

Spoke Newsletter

Wednesday April 18 2018



Lincoln East Rotary Club members extend a sincere congratulations to Olsson Associates as the recipient of Lincoln Business of the year Award for 2018. They were recognized Tuesday, April 17 at the Salute to Business Luncheon held at the Cornhusker.

Olsson Associates is a nationally-recognized, employee-owned engineering and design firm that has been creating public and private projects throughout the United States. We've been around since 1956, and we offer comprehensive design and consulting services in site/civil, transportation, water, environmental, field operations, survey, and facilities.

With over 1,000 employees (and growing), nearly 30 offices in eight states, and a lengthy list of diverse clients, we believe our employees are our greatest asset and the key to our success. We seek to hire great people and put them in the right roles for their strengths.

In turn, our employees put our clients' needs first. We make decisions that are in the best interests of our clients and their projects in a professional and ethical manner. Our clients choose to work with us because they want a partnership with people who understand their specific needs and who tailor solutions that work for them.

Founded: 1956 by John E. Olsson

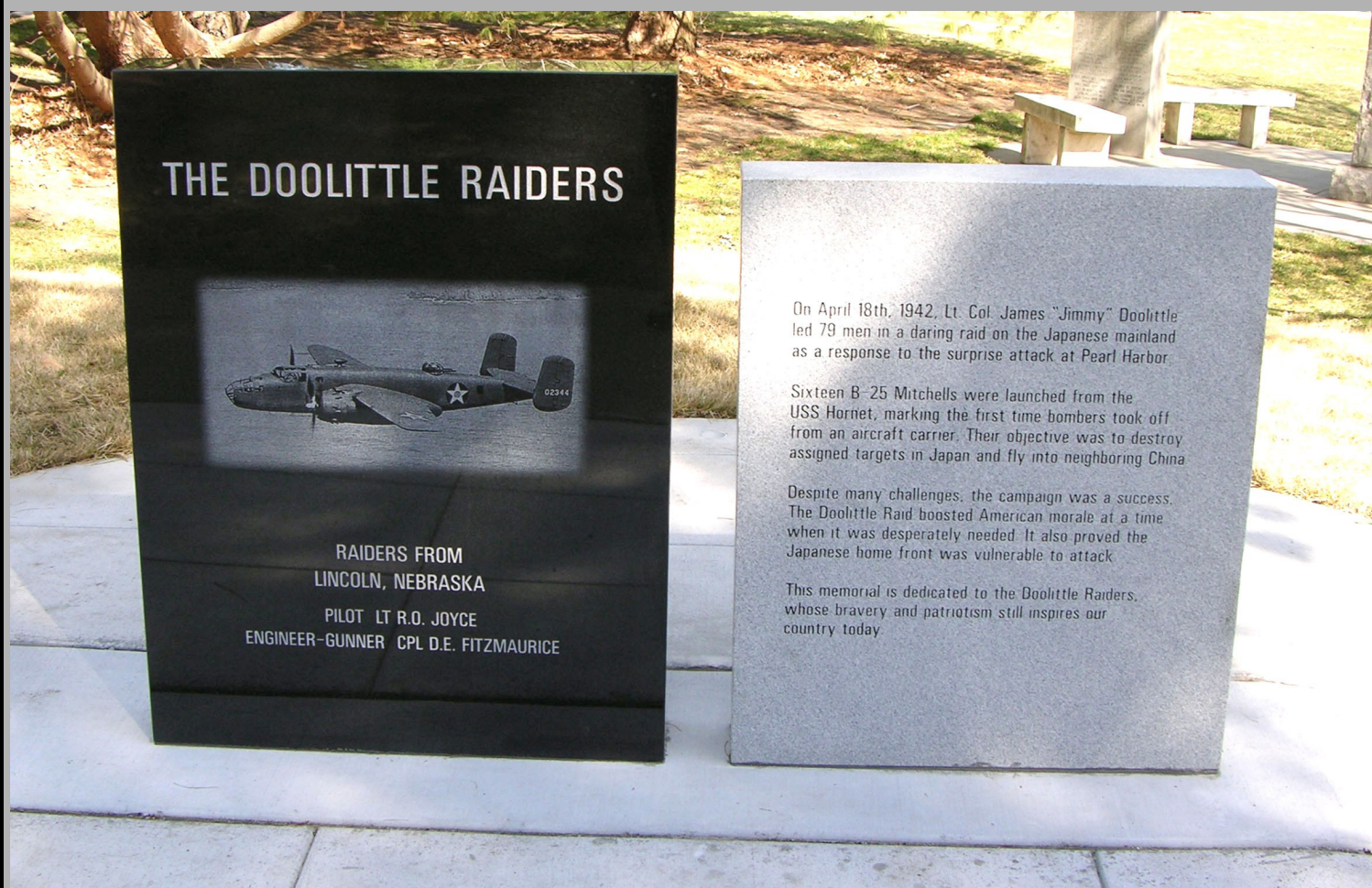
Ownership: Employee-owned through a stock bonus program and Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP)



