



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **VALICEK**

**EDWARD**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:*

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VAN IDERSTINE**

**ALLEN**

**R.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:*

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VAN IDERSTINE**

**NORMAN**

**W.**

**Address:** 3481 SENECA STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

329TH ENGINEERING BATTALION, COMPANY "B"

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Carson, Colorado - Fort Carson was established in 1942, following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and was named in honor of the legendary Army scout, General Christopher "Kit" Carson, who explored much of the West in the 1800's / During World War II, over 100,000 soldiers trained at Camp Carson with more than 125 units activated at the camp / Mules were used by Field Artillery (Pack) battalions to carry equipment, weapons and supplies over mountainous terrain / Nearly 9,000 Italians and Germans prisoners-of-war (POW) were held at the internment camp at Camp Carson

**Miscellaneous:**

Engineering Battalions performed many engineering tasks, including demolitions, obstacle emplacement, fortification, and light bridge building / Engineer general service regiments and battalions performed construction, repair, and maintenance duties of all kinds behind the front lines / When needed, combat engineers also could act as infantry

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **VAN IDERSTINE**

**R.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:*

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VANDERBOSCH**

**THOMAS J.**

**Address:** 117 PELLMAN PLACE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** F. 1/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

SERVICE COMMAND, 7TH FLEET

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Fireman First-Class Thomas J. Vanderbosch served in the New Guinea and Philippine naval campaigns

**Base Assignments:**

Sampson, New York - In the three-and-a-half years of its operation during World War II, the Sampson Naval Training Station trained 411,429 naval recruits before closing in 1946 / The camp was named in honor of a local Seneca County native, Rear Admiral William T. Sampson, from Palmyra, New York, a hero of the Battle of Santiago during the Spanish-American War

Shoemaker, California - Camp Shoemaker housed a Naval Hospital and Naval Training and Personnel Distribution Center designed to handle naval personnel on their way to, or returning from, the Pacific

Dearborn, Michigan - Naval Training School for Basic Engineering, Elementary Electrical and Radio Material

Naval Berthing Facilities (Staten Island, New York) - The Port of New York included some 1,800 docks, piers, and wharves of every conceivable size, condition, and state of repair / Between Pearl Harbor and VJ-Day, more than three million troops and their equipment and over 63 million tons of additional supplies and materials were shipped overseas through the Port of New York

Naval Base Subic Bay (Olongapo, Zambales, Philippines) - The Naval Base at Subic Bay was designated Naval Advance Unit No. 6, and become a submarine and motor torpedo boat base shortly after the Philippines were liberated

**Miscellaneous:**

A Fireman was responsible for keeping the fires burning in the ship's boilers which were used to make steam / A



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Fireman would work on the ship's engines and their auxiliary machinery, ensuring they ran correctly and performed maintenance / Operated, adjusted and repaired pumps

The Seventh Fleet was formed on 15 March 1943 and served in the South West Pacific Area under General Douglas MacArthur / The Seventh Fleet formed a large part of the Allied forces at the Battle of Leyte Gulf, the largest naval battle in history

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VANDERMEULEN**

**HARRY**

**B.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:*

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VASTOLA**

**FRANK**

**Address:** 75 INNES ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

1620 S.V. HEADQUARTERS CO, 445TH ARMY SERVICE FORCE BAND

**Medals / Citations:**

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Frank Vastola received a Citation on behalf of the War Finance Program / Sergeant Vastola was a bacteriologist at the Post Hospital at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin

**Base Assignments:**

Camp McCoy, Wisconsin - Located near Sparta, the original camp was split into two sections: Camp Emory Upton and Camp Robinson / In 1910, the Army renamed the entire tract "Camp Bruce E. McCoy" for Robert Bruce McCoy, a retired major general who first proposed the area as a training ground and bought part of the property on which the fort stands / In 1926, the name of the post was shortened to "Camp McCoy" / During World War II, Camp McCoy was used as a training facility for units from across the United States that were preparing to enter combat / The post was the largest holding facility for Japanese POWs in the Continental United States and also housed several thousand German POWs / Camp McCoy is unique in American history as having housed relocated Japanese-Americans from the West Coast and European and Japanese prisoners of war captured during World War II

