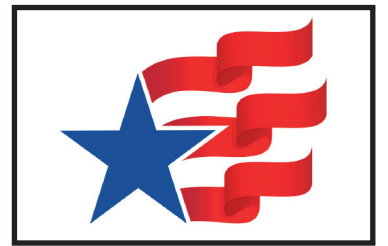




Little Rock-Centennial Chapter's

Patriot Post



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COMMEMORATIVE PUBLICATION FROM LITTLE ROCK-CENTENNIAL CHAPTER, ARKANSAS STATE SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

WWII IS OVER! 75TH ANNIVERSARY



Above, General Douglas MacArthur oversees the signing of the final surrender documents of WWII. MacArthur was born into a military family and lived in Little Rock, Arkansas until the age of nine. He and his father, Arthur MacArthur, Jr. both received the Medal of Honor, making them the first father and son to be awarded the medal. He was also one of only five men to make the rank of General of the Army. Little Rock's MacArthur Park, which includes the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History, was named in his honor.

Photo retrieved from <https://in.reuters.com/article/us-ww2-anniversary-timeline/from-outbreak-to-surrender-world-war-two-in-the-pacific-idUSKBN24Z03Uindex.html>

On May 7, 1945, spontaneous victory celebrations erupted all over the western world. Officially, however, V-E Day was not celebrated until May 8, when Allies formally accepted Germany's unconditional surrender. When President Harry Truman announced the victory to the US public, he did so with caution: "Our rejoicing is sobered and subdued by a supreme consciousness of the terrible price we have paid to rid the world of Hitler and his evil band. Let us not forget, my fellow Americans, the sorrow and the heartache which today abide in the homes of so many of our neighbors—neighbors whose most priceless possession has been rendered as a sacrifice to redeem our liberty." Upon victory in Europe, the allies turned their attention to the Pacific.

On the morning of September 2, in the still, blue waters of Tokyo Bay aboard the USS Missouri, General Douglas MacArthur addressed his seamen and opponents, "It is my earnest hope, and indeed the hope of all mankind, that from this solemn occasion a better world shall emerge out of the blood and carnage of the past -- a world founded upon faith and understanding, a world dedicated to the dignity of man and the fulfillment of his most cherished wish for freedom, tolerance, and justice."

Foreign Minister Shigemitsu and General Yoshijiro Umezu signed the surrender document for the Japanese while MacArthur signed as the "Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers." The entire ceremony took less than half an hour. General MacArthur closed with, "Let us pray that peace now be restored to the world, and that God will preserve it always."

To the Armed Forces:

As Commander-in-Chief I take pleasure in commending the reading of the Bible to all who serve in the armed forces of the United States. Throughout the centuries men have found in the Sacred Book words of wisdom, counsel and inspiration. It is a fountain of strength and now, as always, an aid in attaining the highest aspirations of the human soul.

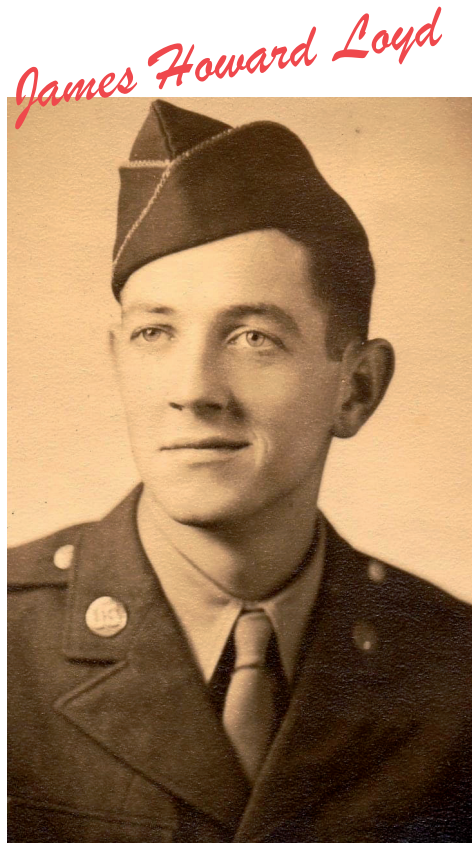
Very sincerely yours,
Franklin D. Roosevelt



