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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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7-1-1975

## The Octofoil, July/August 1975

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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# THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Association Dues: \$5.00 per year - \$1.50  
will be earmarked to pay for the Octofoil

Volume XXX Number 4

July-Aug. 1975

## WORCESTER MEMORIAL NOVEMBER 9



General Westmoreland as he spoke at the Memorial Services in Detroit.

### EDITORS 'SOUND--OFF'

Some time when you have a moment or two to spare try the following experiment. Take out a rule and measure the number of inches of copy that are in each issue of the Octofoil. Then, sit down at a typewriter and try to knock out a letter that will take up one or two inches of space in the paper. You will be surprised to learn that it takes a hell of a lot of typewritten copy to fill up one or two inches of printed space in the paper.

After completing the experiment, you will have an idea of the problem that faces our Editors everytime we go to press with a copy of the Octofoil. Somehow or other we have to come up with enough copy to fill all the pages. You should see us scramble when we have pasted up all our copy and we still have a big blank space in the middle of the front page.

The moral of this little story is, Editors don't make news, they only print it. You, our readers are the people who make the news and we can't print it if you don't tell us about it. So please let us hear from you, we want to hear from you, your friends want to hear from you and your old First Sergeant wants to know if you are still following the good advice he gave you so long ago. So, "SOUND-OFF" in the Octofoil.

Before we conclude this plea for news, we would like to hand out a few gold stars to some of our faithful correspondents who always keep us up to date on what's happening in their area. For years John Bonkowski has been keeping us informed on the activities of the Michigan Chapter and his successor Jim Bruner is faithfully following the good example set by John. Helen and John Clouser always manage to get off a news-letter which keeps us up-to-date on what's happening in Illinois and Harry Orenstein our Broadway reporter keeps us informed about the activities of the wheeler-dealers from the big, broke town. Joe McKenzie writes about the 26th F.A. and other notes from New England.

We don't know what we would do if we didn't have the assistance of these faithful reporters, we certainly appreciate their help and hope that they will keep up the good work, and a special vote of thanks to those members who always find time to write a few lines when they send in their dues - so keep the letters and post cards coming.

**New York In 76**  
**July 22 - 24**

### Well Done

Three cheers for the guys and gals from the "Motor City". During the past year they devoted many long hours to the plans for the reunion. The Michigan Chapter went all-out in its efforts to provide an enjoyable time for the "Old Reliable" who would be attending the 1975 Reunion. Their hard work paid off, everyone had a great time. Somehow or ever, the committee even got the weatherman to co-operate. He provided three days of perfect weather, cool, a mild breeze, and bright sunny skies.

Broadway critics say that if you stand outside of a theater and observe the audience's reactions as they leave after the last act, you can tell if a show is a hit or a flop. We tried this trick

in Detroit. On Sunday morning we stood in the lobby and observed the "old Reliabilities" as they left for home. Everyone had a smile on their face and they all seemed a little bit reluctant to leave their old buddies. Before stepping out into the street everyone made one more circle of the lobby shaking hands with their old friends. All around the lobby you could hear people saying, "Had a great time, see you in New York". After watching this scene for about an hour or so, we concluded that the Michigan gang had produced a four star hit.

### Taps Sounded

We are saddened to announce the passing of two "Old Reliabilities."

Rev. William C. Phillips, Chaplain

John Callahan, 39th Inf.

Mrs. Elizabeth Phillips wrote "I regret to inform you of the death of Chaplain Phillips on December 30, 1974. He was happy and proud to have served our country in the Ninth Infantry Division. The Octofoil was always visible on the window of his car. Best wishes for a happy 30th reunion in Detroit and continued success of the Ninth Infantry Division Association.

To their bereaved we extend our deepest sympathy. May they rest in peace.

### Bicentennial Memorial Service

31st Annual Memorial Mass and Service for the deceased of the Ninth Infantry Division will be at the Immaculate Conception Church, Worcester, Mass. Sunday November 9, 1975 at 10:00 AM (Please note change in date to coincide with old date for Veterans Day)

If you are interested in receiving notification of this Memorial Mass, drop a note. Reverend Edward T. Connors, 353 Grove Street, Worcester, Mass. 01605.

For Room Reservations contact Francis K. Maher, 14 Davenport Street, Worcester, Mass. 01610. Tel-617-756-1803.

Free Buffet supper will be served by the Parishioners at Connors Coffee Shop, Saturday night (Nov. 8th). Sunday's Dinner will be at the Sheraton Lincoln Inn.

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 Division Road markers.

### Inn to Church

Leaving the Sheraton for the Immaculate Conception Church make a right hand turn on Lincoln St. until you see the marker No. 290 West. Take this for a short distance until the overhead sign reads Holden-Fitchburg. Exit here continue on until you come to the traffic light at the bottom of the hill. Proceed across the intersection and make a left hand turn. You are now only a short distance from the Church.

\*\*\*

### Tip of the Hat

The Memorial Fund was increased largely to the generosity of the members at the Detroit Reunion who contributed \$467.50. The Ladies Auxiliary also made a donation to the fund. The following members made individual donations.

Felton Jones  
Paul Angelillis

### LADIES AUXILIARY HOLD ELECTIONS

The Ladies of the Auxiliary were not to be outdone by the old soldiers and they held their business meeting along with a social on Friday afternoon. Rev. Gerald Rowan who is a Graphoanalysis entertained the "gals". This was followed by an election of new officers and the gals chose Lorraine Clark to again lead them for the coming year. Julia Netta was selected as back up or Vice-President. The secretaries position going to Lil Krasovetz and keeper of the funds the Treasurer will be handled by Phyllis Perna. Irene Tapp will take care of the spiritual needs and will serve as Chaplain.

The Auxiliary donated the sum of \$25.00 to the Scholarship Collection that was taken up at the Banquet on Saturday evening.

The Ladies presented Betty Rizzo with the first honorary Life membership of their organization. Her late husband John was a Life member of the Association.

### Travel Tips

For those coming from New York, Connecticut, Michigan, Illinois, Pennsylvania and the South. Leave the Mass. Pike at Exit No. 10 take the Worcester Expressway No. 290 leave Expressway at Exit No. 20. Overhead sign will read Burncoat-Lincoln St. This will bring you to a traffic light, proceed across the intersection to the next traffic light and turn left. You will now be in the 400 block on Lincoln St. A short drive on Lincoln St. will bring you to the Sheraton Lincoln Inn. The way will be marked with 9th Division road markers, keep an eye out.

If you are coming from the North on the Mass Pike exit at Millbury-Worcester Exit, after leaving ramp make a left turn into Grafton 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 Grafton 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.

For those coming from the North and East if you use 495 Exit at the sign reading 290 West. Proceed to the sign marked Exit No. 20, Burncoat & Lincoln. Make a sharp right turn and you are now facing a large building of the State

**THE OCTOFOIL**  
Form 3579 should be sent to 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087  
OCTOFOIL ASSOCIATED EDITORS Walter O'Keefe and Daniel Quinn.

Walter O'Keefe, President  
1858 Woodbine Street  
Ridgewood, Queens, N.Y. 11227

Vincent Gugliemino, 1st Vice-Pres.  
114 Charles Street  
Floral Park, N.Y. 11001

Francis Maher 2nd Vice-President  
Worcester, Mass. 01610

William Meadows, 3rd Vice-President  
Detroit, Mich. 48219

Harrison Daysh, Judge Advocate  
Kennsington, Md. 20795  
Thomas Boyle, Treasurer  
39 Hall Avenue  
Somerville, Mass. 02144  
Daniel Quinn, Secretary  
412 Gregory Avenue  
Weehawken, New Jersey 07087

#### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1976  
Michael Deresh, Woodridge, N.J.  
William Bongiorno, Bedford, Mass.  
William Hennemuth, Mt. Prospect, Ill.  
Oscar Richards, Wayne, Pa.

