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The Octofoil, January/February 1976

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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Recommended Citation

Ninth Infantry Division Association, "The Octofoil, January/February 1976" (1976). *The Octofoil*. 208. <https://crossworks.holycross.edu/octofoil/208>

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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 XXXI Number 1

Jan-Feb 1976

SPOTS OF INTEREST IN THE BIG APPLE

"New York, New York, it's a wonderful town." We all heard this song for years and the New York Chapter members are going to prove it this summer at the reunion on July 22-24th. Here are a few of the spots of interest while you are at "The Big Apple".

STATUE OF LIBERTY. The lady in the harbor is still the city's truest symbol. It is she who continues to welcome all those that make up the wonderful mix that America and New York are today.

STATEN ISLAND FERRY. Where else but New York City can you take a sea voyage for only a nickel (RT 10 cents)? The 20-minute cruise across the world's most exciting harbor is as thrilling today as it was when Edna St. Vincent Millay's merry lovers "rode back and forth all night on the ferry."

WALL STREET-LOWER MANHATTAN. As you walk through these steep-walled canyons, you can feel the power. "When The Street speaks, the world listens!" Today, with additions like the World Trade Center (two towers, each 110 stories!), the South Street Seaport "museum of ships" and the downtown branch of the Whitney Museum of American Art, the area is more dynamic, than ever.

CHINATOWN-LITTLE ITALY. Two of the city's most charming neighborhoods are two old, but completely different, cultures - living harmoniously side by side. Go to them for superb cuisine (at budget prices), colorful streets and shops.

GREENWICH VILLAGE. Today, it's really three separate places; the original West Village (with its historic landmarks, lovely town houses and small, friendly shops, theatres and restaurants), the Middle Village (more commercial and clamorous), and the upstart East Village (with its "head" shops, theatres and people).

EMPIRE STATE BUILDING. Can the paragon of all skyscrapers really be over 40 years old? Well, it is - but don't you believe for a minute that the "great inland lighthouse" is showing its age one bit. The sleek tower of steel, limestone and aluminum still looks as modern as tomorrow. Day or night, whiz to the top (1,250 feet!) to see and photograph New York City.

SPORT SHRINES. Madison Square Garden and Shea Stadium. Belmont Park and Aqueduct - you can't call yourself a sports fan if you miss them. Or you can get yourself out to Jones Beach, Rockaway or Coney Island.

ROCKEFELLER CENTER and RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL. One of the city's great gifts to the people, the Center is to New York what Piazza San Marco is to Venice. Stroll along the beautiful Channel Gardens, outdoor dine in the Promenade Cafe, listen to the free band music. And by no means miss the world's greatest entertainment bargain: a spectacular stage show; plus a first run film, in the world's largest indoor theatre.

NEW YORK'S RESTAURANTS. From basic "Nathan's" to the posh "21" from the established "Four Seasons" to the young and attractive Maxwell's Plum and Pub Theatrical, from sidewalk cafes to charming ethnic, bistros - the city's restaurants are truly "only in New York!"

NEW YORK'S STORES. Fifth Avenue, Herald Square, Union Square, the Upper East Side, along 34th, 57th and 59th Streets, down in groovy Greenwich Village and the Lower East Side (NYC's bargain basement). These are the hunting grounds. Shoppers, you're on your own!

Tip of the Hat

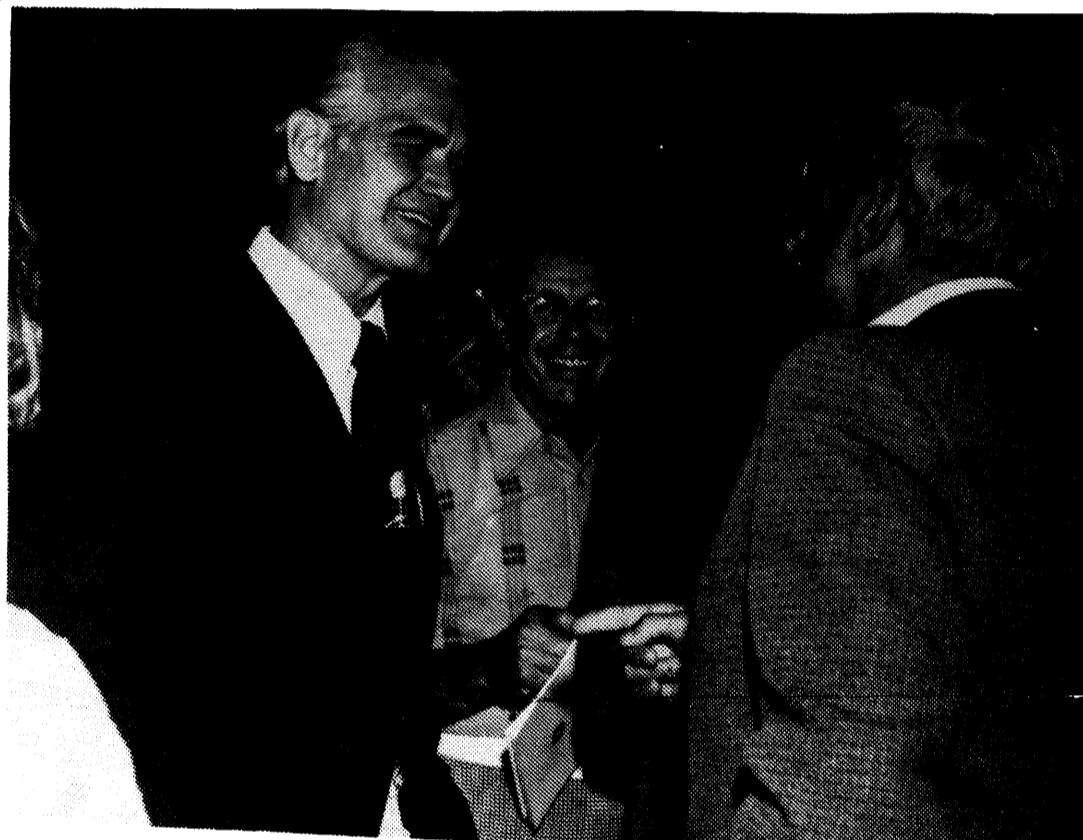
We always feel a great pride in the old timers who never forget the Memorial Fund and make a donation every year. Most of this money is spent on Scholarship awards for our members families and hope the youngsters receiving these awards are as grateful as we are to receive the donations.