*Lincoln East Rotary Club
Meetings at Valentino's—70th & Van Dorn
Noon Luncheon starting @ 11:45 a.m.*

April 18, 2018

The dedication of Doolittle Raiders Memorial Monument
Wednesday, April 18, 2018
76th Anniversary of the Doolittle Tokyo Raid



Sixteen B-25 Mitchell bombers launched from an aircraft carrier in the Pacific Theater on April 18, 1942, to strike mainland Japan during World War II. It was the first time bombers had launched from a carrier. The strike, known as the Doolittle Raid, followed the aftermath of Pearl Harbor and played a key role in boosting American morale. Two of the crew members on the bombers were born and raised in Lincoln, and thanks to a former Pius X High School student, their legacies will be remembered on a monument in their hometown in the Veterans Memorial Garden in Antelope Park.

Daniel Robertson, a sophomore at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, first got the idea to raise money for the memorial as a senior at Pius X. It was his answer to a final class project that asked the question: "What will I do for my world?" Robertson's world was Lincoln, he said, and he decided to tie his fascination with WWII history with his love for his community. Robertson had learned in middle school about the Doolittle Raid and the Lincoln men who had flown during the mission. He thought commemorating their service would be ideal. "I asked myself why I couldn't do it," Robertson said. "There's no real good reason why I couldn't." In 2016, Robertson approached the Veterans Memorial Garden Advisory Board to offer his idea for a memorial. He met board member Diane Bartels, another Lincolnite with a fascination in military history who has written a book about Nebraskan WWII aviator Evelyn Sharp. Bartels helped Robertson research the names and titles of the Doolittle Raiders and network with members of the community who could help him with his efforts to build the memorial. "I believe that when children have a vision, people in the community need to support them," Bartels said. Robertson hand-wrote letters for more than a month to potential donors to raise funds to build the memorial. "It took the longest amount of time," he said. The Lincoln East Rotary Club provided a generous lead gift.

Family members of the Lincoln Doolittle raiders will attend the memorial ceremony Wednesday. Todd Joyce, son of Lt. Richard O. Joyce, who piloted one of the bombers, was happy to see his father being honored in the city he loved and contributed to throughout his life.

Doolittle Memorial Ceremony Comments

By Lincoln East Rotarian Dennis Duckworth



We want to first thank the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department and the Veteran's Memorial Committee for allowing the Lincoln East Rotary to be a part of this dedication, and to Dan Robertson for developing the idea for this memorial. Rotary is the oldest international service organization, with clubs worldwide. The Rotary motto is "Service above Self." The Lincoln East Rotary participates in over 20 service projects each year. Most of these are local projects, however, some are international projects. We have a great working relationship with the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department, completing several service projects with them, each year. As I thought about the major project we could be involved with last year, I recalled Memorial Drive, the street that runs South, from the Auld Recreation Center to South Street. That tree lined drive

had stone markers in front of each of the trees along the street. On each marker was the name of a Lancaster County Serviceman who gave his life in World War One. I contacted the Parks Department, to see if there was a similar project with which we could be involved in a service project. They directed me to the Veteran's Memorial Committee. This committee provided us three potential memorials we could consider. Dan Robertson's idea for a Doolittle Memorial grabbed our attention from the start. The Lincoln East Rotary Board considered the projects, and so many of the board recalled the Lincoln connection to the Doolittle Raid, with Lt. Joyce and Engineer Fitzmaurice being two of the 80 on the raid, both coming from Lincoln. We then decided to donate the remainder of the funds needed for this project, and to raise and lower flags for ceremonies. We are proud that we could be a part of this dedication to these heroes, who were aptly named by Tom Brokaw, as a part of The Greatest Generation.

(A Rotary Thank You to Dennis Duckworth for his lead role in this project)

Lincoln East Rotary Club
Concessions—UNL Spring Football Game
Saturday, April 21, 2018

Just A Friendly Reminder & Thank You To The Following Volunteers:



***Dennis Duckworth
Marcia Duckworth
Gordon Bair
Dick Cumming
Deb Durre
Chris Nealy***

