



INDIANAPOLIS

WWII

ROUNDTABLE

Founded in 1987 Ernie Pyle Chapter

ISSUE 1
JAN & FEB
2026



**We welcome guests to our fourth Monday's
buffet dinner & speaker program
doors open 5:00, buffet dinner 6:00, speaker 7:00 pm**

RSVP to Karl Kleinbub: kleinbub1002@gmail.com
or phone 317-607-6948 by Thursday prior to Monday's buffet dinner!

**Northside Events & Social Club
2100 E 71st St, Indianapolis, IN 46220
Dinner is \$11 cash; please add tip at your table**

Vision & Mission

Our mission is to preserve World War 2 history and veterans' stories. Our diverse membership includes Veterans, educators, Veteran families, friends or military enthusiasts, war aficionados and history buffs.

We learn about history and meet real American heroes.

Our Programs

Guest speakers include leaders in the military community, authors of military history, as well as educators. They share their unique stories with our members & guests.



JANUARY 26, 2026 PROGRAM: Professor Jason Lantzer



Greetings to you and friends of the Roundtable!

Due to snow date, our speaker is rescheduled to October
We look forward to another exciting year of programs in 2026. Won't you please continue to help identify potential speakers and many more interesting topics? Invite a guest to the next dinner in January! Learn more about all of America's modern wars (WWI, Korea, Vietnam, and more recent conflicts.

RESCHEDULED TO OCTOBER DUE TO WEATHER CANCELATION

JANUARY 26, 2026
GUEST SPEAKER

Professor Jason Lantzer from Butler University will speak on the topic of Eisenhower and the Holocaust. This was the inspiration for his research on this subject:

"I happened to be going out to Washington over our [school's] spring break It was there that I encountered Ike's quote about his visit to Ohrdruf. It was one of those things I was certainly aware of, but also something that I quickly discovered no one had really investigated. We knew the quote, but it appeared that virtually no historian had bothered to ask what that might mean for how Ike saw the war or how it might have helped shape his presidency.

My dissertation advisor, James Madison of Indiana University, is fond of saying that the work of historians is sometimes about digging holes to see what we can find and sometimes about filling holes where no one has thought to look before. I decided to get to work! My central thesis is that encountering the Holocaust altered how Ike saw the war he had been waging, bringing a moral tone to what heretofore had largely been a conflict of "us vs. them."



NARA

Mark Your Calendar

Programs for 2026

JAN 26: JASON LANTZER: EISENHOWER & POW CAMPS - **SEE OCT**

FEB 23: GEORGE MATT JR: MATT SENIOR & KOREAN WAR POWS

MAR 23: THOMAS SLEMONS: THE 555TH TACTICAL FIGHTER SQUADRON

APR 27: SUE STEWART: "GUEST WORKERS" IN GERMANY DURING WW2

MAY 18: ROBERT GANGWERE: "FORGED IN FIRE: AMERICAN RED CROSS CLUB MOBILES"

JUN 22: ANNETTE MOORE: "AMAZING SPIRIT: A TRIBUTE TO DAD"

JUL 27: KATHRYN LERCH: HOOSIER PFC GEORGE E. GREENE 9TH INFANTRY DIV WW2

AUG 24: ANNELIESE KRAUTER: HER FAMILY IN GERMANY DURING WWII

SEP 28: BRAD DAMON: (PT 2) DALE GILLESPIE'S W2 MISSIONS

OCT 26: JASON LANTZER: EISENHOWER & POW CAMPS RE-SCHEDULED

NOV 23: WALTER LINNE: AMERICAN WW2 ORPHANS NETWORK (AWON)

PLEASE GIVE PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS TO CHUCK HOLT AT ANY OF OUR MONTLY MEETINGS.

ANNUAL DUES FOR 2026



**VETERAN FAMILY \$20.00; NON-VETERAN FAMILY \$25.00;
WWII VETERANS/WIDOWS FREE MEMBERSHIP**

PLEASE MAIL YOUR CHECK TO: WWII ROUNDTABLE, 917 E. WALNUT ST, LEBANON, IN 46052, OR PAY AT THE DINNER

NAME:

PHONE:

ADDRESS:

EMAIL:

WW2 VETERAN? _____ POST-WW2 VETERAN? _____

IF YES, BRANCH & PERIOD OF SERVICE

FEBRUARY 23, 2026 PREVIEW

GUEST SPEAKER GEORGE J. MATTA, JR.

“GEORGE J. MATTA, SENIOR KOREAN WAR POW”



**“A GRIPPING, VIVID AND POWERFUL
TRUE LIFE STORY OF THE DAILY
STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE IN THE PRISONER
OF WAR (POW) CAMPS DURING THE
KOREAN WAR. DOCUMENTED ARE THE
LONG MARCH INTO CAPTIVITY AND
OVER 800 DAYS OF DESPERATION,
TREACHERY AND BRUTALITY.”**

IMAGE COURTESY OF: KOREANWARVETSMEMORIAL.ORG/DESIGN/

A BIT OF HISTORY...

ERNIE PYLE'S INTERVIEWEE NOTES ERNIE PYLE MUSEUM, DANA, INDIANA



WW2 VETERAN LEIGHTON WILHITE
WITH RICHARD EISGRUBER



HONOR QUILT PRESENTED TO VIETNAM
VETERAN AND U.S. INDIANA REPRESENTATIVE
JIM BAIRD BY DAR MEMBERS WANDA HARTLEY
AND JILL FEWELL



STEPHAN HOGAN PRESENTS CERTIFICATE
TO SPEAKER HAROLD FINLEY