Many thanks to:

**John Holick
Frank Machek
Paul Angelillis
Howard Heilman**

All of us are proud of these members.

Westmoreland Memoirs Hit Critics



At the 1975 Reunion in Detroit, General Westmoreland with the "old timers". Westy told us he would be in New York for the reunion and would autograph his book.

What went wrong with the American effort in Vietnam?

Gen. William Westmoreland, former field commander in Vietnam and later Army Chief of Staff, offers some answers.

"The absence of sacrifice by the American people except for those involved directly or indirectly made the war a sideshow," said the general, who has just written a book about his career, "A Soldier Reports" (Doubleday, \$12.95).

He also cites the "psychological defeat at home" because of the Tet offensive in 1968, an offensive that Westmoreland said should have been treated differently by the U.S.

BAD YEAR

"Nineteen sixty-seven was a bad year for the Communists, and so they lashed out, as Hitler did in 1944. But when the enemy is weakening, you don't decrease pressure, you increase it. The Tet offensive was a major political defeat for the enemy, and it was a psychological victory for the Vietnamese government. But it was a psychological defeat at home."

The retired 61-year-old general still looks like a perfect Hollywood reproduction of a World War II commander. His stance and posture are still worthy of the parade ground, and his prominent chin and bushy eyebrows continue to give the appearance of authority. Following his un-

successful race in South Carolina's gubernatorial primaries, Westmoreland devoted himself to board memberships in "a number of businesses" and spends his time between the U.S. and Europe.

While he is tough on his critics, Westmoreland heaps praise on the U.S. military men who fought in Vietnam and declares that "despite the final failure of the South Vietnamese, the record of the American military services of never having lost a war is still intact."

He is also kind to the South Vietnamese military leadership, and says of the Vietnamese people "they carried on the fight under a government that many Americans labeled unrepresentative repressive and corrupt. No people could have pursued such a grim defensive fight for so long without a deep underlying yearn for freedom."

What went wrong with the war, Westmoreland argues, was a series of "ill-considered" policy decisions, particularly the bombing halts.

"Washington timidity was an outgrowth of the advice of well intentioned but naive officials and of its effect on a president so politically oriented that he tried to please everybody rather than bite the bullet and make the hard decisions," Westmoreland writes.

The hard decisions that should have been made, in Westmoreland's view: U.S. military reinforcements sent to Vietnam after the 1968 Tet offensive; military operations into Laos and Cambodia that same year; the mining of Haiphong harbor combined with intensified bombing of North Vietnam.

"The North Vietnamese would have broken" had these proposals been implemented, Westmoreland argues.

Other "lamentable mistakes" were:

-Delaying so long in setting up a viable pacification organization in South Vietnam.

- Going so slowly in reequipping the South Vietnamese army, particularly with M-16 rifles.

-Failure to provide an international force along the demilitarized zone to prevent infiltration.

Westmoreland takes a swipe at the American press, particularly for the reporting of the Tet offensive that he says "created an aura not of victory but of defeat, and timid officials in Washington listened more to the media than to their own representatives on the scene."

The retired general defends his own strategy of attrition "even though that strategy has been in disrepute since the World War I battles of the Somme and Verdun."

New York In 76

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

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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.

