

The TMCA News

Volume 42 Issue II

November 2018

Editor: David Hoagey



2018 Fall Show

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Where: Franklin Marriott Conference Center / Hotel
Cool Springs 700 Cool Springs Blvd., Franklin, TN 37067

When: Friday, **November 23** - Dealer Set up & Members Only 8 am - 12pm
Public Admitted 12pm - 6 pm
Saturday, **November 24** - 8 am - 3 pm

Admission: \$5. for Non-Members. **TMCA Members get in free early - Wear badge**, Children under 12 free. Also admitted free, if in uniform: Members of US Military, Fire and Police, R.O.T.C. and military re-enactors.

What Will Be There: Uniforms, Medals, Insignia, Badges, Helmets, Weapons, Veterans, re-enactors. **Buy-Sell-Trade-Display-Appraisals.**

Table Reservations '310' 6 FT. Tables ~ **Members only** ~ **Sale and Display Tables - \$45 each. SOLD OUT, call for waiting list**

Contact Ronnie Townes@615-661-9379 / tmca@comcast.net to reserve

Room Reservations at Hotel: Call 615-261-6100 or 1-888-403-6772, and ask to receive the **TMCA discount rate of \$106**, plus tax (normal rate is \$209). **Deadline for this special rate is November 8, 2018**



Club News



18 TMCA members helped by setting up individual displays at the Grand Opening of the :

WILSON COUNTY VETERANS MUSEUM

304 East Main St. Lebanon, Tennessee.
615-444-2460

info@wilsoncountyveteransmuseum.com

Open Monday thru Friday 9am - 4pm

The Wilson County Veterans Museum and Plaza is located adjacent to the county's courthouse on East Main Street in Lebanon, Tennessee.

It honors the men and women how served their country in all the U.S. Armed Forces.

Recommendation for the Congressional Medal of Honor gets lost at the war's end ??

Many times in history, recommendations for awards become lost in the shuffle of paperwork or simply forgotten during all the excitement and celebrations at war's end.

Below are copies of two letters written to the mother of Sergeant Poole, (Pool), Company A, 15th Infantry.

Sgt. Poole was killed in action on December 24, 1944 and was apparently put in for the Medal of Honor for his actions on that day. Unfortunately, Sergeant Poole never received the MOH nor any other award for his valor.

With the war in Europe ending, was Sgt Poole's nomination for the MOH simply lost and never reviewed. If it had been reviewed and denied, most likely Sgt. Poole's MOH nomination would at least had been downgraded to a Distinguished Service Cross or Silver Star. You decide !

Company "A" 15th INFANTRY

29 May 1945

Dear Mrs. Poole:

I have just received a delayed letter from my wife in which she mentioned having received a letter from you regard to the death of your son, Sergeant Poole. I had intended writing you sooner, but I have been wounded twice since your son was killed and I have been unable to obtain your address until now.

I was with your son when he was killed in action near Sigolsheim, a little town in Alsace, France, and a more glorious or heroic death has come to no man to my knowledge in the Army of the United States. I can truthfully say that I have never seen a better squad leader or non-commissioned officer in my entire army experience. I have been working for the past few days on a posthumous award for your son. It is my hope and belief that Sergeant Poole will be posthumously awarded the nation's highest medal for valor and leadership — the Congressional Medal of Honor. He personally and single handedly killed or wounded 53 enemy on the afternoon of December 24, 1944. He personally knocked out three enemy machine guns during the day and was directly responsible for the success of the attack by our battalion on a hill over looking Sigolsheim. About 9 PM on the night of December 24, an artillery shell landed in the mist of Sergeant Poole's squad, instantly killing him and two of his men and wounding seven others in the company.

I am writing to you personally rather than in an official capacity because I want you to know that your son was an inspiration to me as well as to the other men in the company. Although I know there can be no comparison with the great sorrow you bear, still his death was a great personal loss to me, because he was not only a brave and perfect soldier but he was also a warm and true friend. If there is anything I can do to help you or if there is any more information you desire, do not hesitate to write me.

