

Our Heartfelt Thanks!

The authors and participants of “CELEBRATE VETERANS” wish to thank the West Lawn United Methodist Church for the gracious and generous use of its facilities.

SPECIAL THANKS to Berks County Commissioner Christian Leinbach, Sharyn Kuhn, our Veteran Guest speakers, Steven Adler, Stephanie Wagner, Alex Illiano, Catherine Marello, Kathleen Wagner, Shannon Illiano, Richard Wagner, and Allison Wennell for their generosity in helping to honor our veterans and support the charities of the West Lawn United Methodist Church.

About the Authors:

Carol J. Haile is an author, calligrapher, and self-taught artist. She has written four children's books and is presently illustrating her fifth. She traces her family lineage to the Schwenkfelder District of Montgomery County, a region well known for the exquisite PA German Fraktur created in that area during the 1800's. Genealogical research has recently revealed that her great-great grandfather, Pvt. Jacob Batzel (119th Regiment of PA Volunteers, Union Army of the Potomac), died in 1863 at the tender age of 24 from wounds sustained in the Battle of Fredericksburg. (www.caroljhaile.com)

Steve Wagner makes his literary debut as co-author of *ORDINARY HEROES*, an extraordinary account of one of history's greatest conflicts, World War II, told through the eyes of over sixty Pennsylvania enlisted men. . He is a writer, graphic designer, photographer, and filmmaker whose interests include reading and traveling. Born in Reading, Pennsylvania, he presently resides in Berks County, Pennsylvania. (www.stephenandrewwagner.com)

Sharon Wells Wagner is a former computer instructor who spends most of her time writing, watercolor painting, and taking care of her family and pets. She enjoys fishing, playing guitar and Scrabble. Sharon made her literary debut in August 2006 with the story of her father, *RED WELLS, An American Soldier in WWII*. She and her son, Steve Wagner, co-authored a second book, *ORDINARY HEROES, Untold Stories of WWII*, in August 2008. Ordinary Heroes is an extraordinary account of one of history's greatest conflicts, World War II, told through the eyes of over sixty Pennsylvania enlisted men. She also writes books for children and has several more books on WWII coming out in the near future. Sharon is Co-Host of BCTV's Tales of World War II, an Associate Liaison of the Veterans History Project, Library of Congress, a Member of the Berks County Armed Forces Advisory Committee, an Associate Member of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, and Friend of the local Pearl Harbor Survivors. Sharon resides in Berks County, Pennsylvania with her husband, Richard. (www.sharonwellswagner.com)

CELEBRATE VETERANS

**A Book Signing,
Art Show & Sale**

**To Benefit the Charities
Of the West Lawn United Methodist Church**

**Saturday, November 14
11:00 am to 4:00 pm**

**Meet World War II Veterans
Hear Their Stories**

**An All-Star Program of
Local Veteran Heroes**

Meet Local Authors:

**Sharon Wells Wagner
Steve Wagner
Carol Haile**

Location:

**West Lawn United Methodist Church
Woodside Ave & Penn Ave, West Lawn, PA**

11:00

Opening Remarks
Berks County Commissioner **Christian Leinbach**

11:20

WWII Veteran **Nick Phillips** fought at the Hurtgeon Forest, the Battle of the Bulge, and was taken prisoner in Belgium.

11:40

WWII Veteran **Dan Schroeder** is a survivor of the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

12:00

Christine Dialectos—Christine's brother, Richard Becker died when his B-29 crashed off Saipan in WWII.

12:20

WWII Veteran **Richard "Dick" Biehl**, a D-Day survivor of Omaha Beach, served with the 1st Infantry Division.

12:40

WWII Veteran **Charlie Brubaker** survived the pre-D-Day assault on American forces in the English Channel.

1:00

WWII Veteran **Lyle Koenig** was serving on the U.S.S. Aylwin in Pearl Harbor when the Japanese attacked on December 7, 1941.

1:20

WWII Veteran **Paul Gordon** was a B-17 turret gunner who was wounded and taken prisoner when he was shot down over France.

1:40

WWII Veteran **Mahlon Fink** served with the 5th Marine Division and is a survivor of the invasion of Iwo Jima.

2:00

WWII Veteran **Joseph Haines** was drafted into the Army and sent to Okinawa even though he was blind in one eye.

2:20

Korean War Veteran, **Robert "Bob" Berns** celebrated his 18th birthday aboard ship en route to Korea. An infantryman, he served with the 1st Marine Division, 7th Regiment.

2:40

Stewart "Rusty" Lerch was orphaned when his father, Stewart E. Lerch, was killed in the Pacific in World War II

3:00

WWII Veteran **Frank Lashinsky** was a tail gunner on a B-24. He survived two crash landings before being captured in Hungary.

3:20

Joe Baddick, a veteran of the 82nd Airborne will talk about his son, A.J. Baddick, 82nd Airborne, who died in Iraq, and the book he is writing titled *MY HERO, MY SON*.

3:40

Viet Nam Veteran **David Ciscon**, served as Medical Services Specialist, including aeromedical evacuation, with the 14th Special Ops Wing at NhaTrang Air Base and Andrews Air Force Base.

4:00

End of Program

Please support the charities of the West Lawn United Methodist Church by making a purchase today. Books and Artwork make great gifts. **Do your holiday shopping early! Thank you!**

World War II Veterans signing autographs today:

Nick Phillips, Ken Stoudt, Paul Gordon, Charlie Brubaker, David Q. Voigt, Richard Biehl, Richard Hiller, Mahlon Fink, Joseph Haines, Robert Huber, Willard Bickel, George Drace, Frank Lashinsky, Lyle Koenig, Dan Schroeder, Vince Miller, Margaret Wolf, George Stauffer, John Rowe, Russel Rightmyer, George Reitnouer, LeRoy Renninger, Robert Reeser, George Moore, Russell Cogan, Joseph Moore, Ed Taggert, and more!