1977  
Walter O'Keefe, Ridgewood, Queens, N.Y.  
Everett Tapp, Dearborn, Mich.  
Dominick Greco, Tiltonsville, Ohio  
Anthony Chaconas, Washington, D.C.  
Paul Clark, Chicago, Ill.

1978  
William Klauz, New York, N.Y.  
Ralph Carci, Cheverley Manor, Md.  
Herbert Olsen, Randolph, Mass.  
Elmer Wagner, Bay City, Mich.  
Albert Perna, Philadelphia, Pa.

Board Member Emeritus

Maj. Gen. Louis A. Craig (Ret.)

Honorary Member Emeritus

Rev. Edward Connors, Worcester, Mass.

The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Single copy price is 25 cents per issue or by mail \$1.50 per year payable in advance when dues are paid. Dues are (\$5) per year with \$1.50 of the (\$5) earmarked for six issues of The Octofoil. Members should notify the National Secretary, Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. of any change in address.

Published six times a year, July-August, September-October, November-December, January-February, March-April, May-June by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News items, feature stories, photographs and art material from members will be appreciated. Every effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condition.

An extract from the certificate of incorporation of the 9th Infantry Division Association reads: "This Association is formed by the officers and men of the 9th Infantry Division in order to perpetuate the memory of their fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the division, to assist in promoting an everlasting world peace exclusively of means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to former members of the 9th Infantry Division."

Copy must be received on or before the 10th of each month to guarantee publication on the 20th. Photographs must be received on or before the 5th day of publication month.

Second-Class Postage paid at Union City, N.J. Authorized as of October 1, 1967.

July-Aug. 1975

Volume XXX Number 4

### NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dan Quinn, *National Secretary, 9th Infantry Division Assn.*  
412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, New Jersey 07087

Enclosed please find 1975 dues for:

Name..... Serial No. ....

Street Address .....

City.....Zone..... 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 ☐  
Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund..... ☐  
THREE-YEAR MEMBER .....\$13.00 ☐  
Life Membership .....\$50.00 ☐  
Octofoil Automobile License Disc.....\$ .50 ☐  
Decals, 25c; (5) five for .....\$ 1.00 ☐  
Ladies' Auxiliary Member .....\$ 1.50 ☐  
Combat Route Map.....\$ .50 ☐  
60th Infantry History.....\$ .50 ☐

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐  
Illinois ☐ Washington, D. C. ☐  
New England ☐ Michigan ☐  
Ohio ☐ Fayetteville - Fort Bragg, N. C. ☐

### SPECIAL RETIREMENT REVIEW

FORT MYER, VIRGINIA

27 June 1975

Today the Department of the Army, and the U.S. Army Military District of Washington, are proud to honor with this review the Sergeant Major of the Army Leon L. Van Autreve on the occasion of his retirement in recognition of his distinguished service to the Army and the nation and to welcome Sergeant Major William G. Bainbridge. Accompanying Sergeant Major Van Autreve in the reviewing party will be General Fred C. Weyand, the Chief of Staff, United States Army.

#### SERGEANT MAJOR OF THE ARMY

LEON L. VAN AUTREVE

Leon L. Van Autreve was born January 29, 1920 at Eekloo, Belgium. He entered the military service from Delphos, Ohio in August 1941. After basic training at Fort Belvoir, he served overseas with the 9th Infantry Division and participated in the invasion of Port Lyautey, Africa. He was discharged in August 1945 and enlisted again in March 1948. During the intervening years Sergeant Major Van Autreve attended Ohio Northern University.

After a tour in Germany from 1950 to 1954, he served as an instructor with the ROTC at the University of Toledo until 1958. From ROTC duty he was assigned to the CONARC Armor Board at Fort Knox, Kentucky, remaining there until reassignment to Korea in 1960. Upon completion of his tour in Korea, Sergeant Major Van Autreve returned to Fort Belvoir where he served as the Sergeant Major of the 91st Engineer Battalion.

From 1963 to 1964, Sergeant Major Van Autreve was stationed in Indonesia, 1964 to 1967 in Germany as Sergeant Major, 317th Engineer Battalion and 1967 to 1969 in Vietnam as Sergeant Major of the 20th Engineer Brigade. In July 1969 he became Command Sergeant Major United States Army Alaska. During his Army service he attended George Washington University, University of Toledo, University of Maryland and Alaska Methodist University.

In March 1973 Sergeant Major Van Autreve was selected by the Chief of Staff, U.S. Army, to be Sergeant Major of the Army. He was sworn in as Sergeant Major of the Army 1 July 1973.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? When it comes to pension and compensation there is a difference. Compensation is paid to a veteran to help compensate him for service-incurred injuries. On the other hand, pension is paid to permanently and totally disabled veterans for disabilities not traceable to war-time service. Both may be payable to veterans survivors. However, pensions, which are based on financial need, may be paid only if income does not exceed established income limitations.

**76 Reunion  
July 22 - 24**

NEW YORK

C Co. 15th Eng.

Warren W. Boulden, Jr.

107 Gilpin Avenue

Elkton, Md. 21921

During the latter part of June I received an invitation from the Chief of Staff of the United States Army, Gen. Fred C. Weyand to attend the retirement ceremonies of Sergeant Major of the Army Leon R. Van Autreve, held on June 27th Summerall Field, Fort Meyer, Va. Sgt. Van Autreve was a former member of "C" Co. 15th Engrs. and has served his country with distinction for 31 years. I have attached to this letter the ceremonial program which include a resume of the Army - Career of the Sergeant.

It was an impressive ceremony with the United States Army Band, the 3rd Infantry Regt., the Colonial Infantry and the Colonial Fife and Drum Corps, passing in review. At the close of the ceremonies Sgt. Van Autreve was decorated with the Distinguished Service Medal in recognition for his outstanding service to his country.

As a former member of the 9th Infantry Div. it gave me a warm feeling of pride to witness this ceremony. I do not know if there were other members of the 9th present and I am taking this opportunity to inform you of these events. Perhaps the Army would send you photographs and more information so that a feature article could appear in the "Octofoil" informing our members.

Co F 47th Inf.

Felton Jones

P.O. Box 7

Alapaha, Ga. 31622

Dear Danny:

Sorry I was unable to make the reunion in Detroit this year, but rest assured my thoughts and prayers will be of you and for you and all the gang.

I underwent surgery earlier in the year, but I am thankful to inform you, I am fine at the present.

Give my regards to all the gang and hope you had a great reunion.

Holders of the GI life insurance policies were reminded to check the type of policy settlement they have selected for their beneficiaries.