Sincerely yours,

Edward M. Harwell



15th Infantry Regiment, World War II

The 15th Infantry left China for Fort Lewis, Washington, on 2 March 1938. On 12 January 1940, the regiment was assigned to the 3d Infantry Division. LTC Dwight D. Eisenhower served in the 15th from March to November 1940, as commander of 1st Battalion. On 24 October 1942, the 15th Infantry and the 3d Infantry Division sailed from Norfolk, Virginia, bound for French Morocco. For the next 31 months, the regiment fought through French North Africa, Sicily, Italy, France, and Germany. On 10 July the 15th Infantry starting in Sicily at Licata at h.2.57, the Allied invasion of Sicily, called Operation Husky, at Mollarella and Poliscia beaches. By the end of the war in Europe, the 15th Infantry had 16 Medal of Honor recipients including Audie Murphy, the most decorated combat soldier of World War II.

15th infantry casualties for World War II include, 1,633 killed, 5,812 wounded, and 419 missing in action.

Werfen, Austria
1 July, 1945

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Poole,

I received your letter of June 22 yesterday, and will attempt an answer with my own typing, as poor as that may be.

Your son Braxton and I were on the Rhine river about twenty miles below Strasburg, and we fired quite a large number of mortar rounds at the Germans across the river. I am not certain about the time and date which your paper mentioned, but it was probably correct.

You asked about his personal things. I cannot say whether they have been forwarded to you or not, as I was wounded and evacuated on December 26. The graves Registration Officer, 15th Infantry, A.P.O. #3 has the responsibility of forwarding personnel effects, and would also know the location of your son's burial, so I suggest that you write him.

I mentioned in my last letter to you that we have put Sgt. Poole in for the Congressional Medal of Honor. I should have told you that it often takes more than six months for this medal to go through once it has been initiated. Also, it may be reduced in value to the Distinguished Service Cross, but I see no reason why this should be done. I know a medal means little in comparison to one's life, But I do want you to know that he is deserving of the best his country can give him.

Mrs. Harwell and I are planning a short trip when I return to the States and had planned to stop in Wedowee to talk to you and your family. We are hoping it will be before Christmas of this year.

I certainly hope that your son in the hospital in Paris is soon well and able to return home.

If I may be of any further service to you please do not hesitate to let me know.

Very sincerely yours,

Edward M. Harwell

1st Lt., 15th Inf.



Sgt. Braxton Poole (Pool)
Co A, 15th Infantry

ORIGINAL

APPLICATION FOR HEADSTONE OR MARKER
(Please make out and return in duplicate)

CHECK TYPE REQUIRED <i>(See Instructions attached)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> UPRIGHT MARBLE HEADSTONE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FLAT MARBLE MARKER <input type="checkbox"/> FLAT GRANITE MARKER <input type="checkbox"/> BRONZE MARKER (NOTE RESTRICTIONS) NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) POOL, Braxton POOL, BRAXTON DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year) 6 Aug 1921 NAME OF CEMETERY Crt Pleasant Church SHIP TO (I CERTIFY THE APPLICANT FOR THIS STONE HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH ME TO TRANSPORT THE STONE FROM THE FREIGHT STATION TO THE CEMETERY) Otis Poole appl (SIGNATURE OF CONSIGNEE)	ENLISTMENT DATE Nov 11, 1942 DISCHARGE DATE Killed in Action	SERIAL No. 34396859 PENSION No. STATE Alabama RANK SGT U. S. REGIMENT, STATE ORGANIZATION, AND DIVISION Co "E" 15th. Inf.	EMBLEM (Check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CHRISTIAN <input type="checkbox"/> HEBREW <input type="checkbox"/> NONE COMPANY Co "E"
	DATE OF DEATH (Month, Day, Year) Dec 24, 1944	LOCATION (City and State) Rt 2, Wedowee, Alabama NEAREST FREIGHT STATION (City and State) Roanoke, Alabama POST OFFICE ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE Rt 2, Wedowee, Alabama	I certify this application is submitted for a stone for the unmarked grave of a veteran. I hereby agree to assume all responsibility for the removal of the stone promptly upon arrival at destination, and properly place it at the decedent's grave at my expense.