Above, the surrender of all German forces is signed in Rhelms, France on May 7, 1945. German General Alfred Jodl signs the document, surrounded by Wilhelm Oxenius (left) of the Luftwaffe and Hans-Georg von Friedeburg of the German Navy.

Photo retrieved from <https://redfellow.wordpress.com/page/8/>

Little Rock-Centennial Chapter Honors Our Families' WWII Heroes



James, Marianne's father, was a Corporal in the Army Air Corps stationed in England during the war. His responsibility was watching for enemy aircraft on radar.



Michaela's father, Casimer Michael Badela, served in the U. S. Navy from 1939 to 1960. He was 19 when first enlisted. During WWII he served in the Pacific theater. His ship the USS Quincy was sunk on August 9, 1942; the Quincy had withdrawn to waters off the Savo Island to intercept a Japanese counterattack. The Quincy had been bombarding Guadalcanal for two days prior to the Marines landing. Most of the surviving crew of the Quincy was assigned to the USS Santa Fe. On March 19, 1945, the Santa Fe responded to a SOS from the USS Franklin which had been attacked by Japanese Kamikaze. It was during this engagement that Badela's actions were awarded the Bronze star. He was in 12 major battles including the Battle of the Philippines and Iwo Jima.



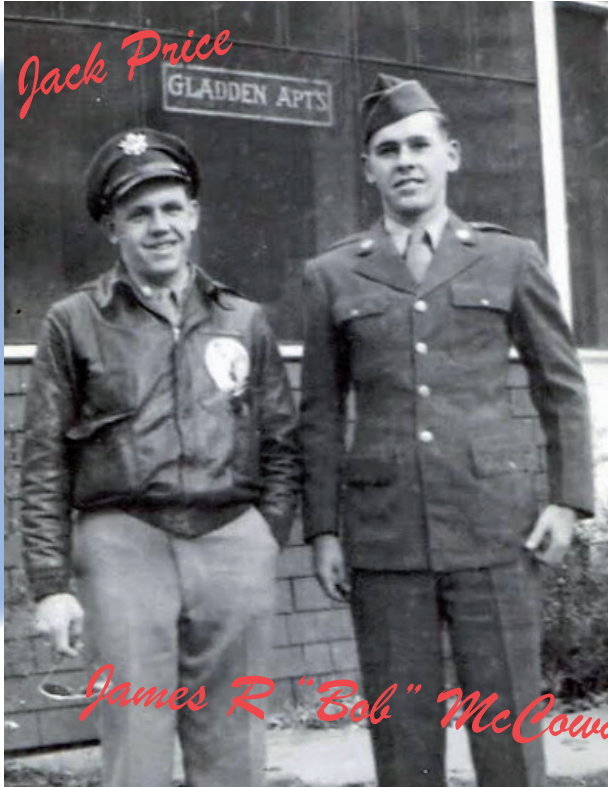
Candy's father, Ralph, enlisted in the Navy, despite a disability that had kept him out of the Army, because of his commitment to serving his country. He served as an electrician's mate third class on the USS Hamlin, a primary seaplane tender that operated throughout the Pacific, including Saipan, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa. He also was a projectionist who showed movies to shipmates and said musicals were the most popular. He and other Arkansas veterans were honored when they were flown to Washington, D.C. May 3 to visit the World War II Memorial and formally thanked for their service and sacrifice.



Leon, Kathy's uncle, was a cryptologist in the US Navy and was awarded the National Defense Service Award.