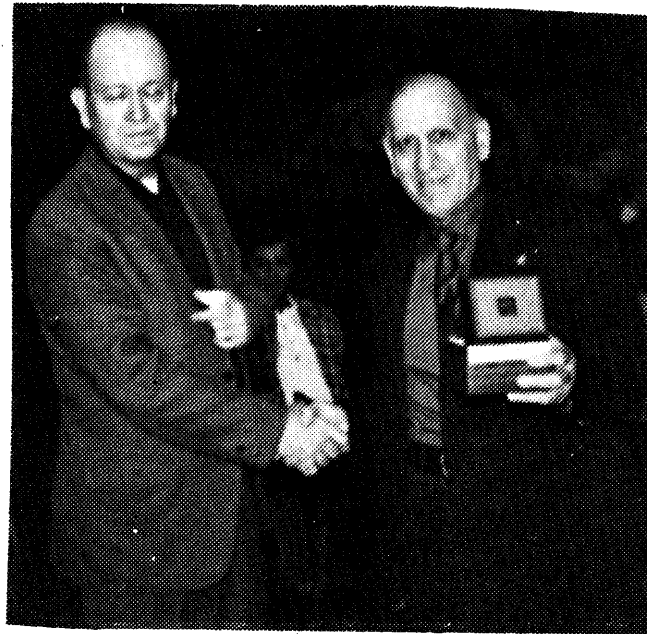
In many instances, the beneficiaries designated on GI policies are penalized following the veteran's death because of the mode of settlement selected provided for monthly payments over a period of years.

Other cases have come to light where veterans had chosen smaller monthly payments for life.

The VA urged GI policy holders to consider selecting the lump-sum payment option because generally this leaves the beneficiary with the privilege of taking the single payment or selecting monthly payments.



Tony Carmeci sent this picture taken the summer of 1974 shortly before the death of Leo Burdek shown second from the left. All former members of Company M 39th Infantry, they are left to right: Walter Siwiec, Leo, John Dudas, Tony Carmeci, Nick Asperger and Art Clark.



Past President Joseph Kearns presents gift watch to former secretary Dom Miele of the New York Chapter. The New Yorkers honored Dom when he retired after serving as secretary of the New York Chapter for twenty years.

# Business Transacted At Reunion

Minutes of the 30th Annual Reunion-Detroit, Michigan

The 30th meeting of the Ninth Infantry Division Association took place on July 25, 1975 at 1:15 P.M., in the Heritage Hotel, Detroit, Michigan. There being a quorum of 68 members present the President Richard Wilson called the meeting to order.

President Wilson asked the members to stand for a moment of silent prayer for the departed members of the Ninth.

The secretary Daniel Quinn then read the minutes of the 29th meeting that was held in Atlanta, Georgia in 1974. Upon a motion duly made by Michael Mysyk and seconded by Al Perna it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes and to instruct the secretary to place same on file.

The treasurer Thomas Boyle was called upon for his report and he gave a detailed report on the income and spendings of the past year. The treasurer concluded his report by stating "that in his opinion all bills of the association have been paid, the association is in good financial condition and the officers of the association are to be congratulated for their efforts in managing the affairs of the association. President Wilson thanked Boyle for his report.

Upon a motion duly made by Oscar Richards and seconded by Bill Bongiorno it was voted to: Accept the treasurers report.

## Scholarship

John Clouser Chairman of the Scholarship Committee was called upon for his report. This is a permanent committee consisting of Dr. David Heller and Frank Ozart, and chaired by John Clouser.

Clouser explained to those present at the meeting how the recipients are selected. They are all related to members of the Ninth and selected according to their academic ability and financial need. This year there were 13 applications but because of lack of funds in the Scholarship Fund the committee were limited to awarding six grants. This year the awards will go to:

Martin Feinberg, son of Irving Feinberg of 2nd Bn. 47th Inf. -- \$100.00.

Martin D. Goldstein, son of Edward Goldstein, B Co 60th Inf. -- \$150.00.

Kevin E. Sullivan, son of James Sullivan (Deceased) A Btn 26th FA - \$100.00

Julianne I. Wisniewski, daughter of Edwin Wisniewski, Sev Co. 47th Inf. - \$100.00

Patricia A. McGinley, daughter of Thomas McGinley, Can Co 47th Inf. - \$150.00

Laurel A. Wisniewski, daughter of Edwin Wisniewski, Ser Co 47th - \$50.00.

The Board of Governors at their Spring meeting approved the Committees recommendations and awards. President Wilson thanked Clouser and his Committee for their report. Upon a motion duly made by Robert DeSandy and seconded by Marty Krasovetz it was voted: Accept the report of the Scholarship Committee.

## Budget

Walter O'Keeffe Chairman of the Finance Committee was called upon for his report and O'Keeffe named these members who served with him on this committee: Francis Maher, Al Perna, Frank Ozart, Elmer Wagner and Thomas Boyle the Treasurer. The committee submitted the following budget for the year 1975-76.

Anticipated Income:	
Dues	\$4390.00
Invested Funds	1400.00
Reunion	500.00
Total	\$6290.00
Expenses	
Secretary's Salary	\$ 600.00
Clerical Help	600.00
Utilities	500.00
Postage	730.00
Octofoil	2830.00
Editors Expense	400.00
Supplies	200.00
Misc.	185.00
Secretary's Expense	350.00
Treasurer's Expense	250.00
Accountant	150.00
Board of	
Governors Meetings	200.00
Scholarship	
Committee Exp.	100.00
Printing	235.00
Dues Reminder	100.00
F.I.C.A.	35.00
Memorial Wreath	25.00
Total	\$7490.00
Deficit - \$1200.00	
Use Capital Fund	
Upon a motion duly made by John Clouser and seconded by Fred Josey it was voted to: Accept the budget as submitted by the Finance Committee.	
President Wilson thanked Walter O'Keeffe and his committee.	

## Newspaper

Oscar Richards Chairman of the Newspaper Committee then named the following members who served on his committee: Arthur Schmidt, Everett Tapp, Paul Clark, and Frank Morbitzer.

The committee discussed and recommends the following for the Octofoil.

1. Need more news. Each Chapter to appoint a member of their Chapter to represent their chapter and send material to the Editors for publication. Copy to be forwarded on or before the 10th of each month of publication and photographs to be sent the 5th of each month of publication. (Published six times a year, July-Aug., Sept.-Oct., Nov.-Dec., Jan.-Feb., March-April, and May-June)
2. The committee further recommends that the paper continue to publish the same amount of issues per year (six) plus the Red Line copy for those members that have not paid their dues for the current year.
3. Recommends that the finances be provided to keep up with the current costs as well as the anticipated increase expected in news items sent in by the various chapters.
4. The committee wishes to thank the Editors of the Octofoil for a job well done and extend their wishes for continued success. That the Editors Walter O'Keeffe and Daniel Quinn stay on the job for years to come.

Upon a motion duly made by Michael Deresh and seconded by Franny Maher it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the Newspaper Committee.

President Wilson thanked Oscar Richards and his committee.

## By-Laws

Harrison Daysh Chairman of the By-laws Committee named these members who served on this committee: Michael Belmonte, Edward Egan, William, Klauz and John Clouser. Daysh reported that the Committee does not recommend any changes in the By-Laws at this time.

Upon a motion duly made by Everett Tapp and seconded by Max Umansky it was voted to: Accept the report from the By-laws committee.

## Misc.

Paul Keller reported for the Chairman of the Miscellaneous Committee Anthony Chaconas and named the following members who served on this committee: Paul Keller, Bud Remer, Harry Orenstein, and Marty Krasovetz.

The following recommendations are submitted by the committee:

1. To keep the by-laws as they are now - as a closed membership.
2. Reunion grievance committee be established to settle any controversy with Hotel management regarding room rates, parking etc.
3. Continue with the policy of 2 year planning of selections sites for reunions.
4. Commend the Editors of the Octofoil-Walter O'Keeffe and Daniel Quinn on their efforts in publishing the Octofoil. Recommend that the same number of issues be maintained. Suggest a greater effort be made by the Chapters and individual members for sending news items to the Octofoil.
5. Suggest that the host Chapter for each reunion have a sign at the registration desk asking the members to wear their name tags or identification cards in order to help with their identifications.
6. Addresses be included with the name and unit that is posted on the unit registration board.
7. Encourage the members wives to join the Ladies Auxiliary. Might suggest to the members when they register to ask if their wives would like to join the Auxiliary.
9. All committee reports to be printed and copies to be given to Chairmen of the various committees at the reunion the following year for their edification.