DO NOT WRITE HERE

FOR VERIFICATION SEP 2 1948

ORDERED TATE, GA. 2 OCT 1948

IN/L 3781313

SHIPPED

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE
Otis Poole

DATE OF APPLICATION
8-24-48

ADDRESS (Street, City, State)
Rt 2, Wedowee, Alabama

DQMG FORM 2
REV 15 APR 47 623

IMPORTANT—Complete Reverse Side

16-11453-5 GPO

Military Spoils of War by: Rick Jones



John Prigmore Collection

World War II is becoming a distant memory for those of us who grew up in the shadow of that dark period in history. As a child my buddies and I played countless hours chasing each other in war games and wearing the German / Japanese helmets and waving the enemies flags that our fathers brought home from the war. My head was saved more than once from a dirt clod bursting on the German helmet that I was wearing! The same German helmet that I traded my buddy Jimmy Wren out of for 2 comic books and a dozen marbles. As a kid I watched as my dad and his buddies traded their war booty amongst each other and told tall tales of the battle field. Fascinated by the stories I read in the comic books about WWII, a seed was planted that has grown throughout my life in the form of collecting WW I & WWII memorabilia. Shortly after the war a German Luger could be bought for \$25-30 and the medals, armbands, flags, were available for next to nothing. Little did our fathers realize that the war booty they shipped and brought home would one day be worth a significant amount of money. To this day, countless thousands of dollars are lying in closets, attics, storage lockers, etc. all over this nation. As the baby boomer's grandparents, and parents are passing on they are being handed the task of disposing of their grandpa's, dad's, uncle's etc. boxes of things they just could not bring themselves to throw away. Being the owners of Jones Antiques / The Bunker, we see weekly sometimes daily the question mark in the eyes of the adults standing in front of us with a box of dad's old military stuff. Usually two scenarios play out: 1) they want it appraised and they are not interested in selling it or: 2) what is this and what will you give me for it? Whatever the case we strongly encourage you to contact a person with more than passive knowledge of WWI & WWII war souvenirs BEFORE disposing of them. As a member of the Tennessee Military Collectors Association, we would be more than happy to assist you in determining the market value of your relics.



You may contact us at:
 Jones Antiques / The Bunker at 6 South Washington on the East side of the Courthouse square in historic downtown Cookeville Tennessee. The Courthouse square is exactly 2 miles north of I-40 exit 287. Feel free to contact Olof Fornehed @ 931-212 9631, Rick Jones @ 931-303-6739 or David Jones @ 931-239-0142



GARTH J. THOMPSON

Garth Thompson, age 73, passed away on Sunday, September 2, 2018, after a brief illness. Garth was an interesting character.

Garth graduated from Joliet Catholic High School, Joliet, Illinois. After graduation, he volunteered for the United States Marine Corps serving his country in Vietnam. During his thirteen month tour, Garth was wounded twice, awarded the Purple Heart with gold star and two Bronze Stars. After his discharge he attended the Finley College of Engineering in Kansas City, Missouri where he earned degrees in both Electrical and Mechanical Engineering.

Garth began his flying career after being accepted to and completing the Navy's prestigious Aviation Officer Candidate School. He earned his Wings of Gold and ultimately flew as a United States Coast Guard Search and Rescue pilot. Garth flew missions throughout the Caribbean, primarily out of Coast Guard Station Miami, Florida. Garth transferred to the Coast Guard Reserves and began flying for Eastern Air Lines. His time at Eastern was spent in their Test Flight Department flying the Lockheed L-1011.

Upon closure of Eastern Air Lines in 1991, Garth flew for several small airlines. Eventually he settled in Memphis, Tennessee and continued his career flying for Express Airlines I (Northwest AirlinK) later to be called Pinnacle Airlines. Garth spent many years in a variety of roles at the airline: line pilot, check airman and APD. Due to his skills in the training department, he was among the initial cadre of airmen chosen to train on and fly the Bombardier CRJ 200 jet aircraft. One of his last contributions to the airline before retirement was to develop a Leadership Course for new captains. Anyone who attended this class will not forget it.

For his entire career, Garth was a proud member of the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA). He served his fellow pilots in various ALPA positions including Chairman of the Master Executive Council (MEC).

He was an avid military history buff and collected military memorabilia for 60 years. His collection of U. S. Military Shoulder Patches is considered one of the finest in the United States.

Garth leaves behind his loving wife KT, his cousin Lynne (Tom) Dorough and their family, several nieces and nephews, and his many friends.



TMCA Life Member Garth Thompson and Mike Kelso

We'll all miss you at the TMCA shows Garth.

Signed, your fellow TMCA Collector friends.



Veterans at the Spring Show sharing their experiences and selling/signing some of the books they wrote. Right: Gary Slaughter, a Naval Officer who served seven years of active duty aboard Navy destroyers, signed his book "Sea Stories: Memoir of a Naval Officer (1956-1967)".

Left: Billy DeVasher (both a WWII and Korean War Veteran) signed his book "Out of the Trap."

2018 TMCA Christmas Party

December 4th at 6:pm.

Location: The Currey Brook Farmhouse, 910 Currey Rd. Nashville.

