7-1-1973

The Octofoil, July/August 1973

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections at CrossWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Octofoil by an authorized administrator of CrossWorks.
The following announcement is an important one and we want you all to read it loud and clearly. This year the Memorial Services of the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Worcester, Mass. will be held on Sunday, October 21st. That's right, October 21st. Most of us are accustomed to attending the Memorial Services a little later in the year and the early date might throw us off guard. So mark your calendars now the date is October 21st. This year the participants of the Immaculate Conception are celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the founding of their parish and they are looking forward to having their friends from the Ninth Infantry Division Association join in the celebration.

New Banquet Site
Father Connors' reality that the "Old Reliability" are getting older. So he is trying to make things real easy for us. This year the banquet will be held in the same building where most of us will be staying. Namely, the new Sheraton Lincoln Inn located at 500 Lincoln St., Worcester, Mass. The Inn is a beautiful place-only one year old and has everything under one roof. Just directly across from a shopping mall so you won't have to go to purchase whatever you need for a midnight snack. The Inn can also boast of a big indoor swimming pool so don't forget to bring along your trunks or bikinis.

Reservations
Once again Franny Maher is responsible for quartering the troops, all reservations for the Inn should be made through him. Single rooms go for $18.00 and doubles go for $24.00. Send your reservations to Francis K. Maher, 14 Davenport St., Worcester, Mass. 01610, Telephone 756-2883. Franny will confirm all reservations.

Directions
For those coming from the North and East if you use I-90 at Exits 20, Burncoat-Lincoln Street, Make a sharp right turn and you are now facing a large building of the State Mutual Life Assurance Co. You are now on Lincoln St. and just a short drive from the Sheraton. Keep your eye out for the 9th Infantry Division Road markers. You will now be in the 400 block Lincoln St. Worcester, Mass. From here you will have only a short distance to go to the Sheraton.

For those coming from the North on the Mass Pike exit at Millbury-Worcester Exit, after leaving ramp make a left turn onto Grosvenor St. Two traffic lights which are spread about two miles apart will bring you to a small rotary, make a left turn and you will still be on Grosvenor St. From here you will have two more traffic lights, at the second light make a right hand turn onto the Worcester Expressway and leave it at Exit No. 20. Burncoat-Lincoln Streets. Go across the intersection to the next traffic light, make a left hand turn and you have only a short distance to go to the Sheraton.

Tip Of The Hat
The association is grateful to the members who attended the reunion and donated $345.00 to the North Vietnam Scholarship Fund. A special thanks to Ann Whalen widow of Henry Whalen, and Carrie Piekarz widow of Tadek Piekarz for their generous donations. Emil Langer always a thoughtful fellow has for the last several years donated $10.00 to this fund in the name of his friend Steve. All the members of the association are asked to try to donate $5.00 to this fund this year.

Murphy's Farewell Message
"Outgoing President Ron Murphy presents gavel to newly elected President Fred Josey at change of command held the night of the banquet."
THE OCTOFOIL

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Drs Quinn, National Secretary, 9th Infantry Division Assn 414 Gregory Ave, Weehawken, New Jersey 07087

Enclosed please find 1973 dues for:

Name______________________________ Serial No.______________________________

Address:____________________________ Zoning______________________________

City______________________________ State______________________________

I was a member of:

Battery__________________________ Company__________ Regiment__________ 9th Div

I wish to sign up for the following:

Regular Member, per year $5.00

Life Membership $125.00

Octofoil Automobile License Disc $50.00

Death, per lineal descendant $1.00

Lafee Auxiliary Member $50.00

Combat Route Map $50.00

60th Infantry History $50.00

THE OCTOFOIL

The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Published six times a year, July-August, September-October, November-December, January-February, March-April, May-June. Each issue is sent to all members and to former members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Non-member subscriptions are accepted. Single copy price $1.50 per copy. Subscription price: $10.00 per year. The members of the Association who are not members of the National Society, Daniel Webster Chapter, of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and of the Daughters of the American Revolution are entitled to receive copies of the publication at the rate of $1.50 per copy. The Association is an organization of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association is primarily for the benefit of the members of the Association. Its purpose is to keep in touch with members throughout the year with news of the Association and the status of the reunion. It is also intended to keep in touch with non-members who are interested in the reunion and the Association.

