—the Freedom-class ships (assigned odd-numbered hull numbers) built by Lockheed Martin at its Marinette Marine Shipyard in Marinette, Wisconsin and the Independence-class ships (assigned even numbered hull numbers) built by a consortium of General Dynamics, Bath Iron Works and Austal USA at a shipyard in Mobile, Alabama.





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# PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

LORD OUR GOD,

Great and almighty, we your sorrowful children turn to you with humility in our hearts and bow our heads low before you.

We beseech your loving kindness and abundant blessings upon the nation—the people—of Ukraine during these days of great danger to their safety and well-being.

Our brothers and sisters, Lord, are once again threatened by aggressors who see them as simple obstacles blocking the path to the complete domination of the precious land and resources of the country of Ukraine.

Strengthen the people as they face this great danger, turning to you in the immeasurably deep faith, trust and love they have placed in you all their lives.

Send your heavenly legions, o Lord, commanded by the patron of Kyiv, Archangel Michael, to crush the desires of the aggressor whose desire is to eradicate your people.

Grant unity of mind, heart and soul, o lord to all leaders in public service with those they serve.

Unite them all into one, great Christian family, so that together, as brothers and sisters, they may glorify your majestic name—God in the Holy Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

Amen.