



## From the Commander

I am frequently invited to lecture on the Pacific War and Japanese treatment of prisoners. Often as I await my turn at the rostrum, someone will ask how I became interested in these topics. When I reply that I was held in a Japanese internment camp, they will look at me strangely, and then say, "You don't look Japanese". One of the first questions I ask groups is, "How many of you know about the internment of the Japanese-Americans?" The entire audience raises their hand. When I ask how many know about the thousands of American civilians interned in Japanese prison camps at the same time, few raise their hands.

The media covers the relocation of the 110,000 Japanese-Americans in great detail, while virtually ignoring the 150,000 Allied civilians held by the Japanese in East Asia, 14,000 of them Americans and 11% of whom died in captivity. In the American Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands, 7,300 American civilians were interned and 770 of them never left the camps alive as a result of torture and execution, disease and starvation.

70 years later, we have lost our perspective about the contemporaneous conditions in America in 1942, and historical revisionists now paint a horrific portrait of conditions under which the Japanese-Americans were held, which in many ways was not so different from how many other Americans were living at the time. Our collective national guilt should be focused on the difficulty engendered in being forcibly relocated and the loss of free will rather than on the conditions in which they were held, which were in no way comparable with the Nazi concentration camps nor the Japanese internment camps.

The media debate over the years has drawn attention to the injustice done to Japanese-Americans. Shouldn't we also focus on the injustice done to Americans of all other ethnicities?

Angus Lorenzen

## Ingenuity II

As we pointed out in the last issue of *Beyond the Wire*, the Japanese concentrated their prisoners in camps without any resources except their brains and their hands, forcing them to be ingenious beyond anything that would have been otherwise required. Not only did they become more creative, but also in some cases their experience led them to lifelong directions they might not otherwise have considered.

One person who was affected this way was Len Baker. He was 14 years old when his family escaped from Japanese-occupied Shanghai in the face of the anticipated war. His ship was diverted to Manila after the attack on Pearl Harbor. There the English community arranged for the 300 British passengers to go to a hotel on the outskirts of Manila until their ship could proceed onward. Much to their surprise, the ship departed without them, taking all of their baggage.

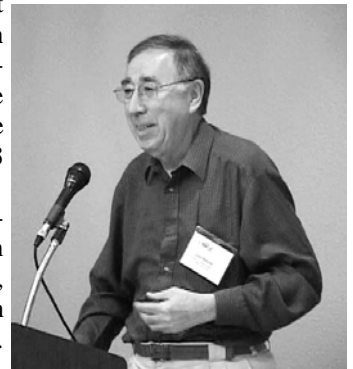
They were taken to Santo Tomas Internment Camp in February 1942, where they arrived with only the clothes on their backs. Some young internee boys climbed over the wall and raided the ROTC bodega, and gave Len three shirts and three pairs of shorts, which lasted him for more than 3 years in the camp.

Because of the difference in the school systems, Len became a senior in the Santo Tomas high school. He worked two hours a day for the camp, starting by construction of the dining sheds, then in the kitchen, and then in the hospital as an orderly. He also took university level classes from professors in the camp, and he did so well in chemistry that he was asked to help in the pharmacy as bottle washer. Internees would return the bottles after they had used their medication and Len would wash them – who invented recycling! The pharmacy took the trouble to give Len practical chemistry lessons

The pharmacy received a supply of sulfur drugs from the Red Cross, and when an outbreak of dysentery occurred, the effort to measure out a dose for each patient was burdensome. They suspected that the University of Santo Tomas had a tablet-making machine, and approached the University authorities. Yes, they did have such a machine and the internees could borrow it. Len now found his new avocation making tablets. The shipment of Red Cross supplies in late 1943, among other things, included the 4 major Sulfa drugs of which Sulphaquanidine was specific for the dysentery outbreak. The powder was converted into tablets. At liberation there were 2 bottles of tablets remaining on the shelves.

A Japanese officer became aware that they could make tablets. He produced some ephedrine powder. The hospital pharmacy manager weighed the powder and told the Japanese officer that there was enough to make 100 tablets. He asked them to go ahead. There was really enough powder to make 200 tablets at the correct dose. They gave the officer 100 and kept 100 for the camp. He was happy and the internees were happy! They didn't cheat!

Len was seventeen when liberated, and returned home. But his experience had changed the direction of his life, and when he entered university he earned his degree in Chemistry.



## WORD OF MOUTH

Book reviews by Sascha Jansen. Both of these books are available from [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com).