Upon a motion duly made by George Brown and seconded by Bud Remer it was voted to: Accept the Miscellaneous Committee's report and recommendations.

President Wilson thanked the committee for their report.

## Nominating

President Wilson then called upon Robert DeSandy Chairman of the Nominating Committee who named these members who served with him: Louis Netta, William Bongiorno, William Klauz, Charles Koskie and James Bruner. Five members are leaving the National Board of Governors and this committee recommends their vacancies be filled by the following members: Albert Perna of the

Philly-Delaware Valley Chapter, Herb Olsen of the New England Chapter, Ralph Carci of the Washington D.C. Chapter, Elmer Wagner of the Michigan Chapter, and William Klauz of the New York Chapter.

President Wilson called for nominations from the floor and upon a motion duly made by Martin Krasovetz and seconded by Michael Belmonte it was voted to: Close the nominations.

Upon a motion duly made by Francis Maher and seconded by Emil Langer it was voted to: Instruct the secretary to cast one ballot for a unanimous vote.

President Wilson thanked Robert DeSandy and his committee.

William Termini was asked to stand and be recognized by President Wilson as Bill had traveled from Alaska to attend the reunion.

Harrison Daysh asked for a standing vote of thanks to the Michigan Reunion Committee for a wonderful reunion.

John Clouser briefed the members on the possibility of holding, in some future year, a reunion in Las Vegas.

President Wilson thanked John for his report.

Francis Maher addressed the meeting and told the members of the 31st Annual Memorial to be held in Worcester on November 8th and 9th. Open house will be held in Father Connor's school hall on November 8th and the Memorial Mass and Services at 10:15 A.M. November 9th.

Robert DeSandy Chairman of the Reunion asked the members to make early arrangements at the registration desk for seating at the Banquet on Saturday night. The members are requested to have their banquet tickets with them when they make the reservations.

Sergeant, John Haller, a member of the Ninth Division back in the forties and again a member now stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, spoke to the membership about the "New" Ninth Infantry Division.

President Wilson thanked Sgt. Haller for his remarks.

There being no other business to come before the membership and upon a motion duly made by Max Umansky and seconded by Walter O'Keeffe it was voted to: Close the meeting at 3:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel Quinn  
National Secretary

## Meeting National Board of Governors

Minutes of the 116th Meeting

The National Board of Governors met at the Heritage Hotel, Detroit, Michigan on July 24, 1975 at 5:05 p.m., attended by Messrs: Richard Wilson, Paul Clark, Bob DeSandy, Everett Tapp, Bill Bongiorno, Oscar Richards, Walter O'Keeffe, Mike Deresh and Anthony Chaconas. Also in attendance were Judge Advocate Harrison Daysh, Treasurer Thomas Boyle, Paul Keller, Francis Maher, John Bonkowski, Bill Klauz, Emil Langer and Fred Josey. President Wilson asked the members to stand for a moment of silent prayer for the departed men of the Ninth.

The secretary, Daniel Quinn, then read the minutes of the 115th meeting of the Board and upon a motion duly made by Robert DeSandy and seconded by William Bongiorno it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes and instruct the secretary to place copy of same on file.

Thomas Boyle the Treasurer was called upon for his report and Tom gave the members copies of the last quarter of the year and the income and spending for that period and the entire year.

Upon a motion duly made by Oscar Richards and seconded by Everett Tapp it was voted to: Accept the report of the Treasurer.

President Wilson then called upon the Reunion Chairman Robert DeSandy to bring the members up to date on events so far. DeSandy reported that the attendance was good with members still arriving. He also briefed the members on the coming events. President Wilson thanked DeSandy for his report.

The President then asked the following Board members to serve as Chairman of these permanent committees:

Walter O'Keeffe ...Financial Committee  
Oscar Richards ...Newspaper Committee

Anthony Chaconas ...Miscellaneous Committee  
Robert DeSandy ...Nominating Committee  
Harrison Daysh ...By-laws Committee

Oscar Richards made a motion to close the meeting and this was seconded by Everett Tapp: The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Minutes of the 117th Meeting

The National Board of Governors met at the Heritage Hotel, Detroit, Michigan on July 25, 1975 at 4:08 P.M., attended by Messrs: Richard Wilson, Paul Clark, Elmer Wagner, Everett Tapp, Anthony Chaconas, William Klauz, William Hennemuth, Oscar Richards, Al Perna, Bill Bongiorno and Michael Deresh. Also in attendance were Judge Advocate Harrison Daysh, Treasurer Thomas Boyle, Past Presidents John Clouser, Francis Maher, Emil Langer, Fred Josie and Paul Keller. President Wilson asked the members to stand for a moment of silent prayer for the departed men of the Ninth. Upon a motion duly made by Bill Bongiorno and seconded by Oscar Richards it was voted to: Dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 116th meeting of the Board.

Upon a motion duly made by Michael Deresh and seconded by William Hennemuth it was voted to: Dispense with the Treasurer's report.

## ELECT OFFICERS

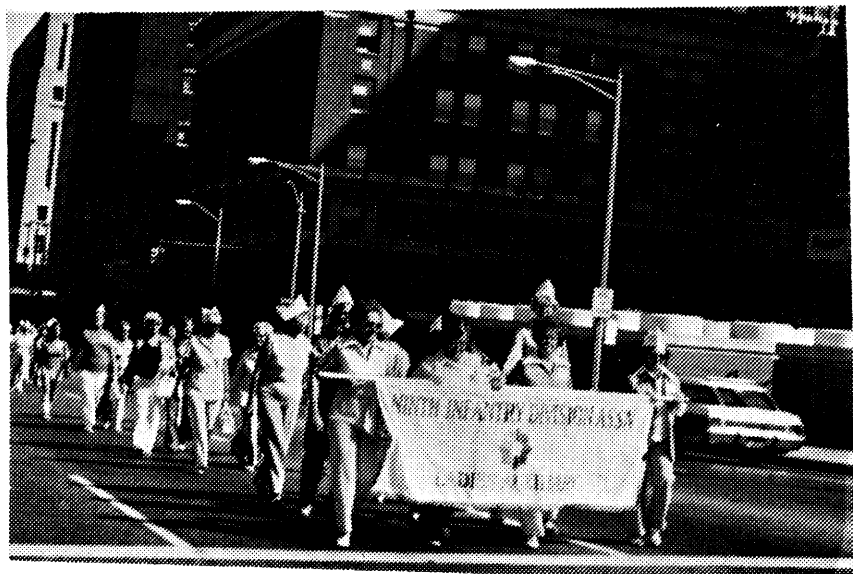
Election of Officers for the year was then held with the following members elected:

President ...Walter O'Keeffe  
1st Vice-Pres ...Vincent Guglielmino  
2nd Vice-Pres ...Francis Maher  
3rd Vice-Pres ...William Meadows  
Judge Advocate ...Harrison Daysh  
Treasurer ...Thomas Boyle  
Secretary ...Daniel Quinn

