

MOTOR POOL MESSENGER

Military Transport Association of North Jersey

June 2000

David H. Ahl, Editor

Minutes:

Minutes of the May 8, 2000 Meeting of the Military Transport Association of North Jersey.

In the side room of Godfather's Pizza Restaurant, many spirited conversations were brought to a gradual halt with the rapping of President John Sobotka's gavel at 8:15 p.m. to bring the meeting to some semblance of order.

A total of 34 members were in attendance including:

Dave Ahl	John P. Horne Jr.	John Peterson
Al Axelrad	Dick Ivory	Harold Ratzburg
Brian Bancale	Mark Jezewski	Bob Rooke
Pete Berendsen	Dan Lacey	John Sobotka
Joe Botto	Harvey Lawshe	Michael Solomon
Tony Bradley	Pasquale Lombardi	Dennis Spence
Al Burghardt	Jude Meehan	David Steinert
Mark Burghardt	Jim Mundy	Art Swain
Don Covart	Ed Pavlick	Harold Ratzburg
David Coward	Bill Peaslee	Tom Weaver
Frank Eichenlaub	Jack Pellington	David Young
Tom Fisher		

The minutes from the April 10 meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter.

As the treasurer, Mr. Frei, was not present, there was no treasurer's report.

New member Harvey Lawshe, a Lt. in the Caldwell Police Dept. introduced himself and gave us a bit of his background. He does not own an MV at present.

Richard Cox from Rolling Thunder gave a pitch for club members to participate in the Piscataway Wal-Mart WWII Memorial event on May 13. Seven members signed up.

Committee Reports

For the parade committee, Mr. Axelrad reported that we would be participating in four Memorial Day parades, two on May 29 (see calendar). We will also be driving in four or five July 4th parades—details next newsletter.

Mr. Sobotka gave a short report of the WWII Memorial fund-raising event at Wal-Mart. (See separate page of the article about it that appeared in *Military Vehicles*.)

Pertaining to events, Mr. Ahl reported that the Hoboken Memorial Committee invited any interested members to drive in their Memorial Day parade on Wednesday evening, May 24. Mr. Axelrad opined that the club had enough events already scheduled and that wives would be angry if their husbands announced that they were going to drive in anything else. An unkind member was heard to say that that was definitely not true in his case and the more reasons to be out in the MV, the better.

Also, on the event front, Mr. Bancale announced that the North Jersey Pro Street Car Ass'n had weekly cruise nights on Fridays from 6 to 9:00 p.m. and they would be delighted to have interested members participate, especially on May 26.

Mr. Bancale also announced that Steve Johnson of the Red Ball Club in (Northeast Penna) was interested in having a joint

bar-b-que with our club sometime in August. This would probably be in Johnsonburg. Mr. Bancale to be in charge.

Mr. Sobotka said that Brenda from the NJ Veterans Home in Paramus would like a visit from us, with vehicles, of course. After some discussion, Saturday, June 17, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. was set as the day and time for this.

Mr. Sobotka also announced that the National Guard Militia Museum in Sea Girt was looking for volunteer workers every weekend from now until October 1. They are also looking for contributions to the museum. (Info on page 2.)

Mr. Sobotka also mentioned that Rob Lomard in Port Jervis, NY has a CJ2A with no engine, no transmission, and lots of holes that can be had free by the first person to drag it away. Rob also has other vehicles for sale. Along the same line, Mr. Sobotka brought in some photos of a bargain-priced M151 front half in the woods near Budd Lake (photos on back page).

The pending NJ "junker" bill was brought up (sorry, I don't know by who) and members were asked to write a letter to their local assemblyman in support of the bill. This was followed by much spirited discussion about similar local ordinances.

Mr. Bancale threw out the suggestion that we might want to have military veterans, club members or outsiders, speak at future club meetings. This idea was met with enthusiasm.

On behalf of the club, Mr. Sobotka gave out recognition certificates to:

- Dave Steinert for organizing the WWII fund-raising event.
- Frank Eichenlaub and his family for helping out at the event.
- Bob Rooke for bringing items to give away to those making a contribution to the Memorial.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

—respectfully submitted, Dave Ahl, Secretary

Officers for 2000:

President	John Sobotka
	37 Mountain Trail, Hopatcong, NJ 07843, 973-398-3692
Vice President	Brian Bancale
	56 Newton Ave., Sussex, NJ 07461, 973-875-6985
Secretary	Dave Ahl
	12 Indian Head Rd, Morristown, NJ 07960, 973-285-0716
Treasurer	Rick Frei
	P.O. Box 628, Blirstown, NJ 07825, 908-362-5045

Help Wanted

You may have noticed that the newsletter has a new editor. Well, the new editor needs some help: articles, reports of parades and events in which the club has participated (with photos), what's going on with your vehicle, and anything else of interest to members. Send, fax (973-539-5934) or e-mail (Mvehicle@aol.com) your contribution.