Volume XXXI Number 1 Jan-Feb 1976

31st Annual Reunion
REQUEST FOR SPACE
IN SOUVENIR PROGRAM

Attached is copy for an ad in the color-printed 1976 New York Reunion of the Ninth Infantry Division Association Program.
Full Page \$40.00
Half Page \$25.00
Quarter Page \$15.00
One Eighth Page \$7.50
Booster ads - \$1.00 name and unit

Send all copy, checks and money orders to the New York Reunion Committee, Ninth Infantry Division Association: Mail to Ralph Witzken, 100 Stonehill Road, Springfield, N. J. 07081

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Enclosed please find 1976 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.

*****Taps Sounded*****



Harry Orenstein. He is gone and we shall miss him.

Being the bearer of sad news was never an attribute of ours and when it comes to writing about the demise of our comrades it more than "shakes us up". It is our unpleasant duty to announce the passing of several "Old Reliables" to be added to the last roll call.

Harry Orenstein, 9th Q.M.
Ted Matussek, Co. M, 47th Inf.
Frank Gizarelli, 47th Inf.
Benny Hammett, C Bty. 376th AAA
Mortimer A. Greene, Co D 47th Inf
May they rest in peace. On behalf of the membership we extend our sympathy to their loved ones.

Mail Call cont

Co. E. 60th Inf.
Charles V. Snyder
597 Riverside Drive,
Battle Creek, Michigan 49015
Dear Dan,

Please excuse the informality from a member who has never had the pleasure of meeting you in person, but, since reading the Octofoil regularly since joining the Association a year ago, I feel I have come to know you that well. I joined the Michigan Chapter last November, after reading the local paper and discovering the fact that they were having a regular outstate meeting in Battle Creek. Although in attending, I found no one I had served with in Germany, I enjoyed meeting the fellows and their wives. They certainly did everything in their power to make my attendance enjoyable.

Enclosed you will find a check for three year membership and some decals. License Disc, and Combat Route Map and also the 60th Inf History. I am proud to have served in such an excellent outfit as Easy Company 60th from October 1944 till August 1945. I would certainly enjoy hearing from any of my old friends who served in the company with me. Especially Ron Slough from West Va., who was my fox-hole partner for so long and joined the company the same day. He was my good luck charm, as I hope I was his, during those trying days we spent in the company. You see as long as we stayed together we never had the misfortune to get hit. We looked after one another pretty good. Recently, while reading my companies paper, "The Patriot" having been a John Hancock Life Insurance Agent for the past 15 years, I came across a picture of My old platoon Sgt. Alvin Heaps. I am glad to see he is progressing to the top of his chosen field. I had the opportunity to talk with him personally several years ago in my town when he was here on business. I always was sure he would do well, as he was a fine, and courageous leader in combat.

If it is possible, I would appreciate finding a copy of the Division history. I understand they are extremely hard to come by, but would sure like one.

Well, I'll close now, hoping to hear from any old buddy, especially anybody living in my area, hoping this letter finds all well.

P.S. Couldn't Sleep tonite if I didn't tell you how much I enjoyed reading, Traveling Down road of History in the Sept-Oct 1975 edition. Sure brought back memories, that, although enjoyable now, I'm sure I would not want to go through it again. Well Written.

Our "little friend" Harry Orenstein passed away on February 27th and the New Yorkers turned out to pay their respects. Harry had served on the National Board of Governors and as President of the New York Chapter.

Harry was active in many organizations but the Ninth Division Association was his "first love". No matter where Harry would be he would take time to send a card to his pals. I'll never forget a Board of Governors meeting held in Washington, D.C. back in the 60's and we had invited Generals Smythe and Craig to attend. The secretary was running about getting the room in order, for we never did break bread with the "higher brass" and here we have two of the Greats coming to our meeting. Here's Harry sitting in the foyer of our suite writing cards to his "boys" and the secretary is climbing over him running back and forth trying to tidy up the room. Ole Harry wasn't a bit concerned. General Eisenhower and the President of the United States could have been on his way and this wouldn't shake up Harry.

Harry was a few years older than most of us and I suppose that's the reason he always called the guys - "his boys." Back in Sicily in 1943 the outfit released the members that were over the age of 38 but Harry chose to stay with the Ninth. The Division had some 18,000 men and we would venture to write 17, 955 guys would have jumped at the chance to get out and go home.

We shall miss him in many ways. He kept the Octofoil supplied with newsy items and made the Editors chore a lot more easy.

His many friends in the Association will be saddened to learn of his passing and his old buddies of the QM have lost their group leader.

To his wife Judy and his sisters and brothers we extend the heartfelt condolences of the members of the association.

Harry's widow, Judith Orenstein, lives at 687 West 20th Street, New York, N.Y. 10034. We know a lot of members would like to write to her.

On February 7, 1976, Ted Matussek died following a lengthy illness. Many of the Illinois Chapter members gathered to pay their final respects to their comrade and to offer condolences to his dear wife, Rose.

Ted served on the Board of Governors of the association in the early years of the organization and was an active member until poor health interfered with his activities.

VETERANS GRAVE MARKERS AND HEADSTONES - A headstone or marker to identify the grave of a deceased veteran is available from the federal government. The family of a deceased veteran may obtain the headstone or marker providing the veteran's last period of service terminated honorably.