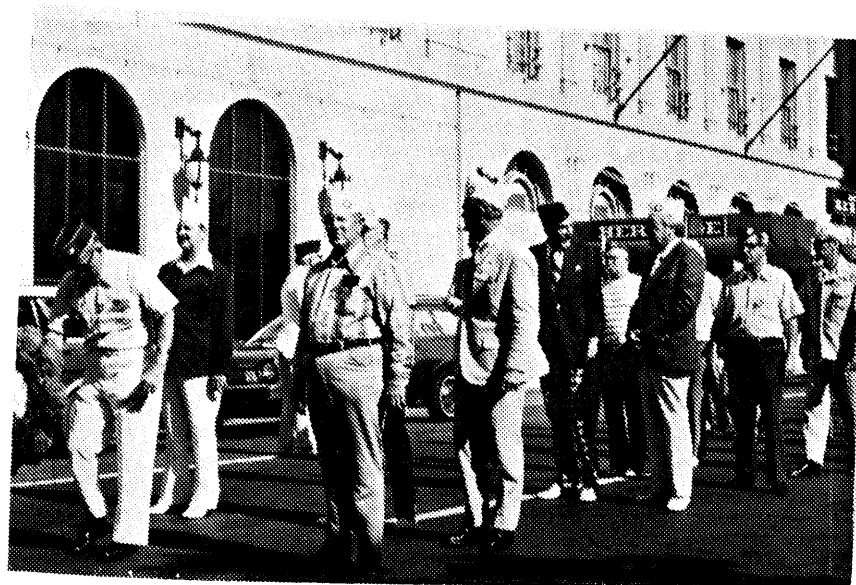
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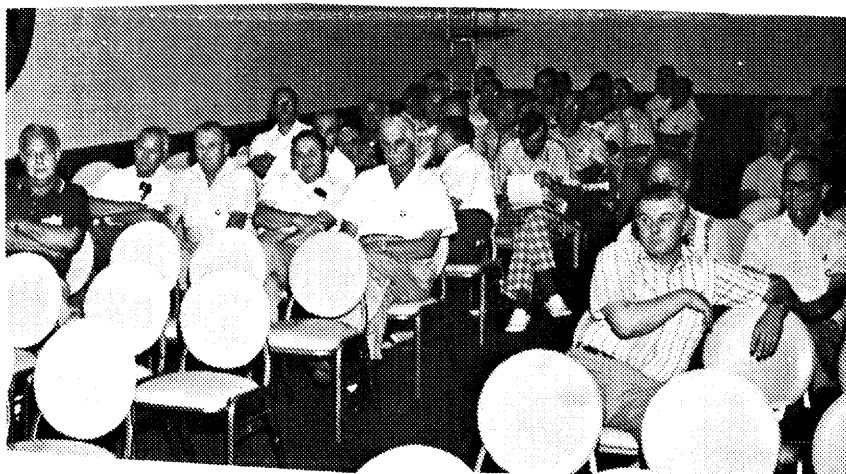
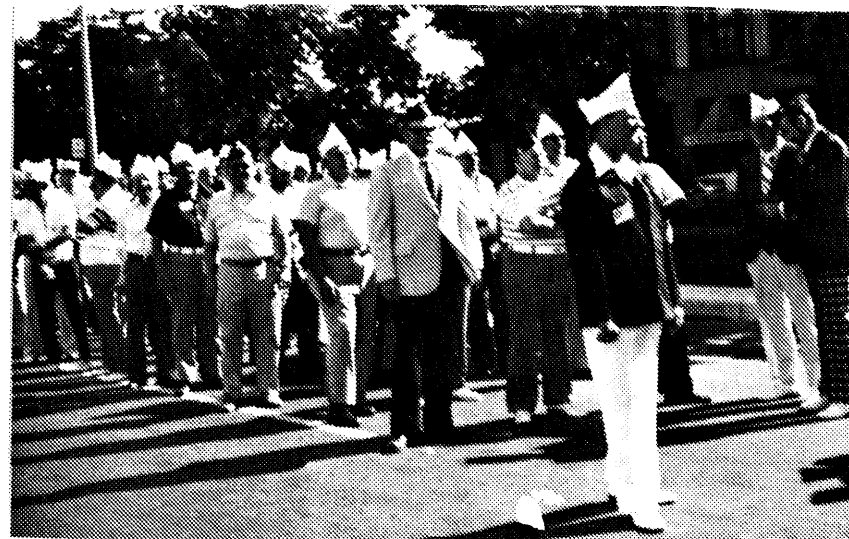
# REUNION SNAPSHOTS



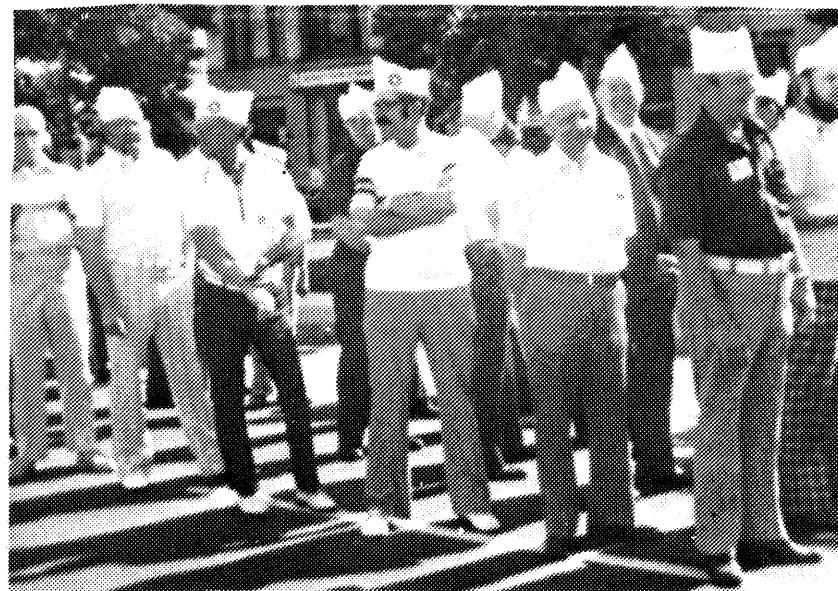
The "gals" following the troops to the Memorial site.



The gang keeping in step with the ever popular dance the "Alley Cat".



The business part of the three day reunion at the General Meeting.



The troops as they were waiting the start of the march to the Memorial Services.



Some of the New Yorkers with Otto Guyer from St. Louis, Missouri on the left next to Otto (l-r) is Betty Rizzo, George and Paula Bako, Mike and Nina Deresh, Max Umansky, Art Schmidt and Bill Klauz.



Pictured at a recent reunion at West Haven, Conn., a group of 15th Engineers L-R Ernie Newhart, Charlie Roberts, Jim Tamaso and Jerry Fasano. They made quite a hit when they appeared in the same outfits at the sing-along.

## Harry O's Corner

## NEW YORK CHAPTER

## IT WAS A GREAT REUNION IN DETROIT

When Bob DeSandy, Chairman of the Detroit Reunion put the best ingredients of past reunions together and added innovations there was only one logical conclusion to make - It was going to be a reunion that would long be remembered.

## BANQUET

Bob DeSandy was M.C. on Saturday evening. After a delicious dinner was served the speeches began. Bob thanked the Reunion Committee for the wonderful job they did. He introduced the principal speaker, L. Brooks Patterson, Oakland County Prosecutor. He delivered a very interesting and informative speech about the problems facing the community and how Oakland is coping with this grave situation.