### ONLY A MATTER OF DAYS

The World War II Diary of Fay Cook Bailey  
Merriam Press, 2001, reprinted 2008  
By Caroline Bailey Pratt

Editing and publishing her father's diary, Caroline brings to the reader vital and important information on the exacting organization of prison life in the Santo Tomas Internment Camp. As the Treasurer of the Philippine Red Cross, American National Red Cross, and as Chief of the Finance and Supplies Committee, Faye Cook Bailey kept meticulous and true records on the procurement, feeding, caring of prisoners, and establishing ground rules to comply with the Japanese Commandant's orders. His official camp rosters of the prisoners' assigned rooms and shanties were particularly important.

The Japanese Command announced to the civilian internees, who had just been herded into Santo Tomas in January of 1942, that Japan had not ratified the rules of the Geneva Convention, and therefore were not responsible for feeding them.

The Internee Executive Committee was immediately formed which was soon taking care of the bewilderment and disorder of the rapid growth of prisoners being confined. It was obvious from the beginning that the Japanese had no preconceived plan on how to care for the few thousand civilians they had incarcerated. The organization from the Executive Committee soon took hold and sub-committees were formed for the health and welfare of the camp's occupants. The Committee was the conduit to the Commandant's office, hashing out rules and regulations to fit the needs of the civilians in a fair manner.

A New York National City Bank employee in pre-war Manila, Faye Bailey brings to the fore the methods and avenues used to beg and borrow from outside sources of big business and individuals, including the Philippine Red Cross and the American National Red Cross, to feed what eventually became almost 4,000 prisoners. Money was also needed not just for food, but for lumber, kitchen equipment and medical supplies. The University of Santo Tomas was not equipped to house so many thousands of prisoners, as this particular campus had only accommodations for day student curriculum. Thus began the behind the scenes intrigue of the over three-year imprisonment of American and Allied civilians in Manila.

Who was responsible for the prisoner repatriation process, making the decision of who was chosen? How was money borrowed from business firms to supply the camp with food and necessities? Were these funds paid back? How? When? What was the final outcome of the funds seized from the internees by the Japanese military? What role did the Red Cross play in sustaining the internees with necessities, and how long were they able to function in this capacity, if at all, during the war years? How many of us knew of the imminent danger, secrecy and intrigue these camp leaders lived under during our prison years to keep ahead of the diabolical and unknown plans of the enemy? Why were civilian men from camp chosen for interrogation and ultimately massacred? Were they caught spying? Were they innocent? Were there hidden radios? How did guerrilla warfare and the heroic underground accomplish their many clandestine missions to help the cause?

Faye Bailey's diligence in keeping meticulous records, standing for the utmost integrity in a dangerous and disdainful three-year war experience for the good of a few thousand men, women and children, earned him the respect and gratitude, albeit years later, of the highest order from his fellow prisoners.

*Only a Matter of Days* is one of the most comprehensive, detailed, and historically true accounts of the American civilian experience during WWII in the Philippines. Researchers, historians, writers and academics take note.

Faye Bailey, and his selfless fellow committeemen, sacrificed much to make things work. We are in their debt for their loyalty and the history they tell.

We hail, Caroline Bailey Pratt and her determination and dedication for resurrecting and editing her father's diary.

It was a great experience reading the behind-the-scenes intrigue of this historically accurate and informative narrative of Santo Tomas Internment Camp.

### RUNNING WITH THE TIGER

A Memoir of an Extraordinary Young Woman's Life in Hong Kong, China, The South Pacific and POW Camps  
By ANSIE LEE SPERRY & The Sperry Family Trust

According to the Chinese Zodiac, people born in the year of the Tiger are adventurous, idealistic, competitive, unpredictable, able to overcome obstacles with confidence, creative, full of social grace and charismatic. Meet Ansie Lee Sperry, born in 1914, The Year of the Tiger.

Ansie grew up in a prominent Hong Kong family, one of fourteen children in a household with four mothers. All the advantages afforded a daughter of respectable parentage were hers and her siblings. She grew up with the generous upbringing of high-end private schools in Hong Kong and Oxford, England, which was just the beginning of her adventure in a life reserved for an ardent scholar of the remote and unexpected.