REQUEST FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
July 21 - 24, 1976

NEW YORK Statler Hilton
Front Office Manager
7th Ave., 32nd Street, N.Y. 10001

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP
FIRM NAME
ARRIVAL DATE HOUR AM PM
DEPARTURE DATE HOUR AM PM

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED
Not later than 2 weeks prior to opening date of convention and will be held until 6 PM on day of arrival unless later hour is specified.

CONVENTION	ROOM	RATES
	Singles:	22.00
	Doubles-Twins	28.00
	Triples:	32.00
	Quads:	38.00

McKenzie's 26th Field

Joe McKenzie
95 Washington Avenue
Waltham, Mass. 02154
26th F.A.

Gentlemen:

May each and every one of you have a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

TRAVELING

At the start of a New Year we do a little dreaming of what we would like to do during the year. We should give some thought to protecting our health and conserving our energy. All of us traveled many thousands of miles at the expense of Uncle Sam. There are yet many places to go and much to see, so some of us will keep a watchful eye on travel posters and advertisements. Others will watch fashion pages for the proper clothes for our four seasons. Then there are those of us who every year look forward to our convention and Memorial Mass. What ever you do, wherever you go, be careful.

One of the nice things about our double Holiday Season is the sending and receiving of Christmas cards. These pretty acknowledgements of friendship brighten the spirit and atmosphere of many homes. Always an unexpected one arrives from a long lost friend.

GREETING CARDS

During the past Christmas Season the mailman left 47 Christmas cards at my door. Most of them were from members of Service Battery, 26FA Bn. The rest were from Ninth men whom my wife and I met at the many conventions that we have attended. It is great to know that after thirty years the old gang remembers one another.

Mrs. Dorothy Fry added a note to say that Harry had a stroke last September. He has fully recovered and should be back to work by the time you read this note.

Dick Hill sent some illustrated literature about his place of employment. It is a posh restaurant and club in Dallas named The Greek Key. There must be some men in the Dallas area who might like to talk over the old Ninth with Dick.

Mrs. Jo An Wallace added a note to say that she and Harold are grandparents for the second time. Both are enjoying good health.

Jim Newton who left us at Ft. Bragg to attend Quartermaster OCS suffered a heart attack and retired from Bay State Abrasive Company.

Carlo Natalini who left us at Bragg, to attend OCS Medical Administrative writes from Denver. Work schedules prevent him from coming East. His son is in his last year of teaching at West Point.

Mrs. Lois Griffin and our Paul celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a trip to the Bahamas. Three of their boys attend Kent State Univ. which is twelve miles from home. Their youngest child is in the 8th grade.

FREE MAN

Mrs. Cora Williamson gave a thumb nail sketch of their lives since we last saw Cecil. First job after being a free man was as a mechanic and service manager in a Chevy agency in Albert Lea, Minn. In 1954 they bought a 240 acre farm. Long hours, hard work, good weather, good crops, good health and belief in God provided a good living. Approaching that age and thinking of retirement they sold the farm. It did not work. Cecil got restless and went back to work.

PLAN FOR REUNION

So while you are thinking of bowling scores, golf scores, ball games and vacations make sure that somewhere in your thoughts you make plans for the summer convention in New York City and the 32nd Annual Memorial Mass in Worcester during November 1976.

NOW HEAR THIS

James C. Hennelly, Hdqts and B Bty 26th FA, of 25 Maple Avenue, Newton, Mass., retired from the Post Office during the Christmas Holidays.

Victor A. Campisi, 60th Infantry, 20 Cutter Avenue, Somerville, Mass., was promoted to Personnel Assistant-Employee Personnel Office-Post Office Department Boston. Have a good year.

NEW YORK CHAPTER

President Emil Langer opened the meeting with a moment of silent prayer for our departed comrades.

The Chapter Board of Governors met with Emil Langer and Frank Fazio presiding. Board members present were Harry Kaplan, Irving Feinberg and Frank Fazio. Fazio reported that the meeting dates will be set up after he checks with a calendar to see that there is no conflict with Jewish Holidays. Memorial Services will be held on May 22, 1976 at Long Island National Cemetery. There will be no spring dance.

Irving Feinberg, Treasurer, distributed copies of his financial statement to the members. Irving was given a round of applause for a good report. The report was accepted.

Langer reported that Frank Gizarelli of the 47th Infantry Regiment had passed away.

JOURNAL

Ralph Witzkin, Chairman of the Reunion Journal, reported that he had started to receive ads for the Journal. He asked that members work on getting ads and boosters.

PLANS FOR REUNION

Reunion Chairman Emil Langer and Co-Chairman Frank Fazio reported on the progress of plans for the Reunion. Two dance bands have been hired. Also, arrangements for parking have been made for \$4.00 a day. Members intending to bring their cars should notify Langer by July 1, 1976.

William Klauz is working on getting things to be given out at the Reception Desk.