**Miscellaneous:**

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty





# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

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**Name:** VENEZIA

JOHN

**Address:** 129 BARNSDALE AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** T/5

**Unit / Squadron:**

174TH INFANTRY, COMPANY "M"

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Technician Fifth Grade (Corporal)

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Chaffee, Arkansas - The camp was named after Major General Adna R. Chaffee Jr., an artillery officer who, in Europe during World War I, determined that the cavalry was outmoded and, unlike other cavalry officers, advocated for the use of tanks / In addition to providing a training facility for US soldiers, Fort Chaffee served as a POW camp, housing 3000 German prisoners of war

**Miscellaneous:**

The 174th Infantry Division participated in the Rhineland Campaign (1944–1945), Ardennes-Alsace Campaign (1944–1945) and the Central Europe Campaign (1945)

Infantry refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VENNARD**

**WILSON**

**C.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** Y. 2/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

SUBMARINE DIVISIONS 45 & 104, SUBMARINE DIVISION 101

USS STERLET (SS-392)

USS CUTLASS (SS-478)

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

1 BATTLE STAR

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

SUBMARINE COMBAT PATROL INSIGNIA W/1 BRONZE STAR

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Yeoman Second-Class Wilson C. Vennard made two successful submarine war patrols and one unsuccessful patrol earning 1 Battle Star for combat action

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Yeomen performed administrative and clerical work / Dealt with visitors, coordinate worldwide travel, submit passport applications, telephone calls and incoming mail, and assist various ships, squadrons, staff commands, and special warfare teams around the world with administrative tasks / Yeomen wrote and typed business and social letters, notices, directives, forms and reports

The USS Sterlet (SS-392), was a Balao-class submarine named for the sterlet, a small sturgeon found in the Caspian Sea and its rivers, whose meat is considered delicious and whose eggs are one of the world's great delicacies, caviar / On 4 July 1944, she put to sea on her first patrol to prey on Japanese shipping / The patrol lasted 53 days and claimed to have sunk four Japanese ships / In September 1944, the Sterlet rescued six downed airmen off Okinawa / Her assigned area was off Honshū, Japan, particularly the area off Tokyo Bay, where she stood lifeguard duty for Fifth Fleet pilots attacking Tokyo / Sterlet was awarded six battle stars for World War II service / Commissioned on 4 March 1944 and decommissioned on 18 September 1948

The USS Cutlass (SS-478), a Tench-class submarine, was named for the cutlass fish, a long, thin fish found widely along the coasts of the United States and in the West Indies / Assigned to patrol in the vicinity of the Kurile



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## Residents in World War II



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Islands, she entered the area one day after the Japanese surrender, remained on observation patrol until 24 August 1945, then returned to Pearl Harbor / Commissioned on 17 March 1945 and decommissioned on 15 April 1973

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

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The Submarine Combat Patrol Insignia was a uniform breast pin worn by officers and men of the United States Navy's Submarine Service who had completed war patrols and who engaged in active submarine combat that could have resulted in injury/death from hostile fire / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** VERGIEN

WILBUR

J.

**Address:** 3080 SENECA STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

4143RD QUARTERMASTER SERVICE COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps was responsible for procuring and delivering various supplies to units in all theaters of war during World War II / Quartermaster units were charged with providing food (steady supply of food and rations), clothing, petroleum products (gasoline, kerosene, aviation fuel, diesel oil, fuel oil and petroleum-based lubricants) and general supplies (diverse items as rope, soap, candles, knives, forks and spoons, etc.) to troops stationed in the United States and to the far-flung armed forces around the world / More than 32,000 officers, officer cadets and key enlisted personnel received their training at the Quartermaster School between 1 July 1940 and 3 December 1945 / The physical conditioning of entrants was emphasized from the beginning of the training program / In addition, the rigorous military training entailed learning to use all armed methods of protection, crawling through simulated battlefields, taking refuge in foxholes (of their own digging), making technical decisions regarding rations, and learning every aspect of ammunition supply points (ASPs)