Ellen's PaPa was Private First Class and light machine gunner. He was inducted in May 1944 and immediately sent to Europe, where he fought in the Battle of the Bulge.

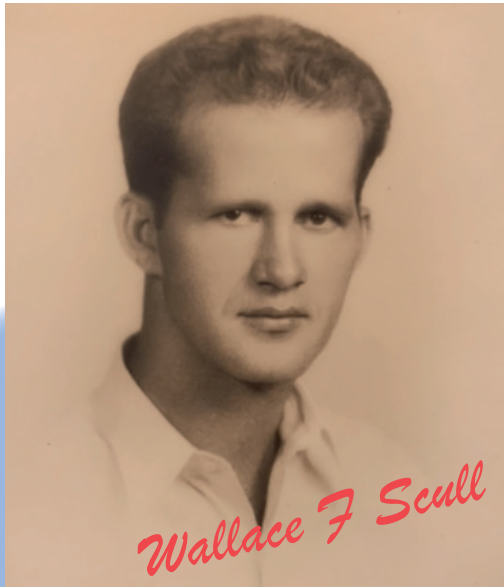


Bob, Kathy's father (right), was drafted into the Army in 1942 and was assigned to the Infantry. He was sent to Europe as part of the replacement troops after D-Day. Bob was wounded in combat outside Munster, France on the way to the Battle of the Bulge. After discharge as Private First Class, he was awarded the Bronze Star for Heroic Actions and the Purple Heart as well as other medals and commendations. In 2018, Bob was awarded the French Legion of Honour Medal for his service to France.

Kathy's uncle Jack enlisted in the Army Air Corp in 1941. He was stationed in England and was credited with destroying 5 enemy aircraft during aerial combat. Jack was the first WWII ACE for the state of Colorado. His last duty assignment was Director of Operations at Headquarters NORAD; prior to that Jack was involved in the Cuban Missile Crisis and the Cold War. Jack retired from the Air Force in 1968 with the rank Lieutenant Colonel O-5. He missed flying every day of his retirement.



Ellen's uncle Ray was a glider pilot in the Army Air Corps from 1941-1944.



Wallace, Ellen's great-grandfather, worked as a civilian contractor during the war. He built airstrips in Okinawa, Japan and in Hawaii.



Bobby, Elaine's father, volunteered at age 17. He served in Guadalcanal, Philippines and Okinawa



Jane's father James was a Private First Class in the US Army. He was the recipient of the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart.



CV, Ellen's great-grandfather, was a tailor in the US Navy. He was transported on the USS General T. H. Bliss to the Pacific.



Roy, Angie's grandfather, was from Kentucky. He served in WWII in Europe, arriving in France 11 days after D-Day.



This is a photo of Lis's dad, on the left, and his brother. They took the photo when they both happened to be in the same port on the west coast. They took it for their mother.

Lis's dad served on the U.S.S. Ticonderoga, an aircraft carrier. It was hit by kamikaze pilots a couple of times but not sunk. Her uncle was an Army Air Corp photographer

All of the photos and biographical information included on this page were contributed by members of the Little Rock-Centennial Chapter, Arkansas State Society Daughters of the American Revolution. We are proud to remember and honor these members of our families.



James, Stephanie's grandfather, served 5 years (1940-1945) in the Army Air Corps and achieved a final rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He had just graduated medical school in 1939, completed his internship and had started his surgery residency when he was called to serve.



Robert, Ann's father, was a seaman in the U.S. Merchant Marines on board American Liberty ships during World War II. In 1992, he was one of 250 Merchant Mariners who were awarded medals from the Russian Government for risking their lives on the Murmansk Run to get supplies to the Russian troops.



WOMEN IN THE WAR

ville produced nearly all of the fuses and detonators used by the Allies during the war (well over 1 billion). Over the course of the war, the much smaller Maumelle Ordnance Works (MOW) in Marche produced over 100 million pounds of picric acid for explosives.