Note: This is the 1st Tuesday in December, not the normal 2nd.

Cost is \$25 per person.

Email Emily at tmca@comcast.net if you would like to join us.



SPRING SHOW 2018 DISPLAY AWARDS



BEST OF SHOW (TIE)

MIKE KELSO

IMPERIAL GERMAN FIELD GREY



BEST OF SHOW (TIE)

RICK MOODY

WW1 EDGED WEAPONS



MIKE BECK

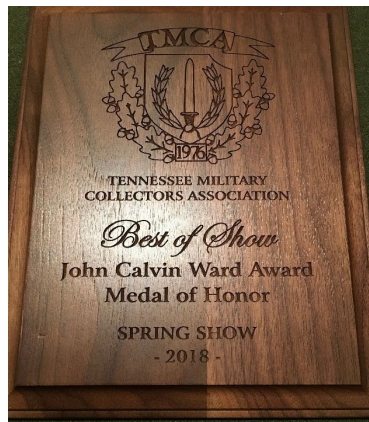
OUTSTANDING DISPLAY

MEDAL OF HONORS

WORLD WAR I



M1915 SCHIRMMUTZE THAT BELONGED TO KAISER WILHELM II



CLIFFORD ORTH

WINNER \$100

TABLE SETUP DRAWING AT 3:PM



CLASSIFIED ADS Ad's are **FREE** for all TMCA members – email: dhoagey@comcast.net

ORIGINAL W.W.II HELMET
(NOT A REPLICA)
COLLECTORS! 32 PG. COLOR CATALOG \$1.00
W.W. II Medals, Civil War Hats, Flags etc. 100's of items
CATALOG FREE W/ ORDER



ONLY \$24.95
PLUS \$2.00 POSTAGE AND HANDLING MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

UNIQUE IMPORTS, INC. Dept. AFV 3
610 FRANKLIN STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

**** Wanted ****
Army Air Force Technician Badges / Bars
There are 27 authorized bars. I am looking for the following in **STERLING**.

AP Hydraulic SP
AP Machinist
AP Power Plant SP
AP Propeller SP
A.C.S. Radio SP
Radio V-I Mech.

Robert W. Wesbrooks
PO Box 671372
Marietta, GA 30066



Ok, these ads are just to get your attention to our classifieds. TMCA ads are free to members. email: dhoagey@comcast.net. Ad from Unique Imports is circa 1977. Kenneth Lane ad for \$2 Iron Crosses, is circa 1959.

WANTED: U.S. Medals **ROBERT WILSON**
tarbridge@earthlink.net
All Time Periods, Singles, Groups, Collections
PURPLE HEARTS, SILVER STARS, VALOR AWARDS, CAMPAIGN MEDALS, ETC.
Cell: (910) 977-7207
TOP PRICES PAID

*** KENNETH LANE (NRA LIFE) ***
C/o ME VAUCHER, 1 Rue Charles-Monnard, LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND.
NOTE ADDRESS ★ AIR MAIL 15c ★ NOTE ADDRESS



Both Crosses Shown In Exact Natural Size.
NAZI EISERNES KREUZ (IRON CROSS)
NAZI MUTTER KREUZ (MOTHER CROSS)
(Signed on back by "A. HITLER")

Both are of **HITLER ERA** World WAR II vintage and come from a captured Nazi depot (taken single-handedly by Ken Lane). Absolutely still sparkling new, each in its original envelope and complete with ribbon. (Ken Lane outfought all his greedy competitors to capture this NAZI TROPHY for his faithful followers!!! So, don't let him down now, BUDDIES!!) SIEG!!! HEIL!!! EITHER CROSS. \$2 ppd. The Lane "DOUBLE CROSS" (any 2), \$3 ppd. BAKER'S DOZEN, \$1.30 each ppd. 25 for \$1.25 each. 50 for \$1.20 each. 100 at \$1.10 each. 300 at \$1 each.