General Westmoreland was the next speaker. He said the 9th Division was one of the best divisions, if not the best in W.W. II. He compared the 9th Div. in W.W. II with the 9th Div. in Vietnam. He stated that the 9th Div. in Vietnam had high standards and fought under different conditions, in alien terrain, jungles and swamps. They did what their leaders told them to do and they did well under these circumstances. Gen. Westmoreland was in a facetious mood when he mentioned Father Connors' qualifications as a soldier. He couldn't make Monsignor in the Army, but Gen. Westmoreland promoted him to an Honorary One Star General. Father Connors answered Gen. Westmoreland in the humor that he is famous for. He mentioned his first meeting with Gen. Westmoreland. He remarked he couldn't make Monsignor in the Army but he was now a One Star General. He reminded the audience that his Memorial Services will be held on Sunday morning, Nov. 9, 1975 at 10 A.M. at the Immaculate Conception Church in Worcester and that a Buffet Supper will be held Saturday night, November 8, 1975. All were invited. Other speakers on the dais who addressed the audience were: Dick Wilson, outgoing Pres., John Clouser, Dan Quinn and Walter O'Keefe, incoming President.

## HONOR OUR DEAD

Saturday morning we held the Memorial Services. We marched from the Heritage Hotel to the Veterans Memorial Building. Leading the way was a police car, followed by the Detroit Police band playing martial music and then the parade of men, women and children covering an area of five blocks. M.C. John Bonkowski introduced the speakers. Father Connors, Rev. Speers, Marcus Sciarappa, Gen. Westmoreland, Congressman Nedzi, Dick Wilson, Dan Quinn, Bob DeSandy and Father Rowan. Their theme was that we honor our beloved dead who laid down their lives for our country and that the sacrifices they made were not in vain. A 9th Division wreath was placed before the speaker's stand, taps were sounded and the Memorial Services were concluded.

## SING ALONG

Thursday evening was the Beer Party and Dance. We had a Sing Along. The band played and we sang the popular tunes of the pre-war era of W.W. II and continued to the modern music of today. A good time was had by all, thanks to the combination of the band leader of the peppy band and our talented M.C. Fred Josey.

## GAY 90's

An innovation was made at the Reunion when Walter Victor donated a watermelon to the chapter whom the audience thought sang the best song. The audience applauded after each chapter sang the song of their choice, especially when they recognized the singing potential of some of the chapters. The Philadelphia-Delaware Chapter came running into the Dance Hall in their Gay 90's bathing suit outfits amidst a tremendous roar of laughter from the audience. It was just wonderful to be present on this occasion to witness the enthusiasm of the audience when the singing chapters displayed their best efforts to win the coveted prize. This display of enthusiasm will always be remembered by those who were present at the dance. The contest had a surprise ending. No chapter won the prize. The watermelon was divided among the audience.

Friday night we had a dance and a Night at the Races. Saturday was the big day and the conclusion of a memorable reunion.

## Reunion Notes

Whenever mention is made of Great Reunions of the past, the Detroit 1975 Reunion will be recalled as one of the best.

Walter Victor, the official 9th Div. photographer, was everywhere taking pictures of the Reunion.

The Reunion members had an opportunity to visit Windsor, Canada and Greenfield Park.

Sgt. John Hallar of the old and new 9th Divisions addressed the membership at the General Meeting.

Bill Termini traveled all the way from Alaska to be at the reunion.

## New York Chapter Notes

We were honored to have Walter O'Keefe elected President of the 9th Division Association for 1975-76. Also elected to the Board of Governors were - Vincent Guglielmino - 1st Vice-Pres.; Dan Quinn - Secretary; William Klauz - to the Board of Governors.

George Baker received the N.Y. Chapter 'man of the year' award.

Marty Feinberg, son of Irving Feinberg was awarded a 9th Division scholarship.

We were happy to see Betty Rizzo who came all the way from Florida to attend the Reunion. Max Umansky from Florida and George Whitney from Georgia were also present.

Emil Langer made a generous donation to the Jack Scully Memorial in memory of Frederick Schupp father of Mrs. Mary Chiappa. This fund is part of the work of the New York Chapter and several scholarships are awarded each year to children of the men of the Ninth.

## 76 REUNION IN N.Y.

The 1976 Reunion will be held at the Statler Hilton, N.Y. City on July 22, 23 and 24.

## Q.M.'s NEWS

The following Q.M.'s were present:

Horace Abrams, Gene Berasi and his friend, Ernie Boggetti, Bill Palady, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hennessey, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Orenstein, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Pitzer, Mr. and Mrs. Andy Sinare, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Tapp and their family, Lt. Com. Dr. Stanley Primmer and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Primmer, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dexter. We sang Happy Birthday to Everett Tapp and wished him many happy returns of the day.

Andy Sinare kept the group continually laughing with his humorous stories.

We missed Margie Palady who is recovering from an operation. We hope Margie will have a speedy recovery.

The writer wishes he could always write good news but this is not always possible. We were shocked to hear that Aaron Alpert and Olen Baker had passed away. Our deepest sympathies to their families.

Yours truly,  
Harry Orenstein  
687 West 204 Street  
New York, N.Y. 10034

## ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWS

## LOT OF REMINISCING

The summer of seventy-five has been typically active for the members of the Illinois chapter. The monthly June meeting was held at the home of Paul Clarks in Chicago. Thirst Quenchers and lunch was served by Paul and Lorraine amid the making of plans for attending the annual reunion. A lot of reminiscing was generated by the Clark's gallery of 9th Division pictures and memorabilia which is proudly displayed in their family room.

## KUDOS TO DETROIT

The Old Reliables and their families from Illinois had a fine and memorable reunion in Detroit. The "Sing-a-Long", "Going to the Races", the dancing and the reunion banquet reflected good planning and were enjoyed by all. The impressive Memorial Service will long be remembered.

The Chapter C.P. room was a lively meeting place for old friends and the making of new friends. Chuck Koskie and Frank Ozart were responsible for obtaining the room and keeping it stocked with the inevitable supplies. Bud Reimer and Joe Lacic pulled K.P. duty for the duration of the occupation. On returning home, the marching shoes were a little thinner, the waist lines a little thicker and the hearts a little prouder for being a part of the Association. And we thank our good neighbors to the east for a great 1975 reunion.

## POST-REUNION ACTIVITIES

On Saturday, August 2nd the Winkelmans were surprised by many of their friends who helped them celebrate their 30th Anniversary of their wedding. Happy Anniversary, Georgina and Bob!!!

## LIVELY MEETING

The August meeting started out at Tedtmans restaurant but a prior commitment for the meeting room necessitated reassembling at the Koskie home. The comfort of their family room and the easy accessibility to Chuck's bar made for a lively meeting. The annual fall picnic was planned and will be at the Winkelmans on September 13th. President Bill Hennemuth reported that the Roger Elmers will host the October meeting and the Jerry Fajnor's volunteered to host the November meeting. The date of December 13th has been reserved for the Christmas Party. Treasurer Chuck Koskie is accepting any good ideas for replenishing the Chapter account. Another goal for this fall is to increase the attendance at all chapter events. So, Come Along, Illinois Reliables!!!!

Submitted by  
Helen Clouser

## MICHIGAN DOINGS

## MANY MEMORIES

The 30th reunion of the association is now history, but those of us who were in Detroit will have many memories of the occasion.