Within six months of the end of the war, the plants had been shut down and in 1946, the AOP facilities were put up for sale. A large portion of the site is now occupied by Little Rock Air Force Base and one of the original guard houses is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Its original administrative building is now the Jacksonville Museum of Military History.

The MOW plant was kept on standby status after war, but was eventually put up for sale in 1959. After being sold in 1967 to a local investor, the land was turned into the planned town of Maumelle.

In June 1941, the US Federal Government approved the construction of two ordnance plants in Pulaski County. The area was chosen due to its inland location, large supply of natural gas and coal, and available local workforce. These plants brought thousands of needed jobs to the area. A large portion of this nearly 15,000 employee workforce at these plants was made up of women and African Americans. This workforce

was made up almost entirely of women that had never had jobs outside of their homes. Called Women Ordnance Workers, or WOWs, they made up nearly three-quarters of the entire employee population of these plants. The other quarter were African Americans seeking the economic freedom that these non-agricultural jobs provided.

The Arkansas Ordnance Plant (AOP) in Jackson-

The Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) were civilians who flew stateside missions, mainly ferrying planes from one location in the country to another. More than 1,074 of these skilled pilots became the first women to fly American military aircraft, taking off from airfields at 126 bases across to relocate 50 percent of the combat aircraft during the war. The WASP was disbanded in 1944; 38 WASPs died in accidents. The WASP was granted veteran status in 1977, and given the Congressional Gold Medal in 2009.

The Army established the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) in 1942, which was converted to the Women's Army Corps (WAC) in 1943. More than 150,000 women served as WACs during the war; thousands were sent to the European and Pacific theaters. In 1944, WACs landed in Normandy after D-Day and served in Australia, New Guinea, and the Philippines in the Pacific. In 1945, the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion (the only all African-American, all-female battalion during World War II) worked in England and France, making them the first black female battalion to travel overseas.

The Women's Army Corps (WAC) also recruited 50 Japanese- and Chinese-American women and sent them to the Military Intelligence Service Language School, for training as military translators. Twenty one were assigned to the Pacific Military Intelligence Research Section, where they worked with captured Japanese documents, extracting

information pertaining to military plans, as well as political and economic information that impacted Japan's ability to conduct the war. Other WAC translators were assigned jobs helping the Army interface with the country's Chinese allies. In 1943, the WAC recruited a unit of Chinese-American women to serve with the Army Air Forces as "Air WACs". In 1943, the Marine Corps created the Marine Corps Women's Reserve. Many of these Marines served stateside as clerks, cooks, mechanics and drivers, as well as in other positions. By the end of the war, 85 percent of the enlisted personnel assigned to the Corps' U.S. headquarters were women.

Several hundred women were recruited from colleges to take part in the Manhattan Project that built the atomic bomb. They worked as engineers, technicians, and mathematicians throughout the whole project.

The Coast Guard hired its first group of civilian women to serve in secretarial and clerical positions in 1941. It established a Women's Reserve known as the SPARs (after the motto Semper Paratus - Always Ready) in 1942.

Women also served as spies for the Office of Strategic Services, a US intelligence agency. Of the 4,500 women employed by the OSS as clerks, operations agents, codebreakers, and undercover agents, 1,500 worked overseas.

Women performed many kinds of non-military service in organizations such as the

American Red Cross and the United Service Organizations (USO). Nineteen million American women filled out the home front labor force, not only as "Rosie the Riveters" in war factory jobs, but in transportation, agricultural, and office work of every variety. Women joined the federal government in massive numbers during World War II. Nearly a million "government girls" were recruited for war work. In addition, women volunteers aided the war effort by planting victory gardens, canning produce, selling war bonds, donating blood, salvaging needed commodities and sending care packages.

This WWII commemorative newspaper was written, designed, and produced by the Little Rock-Centennial Chapter, Arkansas State Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

Have a patriot in your family?
The DAR is a great way to honor him or her!



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