

# ★ WORLD WAR II ★ M E M O R I A L

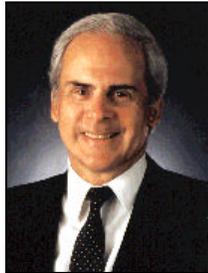
VOLUME 2, NUMBER 2

A NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL SOCIETY

WINTER 1999

## Message from the national co-chair

*Frederick W. Smith*



What a year it's been for the memorial campaign! Twelve months ago we reported contributions of \$15 million and a Memorial Society membership of 120,000. We've now reached \$38 million in funds raised, and Society membership exceeds 250,000! Many corporations and veterans organizations made significant commitments to help us reach our \$100 million goal so we can break ground by Veterans Day 2000.

Last summer, the memorial design team received overwhelming approval of Friedrich St. Florian's revised design concept. The team is now defining how the national war effort will be interpreted within the magnificent memorial structure. It's quite a challenge — we'll give you a report on how they're doing next quarter.

Movies like *Saving Private Ryan* and books like *The Greatest Generation* have put a face to World War II for generations to whom the war is simply a history lesson. Soon, we'll launch a major public service ad campaign to bring the memorial message into more American homes through a variety of print and broadcast media. Few disagree with the need for a national tribute to the sacrifice and achievement of the World War II generation. Our challenge is to give more Americans the opportunity to help.

It's been a busy and productive year, and the coming months should be just as exciting. Senator Dole and I thank you for your generous personal contributions, and wish you a happy and healthy New Year.

## Boeing pledges \$1.2 million

The American Battle Monuments Commission recently announced a \$1.2 million pledge from The Boeing Company to help build the National World War II Memorial. Boeing's pledge is the largest gift to date from a defense-related corporation.

Stan Ebner, Boeing senior vice president for Washington operations, announced the five-year pledge to the memorial campaign national chairmen, Senator Bob Dole and Frederick W. Smith, president and CEO of FDX Corporation, during a short ceremony in December.

"Boeing is proud to help honor our World War II generation in this manner," Ebner noted. "The Boeing team was part of the war effort then; it's only appropriate that we be part of the World

War II Memorial effort now."

Boeing is the world's largest aerospace company. During World War II, Boeing and its heritage companies (McDonnell Douglas and North American Rockwell) produced almost 90,000 aircraft for the U.S. and its allies. Among these venerable aircraft were the B-17 "Flying Fortress," B-29 "Super Fortress," P-51 "Mustang" and C-47 "Gooney Bird."

"Boeing's World War II contributions were critical to U.S. air power and a key to the Allied victory," Dole said. "This generous pledge is a reflection of Boeing's World War II heritage, and an example of the important role corporate America plays in helping us permanently preserve the legacy of those who fought and struggled to preserve the freedoms and opportunities we enjoy today."



Boeing senior vice president Stan Ebner (second from left) presents a check to national chairmen Senator Bob Dole and Fred Smith. ABMC Secretary, Major General John Herrling, USA (Ret), stands at left.  
(Photo by Neshan H. Naltchayan)

# The Sherman tank

The U.S. Army's M1A1 Abrams main battle tank was one of the stars of the 1991 Gulf War. With excellent firepower, armor, and mobility, it was nearly invincible in combat, and proved itself to be one of the best tanks ever made.

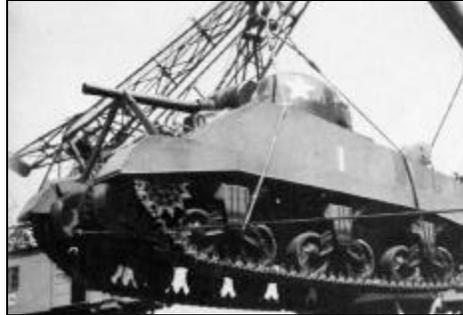
American tanks have not always ruled the battlefield. Less than 50 years earlier, the Army's workhorse tank, the famous M4 Sherman, was frequently outmatched by heavier German tanks like the Panther and Tiger. Nonetheless, the Sherman became the most widely-used tank of the war and saw action in both Europe and the Pacific.

Conceived and built in 1942, the Sherman's design was shaped by the Army's vision of how tanks would be used in combat. Army planners believed that the principal mission of tanks was to support the infantry, which would do the bulk of the fighting. Whenever the infantry achieved a "breakthrough" in enemy lines, tanks would pour through the gap and rampage in the rear areas.