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VICTORY**  
**ARMEL**

**Address:** 267 ALLENDALE ROAD

**Service Branch:** **Rank:** MAJ

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Major

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VOGAN**

**ROLLIN**

**G.**

**Address:** 62 TUDOR BOULEVARD

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VOGEL**

**ARTHUR**

**R.**

**Address:** 38 SCHOOL STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

4053 A.A.F. BASE UNIT, 3508TH A.A.F. BASE UNIT

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private

**Base Assignments:**

Keesler Army Airfield, Mississippi - The airfield was activated on 25 August 1941 and named in honor of 2nd Lt Samuel Reeves Keesler, Jr., a Mississippi native and distinguished aerial observer, killed in action in France during the First World War / Keesler Airfield was a technical training center, training airplane and engine mechanics / The Tuskegee Airmen were trained at Keesler with more than 7,000 black soldiers stationed at Keesler Field by the autumn of 1943 / These soldiers included pre-aviation cadets, radio operators, aviation technicians, bombardiers, and aviation mechanics

Jackson Air Base (Jackson, Mississippi) - Originally named Hawkins Field, the Dutch government-in-exile, following the occupation of the Netherlands, established the Royal Netherlands Military Flying School at Hawkins Field in May 1941 / The school operated Lend-Lease aircraft with civilian pilots from the Mississippi Institute of Aeronautics / In June 1941 Hawkins Field was designated as Jackson Army Air Base / It activated on May 1, 1942 and was used by the United States Army Air Forces' Flying Training Command as a basic flying training airfield (Army Air Forces Pilot School, Miscellaneous Fields for Basic and Advanced Single and Twin-Engine training)

Truax Air Field (Madison, Wisconsin) - Located six miles northeast of Madison, the field was named in honor of Lieutenant Thomas L. Truax, USAAF, a Wisconsin native who was killed (along with his wingman, Lieutenant Speckman) in a P-40 training accident during poor weather in San Anselmo, CA on 2 November 1941, just before the United States' entry into World War II / Used by the Army Air Force Eastern Technical Training Center, a major school operating at Truax AAF for training radio operators and mechanics, and later expanded to training in radar operations, control tower operations and other communications fields for the Army Airways Communication Service

**Miscellaneous:**



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VOGEL**

**CARLYLE**

**F.**

**Address:** 65 FLOHR AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "A", 58TH SIGNAL BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The 58th Signal Battalion was formed after the battle for the Ryukyu Islands / The mission for this battalion was the performance of signal functions

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **VOGEL**

**CLIFFORD**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* ARMY - AIR FORCE

*Rank:* PVT

*Unit / Squadron:*

3507TH A.A.F. BASE UNIT, SECTION "M", BARRACKS 1219

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Private

*Base Assignments:*

Sioux Falls Army Air Field (Sioux Falls, South Dakota) - During World War II, the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) established numerous airfields in South Dakota for training pilots and aircrews of USAAF fighters and bombers

*Miscellaneous:*

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VOGEL**

**FREDERICK A.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** Y. 3/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS BOXER (CV-21)

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY OF OCCUPATION RIBBON: JAPAN

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Yeoman Third-Class

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Yeomen performed administrative and clerical work / Dealt with visitors, coordinate worldwide travel, submit passport applications, telephone calls and incoming mail, and assist various ships, squadrons, staff commands, and special warfare teams around the world with administrative tasks / Yeomen wrote and typed business and social letters, notices, directives, forms and reports

The USS Boxer (CV/CVA/CVS-21, LPH-4) was one of 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers of the United States Navy / The Boxer was commissioned too late to see any combat in World War II / The USS Boxer spent much of her career in the Pacific Ocean seeing 10 tours in the western Pacific / Her initial duties involved mostly training and exercises, including launching the first carrier-based jet aircraft, but demobilization prevented much activity in the late 1940s / Commissioned on 16 April 1945 and decommissioned on 1 December 1969

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2



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March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The Army of Occupation Ribbon (Medal) was a military award of the United States military which was established by the United States War Department on 5 April 1946 / The medal was created in the aftermath of the Second World War to recognize those who had performed occupation service in Germany, Italy, Austria, or Japan / The original Army of Occupation Medal was intended only for members of the United States Army, but was expanded in 1948 to encompass the United States Air Force shortly after that service's creation / The Navy and Marine equivalent of the Army of Occupation Medal is the Navy Occupation Service Medal