Michigan Chapter members and their friends and families attending were:

Maurice and Viola Mitchell  
Leon Broniewski  
Jim and Edith Dawson  
Hugh and Josephine Dunlop  
Robert Fuller  
Robert and Louise Hosking  
Leroy McQueen  
Jack and Barbara Robinson  
Everett and Irene Tapp  
Matt, Jennie and Jennifer Urban  
Tom and Gerrie Hatton  
Bill and Barbara Meadows  
Don and Helen Lewis  
Bill Andrews  
Carl and Mary Bunyak  
Leonard and Loretta DeBell  
Cole Gronseth  
John and Regina Herman  
Earl and Faye Hyde  
John and Betty Maule  
Tom and Lois Saunders  
Madam Rose Bush  
Tony Valeri  
Charlie and Charlotte Fox  
Gene and Phyllis Reedy  
William and Sue DeBruyne  
Jim and Audrey Bruner  
John and Rose Bonkowski  
Elmer Wagner  
Tony and Tootie Berdinski  
Floyd and Leora Hennessey  
Nick Gorno  
Vincent Temple  
Bob and Florence DeSandy  
James and Mary Hubbard  
Frenchie Bray  
Glen Baason  
John and Jane Young  
Fred and Jane Josey  
Frank A. Morbitzer  
John, Thelma and Denny Olermiller  
Bob and Maxine Cole  
Kleb and Viola Stockford  
Anthony and Amy Kuczeski  
John Zulkiewski  
Newton Fields  
Peter and Samira Essa  
Ed and Margaret Wisniewski and family

## Highlights from the Reunion -

Elmer Wagner was elected to a three year term on the National Board of Governors.

Bill Andrews, a very shrewd gambler, picked the most horses at the races and walked away with 4 bottles of champagne.

We were especially pleased that the publicity for the reunion, ably handled by Elmer Wagner, was successful in bringing in several new members for the Chapter. We welcome them and wish to extend a special invitation for all of them to join us at the meetings of the chapter.

Walter O'Keefe of the New York Chapter was elected National President of the Association.

Two daughters of Ed and Margaret Wisniewski were awarded scholarships from the national association. They will both be attending Oakland University in Rochester in the fall.

General William Westmoreland was with us at the reunion, and he surprised Father Connors on Saturday night by promoting him to One-Star General.

## SOUVENIR BOOKLETS

Souvenir Reunion Booklets are available for those who could not attend the reunion. Request one from the secretary, Jim Bruner, 3348 Southgate Dr., Flint, Mich. 48507.

The site for the annual Out-state Meeting of the Michigan Chapter will be selected at the August meeting.

## Cont from Pg. 3

## Meeting National Board of Governors

Outgoing President Richard Wilson presented the gavel to incoming President Walter O'Keefe and thanked the members for a "wonderful" year as head of the association. He asked the members for their support for Walter O'Keefe and wished Walter a most successful year. Walter O'Keefe accepted the gavel from Richard and thanked him for his efforts for the association. He asked the members for their continued support.

President Walter O'Keefe then called for bids for the 1977 Reunion Site. Four locations were submitted: Illinois from the Illinois Chapter, Philadelphia from the Philly-Delaware Valley Chapter, Fort Lewis, Washington by Sgt. John Hallar of the Ninth Infantry Division stationed there, and Las Vegas, Nevada. Fort Lewis had the majority of votes and this led to a heated discussion of By-laws, protocol etc.

William Hennemuth of the Illinois Chapter wanted it noted in the minutes "that the vote was not according to the By-laws of the association in that these bids were not submitted to the Board at the Spring meeting held in Pittsburgh." President O'Keefe informed the members that the minutes and By-laws would be studied by him - going back many years - and that he would call a special meeting at the end of the summer to determine the outcome of the selection of the 1977 site.

Upon a motion duly made by Oscar Richards and seconded by Elmer Wagner it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 5:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted  
Daniel Quinn  
National Secretary



## MAIL CALL

Co G 39th Inf

Robert J. Yoder  
303 E. Chippewa Ave  
South Bend, Ind. 46614

Sorry we could not attend the Michigan reunion. It was close to home too. Just settled a twelve week strike where I worked at the Torrington Co. Went back to work on Wednesday the week we had the reunion. Now I am retired, so I'm free at last.

Was sorry to hear about the death of Tom Shine. A sincere friend and leader of Company G, 39th Infantry. Tom would always look up all the buddies of G Company at every reunion. The trip to Europe in 1970 with Tom and his wife Margaret was a memorable experience we'll never forget.

Regards to all.

39th Inf

Homer Green  
1336 Anniston Ave  
Shreveport, La. 71105

I am sorry for not paying my dues and missing out on the Octofoil. It was just pure neglect on my part. I had a coronary occlusion in "70" and in October of 71 my Doctor told me to quit work so I did. So far I have been doing fair.

I sure hated to miss the series by Bill Kreye about the 39th. We were in the same Company. Enclosed find membership dues for three years. Sorry for being so negligent. Good luck to all.

Cos. A &amp; E 47th Inf

Joseph Williams  
1900 Holly Oaks Lake Road,  
East  
Jacksonville, Fla. 32211

Regret I was unable to attend the reunion this year due to conflict which involved my graduation ceremony at Fort Lauderdale, Florida on July 31st. I was awarded my Doctorate of Education by the Florida Board of Regents June 19, 1975 and received my diploma on July 31st.

It was such a thrill to be with so many of the old 47th friends and acquaintances last year in Atlanta. Sorry I had to miss this year. Please give my regards to all the guys especially Walter O'Keeffe and Emil Langer.

M Co. 47th Inf

Wilton Taylor  
Star RTE, Stop 6  
Lost Hills, Calif. 93249

Wilton writes to tell us how he travels by railroad and suggested that our members try this means of travel for it has improved greatly. We received his letter too late for the last edition of the Octofoil where Wilt laid out plans for traveling from the West Coast to the reunion in Detroit. He concludes "I was saddened to learn of the death of Sgt. Cannella of M Company. The last time I had seen him was in England 1944. Best wishes to all and I hope Dom Miele is in top shape again. Thanks for sending his address."

Editor's Note: We were with Dom Miele at the New Yorkers Memorial Service in Pinelawn National Cemetery back in May and we never seen Dom looking so well.

Earl Wilkey  
402 Calhoun Ave.  
Rome, Ga. 3161

Vince Guglielmino asked us to use this letter that he had received from Earl Wilkey. - "It's been 32 years since I last saw you. Well here's how it all started, I met Marty Bergman at the Ex POW's convention at St. Louis, Mo., in July 1975. Marty gave me General Randles address and I wrote to him. He sent me his book "Saf adventure" and told me Captain Smith was retired and living in North Carolina. Before I could write to him he wrote to me and said General Randle gave him my address. It was so good to hear from him. He sent your address and Sgt. Felton Jones. I am happy to know you all made it through with the 47th. I left Company F in Sicily and was transferred to Co. F-15th Infantry 3rd Division. On October 6, 1943 I was captured at Volturmo River in Italy. Boy was it rough. Was freed on May 3, 1945.

Marty sent me the Octofoil, I would like to join the 9th Division Association if I am eligible, my discharge shows Co F 15th Inf., 3rd Div., but my heart shows Co F 47th Infantry. I was proud of Co F 47th and had many friends. I was wounded at El Guettar. I know you'd remember that damn place. My good friend Joe Gwpa was killed the first day and I was hit on the 3rd day.

So good to know you made it, let me know if I can join the association. I wish you the best of everything.

Your old Company F friend.