According to this theory, tanks were not supposed to fight enemy tanks. The mission of tank killing instead fell to towed anti-tank guns and "tank-destroyers," which were essentially self-propelled anti-tank guns with light armor.

With these goals in mind, the Sherman's designers emphasized speed and mechanical reliability over firepower and protection. Unfortunately, combat experience would show that tanks — not tank destroyers — were usually the best way to deal with enemy armor.

Initially, the Sherman served well in combat. In late 1942, the British used Shermans in North Africa against early-model Axis tanks and found them useful. But German tank technology was improving rapidly and, by 1944, the Sherman was decidedly inferior to the enemy's latest armored vehicles. A major



*Lend-Lease M4 Sherman being unloaded in Algeria in 1943.*

problem was its 75mm main gun, which had difficulty penetrating heavier armor. The gun was unable to penetrate the frontal armor of many German tanks even when firing from point-blank range!

Unfortunately, German guns had little difficulty penetrating the Sherman's lighter armor, even from long distances. Also worrisome to the crews was the fact that Shermans tended to catch fire easily when hit, which complicated things for survivors still inside.

The Sherman did have certain advantages. It was quick and maneuverable, and exhibited high mechanical reliability — unlike the German Tiger and Panther tanks, which experienced frequent breakdowns. Also, its turret was powered by a hydraulic and electric system that enabled it to rotate more quickly than those of enemy tanks, which were frequently turned by a hand crank. The Sherman's quick-turning turret often allowed it to get off a crucial first shot in a tank duel.

The Sherman's greatest advantage was its sheer numbers. American crews would often defeat superior enemy tanks by "ganging up" on them so that some of the Shermans could surround a target and get a shot at the weaker armor on its side or rear. Although this tactic worked,

it was costly. American soldiers estimated that four Shermans were lost for every Panther or Tiger destroyed.

Although slow to respond to the tank's plight, the Army did begin to introduce a new 76mm gun that would equip half the Shermans in Europe by 1945. It was slightly more effective against tanks, but less useful against infantry. Also, the larger ammunition meant less rounds could be carried.

The Army also took steps to improve the tank's protection, and began to release a more heavily armored Sherman variant known as the "Jumbo." Although few of these tanks reached the front, they were valued by their units and used to spearhead attacks.

More than 49,000 Shermans were built during the war. After the conflict, many allied armies used the Sherman as the basis for their tank force, and it would see action in many subsequent regional wars. It was even used in combat by Israel as late as 1973!

History has judged that the Sherman was a good tank, but not a great one. However, lessons learned from the Sherman set the stage for later generations of American tanks that, in time, dominated the battlefield.



*Sherman M4A3 with 76mm gun fords an Austrian stream in 1945.*

# Students, vets join to support memorial campaign

Anyone who has ever been to a high school football game has heard the cheer, "We've got spirit, yes we do, we've got spirit, how about you?" Truer words have never been spoken when referring to North Park Middle School in Lockport, N.Y.

Many say today's youth don't appreciate the sacrifices their elders have made for them. This is not the case for 170 students and one very motivated English teacher in Lockport.

Renee Knight and her husband are charter members of the World War II Memorial Society. Last August at their breakfast table, Knight

handed his wife a thank you note he had received from the memorial campaign and jokingly stated, "Here's a little project for your kids..." The seed was planted. What could a group of eighth grade students do to raise money for such a worthy cause? Why not a benefit concert in their hometown?

"I turned to some wonderful people with whom I had worked on previous adventures," Renee said. "My colleagues, our Parent Liaison Committee, and some of my professional buddies within the school system — all willingly jumped into the fray. At Lockport High School, former colleagues and old friends graciously offered their time, talents, performers and stage crews.

"Our dream had the potential for turning into a nightmare, though," Renee said. "When I first approached my darling students, they rolled their eyes and wondered what I had gotten them into! I explained the project and stressed that it would mean a great deal of work. But when I asked who wanted to be

involved, every hand in the room went up!

"I sought publicity advice from a friend and the idea of a joint venture with local veterans organizations was discussed. Why not make it an intergenerational community project?"

The local American Legion was contacted and enthusiastically supported the venture. Mrs. Knight then called the Customer Service number for the memorial campaign and was supplied with posters, donation and registry forms, and continuous calls and e-mails of encouragement and support.



Student escorts veteran to a seat.

On Saturday, Nov. 7, 1998, the students escorted veterans to the front row of the auditorium, the lights were dimmed and the concert began. The evening was filled with song, dance and verse, and closed with a silent tribute to those who served.

Once all of the raffle gifts had been awarded, the ticket monies collected, and donations counted, this breakfast conversation had turned into a donation to the World War II Memorial of over \$3,700. So, as an English teacher would say, the gauntlet has been thrown, the challenge made: *We've got spirit! How about you?*

Renee Knight has prepared a lesson plan for anyone interested in developing a fund raiser in their school. For more information contact the Director of Education at the World War II Memorial Campaign at 800-639-4WW2 or write to:

Director of Education  
National World War II Memorial  
2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 501  
Arlington, Va. 22201

# Donation matching doubles support

Does your company support your philanthropic endeavors? Companies that participate will match 50 to 100% of any donation that is made to a charitable fund or organization meeting their criteria.

At present, the following companies and foundations have actively matched gifts their employees made to the World War II Memorial:

Ameritech  
Bank Boston  
BellSouth  
Champion International Corp  
The Chase Manhattan Foundation  
CITICORP  
The Coca-Cola Company  
Exxon Corporation  
RR Donnelly & Sons  
Gilman Paper Company  
IBM  
Kellogg's  
Lucent Technologies  
McDonald's  
Mobil Foundation Inc  
Monsanto Fund  
JP Morgan  
Phillip Morris Company  
Pfizer  
The Reader's Digest Foundation  
The UPS Foundation  
Sun Micro Systems  
USWEST  
Vulcan Material's Company  
WMX Technologies, Inc.

If you are an employee of any of the above companies, we encourage you to take advantage of the matching gifts program. If your company is not listed contact your benefits consultant.

How simple is it? Obtain a matching gifts form from your benefits provider, fill it out, and attach it to your next donation. The World War II staff processes the forms with your company and your efforts are doubled! So what are you waiting for? *Double your support!*

# Remembering Rosie

By Vickie Monroe Jarvis

In September 1994, Charles Osborn Jr., chairman of the Aviation Heritage Airshow, honored several World War II heroes. They included General Chuck Yeager, General Robin Olds, Pete Peterson, and Bud Anderson. A heroine named Rose Monroe also received accolades. Although she was better known to you as “Rosie the Riveter,” to us, she was just “Mom.”

Mom wasn't the first Rosie. There was already a popular song entitled, “Rosie the Riveter,” which was inspired by aircraft worker, Rosalind Walter. The world famous J. Howard Miller war poster entitled “We Can Do It,” which portrayed a fictitious Rosie, became the symbol of the American woman working to do her part to win the war.

Mom didn't ask to be a heroine, nor did she ever try to capitalize on her fame. She was simply doing her job as a patriot and as a mother to my brother and sister, Troy and Connie. In 1942, after her husband was killed in an auto crash, she had to support them alone. The Willow Run Aircraft Factory in Ypsilanti, Mich., hired Mom as a riveter to help build B-24 and B-29 bombers.

Hollywood sent movie star Walter Pidgeon to the Willow Run plant to make a short film promoting war bonds. The film's producer learned there was a young



*Rose Will Monroe receives congratulations after completing her first solo flight.*

woman named Rose working as a riveter in the factory. Attractive, intelligent, and strong, she perfectly captured the spirit of the “We Can Do It” poster and the popular “Rosie” war song. She appeared in the film, breathing life into the mythical character — Mom gave flesh and blood to a “Rosie” who had only been a cardboard poster.

Working at Willow Run prompted Mom to dream of flight. She wanted to serve as a ferry pilot, but was denied because of her two small children. Years later, though, she earned her private pilot certificate. She would often pass over our neighborhood, dipping her left wing in greeting to us in the backyard. When we went flying around the countryside, she taught me the basics of flying, and how to read charts and navigate. In 1978, the Cessna 172 she was flying stalled on takeoff and crashed. Mom was critically injured and lost the vision in her left eye.

Although she recovered, her days as a pilot were over.

I share Mom's passion for aviation and carry on that tradition as a member of the Aerial Allstars Skydiving Team. Mom loved riding in our jump planes, and wished out loud that she was younger so she could have jumped too!

After Mom passed away, we were surprised and honored by the publicity she received as “Rosie the Riveter.” To her, she was just doing her job as best she could, and she always expected the same from her family and employees. She wouldn't take no for an answer and truly exemplified the “We Can Do It” attitude. If she were alive today, she would tackle the National World War II Memorial project with the same enthusiasm and high standards, and would most certainly encourage you to do likewise.

*For more information about the Rose Monroe Society, call Angela Welsh at (703) 696-0827 or (703) 696-6650. Tax-deductible contributions honoring a mother, grandmother, wife, sister or friend who participated on the home front during the war, may be sent to:*



ATTN: Rosie  
The Rose Monroe Society  
National World War II Memorial  
2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 501  
Arlington, Va 22201

## Memorial shares limelight with new stamps

The National World War II Memorial shared center stage at the Washington, D.C., Old City Post Office Building with three new stamps in the United States Postal Service's Celebrate the Century series. The stamps commemorate the sacrifice and achievement of the World War II generation.

General Fred Woerner, USA (Ret), chairman of the American Battle Monuments Commission that is establishing the memorial, joined Vice President Al Gore and Postmaster General William Henderson in unveiling stamps commemorating “World War II,” “Women Support War Effort,” and “GI Bill 1944.” The ceremony was a special Veterans Day salute to the men and women who helped win World War II on the battlefield and on the home front.

“No one more deserves the recognition these stamps convey than America's World War II generation,” General Woerner said. “They deserve their place in history — before their heroic efforts are lost to future generations.”





# Mail Call

We welcome your letters, and will print a selection in each issue of the newsletter. Letters are subject to editing and should be sent to Editor, NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL Newsletter, 2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 501, Arlington, VA 22201. Please include a daytime phone number and, if available, an e-mail address.

## NO GOVERNMENT SUPPORT?

I have twice contributed to the Memorial Fund, and will again.

There is one question I have, and perhaps others do, too. A grateful nation appreciates the sacrifices of its World War II veterans. Therefore, why is our government not involved in contributing to this national memorial?

Lewis L. Jacobson, M.D.  
Eagle River, Wis.

When Congress passed the legislation authorizing a National World War II Memorial, it specified that the American Battle Monuments Commission must raise the funds to construct the memorial from private sources. This is typical. The Korean War Veterans Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Women in Military Service for America Memorial, and the U.S. Navy Memorial, among others, were privately funded. A private fund-raising campaign for a U.S. Air Force Memorial is underway. President Clinton did authorize the Department of Defense to transfer \$5 million from the World War II 50th Anniversary Commemoration account to the memorial campaign at the end of those celebrations. The funds were received in Fiscal Year 1996.

## MORE ROSIES

During World War II, I worked in a plant in Columbus, Ind. Since I had to supply the plant with a birth certificate, I requested a copy from my hometown. All the statistics were correct except for the name, which was Rosie Mae.

My mother said the doctor had filled out the certificate without knowing my name. I guess that was common in those days.

When the fellows in the plant found

out about it, they started calling me "Rosie the Riveter." It didn't matter that I wasn't a riveter. We all had something to laugh about, which was rare in those days!

Clara B. Beaulieu  
Bedford, Texas

## U.S.S. SPENCE REMEMBERED

Former *Spence* shipmates and friends and relatives of those lost in the tragic capsizing of the celebrated destroyer in the December 1944 typhoon can receive a free copy of a 40-page historical document that has been prepared from the official ship's documents in the National Archives. Send your request to 341 Sunset Key, Plant City, Fla. 33565.

Richard A. Strand  
Plant City, Fla.

## BREMERTON MEMORIES

"Monterey Memories" was an excellent story that brought back many memories. I worked at the Boeing Company during that time and we danced at the USOs and ballrooms with many, many Navy personnel from the aircraft carriers brought into Bremerton Yards. It was a very sad time, but we also had a lot of fun.

I am proud that America is waking up to the need for a National World War II Memorial.

Cecelia A. Glidden  
Seattle, Wash.

## REQUEST FOR HELP!

After 54 years of research, I finally received some information regarding my brother, Pvt. Benjamin Joesph Sargis, Company F, 351st Infantry, 88th Division. He was listed as MIA on Oct. 24, 1944 in Vandriano, Italy, along with the following men: Pvt. Thomas Tyler, PFC. Joseph Bobowski Jr, and PFC Lupe G. Betancourt. On October 26, 1944, my brother was presumed dead.

If anyone knew my brother or any of the above men, please contact me at 66 Cedar St., Newington, Conn., 06111.

My daytime number is 860-666-5607 and e-mail is Samuel.Sargis@ERA.com

Samuel Sargis  
Newington, Conn.

## HERO RECALLED

In loving memory of my uncle, Edward Basak. As a young soldier, he received a citation and was awarded the Bronze Star for valor for saving the life of a lieutenant trapped near a land mine in Normandy.

Without regard for his own safety, he rescued the young officer and brought him to safety aboard a waiting ambulance.

His bravery and love of country will always be remembered and he will always hold a special place within our hearts.

Dorothy Gabriele  
Fort Myers, Fla.

## WARTIME MEMORY

I contributed to the memorial in remembrance of my brother, who was a B-24 pilot in Italy. He was shot down on his 42nd mission and crashed in Yugoslavia, where he and his crew were captured.

He told us that they practically lived on tulip bulbs in the winter of 1944-45, because the Germans were intercepting Red Cross packages and confiscating the cigarettes, chocolate, and even socks! The prisoners' only meals were lukewarm soup and bread, so they dug up the tulip bulbs the Germans had planted to make the camp look nice in spring.

I was in the Marine Corps during the last part of World War II and didn't see as much action as my brother. I was glad President Truman ended it all with the A-bomb, or I might not be here to write this letter!

I think the World War II Memorial is overdue and only hope I live to see it finished.

Donald Murphy  
Wenona, Ill.

## MARS MEMORIES

Would that I could return again  
To the beach I knew so well  
Would that I could see again  
The channel ebb and swell.

The channel that has carried many things  
Upon its heaving back  
The water that transported many men  
But now a war does lack.

A channel that has borne the boats  
Of many various kinds  
A channel that has kept afloat  
Men of many minds.

Boats that have touched on other shores  
As well as here in France  
Have come to disgorge their score or more  
As soldiers in defiance.

On Omaha and Utah  
They rammed their prows on bottom sand  
To give the men within them  
A chance to reach the land.

On Omaha there were hills and cliffs  
Beyond the other lay the marsh  
The one secured by many ifs  
The other not so harsh.

This is the land I'll remember the most  
As my berth across the water  
These are the beaches that were my host  
That gave me my slit trench quarters.

*Chas. B. Harrison  
Lansdowne, Pa.*

## Correction

Several readers noted two mistakes in our *Monterey Memories* story. *Bunker Hill* was a full-size carrier, not an escort carrier, and three destroyers were lost in the December 1944 typhoon, not two.

We regret the errors, which were ours, not Mr. Galluzzo's.

## THE WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

Inspiring in its grandeur,  
Imposing to the sight,  
This shrine to countless gallant men  
Who fought for freedom's light.

It will forever perpetuate  
The memory of each one,  
Who fought with pride and valor  
So victory might be won.

They left their homes and loved ones  
In answer to the cry,  
Of their beloved land to serve  
And keep our flag on high.

They fought, they bled and gave their lives  
In lands across the sea,  
To overthrow the tyranny  
And set these countries free.

Speak softly and with reverence  
when you come here to view,  
This stately shrine to gallant men  
Whose deeds live on anew.

*Harold F. Mohn  
Myerstown, Pa.*

## Members make media drive a success!

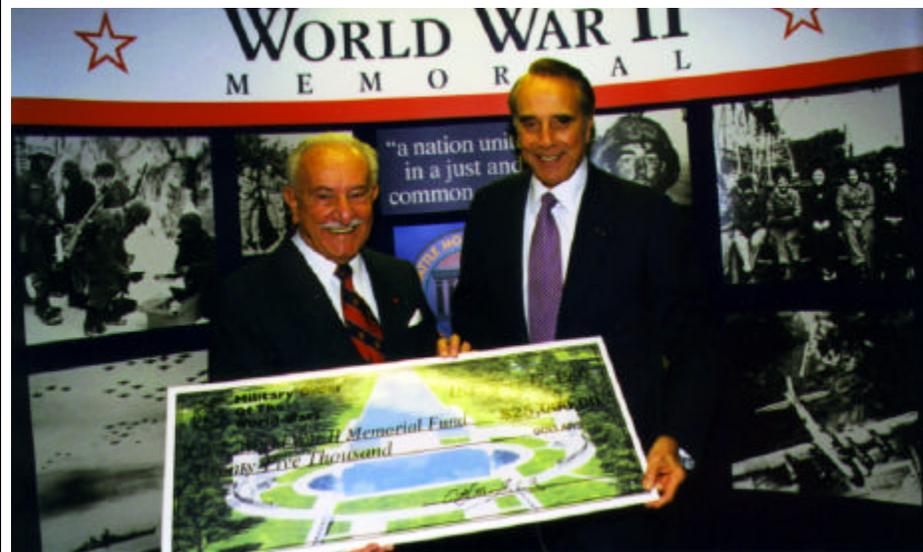
**T**his summer, World War II Memorial Society Charter Members received a letter asking them to send a pre-addressed postcard to their local newspaper, radio, or TV station. The response was overwhelming!

