

# WALTON COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

**Bobby Beasley**

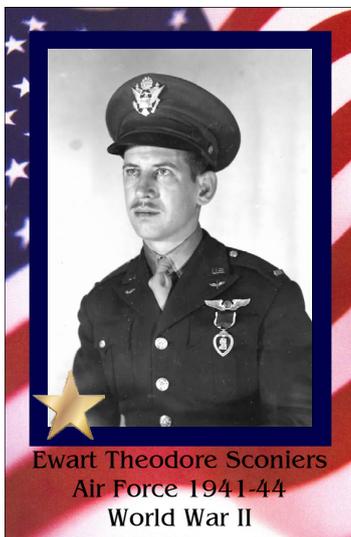
# Newsletter



Volume 3, Issue 1 JANUARY 2018

## Voter Stats

## Hometown Hero Coming Home!



Ewart Theodore Sconiers  
Air Force 1941-44  
World War II

The public is invited to participate in honoring DeFuniak Springs' own World War II veteran. Lt. Ewart T. Sconiers will be buried 73 years to the day from which he was first buried by fellow POWs in what is now Allies Park in Lubin, Poland. Sconiers' recovery is historic in that he was the only American POW unrecovered from Stalag Luft III, the German prison camp made famous by the movie *The Great Escape*.

On January 25th, Lt. Ewart T. Sconiers' remains will arrive in Pensacola. Sconiers' hearse (Clary Glenn Funeral Home) will be brought to DeFuniak Springs via I-10, exiting at Mossy Head, continuing onto Highway 90 being led by Florida Highway

Patrol Troop A Panama City (his brother's company back in the day). The Patriot Guard riders will provide a motorcycle escort to DeFuniak Springs.

**Friday, January 26th at 11:00 a.m.** we encourage you and your family to line the parade route in DeFuniak Springs for the procession honoring Sconiers. Feel free to bring American Flags to wave! The Parade will start at the old Piggly Wiggly parking lot/Tesla Superchargers and proceed down [Baldwin Ave](#) to the Opinion Place pausing for a brief ceremony, with a song from Artie Rodriguez. The procession will continue to the corner of the town clock, turning right crossing over the railroad tracks, then turning right again and proceed around [Circle Drive](#). There will be a brief stop along Circle Drive for a tree planting ceremony. The procession will continue turning right at Plateau Avenue, stopping at the [corner](#) of 12 Michigan Avenue, the old home place, with a song from Rhonda Skipper.

On Saturday, January 27th at 11:00 a.m., Lt. Sconiers will be laid to rest with full military honors next to his mother, Maude Spence Sconiers, at Southwide Baptist Church, 1307 Coy Burgess Loop, DeFuniak Springs.

Lt. Ewart Sconiers' story is quite heroic! During an Aug. 21, 1942 mission over France, German fighters viciously and relentlessly attacked, crippling Sconiers' plane, the Johnny Reb, and exploding the co-pilot's Plexiglas windscreen, mortally wounding him. The pilot, barely conscious and suffering from burned hands that could no longer control the plane,

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### Newly Registered Voters

December .....203

### Party Affiliation Changes

December ..... 37

### Active Registered Voters

as of December 31, 2017

Democrats.....9,614

Republicans .....28,317

Others .....9,897

Total .... **47,828**



### Sign up for our newsletter!



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summoned Sconiers to the cockpit.

Bombardier Sconiers took over and flew the shattered, bullet-riddled plane across the English Channel and set it down in England. For this valiant deed and the lives saved, he was awarded the Distinguished Service

Cross. However, his luck ran out a few months later when he and his crew were shot down while bombing the Nazi submarine pens in France.



While imprisoned in SLIII, POW Sconiers worked security under the supervision of POW Lt. Col. A.P. Clark for those digging the famous tunnel dramatized in the movie, *The Great Escape*. Sconiers later died under mysterious circumstances, and on 27th of January 1944, six of his fellow POWs, accompanied by Germans, buried him in the municipal cemetery in Lubin, Poland, an hour from the site of Stalag Luft III.

Officially notified of his death and spending decades unsuccessfully trying to find him, Sconiers' family thought he may have been shot trying to escape and thrown in an unmarked mass grave. His mother, sister, and brother (Kenneth Sconiers, of Panama City) died with such anguish, certain their Ewart was forever lost. Sconiers' widow, the former Ina Bobelle Wright of the Ft. Walton area, also thought Ewart was shot trying to escape SLIII. It was determined that Sconiers died of dramatic complications of an untreated ear infection after falling on ice. The final chapter in this incredible story will occur when the dedicated Promise Keepers gather to witness Sconiers' historic reburial, at which sons and daughters of the original burial contingent will stand in their fathers' places, recognizing the sacrifice and valor of one man—Stalag Luft III's last man out.

[BringSconiersHome.com](http://BringSconiersHome.com)



## Did you know?

### “When is the next election?”

A General Election is held in November of every even-numbered year. The Primary Election is held ten weeks before the General Election for purposes of nominating party nominees to be voted for in the General Election to fill a national, state, county, or district office. The election dates for 2018 are:

**Primary Election: August 28, 2018**

**General Election: November 6, 2018**

Eligible individuals can [register to vote](#) at any time. The deadline to register in order to participate in an upcoming election is 29 days before the election. The deadline for Party Affiliation changes is also 29 days before an election. The registration deadlines for 2018 are:

**Primary Election: July 30, 2018**

**General Election: October 9, 2018**

## College Scholarships

Are you majoring in Political Science, Public Business Administration, or Journalism, Mass Communications? Then we have a scholarship for you! The Florida State Association of Supervisor of Elections will give three \$1,200.00 scholarships to deserving college students. If you are interested in receiving more details please contact the Supervisor of Elections office at 850-892-8112. To apply, please complete the [application](#) (found on our website). Deadline to submit applications: March 29, 2018

## Contact us

### Walton County Supervisor of Elections

Offices are open weekdays from 8 to 4:30.

Main Office:

**Walton County Courthouse**  
571 US Hwy 90 East, Suite 102  
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32433  
(850) 892-8112

Branch Office:

**Walton County Courthouse Annex**  
31 Coastal Centre Blvd., Suite 300  
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459  
(850) 622-0744

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