Robert Mason  
2818 Garbett Avenue  
McKeesport, Pa. 15132

Robert writes to tell us that our old comrade Ted Matusik is in very poor health. Ted has a severe kidney ailment and on top of this is partially blind. To add to matters Ted's wife health is very poor and the people at the VA hospital made Ted an out-patient where he has to be treated twice a week on a kidney machine. She doesn't know how she can take care of him at home under the circumstances but when she explained to the VA-they told her he must return home and "everyone is trying to dump their men on the VA."

Do hope this finds you the best of health and I do enjoy reading the Octofoil, to keep up on the 9th Division. Thanks for everything.  
Ed's note: Ted's address: 3424 S. 57th Court, Cicero, Ill. 60650. Come on guys how about writing a few cheer-up lines to Ted.

Co F 47th Inf.

Chris Patterer  
227 N. Bedford Road  
Battle Creek, Mich. 49017

Chris sent in his dues and was hoping to attend the reunion in Detroit. April 5, 1974 he received the National Merit Certificate for Landscaping from the Kellogg Community College and was presented the award by Mrs. Nixon in the White House. Chris had some sad news and told us of the death of his wife Madge on March 17, 1975.

John Bonkowski  
19941 Hickory  
Detroit, Mich. 48205

It's over a month now since our reunion but the pleasant memories still linger on. It really was wonderful being together again and now we are looking forward to November and Worcester.

As you know "Cappy" and the Recon gang is meeting in Morgantown, Pa., on October 4th & 5th. I will not be able to make that "get-together" but I did write. In my letter I've enclosed another appeal to them for them to join us. Charles Neal missed our Detroit reunion will be there and I'll drop him a few lines if he'd talk to them in our behalf. (Since so many of the "Nomads" live on the East coast I've mentioned the Memorial in Worcester.)

Looking back we're grateful for the fine turnout and ideal weather. And of course we are delighted about the new members that joined the association.

Best regards to you and Marie and the entire association.

Co C 47th Inf

Wilson Langley  
Essex, Mo.

This year I visited Earl Bumgarner, in Waldo, Ohio and Lloyd Dyer, RFD, Jackson, Tenn. Enclosed is a check for three years dues plus a booster for the reunion. I am not certain when my membership is up so I take this opportunity to extend my dues for three more years.

Best of luck to all the old gang.

Co G 47th Inf

Reuben A. Hunt  
36470 Center Ridge Road  
North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039  
Viola M. Mennell

Reuben is on the move and advises the secretary of his latest change of address. He sends his regrets that he was unable to attend the reunion in Detroit and writes "I just had too many onions in the fire, on July 29th my daughter-in-law presented us with another grandchild, a baby girl, in 1973 this same couple presented us with a grandson and the first grandchild to carry the surname of Hunt. With this new addition to the family we have nine grandchildren to date. You may as well chalk up another "old reliable" whom has gone into retirement under the Social Security program, on May 1975, I reached the age of 65 and went on social security retirement. Good luck and good health to all.

Betty Rizzo  
11201 SW 55th Street Box 17  
Miramar, Florida 33025

Betty Rizzo attended the Detroit reunion and wrote "Just a note of thanks for taking care of me during the reunion. My John would have been so proud of his buddies for a job well done. Everyone was so nice it gives you a warm feeling to know you have friends who care. My flight home was beautiful. I met General Westmoreland at the Airport Sunday morning. It seems I was only on the plane with enough time for breakfast and I was in Florida. Nothing like those "big birds". Keep in touch and hope to see the gang in Worcester in November for the Memorial. Love to all."

9th Recon.

THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave Weehawken, N. J. 07087-

Second-Class Postage paid at Union City, N. J. Authorized as of October 1, 1967.

Al Bravin  
Hq. Co. 3rd Bn.  
47th Inf.

420 Fairview Avenue  
Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024

Dear Dan:

This is in reference to the article you had in the last issue of the Octofoil called "Traveling down the road of history." This same story appears in one of our books. In the third column it tells of a Mess Sgt. running into the rear of a column of Germans and capturing six PW's.

I thought after all these years I would like to tell the real story of what happened. First, the Mess Sgt. was me.

It was early in the morning and very foggy out. Sperling was our driver, Lyle Kelly my first cook, and still my dear friend, sat in the back of the jeep. We had all our 5 in 1 rations in the trailer.

When we reached the crossroads, we met some tank men who told us they were attacked during the night and to be careful going up the road. While talking, two Germans jumped out of the woods and gave themselves up. This shook us up as we had our backs turned.

I fully loaded the 30 caliber machine gun that was on the jeep and we started up the road.

As we drove along this foggy morning I noticed seven soldiers on the road. For a moment I thought they were GI's. When I realized they were Germans I waved the machine gun at them and ordered them to throw down their rifles. One hesitated and I thought for sure I would have to fire at him. Thank God he dropped his rifle. I then told Kelly to take over the machine gun while I removed their pistols and hand grenades. When I did this I noticed the road was black with marching troops about 100 yards ahead. I asked the German who the troops were, he told me they were Germans. I then told him in case they turned around I'd be his prisoner.

We threw the rations out of the trailer. Sperling turned the jeep around but got stuck in the ditch. He also was low on gas. I got the Germans to help get the jeep out. We loaded the Germans into the trailer and headed back to the crossroads. Once there I was able to get the tank men to hook up their field phone so that I could warn the Battalion that 200 to 300 Germans were coming up the road. I spoke to Capt. Petti who told me he got the message. While talking on the phone I could hear lots of firing going on.

General Smyth, then Col. came to the crossroad. I told him what happened. We waited for the fighting to stop. I showed him where we captured our prisoners. He removed the bolts from the rifles and threw them into the woods. We then headed to our company.

When one tells a person he was a cook or mess sgt., they think he had an easy job.

My cooks and I did patrol duty, carried ammunition to the front lines, carried the dead and were under heavy enemy fire many times. I'm sure other mess Sgts. and cooks did much more, it seems one never hears about it.

For the described action Lyle Kelly and Sperling received the Bronze Star. It seems somewhere along the line I was forgotten.

Enclosed is a copy of a paper put out while our outfit was in action. As you can see, like the story in our book on the history of the 9th Div., the full story or true facts haven't been told.

The accident that I was in took place in France where I had my nose and head split open, and also suffered pains in my knee which had to be operated on after getting out of the service. I didn't feel right after this accident and left the outfit February 5, 1945. Perhaps this was the reason I never got my Bronze Star.

Now that I got this off my chest, hope this finds you and your family in the very best of health.

Co K 47th Inf

Hubert A. Urban  
125 Park Avenue  
Chandler, Ariz. 85224

Hubert enclosed a check for three years dues and writes - "Enjoyed the March-April issue of the Octofoil, especially the article on the 47th. I was wounded in Cherburg on June 26th and after spending time in England rejoined Company K at Schevenhutte about the time the article in the Octofoil was continued. I am looking forward to the May-June issue. Some of the names are very familiar Lt. McWaters, Major Tanner. May be able to make contact with some of them after 31 years."

Co L 39th Inf

Floryand B. Oszusick  
1813 Ridgemoor Drive,  
Longbeach,  
Michigan City, Indiana 46360

Sorry I missed the reunion, but maybe you can send me a roster of people you have names and addresses for that belonged to the Ninth from WW 2.

I was in L Company 39th Infantry and the last time I had any contact with anyone was when I belonged to the Association back in 1956.

There is another friend that belonged to the 39th living in Michigan City but I don't know what company he belonged to. I was wondering if any of my old buddies from the East are still alive and possibly attending any of the reunions? If you could do this for me, it would be appreciated very much.

Cont. Pg. 2

Secretary to office manager: I've taken all the criticism of my work that I'm going to take! How do you spell "quit"?