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VOGEL**

**IRVING J.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE      **Rank:** S/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

PHOTO SECTION, 90TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HEAVY)

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

10 BATTLE STARS

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant Irving J. Vogel served in Australia, and participated in the battles for New Guinea (Port Moresby, Lae and Oro Bay), Wakde Island, Biak Island, Philippine Islands, Ie Shima Island and Okinawa, earning 10 Battle Stars for his action in combat

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The 90th Bombardment Group, operated primarily in the Southwest Pacific Theater as an B-24 Liberator heavy bomber unit assigned to Fifth Air Force / It was awarded two United States Distinguished Unit Citations and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation for its combat service in China; Netherlands East Indies; New Guinea; the Bismarck Archipelago; the Western Pacific; Leyte, and Luzon

A bombardment group or bomb group was a group of bomber aircraft the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) during World War II. It was the equivalent of an infantry regiment in the Army Ground Forces / A bombardment group was the key tactical control and administrative organization for bombers in all theaters of operation / U.S. bomb groups were numbered and classified into four types: Very Heavy (VH), Heavy (H), Medium (M), and Light (L) / Groups which combined bombers of differing categories into a single administrative organization were designated "Composite" groups

Bomber aircraft assigned to the "Heavy" Bombardment group consisted of the B-17 Flying Fortress and B-24 Liberator aircraft

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The Philippine Liberation Medal was a military award of the Republic of the Philippines presented to any service member, of both Philippine Commonwealth and allied militaries, who participated in the liberation of the Philippine Islands between the dates of 17 October 1944 and 2 September 1945 / The Philippine Liberation Medal is intended to recognize military service in the last days of World War II when the military of Japan was driven from the Philippines and then to eventually surrender in September 1945 / To be awarded the medal, a service member must have served in the Philippines for at least thirty days during the eligible time period

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

A Marksmanship Badge is a military badge of the United States Armed Forces presented to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course or high placement in an official marksmanship competition / The U.S. Military's Marksmanship Qualification Badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VOGEL**

**JAMES E.**

**Address:** 464 MAIN STREET

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** A.M. 3/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS BELLEAU WOOD, DIVISION "V-2"

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Aviation Metalsmith Third-Class

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

An Aviation Metalsmith repaired and maintained airplanes and aircraft parts other than engines and ordnance

The USS Belleau Wood was a Independence-class aircraft carrier active in the Pacific Theater, from 1943 to 1945 / Originally laid down as the Cleveland-class light cruiser New Haven (CL-76), she was refitted as an aircraft carrier and renamed Belleau Wood on 31 March 1942 in memory of the World War I Battle of Belleau Wood, in which United States soldiers and Marines of the American Expeditionary Forces, defeated the German troops after nearly four weeks of intense fighting / Belleau Wood participated in the battles of Kwajalein and Majuro Atolls, Marshall Islands, Truk, Saipan-Tinian-Rota-Guam, Palau-Yap-Ulithi-Woleai, Sawar, Wakde Island, New Guinea and the Battle of the Philippine Sea / She also took part in the raids on Honshū Island, Japan, and the Nansei Shoto, and other strikes against Japan as well as supporting the landings on Iwo Jima / The Belleau Wood received the Presidential Unit Citation and twelve battle stars during World War II / Decommissioned 13 January 1947

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VOGEL**

**LAWRENCE G.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON, A.S.C. (AIR SERVICE COMMAND) U.S.S. T.A.F. (TACTICAL AIR FORCES)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL  
WORLD WAR II VICTORY RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Lawrence G. Vogel was attached to the United States Air Forces Headquarters in Europe / Sergeant Vogel was stationed at bases in England, France and Germany

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Tactical Air Forces were formed in southeastern France to provide air support and cooperation with the Franco-American Sixth Army Group which included the U.S. Seventh Army and the French First Army / Major units assigned were XII Tactical Air Command, controlling five former Twelfth and Ninth Air Force P-47 Thunderbolt groups through its 64th Fighter Wing; the First French Air Corps (FFAC) with its three P-47 groups; four B-26 Marauder groups, two from the Twelfth and two from FFAC's II Brigade de Bombardment, all under 42nd Bomb Wing; and, the Western French Air Forces (WFAF)