Member Services:

We are considering running business card ads for member services (and others) at the rate of \$10 per year (a bargain!). Any opinions?

Landscaping, Retaining Walls, Patios, Walks Don Covart,
Fox Hollow Landscaping, 973-263-8106, 335-4367

Tree Services John Boyle, Boyle Tree Services, 908-964-9358

Welding, Sheet Metal Work, Machine Work Brian Bancale,
Brian's Custom Fabricating & Repair, 973-209-0454

Used Cars & Trucks—Buy or Sell Dan Lacey,
Empire Auto Sales, 800-94EMPIRE, 201-440-3323

Home Improvement Jerry Miller,
Avemco Remodeling Group, 973-398-7749

Vehicle Repairs & Restoration Joe Detauda, 570-686-3121

Mobil Sandblasting—Commercial, Residential, Metal
John Peterson Enterprises, 732-777-6828

Calendar:

Please note that this calendar is a much-expanded version of the one that usually appears here. It lists many events of interest to members, not just "official" club events. Meetings, parades, and events that are officially sanctioned by the club are listed in **BOLD UPPER-CASE TYPE**, while other events are listed in standard typeface. (All dates are listed in **bold**.)

Wed, May 24: Hoboken Memorial Parade. 7:00 p.m. 12th and Washington Streets. If you wish to drive in it, call Jack O'Brien at 201-798-9402 and he'll tell you where and when to meet.

Thu-Sat, May 25-27: American Truck Historical Society Nat'l Convention and Show. Valley Forge Convention Center. Info: George Kaiser, 610-586-4759.

Fri, May 26: Friday Cruise Night sponsored by North Jersey Pro Street Car Assn: Arlington Plaza, Route 46, Parsippany. *Every Friday* from now through Oct., but especially looking for MVs for Friday, the 26th. Info: Bob Kapral, 973-334-2902.

Sat, May 27: **MORRIS PLAINS PARADE:** 8:45 a.m. at Grannis Ave. and Mountain Way. Free hot dogs, hamburgers, soft drinks, and beer afterward at the VFW on Route 53. If you haven't signed up, call Al Axelrad at 973-884-0051.

Sun., May 28: Memorial Motor Madness, 9 am - 4pm, M&M Mars, High St., Hackettstown. 100's of antique cars and trucks. For information, call Ed at 908-637-8958.

Mon, May 29: **LIVINGSTON PARADE:** 8:45 a.m. If you're driving in this one, you know who you are. You'll be commanded by Mr. Axelrad, 973-884-0051.

Mon, May 29: **WEST CALDWELL PARADE:** 9:00 a.m. at the east end of Bloomfield Ave. by the Church. (Maybe on a side street). Parade commander is Harold Ratzburg. And if you want, you can go directly from here to...

Mon, May 29: **PARSIPPANY PARADE:** 11:30 a.m. at Campus Drive/Sylvan Way, Prudential Business Center off NJ Rt 10 west. To sign up, call Al Axelrad at 973-884-0051.

Fri-Sun, June 2-4: 10th WWII Weekend, Mid-Atlantic Air Museum, Reading, PA. WWII aircraft, MVs, re-enactors, much more. Info: 610-372-7333.

Sun, June 11: American Truck Historical Society Show. 9 am - 4 pm, Automatic Switch Co. 50 Hanover Rd., Florham Park, NJ. Information: Kerry Day, 973-586-3600 bus, 973-887-5485 home

Mon, June 12: **MTA MEETING,** Godfathers Pizza, Pharmore

Plaza, Rt. 10, East Hanover (7:00 dinner, 8:00 meeting)

Fri-Sun, June 16-18: Antique Truck Club of America Nat'l Show. Macungie Memorial Park, Rt. 100 Macungie, PA. Info, call 610-584-8282 or 610-262-3192.

Fri-Sun, June 16-18: COMVEC MV Show & Rally. Displays, flea market, MV judging, trail rides, cookout, Sat. banquet. Adm \$3. Sponsored by Connecticut MV Club. Info, Gary Keating, 860-347-7881.

Sat, June 17: **PARAMUS VETERANS HOME:** 11 am - 2 pm visit the vets with your vehicle. Directions and details from John Sobotka, 973-398-3692.

Sun, June 25: 50th Anniversary Salute to Korean War Veterans. Exhibit of vehicles & equipment from the era—bring yours. All day, ceremony 1:00 p.m., Sharp Field, Ft. Dix. Info, Carolee Nisbet, 609-562-4035.

Fri, June 30, FAIRFIELD PARADE: 5:30 p.m. Hollywood Ave. church. Rain date 7/1.