Both Shown In Natural Size

HIGH STANDARD HD MILITARY PISTOL .22 CAL. EX. COND. \$600.00,
AUSTRIAN RAST GASSER MILITARY REVOLVER 1916 8MM V.GD. \$550.00
FRENCH LEBEL ORDNANCE REVOLVER WW1 VGD. \$500.00
RUSSIAN MODEL 1895 NAGANT REVOLVER 1936; LOOKS LIKE A BATTLE-FIELD PU FUNCTIONS FINE \$195.00
WEBLEY MK VI HAS BEN CUT FOR .45 ACP SHOOTS WELL \$750.00
WEBLEY MK IV .38 S&W GOOD COND \$350.00
WEBLEY MK IV .38 S&W SINGAPORE POLICE W/SAFETY.38S&W \$450.00
ITALIAN MODEL 1889 BAEDO REVOLVER 10.35 MM FOLDING TRIGGER 1916 -\$475.00
ROMANIAN 1970'S 8MM AMMO,760 RDS. IN TWO SPAM CANS \$300.00
TURKISH 8MM AMMO,1400 RDS IN CRATE \$300.00
RUSSIAN 7.62X54R MIL. SURP. 440 RDS IN A SPAM CAN \$160.00
ROMANIAN 7.62X25 BRASS CASED 1980'S IN SPAM CAN 1224 RDS 300.00

ALL ITEMS FROM MY PERSONAL COLLECTION : WILLIAM PRICE TMCA LIFE MEMBER ~ PH. 615-371-8027 EMAIL:williamprice4@comcast.net

Typhoon/Tempest in action



For Sale \$2,000
Control Gripe (Spade) for Hawker Typhoon / Tempest.
WW2 British Fighter

Typhoon/Tempest in action



Dave 615-479-4569
dhoagey@comcast.net
TMCA Life # 005

615-533-7701 cell
cckw@united.net
tnmvpa.com

Military Motorpool of TN
MVPA Club
Tim Baltz



ADVANCE GUARD MILITARIA
BUYING AND SELLING
19th & 20th Century
Antique Arms & Militaria
&
Home of the AEF Unit Roster Database

www.advanceguardmilitaria.com

THE WILMINGTON OVMS COLLECTIBLE ARMS & MILITARIA SHOW AT THE ROBERTS CENTRE
"The Cornfield Show!"
November 2 - 3, 2018
THE ROBERTS CENTRE
Wilmington, Ohio
Up to 400 TABLES of Antique Arms & Militaria

2019 SHOW OF SHOWS
February 21-24, 2019
Kentucky Expo Center
Louisville, KY



If you collect Antique Arms and Militaria, this is a show that is not to be missed! With nearly 2,000 tables of items for sale, there are new treasures to be discovered each time you walk through the hall. In 2013, we overheard someone who was attending his first ever SOS. He remarked to his friend "When you look out across this hall, you can see the curve of the earth!"



**TENNESSEE MILITARY
COLLECTORS
ASSOCIATION**

**PO Box 1006
Brentwood, TN 37024**

**Phone: 615-661-9379
www.tmcaonline.org
TMCA@comcast.net**

President: Jimmy Howell
Vice President: Rick Moody
Secretary: Emily Townes
Treasurer: David Hoagey
Sgt. at Arms: Ricky Taylor

Show Director: Ronnie Townes



Tennessee Medal of Honor Recipient - Sergeant Alvin C. York



Alvin Cullum York (December 13, 1887 – September 2, 1964), also known as **Sergeant York**, was one of the most decorated United States Army soldiers of World War I. He received the Medal of Honor for leading an attack on a German machine gun nest, taking at least one machine gun, killing at least 25 enemy soldiers and capturing 132. York's Medal of Honor action occurred during the United States-led portion of the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in France, which was intended to breach the Hindenburg line and force the Germans to surrender.

York was born in rural Tennessee and was drafted during World War I; he initially claimed conscientious objector status on the grounds that his religious denomination forbade violence. Persuaded that his religion was not incompatible with military service, York joined the 82nd Division as an infantry private and went to France in 1918.

In October 1918, as a newly-promoted corporal, York was one of a group of seventeen soldiers assigned to infiltrate German lines and silence a machine gun position. After the American patrol had captured a large group of enemy soldiers, German small arms fire killed six Americans and wounded three. York was the highest ranking of those still able to fight, so he took charge. While his men guarded the prisoners, York attacked the machine gun position, killing several German soldiers with his rifle before running out of ammunition. Six German soldiers charged him with bayonets, and York drew his pistol and killed all of them. A German officer then offered to surrender and York accepted. York and his men marched back to their unit's command post with more than 130 prisoners.

Photo From Left to Right: Senator Ken Yager, Andrew Jackson York (Son of Sgt. Alvin York) and Emily Townes on Oct. 8, 2018 - The Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Wolf River Cemetery, Pall Mall TN honoring the 100th year of Sgt. York's Medal of Honor action that occurred during the United States-led portion of the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in France.