The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal (EAME) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had



## West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VOGEL**

**MILTON**

**H.**

**Address:** 464 MAIN STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

BATTERY "D", 551ST A.A.A. BATTALION (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY), A.W. (AIR WARNING)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

5 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - RIFLE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Milton H. Vogel spent 18 months overseas participating in the campaigns for the Ardennes, Normandy, Northern France, Central Europe and the Rhineland / Sergeants Vogel's action in combat earned him 5 Battle Stars

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Butner, North Carolina - Camp Butner was named in honor of Major General Henry Wolfe Butner, a native of Surry County (N.C.), who died in 1937 following a distinguished military career / Camp was established for the training of infantry divisions and various artillery and engineer units within the Fourth Services Command, Army Ground Forces / The Camp's primary mission was to train combat troops for deployment and redeployment to the European and Pacific theaters / The Camp contained rifle ranges, artillery ranges, a prisoner-of-war (POW) compound, and barracks and support services for approximately 40,000 troops

**Miscellaneous:**

With much of World War II fought in the air, anti-aircraft weapons were weapons that could specifically direct their offense against air targets / The mission of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery units were to detect hostile aircraft and destroy them / Radar aided anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal (EAME) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The American Defense Service Medal (also referred to as the Pre-Pearl Harbor Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty between 8 September 1939 and 7 December 1941

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946

A Marksmanship Badge is a military badge of the United States Armed Forces presented to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course or high placement in an official marksmanship competition / The U.S. Military's Marksmanship Qualification Badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VOGEL**

**NORMAN L.**

**Address:** 464 MAIN STREET

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** MO.M.M. 2/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS CROUTER (DC-11)

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Motor Machinist Mate Second-Class

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The job of a Motor Machinist's Mate was to operate, maintain, and repair (organizational and intermediate level) ship propulsion machinery, auxiliary equipment, and outside machinery, such as: steering engine, hoisting machinery, food preparation equipment, refrigeration and air conditioning equipment, windlasses, elevators, and laundry equipment / Operated and maintained (organizational and Intermediate level) marine boilers, pumps, forced draft blowers, and heat exchangers; perform tests, transfers, and inventory of lubricating oils, fuels, and water / Maintained records and reports, and performed duties in the generation and stowage of industrial gases

The USS Crouter (DE-11) was an Evarts-class destroyer escort of the United States Navy in commission from 1943 to 1945 / The ship was named after Mark Hanna Crouter (1897-1942), U.S. Navy officer and Navy Cross recipient / Crouter joined transport convoy at Okinawa, shooting down two suicide planes / The Crouter was awarded one battle star for World War II service in the Pacific / Commissioned on 25 May 1943 and decommissioned on 30 November 1945

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **VOGEL**

**RICHARD**

**C.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* ARMY - AIR FORCE

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

715TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, 448TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP

*Medals / Citations:*

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

EUROPEAN THEATER

*Service Notes:*

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

The 448th Bombardment Group was an Eighth Air Force B-24 Liberator unit in England / The 448th flew B-24 Liberators as part of the Eighth Air Force's strategic bombing campaign serving primarily as a strategic bombardment organization, hitting such targets as aircraft factories in Gotha, ball-bearing plants in Berlin, an airfield at Hanau, U-boat facilities at Kiel, a chemical plant at Ludwigshafen, synthetic oil refineries at Politz, aircraft engine plants at Rostock, marshalling yards at Cologne, and a Buzz-bomb assembly plant at Fallersleben / The group flew its last combat mission on 25 April 1945, attacking a marshalling yard at Salzburg, Austria

A bombardment group or bomb group was a group of bomber aircraft the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) during World War II. It was the equivalent of an infantry regiment in the Army Ground Forces / A bombardment group was the key tactical control and administrative organization for bombers in all theaters of operation / U.S. bomb groups were numbered and classified into four types: Very Heavy (VH), Heavy (H), Medium (M), and Light (L) / Groups which combined bombers of differing categories into a single administrative organization were designated "Composite" groups