Edward Tobin spoke on ways to recruit new members, saying that there are many former 9th men who are not even aware of the Association.

The Dark Horse Prize was won by Henry Dietrich. Harry also reported that there were 19 members present despite the heavy snow storm we just had. Thomas Lashmits, an author, was again present collecting material for a book he is writing.

Everyone then proceeded to the fine buffet table set up by Frank Fazio and John Parisi.

Art Schmidt

76 Reunion July 22 - 24

NEW YORK

THE THEATRE. The N.Y. Theatre today is all over town - off-Broadway, as well as on, and up in Lincoln Center. There are Joseph Papp's Public Theatre on Lafayette Street in the East Village, the Brooklyn Academy of Music, and the new hits of Broadway.

Michigan Doings

The February meeting of the Michigan Chapter was held at the home of Ed and Margaret Wisniewski, 7576 Gratiot Road, Richmond, Michigan. Ed had the road marks out so the members would be sure to find the place. He had Octofoils all over the town.

The Christmas Party was hosted by Fred and Jane Josey, and on that festive occasion the following were in attendance:

Fred and Jane Josey, Al and Jane Young, Maurice and Viola Mitchell, Bob and Florence DeSandy, Bill and Lucille Andrews and Susan, Everett and Irene Tapp, Floyd and Leora Hennessey, Ed and Margaret Wisniewski, Elmer Wagner, John and Rose Bonkowski, Bill and Barbara Meadows, Tom and Gerrie Hatton, Audrey Bruner, Ernest Young, John and Thelma Obermiller, Don and Helen Lewis, Kleb and Viola Stockford.

Everett Tapp reported on the Board of Governors' Meeting in Worcester. The 1977 reunion will be held in or near Chicago.

We will certainly miss Maurice and Viola Mitchell who moved to Florida in December. With all this snow we would like to be with them. Their new address is:

291 Islander Lane
Hudson, Florida 33568

Drop them a line.

The Michigan group are planning to be out in numbers for the New York Reunion. For the last few reunions they have been chartering a bus for the journey. The Chapter members are always out in front to support the Chapter that is host for the reunion.

A recession is when your neighbor is out of work. A depression is when you're out of work.

Philly-Dela.

C. Troccoli
1106 Chestnut Ave.
Woodbury Hts. N.J. 08097

Evening of Toasts

Wedding bells were ringing at our last meeting. A champagne toast to the newlyweds, Mr. and Ms. Duco Boden who were married Dec. 27. Jacqueline and Duco make their home in Chester, Pa. Another toast this time to the proud Grandparents Lydia and Paul Lisa. Their daughter, Marie, gave birth to a 7½ pound boy on Dec. 23, his name of course, Christopher. Mother, baby, and grandparents are doing fine. Would you believe another toast this time Mr. and Mrs. John Sabato announced the Engagement of their daughter Joanne.

Our meeting attendance was 34, a great way to start the New Year. The New Grandfather Paul Lisa won the door prize. The new business is a Valentine dinner dance to be held at Walbers on the Delaware, Essington, Pa. on Feb. 20.

A BALL

Connie and Oscar Richards spent a few weeks in Hawaii and had a ball. Both hold high offices in the Penn. D.A.V. Betty McDougall made the meeting, everyone was glad to see her, so we drank another toast to her good health. Dick Wilson makes the best punch in town, so say the girls! This was our last meeting in Woodbury, Ann and Dick are moving to a new home in Wenonah, N.J. Members will be notified of future meetings.

FEBRUARY MEETING

Tony Suprano was our Host for our Feb. meeting.

Our Valentine dinner party, was one big birthday blast. Our chapter sweetheart's Anna DeCeasare, Edie Tomassone and Ann Wilson were celebrating. Happy Birthday you beautiful people. Dick Wilson banged his head at work and missed the meeting. Last word is that he has one big headache but otherwise O.K.

THE MEMORIAL FUND OF THE 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION Scholarship Information

The Memorial Fund of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was established by the members of the association to commemorate the memory of their comrades who paid the supreme sacrifice in battle. As a part of this fund the association established a scholarship program. Scholarships are awarded each year to relatives of men who served in The Ninth Infantry Division. Each scholarship is for one year.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

A person who wishes to apply for a scholarship must be related to a man who served with The Ninth Infantry Division. Children of former members of the division will be given first consideration, but children of men killed in combat given first preference. Applicants who are not children of former members of the division will not be considered unless no child of a former member qualifies.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The following procedures must be followed by those wishing to apply for the scholarships:

1. Send a letter of application, written in expository form, to the chairman of the scholarship committee stating the following: name, address, age, and sex of the applicant; name, address, and occupation of the applicant's parents or guardians; the name and address of the secondary school the applicant is attending or has attended and graduated; the name and address of the college the applicant expects to attend; the vocational goal of the applicant; and the name of and degree of relationship to a former member of the division. The unit and dates of service in the division of the former member must be included.
2. A transcript of the applicant's high school record must be included with the letter of application. The transcript must include at least the first seven semesters of the applicant's record.
3. The applicant must have a counselor or principal of the high school he or she is attending write a letter of recommendation to the chairman of the scholarship committee.
4. The applicant must take the PSAT which is given every October. The applicant must see that the results of the PSAT are sent to the chairman of the scholarship committee. These results may be included with the high school transcript or sent to the chairman from the College Entrance Examination Board. The SAT of the CEEB may be submitted in lieu of the PSAT. THE APPLICATION MUST BE SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE BY MARCH 15. Applications received after March 15 will not be considered.
5. All applicants must accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.
6. Information to determine financial need will be requested by the Scholarship Committee after the applications have been considered.
7. Recipients of the scholarships may apply for renewal of the scholarship each year. A copy of the student's college grades, a financial statement, and a letter requesting renewal of the scholarship should be sent to the chairman by March 15.
8. All applications must be sent to: John J. Clouser, Scholarship Chairman, Ninth Infantry Division Association, 901 Graceland St., Des Plaines, Illinois 60018.

All talk is of the coming Convention, Phila. plans to make a large attendance. See you all next month.

ILLINOIS CHAPTER

Mr. & Mrs. J. Clouser
901 Graceland
Des Plaines, Ill.
60018

WESTYS BOOK

As I was sitting with notebook in hand on a cold January morning, pondering the Chapter News and getting my notes in order, I chanced to flip on the Today Show. And there on the screen appeared General Westmoreland discussing his recently published book, A Soldier Reports. It certainly sounded like a fascinating book, and thanks to the good General he provided an instant idea for hubby's birthday gift. I recall discussing this publication with the General at the reunion banquet in Detroit and expressed hope that he'd be at the New York reunion to autograph our copy. So, Father Connors, bring an extra supply of Coffee Shop pens!

Party at Joe's Place

Preparation and plans for our annual Christmas Party were made at the November meeting which was hosted by the Jerry Fajnor. Joe and Ceil Lacie were unanimously volunteered to open the doors to their lovely home on December 13th. The largest number in a good many years came laden with gifts and goodies to celebrate this festive season. Lorraine Clark distributed Christmas Cookie Cookbooks to all the ladies. We have to keep our guys sweet.

Following lots of socializing, the traditional "White Elephant" game was played and tons of packages were distributed to the lucky dice rollers. Then Joe and Gail introduced a new parlor game. The skill and coordination required proved to be a real challenge for the participant and great entertainment for the spectator. The winners of the mens division resulted in a tie between Dave Heller and Ted Preston. The undisputed champion of the women was Beryl Pappas. The evening ended with a delicious buffet served by Ceil.

Plans for '76

The first meeting of the new year was held at Tedtmens. Chuck Kiskie made it to the meeting in spite of a couple of broken ribs he suffered in a snowmobiling mishap. His treasurers report showed a substantial increase. Appreciation for the turkey contributions and good salesmanship for the November raffle was expressed.

The troops will be going to the Chicago bright lights for the February meeting. Members will be notified of the time and place when arrangements are completed. The March meeting will be at the Elks Club in Palatine. Bob Winkelman is arranging for a fish dinner to be served for this special meeting. It's pretty certain that the winter doldrums are not affecting this lively group.

"Chip Off The Old Block"

Jean and Cas Pawelek's Christmas note included some good news. Their son, Jim, has been promoted to Captain. Jean was privileged to pin on his bars at this Fort Sheridan ceremony. This was an especially proud occasion for Cas to have his son follow in his footsteps. "Captain Cas" is going to retire this spring and we hope that the additional time and rest will enable he and Jean to return to activities with the chapter.

MAIL CALL

Peter A. Radichio
1427 15th Street
Santa Monica, Calif. 90404

Co. B 9th Medics
& Med. Hdq. 39th

I was very happy to make the trip to Father Connors' Memorial Mass in Worcester, Massachusetts. I was extremely happy to meet a friend that I used to work with and met in Fort Bragg. So many years went by. I met this friend, Leonard Forand, with the 84th Field. This was 25 years ago or more. Yes, if you want to meet someone, the place is Father Connors Coffee Shop.

Also, I met my dear friends, Jack and Eva Wilson, from Florida; Vito Splendorio and his wife, Vinnie, from Long Island; Ben Murrel and his lovely wife, from Hudson, New York; Al Cook and his lovely wife, and many many more friends. It's always a joy for me to travel from Santa Monica, California to Worcester, Mass.

I would like to add that Miss Joyce Tepper visited an aunt at a nearby hospital which was a half block away. Being that it was so close, she stopped in to say hello. I was very happy to meet her, and of course, we talked a while and both agreed that the 9th should have a convention in California. How about that for a future suggestion? Let's get behind it-it can happen.

I would like very much to say hello to a member of B Co., 9th Medics, who is living in Vienna, Austria, Edward Rhoads. If I remember correctly, I think he was one of my ambulance drivers when I was Motor Sergeant for B. Co. I'd like to say hello from the gang. Good Luck!

May I yell out loud for the coming convention, the 1976 Bicentennial. I hope to see as many members of my old outfit (Co. B, 9th Medics) as possible. I'd like to see a damn good turnout. I promise I will be at this convention. I'm travelling from California, and my friends from Florida will be there. So you guys around the metropolitan area make sure you get your butts there! I would like very much to be with you. Let's have a good "pill roller" turnout!

I am terribly sorry to hear about John Callahan-a great guy. The last time I saw him was a couple of years ago at Father Connors Coffee Shop with his lovely wife. May he rest in peace.

I don't know what else to write, but I wanted to make this important plug to my 9th Medics men-the convention. Take care, keep well. I hope to be in New York for the three-day convention. I hope we have a tremendous turnout.

Company D 39th Inf.
Edward Lewis
1841 So. 51 Ct.
Cicero, Ill. 60650

Sorry to be a little late with my dues, but I have been on "Sick Call" recovering from a hernia operation. Everything's coming along fine. Enjoy reading the "Octofoil" it sure brings back old memories. Tell all the gang I was asking for them.

Co. D 47th Inf.
Ronald E. Frank
R.D. No. 1 Box 122-D
Leechburg, Penna.

Sorry to pass along the sad news that Mortimer Greene died on November 4, 1975. Mort served with Company D of the 47th. His widow has a problem collecting burial benefits because she can't find Mort's discharge papers. Maybe some of our members could help her in this matter. If anyone knows his serial number or has any other information that can help Mrs. Greene please send it along to her.

Enclosing my dues for 1976 and send my regards to all the gang.

Ed's note: Our Secretary supplied Mrs. Greene with Mort's serial number, etc.

15th Eng. and Div. Hdqs.
Jordan Bierman
779 Park Lane
East Meadow, N.Y. 11554

Sending in my dues for 1976. I served with B Company of the 15th Engineers until the end of the North African campaign, then transferred to Hq. Special Troops when we left for Sicily.

I was Battalion Clerk of Hq. Special Troops which consisted of Recon, Ordnance, Signal, Quartermaster, M.P.'s and Division Headquarters. I stayed with the Special Troops until August 1945 when I left Europe by way of Antwerp, Belgium.

Capt. Tom Egan, my old C.O., visited me recently and told me about the 25th reunion that was held in New York City in 1970, he was surprised that I didn't attend the reunion. I am going to try to attend the March meeting of the New York Chapter. Would like to hear from the following old buddies, if they are still around and kicking: Walter Wolfson, 9th M.P.'s, Frank Vines, 1st Sgt. Div. Hqs., Frobert Sutter, Div. Hqs. Medics. Regards to all the gang.

2nd Bn. 60th Inf.
John Compel
2020 Barnsdale
McKeesport, Pa. 15132

Sending along my dues for 1976. Can't make the reunion this year as our daughter is coming in from California in July. However, hope to make it in 1977.

Chaplain Tepper's Sister
Doris Tepper
1626 N. Poinsettia Pl.
Los Angeles, Ca. 90046

Have been talking to Pete Rodichio about the possibility of having the next reunion in California, especially in Los Angeles. The weather here is ideal, and we have Disneyland and a million other wonderful attractions. I don't believe the Association has ever had a reunion out here, it's about time for one.

The distance may be a little longer but by plane it can be measured in hours. Pete works for American airlines, he suggests that you get a "feeling" from the gang about my suggestion. He also suggests that they look into the possibility of arranging charter flights for such an affair.

How I would love to shake hands with the fellows that my brother Chaplain Irving Tepper, always wrote home about, always referring to them as "my boys"

THE OCTOFOIL

Company K 47th Inf.
John A. Mrugala
Box 11 R.D. 1
Barnesboro, Pa.

Looking for some advance information, when will Father Connors celebrate the Memorial Mass this year? I am back on the job again, only put in five hours a day. All is going well so far, will soon be going for a check-up and may be able to increase my hours on the job. I received a letter from Dr. George Nicklus. He was a member of Company K of the 47th for a time. He joined the outfit at Schewenhette, Germany. I believe that he was a gunner in my mortar squad. The Military Book Club is sending me a new book titled "A Soldier's Report," it was written by General Westmoreland and tells the story of Viet-Nam. I know it will be good reading, and will tell the truth. I don't think the General will pull any punches, have just finished reading a very good book titled "Battle for Cassion."

Best wishes to all the gang. Eds NOTE: The town in Germany in the last issue was Kalterherberg and you were correct John-the 2nd and 3rd Bns were in and around the town. We misspelled the name.

9th Div. Band
Karl Malmstrom
82 Chapel St.
Holden, Ma. 01520

Received the last "Octofoil" and noticed my name is still in the black but my dues card indicated that my 1976 dues are due. So here it is. I got information about the Remegan Bridge from Scotty and shared it with several 1st. Division men who remembered the incident and appreciated being remembered by Scotty. I saw a familiar name in the last edition of the "Octofoil" Vic Daumit, Silver Springs, Md. He is a person that I will never forget. If I was certain that he would attend the New York Reunion, I would make every effort to be there. I am sure that I am one of the first members of the Association because I paid for the history and my dues on the day that I left Germany for the Z.I. and I have been a member ever since.

Company F 47th Inf.
Earl Wilkey
402 Calhoun Ave.
Rome, Ga. 30161

Thanks for putting my letter in the July-August edition of the "Octofoil." It got results, I heard from Bill Buemi and he is coming down to see me. After 33 years we are going to get together, we will have a lot to talk about as we were together on October 6, 1943, when the Jerries got me. I sure would like to hear from anyone who served with F Company of the 47th, especially Captain Smith.

I still remember him saying "Pvt. Wikey you let me down again." But I would have went thro hell for him.

Eds note: Earl was wounded in Italy with another outfit. He was among those who were transferred in Sicily - 2000 men of the Division who were sent to another Division. The first time that ever happened to our outfit. We had another name for this action but will not go into at this time. Many of these men felt bad about being transferred. Jimmy Connors of Company H 47th was one of them and he was awarded the Medal of Honor while with the 3rd Infantry Division. Enough said.

JOHN J. CLOUSER
901 GRACELAND STREET
DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS
60016

THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave Weehawken, N. J. 07087-

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IS YOUR OCTOFOIL

ADDRESSED WITH

TELL-TALE RED INK?

It is that time of year when we remind you to check your membership card for "it is now dues time". If you have not already done so, please remit your dues at once in order to save your association time and expense of mailing out dues notices and reminders. A limited budget keeps us from mailing the Octofoil to those who fall in the delinquent class. Send in your dues to the secretary's office, 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087.

☆☆☆

47th Inf

Co B 47th Inf

A.A. Micolucci
1614 Lynnewood Dr.,
Manoa, Penna. 19083
Enclosed find dues for the 3 years. Will sure try and make this year's reunion for now I am one of those 'Retirees'.

Still receiving 22 to 25 X-mas cards from the boys I've been with in the Personnel Section, 47th Inf. such as Langer, Dunn, and others.

Am hoping to see quite a few fellows this year for it is the BiCent year here in Phile and I only live several miles west of the city, and the reunion there in N.Y.C.

Co. A 39th
Mr. Paul Angelillis, Sr.
314 E. Mount Kirk Ave.
Norristown, Pa. 19401

Enclosed you will find the dues for my 3-Year Membership and also a donation to the Memorial Scholarship Fund.

I was very pleased to receive a letter from Joe McKenzie in regard to my inquiry as to the whereabouts of Bill Andrews whom I served with in A Co 39th. Unfortunately it was not my old friend, but I appreciate Joe's help.

I sent a letter off to Ted Matusik who was reported sick in the Octofoil, I received a lovely Christmas card from Ted and his wife Rose. Our prays are with them both.

I just want to say that I enjoy the Octofoil very much. Keep up the good work!

26th F.A.
Joe McKenzie
95 Washington Ave.
Waltham, Mass. 02154

Some of our members in the "Garden State" might be able to do a favor for another "Old Reliable". Tony Salton collects old automobile number plates and he is looking for an old New Jersey plate. If any of our members have an old one hanging around the garage, how about shipping it off to Tony. His address is Tony Salton, 4357 So. Mozart St., Chicago, Ill. 60632.

Tony is also looking for plates from Mississippi, Kentucky, Rhode Island, and Arizona, so if any of our members in those states have any old plates send them along to Tony.

Joseph S. Podany
2956 N.E. Benjamin
Mpls., Mn. 55418

Enclosed is check for \$5.00 for '76 dues.

I am now retired after working over forty years as a printer. What am I doing with my leisure time? I do a little bowling, golf, gardening, and a lot of just plain ol' walking, also have taken just short trips so far.

But, am planning to attend the 30th Reunion in New York City this summer, if nothing unforeseen occurs. My wife and I are looking forward to it and meeting all my old comrades in Co. "B"-47th Inf.

John K. Moore
"A", "D", &
"Bn. Hqts."
1st Bn. 60th.

38-5th St. Circle
Pescara Lake Est.
Bradenton, Fla. 33507

The Postal Dept. has recently given me a slightly different address than was previously used. I would appreciate if you would change the Association records to agree with the address that appears at the top of this note.

Tucked away in this far corner of the country, I can't be a very active member, but I sure do appreciate receiving the copies of the OCTOFOIL, which you so ably edit. They do refresh memories, and occasionally I do see a name out of the past.

My regards to all, and especially my sincere appreciation to you personally, for all the work you have devoted to the continuing welfare of the Association.

15th Engineers
Maurice N. Tougas
111 Aetna St.
Central Falls, R.I. 02863
Sending along my dues for 1976, a happy and prosperous New Year to all the boys.

Cont Pg. 2

76 Reunion
July 22-24