The OCTOFOIL is published by the National Society, Daniel Webster Chapter, of the Daughters of the American Revolution, of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Michigan Doings

In time to come the Michigan chapter will look back upon 1973 as the year in which the chapter realized some of its most significant gains. The members have worked hard in behalf of the Association and their efforts have been fully rewarded. The gang from Michigan took 75 of their own to the office of National President and they were pleased to learn that the National Board of Governors had selected their great city of Detroit as the site for the 1974 reunion. The boys and girls from the "Motor State" had plenty to celebrate for the Boston reunion.

News-Notes

On July 4 the entire Michigan chapter turned out for the annual picnic at Kensington Metro Park. Although the weatherman's "too cooperative" statement that the picnic was one of the greatest ever held by the chapter. Don Lewis arrived early and staked out a choice spot for the gang. The Eighties, led by John Young, who got rid of 75. Don Lewis was the lucky guy who ducked the weatherman's "too cooperative" statement that the picnic was one of the greatest ever held by the chapter. Don Lewis arrived early and staked out a choice spot for the gang.

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The late Harry Whalen shows a few years ago when he was Grand Marshall at the Americanization Day Parade held in New York.

Since our last publication the association members three of them have moved since our days in Bragg when we served together in the 47th.

Henry (Harry) Whalen - K Co. and Service Co.
Clair Mitchell - 13th Engrs.
Robert Runeman - 47th Inf.

A Mass of the Resurrection was offered July 17, 1973 in St. Brendan Catholic Church for Harry A. Whalen, of longtime Bronx veterans and community leader.

Burluf was in Long Island National Cemetery, Pinehaven. Full military honors were afforded the much decorated World War II veteran.

Active in veterans circles, Mr. Whalen was best remembered as the man who organized the annual Memorial Day parade along the Grand Concourse of the United War Veterans Memorial and Executive Committee for the past two decades.

He served as county commander of the United War Veterans in 1969 and 1971. The UWW is the coordinating council for the county’s major veterans organizations.

Mr. Whalen also was active for many years in Norwood civic affairs, served as founder of the Norwood Civic Assn, and was active in Veterans and youth work in St. Brendan Church.

He leaves his wife, the former Anne Cotter: three daughters, Eileen Lennon, Kathleen Armstrong; and Nancy his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Whalen, three brothers, Mr. James and Joseph: a sister, Margaret Keaveney, and six grandchildren.

Survivor Benefit Plan: The deadline for military personnel who retired before September 20, 1972, to elect to participate in the Survivor Benefit Plan is midnight September 20, 1972. Under the plan, a retiree can elect to purchase an annuity for his widow or children by a relatively small deduction from their pay. Under existing law the deadline cannot be extended.
The 100th Meeting of the National Board of Governors

The 100th Meeting of the National Board of Governors was held on July 28, 1973 at 1:20 p.m. at the Sheraton-Boston Hotel, Boston, Mass., at 5:15 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Messrs. Ronald Murphy, Robert DeSandy and Chick Oldham and Edward McGreal. Also in attendance were Messrs: Ronald Murphy, Nicholas Palega, William Klaus, and Robert DeSandy. ...
Harry O says: The Boston Reunion ranks with the Best reunions. 

Saturday, July 28, 1973 Father Connors was the center of attention as he led the marchers around and around the spacious ballroom floor, explaining, laughing, tipping his hat, smiling, snapping his fingers and waving to the enthusiastic audience as the momentum of the march increased until the medley of songs was finished. And the marchers who followed Father Connors, too, displayed their enthusiasm and smiling proudly waving to the audience as they cheered them along their every way. The marchers and the audience were having a wonderful time. It was a scene never to be forgotten by all who attended. And when the band finally played the last song of the evening, we all knew we had an enjoyable reunion and that the Reunion Committee had done a fantastic job.

Interesting Speakers

Earlier in the evening Father Connors gave the invocation at the banquet. We had a delicious roast beef dinner. Tom Boyle was the Master of Ceremonies. We heard many interesting speakers that included Francis Maher, Judge Melquiad, and guest speaker of the evening, President Ronald Murphy thanked the audience for coming. Major General Ira A. Hunt of the 9th Division and guest speaker of the evening said, "It is a rare privilege to be here this evening. He stated that "no division in the U.S. can compare with the WW II 9th Division. The new 9th Division tried to follow in your footsteps."

Profound Murphy, a psychiatrist, had the audience in stitches and many times the audience applauded his humorous stories and sophisticated remarks.

The band then played to the conclusion of the Reunion.

Memorial Services

Saturday morning the MEMORIAL SERVICES were held. The parade was led by the Boston Firemen's band, a color guard from the U.S. Army and followed by the 9th Division marchers, wives and children and friends that was approximately four blocks long. Father Connors delivered the invocation.

Later in the MEMORIAL SERVICES Father Connors read the 9th Division Stale Announcements. 481 men of the 9th Division made the SUPREME SACRIFICE. He mentioned that the 39th Annual MEMORIAL MASS would be held in Worcester October 21, 1973.

Among the many special highlights delivered during the closing prayer, Taps were played. The firing squad was the James A. Logan Post No. 58, American Legion of Foreign Wars. Thursday morning, July 27, we had an enjoyable day at the Campbake in White Cliffs and also had an opportunity to visit Plymouth.

Q M's Notes

Our traveling vacationists included Francis Maher, Judge Melquiad and many friends that was approximately four blocks long. Father Connors, the Pitzer's and the Reunion Chairman Francis Maher was shown on the right.

NEW YORK CHAPTER

When Harry Orenstein turned in his copy for this issue of the paper, he tried to throw a fast ball past the Editors of the "Octofoil". Harry submitted his usual excellent report on the reunion, gave plenty of details on the activities of the New York Chapter and brought us up to date on the latest happenings in the Q M group. Buried in among all the news was this innocent sentence: "It's never too late - Harry Orenstein and Judith Altschul are planning to be married on September 16th, 1973." To be perfectly frank with you we were almost called out on strikes. Being persevering with preparing copy for the paper we almost missed the significance of that brief announcement. It wasn't until we got to the end of the report that the importance of the announcement began to sink into our thick skull, then we did a double take that was pure Glasson. Harry married, while he was the dean of the New York bachelor - for him to desert his ranks was an earth shaking event. This was the most news worthy event that has occurred in the New York Chapter since the time Art Schmid bought a round of drinks in Yorkville tavern.

We wish Harry and his new bride well, but the loss of his many friends among the members of the Association will surely match him with the loss of our traveling vacationist. Harry has always been one of our most faithful members, he was always willing to undertake any job that was asked of him. We only hope that he won't let marriage interfere with his activities on behalf of the New York Chapter.

AN UNPRECEDENTED TURNOUT

There was a great deal of reminiscing when this issue unveiled an excellent performance on the stage as an auctioneer auctioning farm animals. He followed this with a rendering of a song that the audience greatly appreciated. Grgurich had the Q M's in good spirits with many fabulous stories.

Our traveling vacationists included Francis Maher, Judge Melquiad and many friends that was approximately four blocks long. Father Connors, the Pitzer's and the Reunion Chairman Francis Maher was shown on the right.

Harry Orenstein
It seems as if the only people who don't take a summer vacation are the ones who continue to keep up with their wonderful letters. We are glad that they do and only hope that more of our old friends get into the habit of dropping us a line from time to time. Here are a few of the letters we received during the past few months:

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**Letter 1**

Charles Chiba
51 St.
1728 Clay Bank Rd.
Sturgeon Bay, Wis. 54225

April 30th.

Sorry, I won't be able to make the reunion but enclosed is a check for an ad in the Journal. My son and I are not able to be in the same business here in Sturgeon Bay. We do concrete block, brick and stone work. This way we have a few more small commercial factories, ship building firms, cherry and apple orchards and marinas so they keep us quite busy.

Dick O'Connor
6078 Biford Ave.
White Plains, N. Y. 10603

By the way, George called our 60th Infantry Division reunion in Fort Bragg October 1, 1967. I was glad that I met Harry Rumenapp had passed away. He was a good soldier and I hope that God will let us have a reunion and I am sure I have missed a good time - God bless you.

P.S. I would like to hear from the 9th Division man that I met at the reunion in St. Clairsville, Ohio 43950.

---

**Letter 2**

Leo Matz
201 Main St.
St. Clairsville, Ohio 43950

2nd July, 1968.

Leo's wife Carol writes that she and Leo are not able to be in the same location although they really wanted to be there. Carol says she is the description of the ask that came to their mouths to water. Leo is now working at the Belmont Hills Country Club and has been busy the past summer months because the pool activity is good.

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**Letter 3**

Arthur Schneider
49-60 St.
Glendale, N. Y. 11224

June 16th.

I am writing to let you know that I have enjoyed the past three years here in Boston. As you all already know I am a great sailor, so there stands to reason that I enjoyed the clambake most of all. The banquet dinner in the Falstaff room but couldn't get in to the Hawaiian Room and of course I noticed. None of us could quite figure out what was going on but I was at the dance and the meal and each other's company. We had with the 69th St. and in the Boston area.

Walter J. Division man that I met at the reunion in St. Louis was on the 60th Infantry Division and was once New England Amateur Lightweight Champion Weight. George called our 60th Infantry Division reunion in Fort Bragg October 1, 1967. I was glad that I met Harry Rumenapp had passed away. He was a good soldier and I hope that God will let us have a reunion and I am sure I have missed a good time - God bless you.

---

**Letter 4**

George W. Cyphers
3911 Windsor Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio 44119

July 16th.

George was unable to attend the reunion and writes: "I'm sorry I couldn't make the reunion. At usual it was just a week before my vacation started. I hope it was the best ever and I am awaiting the Octofoil reports on it!"

George is glad that he called attention to a change of address so that we can make the necessary corrections on his ad-deograph plate before Uncle Sam's post office starts writing and charging for return mail.

---

**Letter 5**

Ben Marell
Box 90
90 St.
Henderson, N. Y. 12344

July 15th.

"The Bombcr" is a very active hay in the Hudson area but New York area always finds time to attend the reunion and Father Connors Memorial New York Service give us all a chance to activities here is few. My trip to Hudson City Aldermen and Major's Cornet, N. Y. S. Athletic Commission, N. Y. S. Baseball Umpires Assn., Y. M. C. A. Alumni, Approved Basketball Official and Little League President. I am going to make this my last trip before Uncle Sam's post office starts writing and charging for return mail.

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**Letter 6**

George Berenson
34 E. 8th St.
Lot 1
New York, N. Y. 10003

July 20th.

Informed Writing to let you know everything is O.K. down here and hoping for you and your family. I enclosed a little piece from the Army Times I've just received. You may find it interesting. I would like to show the 9th Division emblems on my car when we go to Atlanta next year. I would like to say that any of the old gang happen to get out here will certainly make them welcome here and can show them what the GOEVILS are doing now and as well as the other regiments. Of course, they never knew since the division is never ready division and the weapons are a lot different than when we left together through Germany and as such the Senior's are in the same position as far as the army goes. I had the honor of being the one to make the first divisional call on the local paper, here in Tacoma the story is that we are having a good time in the Hawaiian Room and of course I noticed. None of us could quite figure out what was going on but I was at the dance and the meal and each other's company. We had with the 69th St. and in the Boston area.

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**Letter 7**

John J. Cloudt
6015 S. Madison St.
Chicago, Ill. 60616

July 22nd.

John and I were in the Korean War and served with. As far as the army goes. We were in the 9th Division and the modern war. I am the best way I know of to do this.

---

**Letter 8**

R.M.A. Hirat
4216 Gustaf Freytag St.
6th Inf.

Dear Dan!

At the moment, I've just returned from the May-June 1968 edition of the Octofoil naturally, the article, "Lester C. Brindger" caught my eye, and I re-read General Gustav von Wietersheim's interesting account of the capture of the town of St. Mihiel by the 9th Division. As far as the army goes. We were in the 9th Division and the modern war. I am the best way I know of to do this.

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**Letter 10**

John A. K. Waldron
9567 Bluford Ave.
Whittier, Calif.

July 26th.

John sent a letter to me saying that he was in the Korean War and served with. As far as the army goes. We were in the 9th Division and the modern war. I am the best way I know of to do this.

---

**Letter 11**

Franklin W. Gunter
34 So. 4th St.
Huntsville, Ala. 35801

July 26th.

As far as the army goes. We were in the 9th Division and the modern war. I am the best way I know of to do this.

---

**Letter 12**

Wallace B. Hawkins
1239 Autumn Ave.
Hull Springs, Mass. 02340

4th Inf.

Although we are losing members every month with raising up with the "old gang" we are also receiving in the mail members who left the outfit back in the War years and have never heard or learned about the reunions. Wallace Hawkins is one of these men. He writes: "My six years membership card and copy of the Octofoil. Could not put it in the med. 6th Intn-Batt. I had the 74th reunion if I am going to make the 84th reunion and I am sure I have missed a good time - God bless you."

P.S. I would like to hear from the 9th Division man that I met at the reunion in St. Clairsville, Ohio 43950.

---

**Letter 13**

John C. Thomas
90 St.
Hattiesburg, Miss. 39401

July 28th.

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