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VOGEL**

**RICHARD L.**

**Address:** 557 MAIN STREET

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** A.M.M. 3/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

U.S.N.R. (UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE)

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Aviation Machinist's Mate Third-Class Richard L. Vogel attended Pre-Midshipmen's School

**Base Assignments:**

Asbury Park, New Jersey - Home of the Naval Reserve Pre-Midshipmen's School and the V-12 Navy College Training Program

**Miscellaneous:**

Aviation Machinist's Mates are United States Navy aircraft engine mechanics that inspect, adjust, test, repair, and overhaul aircraft engines and propellers / More specifically, ADs install, maintain, and service various aircraft engine types as well as various accessories, gear boxes, related fuel systems, and lubrication systems; determine reasons for engine degradation using various test equipment; perform propeller repairs; handle and service aircraft ashore or aboard ship; and can also serve as aircrewman in various types of aircraft

The purpose of the V-12 Navy College Training Program was to grant bachelor's degrees to future officers drawn from both the U.S. Navy and the Marine Corps / Once they completed their baccalaureate program, the next step toward obtaining a Navy commission was to attend a U.S. Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School where the future officer was required to complete the V-7 program, a short course of four months, including one month spent in indoctrination school / Graduates from the midshipmen schools were commissioned as ensigns in the U.S. Naval Reserve and the majority entered into active duty with the U.S. fleet / The V-12 Navy College Training Program was initiated in 1943 to meet both the immediate and long-range needs for commissioned officers to man ships, fly planes and command troops called to duty in World War II / Between 1 July 1943, and 30 June 1946, more than 125,000 men were enrolled in the V-12 program in 131 colleges and universities in the United States



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VOGEL**

**WILLIAM E.**

**Address:** 464 MAIN STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** S/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

732ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, 53RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant William E. Vogel was a nose gunner aboard a bomber / During the Battle of Metz, Sergeant Vogel's heavy bomber was part of a formation that broke up concrete forts around Metz, which allowed General Patton's ground force to advance / Sergeant Vogel's bomber was badly damaged and forced to land in France / No one aboard the aircraft was injured, but the plane was unable to fly / After waiting ten days, an American outfit found an empty C-47 transport to fly Staff Sergeant Vogel and the rest of the crew back to England

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The 732nd Bombardment Squadron was activated as a B-17 Flying Fortress heavy bomb squadron and deployed to the VIII Bomber Command in England / The 732nd engaged in long-range strategic bombardment operations over Occupied Europe and Nazi Germany, March 1944-May 1945 attacking enemy military and industrial targets as part of the United States' air offensive against Nazi Germany

A bombardment group or bomb group was a group of bomber aircraft the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) during World War II. It was the equivalent of an infantry regiment in the Army Ground Forces / A bombardment group was the key tactical control and administrative organization for bombers in all theaters of operation / U.S. bomb groups were numbered and classified into four types: Very Heavy (VH), Heavy (H), Medium (M), and Light (L) / Groups which combined bombers of differing categories into a single administrative organization were designated "Composite" groups

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

(to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

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*Name:* **VOGT**

**JOHN**

**F.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:*

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VOLTZ**

**CLARENCE R.**

**Address:** 95 EDSON STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private

**Base Assignments:**

Kissimmee Army Airfield (Kissimmee, Florida) - The original mission of the field was as a training center for pilots and fighter and bomber groups of the Air University's Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics (AAFSAT) tactical combat simulation school in Central and Northern Florida / In January 1943, the mission of the airfield was changed to Night Fighter pilot training / In 1944, the mission changed to testing tactics, techniques and equipment for various aircraft types such as the P-39 Aircobras, P-38 Lightnings, P-47 Thunderbolts and the P-51 Mustang

**Miscellaneous:**

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **VOLTZ**

**WILLIAM T.**

**Address:** 95 EDSON STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

303RD AIRDROME SQUADRON

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Airdrome Squadrons were designed to provide the minimum number of personnel to run an air base for a limited time / Aviation Engineers would prepare a landing ground, then an Airdrome Squadron would start it running until a combat group, station complement squadron, service squadron, and/or various Army-Air Force units arrived to operate the base

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses