

Memos on Members - - -

Too bad you couldn't all have been along when Avery Brundage became an Honorary Member of the Association. He is one swell fellow, lacking the usual bluster of visiting Americans. Very soft-spoken, but you know how hard he hits when he does speak. We had a preview of his departing speech and I like to feel that our delegation had a little bit to do with his finally opening up.

The club will have to function for the next few months without two of its ablest supporters. Mrs. Arthur Nicholls is entering the Royal Women's Hospital for a very serious operation and Arthur will have his hands full at home.

STOP PRESS OPERATION ON MRS. NICHOLLS A COMPLETE SUCCESS.

We sincerely hope that Mrs. Nicholls will have a speedy and complete recovery.

Carl and Dorothy Newsome announce the birth of a daughter, Barbara Ann, on March 31. Mother and daughter doing fine.

After two boys, we can imagine how happy they are. Congratulations, Carl and Dorothy.

Hope you noticed where the Salk vaccine for the prevention of Poliomyelitis was perfected, Pittsburgh, of course. The old home town. How about it George?

Jock Meldrum will be coming up from Geelong to meet the General and participate in the Coral Sea Parade.

Lawrence Gudykunst, recently re-instated member, runs the American Milk Bar in Geelong. Hope to see a lot of Larry from now on.

Noticed that member Dale Inzalla, who owns the Yankee Maid Ice Cream, was quoted in the papers the other day. Dale is Vice-President of the Milk Bar Association of Victoria. He is at present pushing his new idea, delivering those delicious Yankee Maid ice cream cakes to your homes. How is business Dale?

Re the President's column in last month's G.L. Paul Hultman played the biggest part in the successful raffle during Luke Houghton's Presidency.

FINAL NOMINATIONS

Pres:- Joe Bradshaw, Paul Bailey, Lyle Reese.

Vice-Pres:- Art Mayfield, Keith Belmont, Paul Bailey, Morley Dangerfield.

Secretary:- Owen Mayhew.

Treasurer:- Gus Shallice, Carl Newsome.

Editor:- Don Bruno, Paul Bailey, Joe Bradshaw.

Welfare Officer:- Rudy Ganther, Art Mayfield, Stuart Scheffler, Bill Estep.

Sgt.-at-Arms:- Pat Kearns, Floyd Lombardi, John Ezar.

Exec. Committee:- Ted King, Art Nichols, Paul Bailey, Joe Bradshaw, Owen Mayhew, Rudy Ganther, Gus Shallice, Lyle Reese, Keith Belmont, Floyd Lombardi, Quentin Kester, Don Bruno, Pat Kearns, Bill Carter, Don Hogan, Bill Estep, Stuart Scheffler, Carl Newsome, Lou Feinberg, Chick Harrington and Art Mayfield.

ELECTIONS TO BE HELD AT OUR NEXT GENERAL MEETING ON TUESDAY, 17th MAY, 1955 at AUSTRALIAN LEGION HALL 396 Bourke Street, City at 8.30 p.m.

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Your Editor spent his vacation at the Edgewater Beach Hotel in Mentone, where member Lou Feinberg is host. We couldn't have made a better choice. The cuisine is excellent and the accommodation ideal. Every room has a balcony with a view and is light and airy. Lou knows how to mix a drink as you remember it back home. (Oh those whisky sours!) We can recommend to you without reservation, that if you want an evening to remember, go to the Edgewater Beach Hotel.

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CORAL SEA PARADE

The big parade to commemorate the Battle of the Coral Sea will be on Thursday, May 5th. We are expecting the turnout to exceed all previous ones, so be early to avoid confusion.

The assembly point is the usual one in Alexandria Gardens. We will assemble at 12.15 p.m. to receive instructions on marching procedure and formation.

Please wear your club hats and badges so as to give our contingent a uniform appearance.

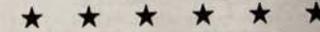
At 1.22 p.m. sharp, the parade will commence and follow the usual route through the Alexandria Gardens, over Princes Bridge, along Swanston Street, Lieutenant-General Bruce Clark will take the salute from the dais at the Town Hall. The march will continue along Bourke Street, Elizabeth Street, Collins Street and Market Street. We will disband at the foot of Market Street and retire to our favourite pub for refreshments and reminiscences.

One of the new features of this year's parade will be the use of a jeep to carry our disabled veterans. This jeep is being provided by the Military Attache and will be driven by William (Dutch) Betzenderfer, of the U.S. Army Attache's office.

Leading the parade will be Gus Shallice Treasurer of the Club and veteran of the 1914-1918 War, as well as the Second World War. Gus is very popular and everyone was in favour of him leading the parade.

The colour guard will include Lyle Reese, Keith Belmont, Morley Dangerfield and Art Mayfield.

There can be no doubt that our Association is officially recognized by the U.S. Government Representatives in Victoria. We were invited to send delegations to the Anzac Day celebrations, to the arrival of General Clark and to the Coral Sea March, for which the jeep is being provided. The recognition extends to the Australian officials here, who tendered the invitations. You have every right to be proud of your organization and the progress it has made in recent years.



GREET THE GENERAL

Lieutenant-General Bruce Clark will arrive at Essendon Airport on Wednesday, May 4th, at 11.0 a.m. We have been invited to send a delegation to meet him and we have accepted the invitation.

Our delegation will assemble at the Lincolnshire Arms Hotel on Bulla Road, near the road where you turn to go to Essendon Airport. Please be there no later than 10.30 a.m. And don't forget to wear your club hats and emblems. We want to greet the General as a delegation.

CLUB ROOMS COMING?

At the last General Meeting, a volunteer committee was empowered to enter into negotiations for the purchase of a particular property to be used as club rooms.

This site is located on Punt Road, on the South side of the river, on the top of the hill. The grounds are very large, with a tennis court in one corner. There is a very spacious house with about twenty rooms and wall to wall carpets throughout. The neighborhood is a very select residential one and ideally located. We should have a full report from our committee shortly.

Elections are on TUESDAY, 17th MAY at 396 Bourke Street, Melbourne

The G.I.

Official Publication of the American Ex-Servicemen's Association



G.P.O. Box 1982 R. — Melbourne, Australia

President: Joe Bradshaw — JW 6551

Editor: Al Block — Phone JR 2985

Club News Editor — Paul Bailey

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LADIES BIG SUCCESS

The barn dance held by the Ladies Auxiliary April 16th hit the jackpot. As a result, £25-0-0 was donated to flood relief and their reputation for conducting outstanding socials was further enhanced. Leave it to the girls.

Every available ticket was sold and from the very beginning, a spirit of merriment pervaded the atmosphere. Music was continually provided by a public address system which blared forth everything from barn dances to the mambo. Entertainment was provided by a professional trio, two girls and a fellow, and they were excellent. The fellow brought the house down with his impersonations of Johnny Ray. To top it all off, the ladies produced one of the finest suppers ever. All in all, a bonzer evening.

The next meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary is on Thursday, May 12th, at the home of Mrs. Joan Anderson, 339 Auburn Road, Auburn.

BALL TICKETS

The price of tickets for our Ninth Annual Ball has been set at Thirty Shillings (30/-) per person. It was agreed that the rise in costs for this year's Ball, due to its being held on a Friday night, necessitated a rise in ticket prices.

There was some argument about how much to raise the price. After much debate, the price was set at 30/-. The theme this year is "Down The Mississippi".

You can reserve tables now, by writing to Rudy Ganther, 25 Murphy Street, Elsternwick. We advise you to reserve now for choice tables.

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THE PRESIDENTIAL COLUMN

Written this month by
PAUL BAILEY

This is my response to the Editor's request for a letter concerning the Club and its activities in general. If my opinions agree with your, fine. If not, the whole Association will be interested in your ideas and the Editor promises to print your answers to this in the next issue of the G.I.

I am quite satisfied that the Association's position in nearly all spheres was improved over the past twelve months.

The whole community is now aware of our existence and we are being asked to participate in public functions instead of having to force our way in as in the past.

The financial membership is higher than ever and the co-operation among member is, to say the least, colossal.

If there are any so-called factions existing today, they are based on the prowess of various League teams, not petty jealousy.

We are reasonably close to obtaining club rooms. In fact, I believe we could go ahead with this if we could be certain of what would please the majority. This may be decided in the next few weeks, so if you have an opinion, get in early.

Where I feel that the Association could improve is in its service to members and potential members. It is not enough to hold a few stags, picnics, socials and so forth, and expect to hold the interest of members. We should be able to take any problem, common to veterans, to the Club and obtain an immediate answer. By this I mean, if an ex-G.I. is interested

in obtaining a pension, hospitalization, passports for his family, or any such service, we should have answers to his queries at our fingertips. In short, the Association should be on the mailing list of the Veterans Administration in Washington and in direct contact with the Consulate in Melbourne.

Again, there are numerous social service benefits which Americans and/or their wives are entitled to receive from the Australian and Victorian Governments. We should have a list of these available.

Our welfare benefits shouldn't stop at financial relief. Working bees, food donations, housing relief for short periods, and such things tend to bind us closer together and benefit the members and the Association much more than bending the elbow every month or so.

These are items which will come up for discussion in the next few meetings and will be acted upon.

In spite of these shortcomings, I think the Association is better now than it has ever been and will continue to improve.

Sincerely,

Paul Bailey



Came,
Saw,
Conquered.

Shapely Ann Miller was in Melbourne last week and she captivated all she met with her charm and friendliness.

Ann has always been a pin-up favourite and she is now more popular than ever.

Maybe it's because she comes from Texas.

Anyway we are proud to add lovely Ann to our list of pinups.

Incidentally, we hope you are saving these pinups. They would make an ideal scrapbook, as we try to show only the outstanding pinups from Hollywood.

AVERY BRUNDAGE HONORARY MEMBER

Avery Brundage, Chairman of the International Olympics Committee, was made an Honorary Member of the American Ex-Servicemen's Association on Friday, April 8th.

Our seven-man delegation, who interviewed Mr. Brundage at his hotel suite, were unanimous in their opinion that he is the nicest visitor to Australia that they have met: They found him soft-spoken, genial and friendly. He was genuinely sorry when our delegation arose to leave. And he was proud of his honorary badge, which he wore for the remainder of his stay in Australia.

Avery is an outstanding sportsman in his own right. He was the best all-round athlete at the University of Illinois and competed in the Olympics in Stockholm in 1912. In 1914, 1916 and 1918, he was the All-Round Champion of the United States.

Mr. Brundage started his own Engineering Company in Chicago and it is one of the most successful in the U.S.A.

He was elected President of the International Olympic Committee at Helsinki in 1952. Previously, he had been in charge of the U.S. Olympic team for many years. His career has been a stormy one but he has survived many press attacks because all who meet him are impressed with his sincerity and will to do the right as he sees it.

We are proud to welcome Avery as our first Honorary Member.



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