Sat, July 1, MONTVILLE PARADE: 10:30 a.m. Gathering Rd off Chain Bridge Rd. Sign up, Al Axelrad, 973-884-0051

Tues, July 4, FLORHAM PARK PARADE: 8:15 a.m. at Treasure Island parking lot on Columbia Tpk.

Tues, July 4, MONTCLAIR PARADE: 9:15 a.m. Fullerton Ave. off Bloomfield Ave., 4th light eastbound after museum

Every weekend, June 3 - Oct 1: Volunteers needed at Nat'l Guard Militia Museum, Sea Girt. To volunteer, please contact Col. Wm. Appgar, PO Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625, 609-530-7055 or Ellen Fruscione at 609-530-7054.

Letter in Support of Anti-Junker Bill:

As stated in the minutes, a bill is pending in the NJ legislature that is favorable to collectors of older vehicles. To help the bill make its way through the legislative process, you can help by sending the following letter to your assemblyman. It is a bit of a challenge to get the name of your local congressman as they are not listed in any phone directory. You might try calling NJ legislative services at 800-792-8630. A few assemblymen that I know of are:

Richard Merkt, Randolph Twp
Patrick Carroll, Morristown
Walter Kavanaugh, Mendham
Christopher Bateman, Somerville

Peter Biondi, Somerset
Scott Garrett, Newton
Guy Gregg, Flanders

Anyway, here is the letter:

Your name
Your address
Current date

Dear Assemblyman _____:

I am a member of the North Jersey Military Transport Association, an organization dedicated to preserving military vehicles that played such an important part in defending freedom and democracy for our nation. We regularly display our vehicles in parades and at educational events.

Members from our club and others like it are seeking your support for Bill #A1403 sponsored by Assemblyman Louis Greenwald. This bill will make it possible to store a vehicle on my property while I seek parts to restore it as long as I store it neatly and unobtrusively. This bill will help people like me preserve historic vehicles for the education and enjoyment of future generations.

Sincerely yours,
Your signature

WWII MEMORIAL FUND-RAISING EVENT

by David H. Ahl

All week, the weather forecast for Saturday had been "cloudy with showers," but Friday night the weather front veered off to the north. Saturday dawned sunny, brisk, and windy—in short, practically perfect for the WWII Memorial fund-raising event in Ledgewood, New Jersey.

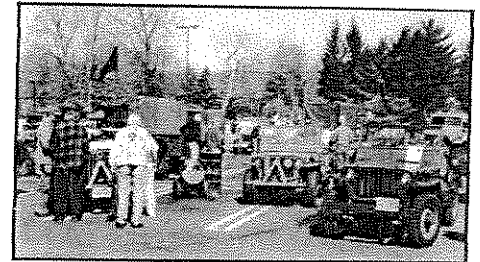
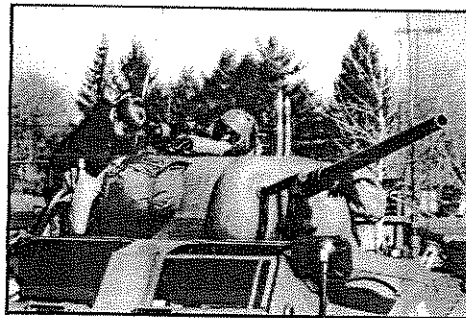
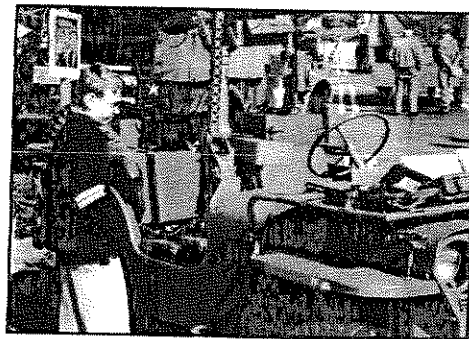
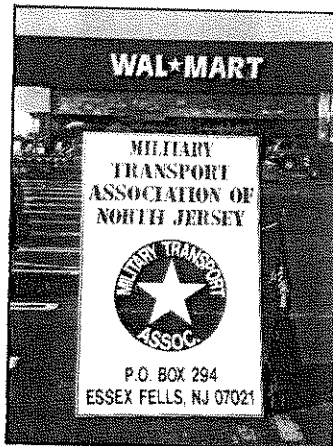
WWII affected this nation—and the world—like no event before or since. Starting with the invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939, and ending with the surrender of Japan on September 2, 1945, the war lasted almost six years to the day. The U.S., of course, only joined in formally on December 8, 1941 so we were at war for just under four years.

In that short time, the cost in money and lives was staggering: 16,353,659 men and women served in armed forces; 50% of adult males between 20 and 40 were in uniform for an average of 33 months. More than 292,000 U.S. servicemen were killed, 671,000 wounded, and 105,000 taken prisoner.

The cost to the nation was more than \$288 billion. During the war years, the U.S. built more than 1 million vehicles, 301,000 aircraft, and more than 10,000 ships. On land, there were 625,000 Jeeps, 61,000 tanks, and more than 300,000 trucks, half-tracks, self-propelled guns, and various support vehicles.

How do we remember this most profound event in our nation's history? Basically, we don't. Although many towns and cities have WWII monuments, there is no national museum, monument, or memorial in remembrance of all the people who fought, not just for our freedom but for the freedom of the entire world.

The idea of a memorial has been considered for more than 25 years, but finally about six years ago the site on the Washington mall was approved and the pieces started falling into place. Fed Ex and the SBC Foundation gave founders gifts of \$2 million each. Then companies like Anheuser-Busch, Boeing, Chrysler, Kodak, Tyco, and others kicked in. The American Legion gave \$1 million. The state of NY gave \$1.7 million. This inspired other com-



panies, veterans groups, and states to participate.

About two years ago, with about 40% of the needed \$100 million raised, the campaign was actively extended to individuals. You may have seen ads in magazines picturing Senator Bob Dole or Tom Hanks. Wal-Mart joined in by putting displays in all of their stores. As of this writing, the campaign has raised about \$85 million, which means there is \$15 million to go before the formal ground breaking on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2000.

To help encourage contributions, on Saturday, April 29, the Military Transport Ass'n (MTA) of North Jersey teamed up with Wal-Mart in Ledgewood, where members brought 21 vehicles for a major display in the Wal-Mart parking lot. Thirteen of the vehicles—Jeeps, trucks, and an M8 armored reconnaissance car—were WWII vintage, while the other eight vehicles were from later eras. Many members set up displays of the equipment carried on their vehicles and the Salvation Army and other interested groups had displays of WWII artifacts and information.

At the end of the day, the 100-member MTA had signed up 12 new members, collected \$692 in donations for the WWII Memorial (to which the club added \$108 to make \$800, which was matched by Wal-Mart), and educated hundreds of people about the war and the role the vehicles played in bringing it to a successful conclusion.

Contributions to the WWII Memorial may be sent to National WWII Memorial Campaign, 2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 501, Arlington, VA 22201, or call 800-639-4WW2, or visit their web site at www.wwiimemorial.com.

**Classified Ads:
For Sale . . .**

WWII Medic Pouch Inserts with 6 pill vials (all Army issue), \$65.00 ea. Only a few left. Lou Sliazis, 732-761-9317 or e-mail topmikepapa@hotmail.com

2½ and 5-ton Trucks: M35A2 w/winch, power steering, desert tan, \$3900. M52A2 5-ton tractor, 4 available, \$6500 and up. M54A2 5-ton cargo, 3 available, \$5000 and up. Total of 16 trucks now in stock. Jude Meehan, 732-528-5422.

1950 ¾ ton Chevy Panel Truck: does not run, \$500. Call Ed 973-347-3866, leave message.

1977 Dodge M880: 1¼ ton 4x4 cargo truck, runs good, body good, power steering, troop seats, bows, NOS cover, \$3300 obo. Bill, 732-928-5029.

CJ2 Jeep, M211, Bell UH-1A and lots of other interesting vehicles and parts. Rod Leonard, Godeffroy, NY (7 mi north of Port Jervis), 914-754-7362.

1943 GMC 2½ Ton Dump with winch, excellent cond., restored military. Poughkeepsie, NY, 914-454-6752.

M37 9.00x16 tire. 35% tread, with good tube. FREE to the first person who picks it up in Morristown (no delivery at this price) Dave Ahl, 973-285-0716.

MV Manuals for almost any military vehicle. Dennis Spence, Portrayal Press, 973-579-5781 (9:00 - 10:30 a.m.)

Wanted . . .

Scintered Bronze Filter Element for M37 Zenith carb filter. Also need 24-volt bulb for convoy light. Dave, 973-226-0472 home, 973-992-3544 work.

Back seat frame with original "F" marking for 1942 Ford GPW. Jay, 908-754-6884.

M416 Jeep Trailer. Art Swain, 201-387-8961 or e-mail awsi@prodigy.net

Toy Military Vehicles & Tow Trucks. Metal, plastic, any size, scale, or era. Dave Ahl, 973-285-0716.

Restoring a Military Vehicle?

Military Vehicles magazine is the world's leading source of information about Jeeps, HMMWVs, armor, trucks, Mules, Unimogs & more. How to buy, restore and operate. Historical information, objective book reviews, detailed photos, event calendar. More than 100 pages of ads every issue. 1 year (six 140 + page issues) USA \$18 • Sample issue \$5.

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