As a young woman in her early 20's, Ansie volunteered in a field hospital in China's interior, sailed on tramp steamers throughout the South Seas, was befriended by Chiang Kai Shek and his wife, Soong Mei Ling, Prime Ministers, and General "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell. The author, Rumor Godden was a good friend for life. Landing in Manila right before WWII began, she spent over three years incarcerated in two Japanese POW camps. It was there that she met her future husband, Henry "Hank" Sperry. "A lot of good things came out of my years in internment camp, and the best thing was meeting Henry." Hank and Ansie married in Shanghai in 1946 and stayed married for fifty-seven years.

Her daughter Victoria informs us, "I always knew my mother had led an exciting life, but when I first read this memoir I was thrilled at how beautifully she writes and how her diary, her sketches, and photographs make her story come alive. I hope you will find it as enjoyable to read as I did."

Indeed, personally I could not put down this book. The journey, the culture of China, the historical research, personal memoirs of a fascinating life of a woman who lived in challenging times, takes you on an unpredictable romp of adventure, humor and charisma.

Mrs. Sperry is ninety-eight years young and lives in Portola Valley, California.

Running with the Tiger is a fascinating, highly recommended read.

# BACEPOW 2012 Reunion

Friday April 27 to Sunday April 29

This year we memorialize the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fall of Bataan and Corregidor and the start of the long imprisonment of American and Allied military personnel and civilians. It is an opportunity to see old friends, hear stories of adventure and deprivation, and thank those who were fighting their way back to the Philippines to liberate us.

**Where:** Embassy Suites in Old Sacramento, California

For reservations call **1-800 Embassy** and ask for Bay Area Civilian Ex-POWs discount rate, or **www.sacramento.embassysuites.com** and make a reservation using the group/convention code **BPW**.

The group rate is \$129 per night and \$5 reduction from the \$25 per day parking. Included is a hot breakfast, hosted evening cocktails, and free Sacramento Airport pick-up and delivery by calling **916-326-5000**. This rate is valid Friday through Monday nights. **Deadline for reservations is April 6.**

**Friday:** Reunion registration and book signing in hotel lobby from 2:00 until 5:30. Pick up your badge and information.  
5:30 – 7:30 - Hosted cocktails (for those registered in hotel) and meeting friends in the lobby bar. Dinner on your own.

**Saturday:** Reunion registration in hotel lobby from 8:00 until 9:00. Pick up your badge and information.

9:00 – Morning sessions convene in the Ballroom. Ric Laurence – Moderator

9:00 - 9:45 Carrol Faist, B-24 Pilot, SWPA, 307th BG, 13th Air Force – Bombing missions over Manila

9:45 - 10:45 Lou Jurika – Jurika-Parsons guerrilla experience in the Philippines

10:45 - 11:00 Break

11:00 - 12:00 Bob Wood – Recovery and identification of MIAs

12:00 – 1:15 Lunch break

1:15 – Afternoon sessions convene in the Ballroom. John Ream - Moderator

1:15 - 2:15 Wanda Damberg – Smuggling medicine into Santo Tomas Internment Camp

2:15 - 2:45 Shadow play about the rescue at Bilibid

2:45 - 3:15 Tom Dugan, 44th Tank Battalion – Mindanao after the Battle of Manila

3:15 - 3:30 Break

3:30 - 4:45 Jim Zobel, Archivist, MacArthur Memorial - MacArthur’s attitude towards guerillas, and his strategy on Luzon

5:30 – 7:30 - Hosted cocktails (for those registered in hotel) and meeting friends in the lobby bar. Dinner on your own.

**Sunday:** Reunion registration in hotel lobby from 9:30 until 11:30. Pick up your badge and information.

9:00 – BACEPOW Board of Directors meeting in Suite to be announced

9:00 – Affinity groups gatherings (STIC, Los Baños, Baguio) Inform us if interested so we can get a location assignment.

9:00 – 11:30 - Oral history recordings - by appointment only

10:00 – Descendents meeting in Suite to be announced

10:00 – 11:30 - Book signing – Hotel Lobby

11:30 - 12:30 – No host reception, introductions and announcements in the Ballroom

12:30 – Banquet in the Ballroom

1:15 - Keynote Speaker – Rear Admiral Bruce Black

**Other Activities:** The hotel is located in the center of Old Sacramento and there are many nearby activities. The California Military Museum is within walking distance and is offering a special low rate for reunion attendees.

**Reunion Sign-up: The deadline for reunion sign-up is April 13.**

	<u>Members</u>	<u>Non-Members</u>
Full Reunion—all events	\$54	\$58
Saturday forums only	\$15	\$18
Sunday Banquet only	\$41	\$44

**Please make checks payable to BACEPOW and mail to: Sally Connelly, #4 Hidalgo Ct., Santa Fe, NM 87508**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Member(Y/N)</u>	<u>Amount</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
	Total	_____

## Come Sail with Us

**Liberation!** Then in the months following February 1945, ex-internees streamed out of the Japanese camps to board American ships for the exciting voyage home. Join us to relive that wonderful experience on a daylong cruise aboard a WW II Liberty Ship sailing from San Pedro on August 25.

The S.S. Lane Victory was launched in Los Angeles in 1945 and served in WW II, Korea and Vietnam. It was rescued from the scrap heap and restored to working order by veterans of those wars and volunteers. Today it is docked in Los Angeles Harbor and is open for tours, makes several voyages each summer, and is used by many movie companies.

Steam back to the 1940's and enjoy a day's-long adventure and breath-taking views as we sail toward Catalina Island. Dance on the deck. Help the crew hunt down an escaped German spy and re-live the hair-raising drama as the ship's gunners ward off an air attack! Take time to explore the ship and its museums. It's a perfect way for ship aficionados, history buffs, and families alike to spend the day!

Expand your wartime reminiscences by visiting the battleship USS Iowa docked nearby in San Pedro, and visit the Queen Mary in Long Beach, which includes an exhibit of the

cabins configured to hold thousands of GIs being shipped to the European theater during WW II.

BACEPOW has selected the August 25 cruise to share our own experiences, so make your reservations early on [www.lanevictory.org](http://www.lanevictory.org) or by calling (310) 519-0265. The cost is \$130, and \$80 for children under 15, for the full day, including lunch. Boarding starts at 7:30 and the gangway is raised at 8:30. The ship returns to dock at 4:30. (No wheel chairs or strollers)

Let Angus Lorenzen at [bacepow@earthlink.net](mailto:bacepow@earthlink.net) (310) 519-8648 or Denise Paige at [dtpaige@hotmail.com](mailto:dtpaige@hotmail.com) (562) 818-6580 know if you will be aboard.



## We Knew You When

**Roberta “Bobbie” Mae Florence** – May 26, 1921 – December 31, 2011

Bobbie, born and raised in the Philippines, was a graduate of Central Bordner School, basketball Team Captain, and a track and softball star. She and her family spent 38 months as a WWII Civilian POW in Santo Tomas and Los Baños.

In later years, Bobbie was Vice President of Pan Pacific Co, an export sporting goods firm for six decades. Bobbie was married to Paul Billington Florence for over 63 years and called San Francisco home. A Girl Scout leader, a good friend, and an outstanding mother, she is survived by her sister, Jean Schreiber, brother, Harry Robinson, and devoted daughters, Joan Marie Van Dyke and Carol Mae Cripe. Services were held at St Francis Episcopal Church in San Francisco.

**Dorothy “Dolly” Rogers Clemens** – November 7, 1931 – November 18, 2011

Born on the island of Jolo, in the Southern Philippines, Dolly, along with her mother, three sisters and brother, was captured during WWII in Manila and spent 37 months in Santo Tomas internment camp. Her father, a US Government employee, was in Cabanatuan POW camp. He died on a hell ship near Taiwan. After liberation the family went to America.

Dolly returned to the Philippines to continue her education at the American School in Manila, and then back to the States at Georgetown University and University of San Francisco, earning her Bachelor and Masters degrees. Invited back to teach at the American School in Manila, Dolly, rose to the position of assistant principal.

While living in Manila, Dolly met and married Warren Clemens of Mobile Oil—Manila, subsequently living in Columbia, Japan, Puerto Rico and England. Besides loving teaching her students, Dolly bred and trained Labrador Retriever Dogs and had a passion for thoroughbred horseracing.

Dolly leaves her husband, Warren, and son, David and fam-

ily. She was a devout member of the Council of Catholic Women, and one of the “STIC BELLES” – a group of childhood girl friends from Santo Tomas Internment Camp.

**Leonette Wishard** – 109 years of age. Born October 11, 1902 – Died December 2, 2011.

Leonette received her Masters degree from Andover Newton Theological Seminary in 1927, and sailed from San Francisco to the Philippines where she was named Director of the Baptist Student Center in Iloilo.

After many years of traveling, Leonette returned to the Philippines where she met and married Glenn Wishard, Director of the European and American YMCA. After three years in Santo Tomas, the Wishards returned to the states and taught school until Glenn's death in 1956. Leonette then taught in Turkey, Greece, French Indo China, and back to Turkey as Dean of Residence for World Ministries. Her love of teaching won her awards for Woman of Distinction, Outstanding Woman of the Year, Outstanding Endurance Award from the American Association of University Women, proclamations from President Barack Obama and the Governor of Connecticut. (Her amazing accomplishments are too numerous to mention in this issue.)