Over 475 press kits were mailed to media outlets across the nation, and many of our Charter Members received requests for newspaper and radio interviews. Your participation in this effort was instrumental in increasing donations and awareness!

If you still have not sent in your postcard, we encourage you to do so. Or, ask your local media representatives to call 800-639-4WW2 and request a press kit.

Thank you for your continued support of the National World War II Memorial!

## Military Order of the World Wars presents memorial \$25,000



*Lt. Col. Alfred Shehab, USA (Ret), commander-in-chief of the Military Order of the World Wars, presents a \$25,000 check to National Chairman Bob Dole. MOWW has pledged \$100,000.*

## Planned giving

Your estate gift to the campaign will become an enduring legacy to the memorial to honor for all time the generation that helped to win the war that changed the course of human history. For more information on bequests and other planned giving options, call (800) 639-4WW2, ext. 7873 or write to:

World War II Memorial Campaign  
Attn: Planned Giving  
2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 501  
Arlington, VA 22201.

### WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL CAMPAIGN

\$100 million



## Memorial now accepts online donations!

The National World War II Memorial's web site recently began accepting online credit card donations!

Working in conjunction with the United States Treasury and Mellon Bank, the memorial web site offers Internet users an easy, secure way to help build a lasting tribute to the World War II generation!

To donate, simply go to the web site at [wwiimemorial.com](http://wwiimemorial.com). Find the *How You Can Help* button, and follow the instructions on the subsequent screens. After entering the appropriate information, your credit card will be verified and you will receive a confirmation number for your records. It's as easy as that!

If you have any questions, or would prefer to donate by telephone, call 1-800-639-4WW2.

### CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION GIVING

#### FOUNDERS GIFTS

\$2 MILLION

FEDERAL EXPRESS CORPORATION  
SBC FOUNDATION

#### LEADERSHIP GIFTS

\$1 MILLION TO \$2 MILLION

ANHEUSER-BUSCH FOUNDATION  
THE BOEING COMPANY  
CHRYSLER CORPORATION FUND  
EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY  
STARR FOUNDATION  
TYCO INTERNATIONAL, LTD.

#### PATRON GIFTS

\$500,000 TO \$1 MILLION

AMERICAN HOME PRODUCTS CORP.  
CATERPILLAR INC.  
THE COCA-COLA COMPANY  
GTE FOUNDATION  
RAYTHEON COMPANY  
SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.  
STATE FARM COMPANIES FOUNDATION  
VIAD CORP

#### VICTOR GIFTS

\$250,000 TO \$500,000

ANDERSEN CONSULTING  
GEORGE W. & AMY NEWMAN FOUNDATION  
HOUSTON ENDOWMENT INC.  
SHELL OIL COMPANY FOUNDATION  
STEELCASE  
WARNER-LAMBERT

#### CENTURION GIFTS

\$100,000 TO \$250,000

ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY  
ARTHUR ANDERSON  
ANNENBERG FOUNDATION  
AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING, INC.  
CHEVRON CORPORATION  
CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE  
CORNING  
DREAMWORKS  
ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR  
FIRST USA  
JOHN DEERE FOUNDATION  
NATIONWIDE INSURANCE ENTERPRISE FND.  
PFIZER INC.  
RAPOPORT FOUNDATION  
SARA LEE  
TENNECO  
U.S. OFFICE PRODUCTS  
WACHOVIA CORPORATION  
WHIRLPOOL

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW YOUR CORPORATION OR FOUNDATION CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE CAMPAIGN, PLEASE CONTACT:

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION GIVING  
WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL CAMPAIGN  
2300 CLARENDON BLVD., SUITE 501  
ARLINGTON, VA 22201  
PHONE: (800) 639-4WW2  
FAX: (703) 696-6667  
E-MAIL: [SPRATTR@EXCHANGE-HQ-ABMC.HQ.USACE.ARMY.MIL](mailto:SPRATTR@EXCHANGE-HQ-ABMC.HQ.USACE.ARMY.MIL)