Leonette Wishard's foot prints have been left on the hearts of all who knew her – a lover of books, travel and interaction with people left her wanting more.

**Jesus “Jess” Okialda** – Passed in September 2011

A long time devoted member of AXPOW and BACEPOW, Jesus never missed a lunch or BACEPOW meetings until his illness prevented him from doing so. Joining the US Navy at Cavite in the Philippines, Jess, was accepted at the Asiatic Fleet School for military procedure. On the Bataan Death March, from Mariveles to Camp O'Donnell, Jess meted out his war years on burial details. After the war he attended Naval Command School, then moved to the United States in 1971 where he had a long career with Pacific Bell. Jess was a devoted and proud member of many Veterans organizations in San Francisco and a constant friend to BACEPOW.

## HEROES UNSEEN

*This is a first person account by Sascha Jansen.*

Maria Martinez was a good friend of my family, and our friendship flourished before the war in the Philippines. She was a young, dynamic Filipino businesswoman who had her fingers in a lot of enterprises in and around Manila. Her greatest pre-war accomplishment was not because she was an astute member of the business community, but because she had achieved the title of the first woman stockbroker in the Philippines. She was on the rise and reached for the stars – but destiny had other plans for Maria.

When the war started she came to our home, her dark eyes flashing – her mind going a mile a minute. “I do not know my plans,” she said in great anticipation, “but you will hear from me from time to time. Take care of yourselves. God Bless You!”

We did hear from her in the beginning of the war. I received, by messenger, a birthday present for my 9<sup>th</sup> birthday from Maria before we were put into prison camp. It was a religious icon of the Virgin Mary in a shadow box, which I cherished. The card was simply signed – Maria. From that point on all communications stopped.

Three years later we were liberated, but had to stay put in Santo Tomas for several weeks while the battle raged in Manila for a month. A medical unit was set up by the US Army to care for wounded military and civilians.

One day a young medic came to our shanty looking for us. “I have a message from Maria Martinez,” he said. “She would like to see you.” He took us to the well-staffed medical unit and led us to a sick bay. The person we saw was not the vibrant woman we had known. Maria’s body had been broken in many places, but she was healing well. She smiled, reached into a bag, and handed us a dusty and stained bottle of Johnny Walker. “For celebration when I get released.” We spoke to her, reassuring her that we would visit each day. Her story unfolded as the medic began telling it.

Maria had been in Fort Santiago for months, worked over by the Kempetai in their inimitable barbaric fashion until her spirits and body were broken. Repeated beatings and interrogations did not deter this woman who refused to break.

She had spent most of the war arranging for medicines, supplies, and food to be sent to military and civilian camps. She was part of an organization that smuggled ammunition, transported guerillas, and provided communication to key leaders in the hills and the outer islands, and sent messages to the US and Australian intelligence, working under great adversity and secrecy. Special mission submarines and leaky bancas were pressed into service delivering precious information and resupplying Filipino and American guerilla forces. They manned special observation stations and reported location, movements, speed and direction of enemy shipping. The work took its toll and many of her compadres were caught, then tortured and killed. Whole Filipino families, all working for the good of both countries, were massacred in their homes. Most of the members of the Manila German Club, who were supposed to be allies of the Japanese while some worked for the underground, were also massacred.

We will forever be in debt to people such as Maria Martinez and the thousands of unknown Filipino heroes. They all fought and sacrificed their lives for their compadres and our

## BUYING AMORSOLO AND OTHER PHILIPPINE AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN ARTISTS

Shelly Geringer of Geringer Art, Ltd. has been a fine art dealer since 1989 specializing in Philippine, Hawaiian and other South East Asian Master Painters. We pay top prices for works by these artists.

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To discuss artworks and for details on more artists visit our website at: [www.geringerart.com](http://www.geringerart.com). E-mail us at [geringerart@yahoo.com](mailto:geringerart@yahoo.com) or [geringerart@hotmail.com](mailto:geringerart@hotmail.com). Call or leave message at 808-295-2216

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two countries.

Maria’s mind and body eventually healed. President Roxas and the Philippine Government presented some of these heroes with top awards – both those still alive and posthumously. President Truman, on behalf of the US Government, was moved to tears as he read out the names of these underground movers and shakers when he presented their stories. Medals and awards were given for bravery to some, above and beyond the call of duty. Maria had moved to the states shortly after the war – and we continued to be good friends. She died in her nineties.

I only tell you about Maria’s story because we, unknowingly, were the beneficiaries of her many daring deeds. She and all of those like her should be hailed for their bravery, guts and fortitude because they did the right thing to overcome adversity. We can thank them aloud and in silence. I do – when I touch the Virgin Mary icon sitting on my nightstand as I climb into bed each night.

On behalf of civilian prisoners and military POWs, we thank you – Maria - and all of those who lay beside you.

*During WWII, Filipino soldiers, guerrillas, and underground heroes were extraordinary fighters. Their loyalty and passion for their two countries were deliberate and true. They fought alongside their American counterparts in a war for which their adopted country had failed to prepare, or to arm and back them. Sadly, America forgot them altogether post war, their loyalty and bravery left by the wayside. We need to resurrect the meaning of loyalty - the meaning of integrity, and the meaning of accountability. Isn't too late, America. Are you listening?*

## You Got Benefits

Few of the civilian ex-POWs know that the government has a program that offers medical benefits to those who were held as prisoners by the Japanese. Those that were aware, and applied for compensation, encountered an almost implacable bureaucracy that blocked the way to receiving them. But thanks to Alice Gollin, Director of the Southwest Region of the American Ex-POWs, and MaryJane Laznibat the way has been cleared to improve the response to such applications.

Last year, Alice visited the Cleveland office of the Department of Labor that is responsible for civilian ex-prisoners benefits, and cleared up the procedure we must follow. She identified the following examiners who are familiar with our situation, and are most helpful:

### Senior Claims Examiners:

Annette Kayser (216) 357-5314  
Roberta Podnak (216) 357-5331

Then just as we were about to go to press, we discovered that the Department of Labor has changed its phone system, and it is almost impossible to reach anyone who can be of any help. We recommend that for the time being, you contact David Wood, supervisor of the office that handles our claims at (216) 357-5350, or call the switchboard at (216) 902-9600 and ask for one of the examiners named above, until we can provide more specific information.

The first thing you have to do is establish a basis for a claim, and once you are accepted as a member of the internee group, the claim for compensation becomes easier. To establish the legitimacy of your claim, you need proof that you were a Japanese prisoner. The office has a listing of people who are eligible, and a phone call to the office will establish whether you are on the list. However, some names are missing, and you may need to provide proof that you were a prisoner. When you have accomplished this, you should file Form CA-2, Notice of Occupational Disease and Claim for Compensation. This can be downloaded from the Internet at <http://www.dol.gov/owcp/regs/compliance/ca-2.pdf>. If you don't have a computer, ask a friend to download the form or try the library for a copy.

Once you have established your legitimacy, you can file form OWCP-915, Office of Workers Compensation Programs,

for each claim. <http://www.dol.gov/owcp/dfec/regs/compliance/OWCP-915.pdf>. You must ask your doctor to fill out form OWCP-1500 or your hospital to fill out form OWCP-04 as explained in the instructions. The healthcare provider needs to provide the medical codes, which are standard in the insurance business.

Treatment of any disease that your doctor traces to malnutrition or your experience in the Japanese internment camp can be compensated. However, periodontal disease is considered a "presumptive", which means that you automatically will get reimbursement of treatment costs without having to prove that it resulted from your time as a prisoner. You can get pre-approval of treatment, but we are advised to get the necessary treatment, pay the doctor, then to file the claim for compensation. But don't forget to have the doctor or hospital fill out their form for you to attach to your claim.

If your doctor has traced your disease to your experience as a prisoner, your spouse, or dependents under 18 years of age, are eligible to receive a death benefit of \$7,500 if that disease was the cause.

## Membership Notice

Membership in BACEPOW is what holds together those of us who were in the prison camps and provides a forum for us, our families and friends to share our common heritage. We are disappointed that some of you have not renewed your membership to continue to share with us. This is a gentle reminder for those who have not yet done so. For your assistance, there is an asterisk before your name on the address label if you have not paid your dues for 2012.

BACEPOW membership ensures that you continue to receive *Beyond the Wire*, notices of luncheons and meetings, information about fellow prisoners and friends, and keeps you connected with others who have shared your experiences. You also receive discounts on our luncheons and reunions.

**Annual Dues through 2012** **\$15.00**

Make checks out to: BACEPOW

Mail to: Richard Laurence – Membership Chairman

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