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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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## The Octofoil, November/December 1977

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 XXXII Number 6

Nov-Dec 1977

## HONOR 'THE GENERAL'

Did you attend our last Memorial Mass?

The Thirty Third Annual Memorial Mass of the Ninth Infantry Division Association is now history. Like the last thirty two we had the expected and the unexpected. The expected rain stayed in the Baltimore area until Monday. That helped - for we prayed for good weather. With the exception of a little chill in the wind I would have to say that it was a good weekend. The unexpected happening was the arrival of Ninth men attending the Mass for the first time.

### REASON THE SAME

The celebration and liturgy were the same as in the past. Our reason for being there has always been the same, to honor and pray for those no longer with us. What made it a little different were the new faces appearing for the first time. Even though many of the Association members have attended the Mass for most of the thirty - three years, that getting old look is not too noticeable on many of us.

### THANK THE PARISHIONERS

The parishioners at Immaculate spend many hours of planning to make our Saturday night very enjoyable. Thank you very much, the Parishioners at Immaculate Conception Parish.

Saturday night is also the time to fraternize, not with the enemy, but with someone that you have not seen for some time. It is also the time to find out about a third party who keeps in touch by the use of the mail.

### INSPIRING SIGHT

Second only to the Mass is the parade. It is an inspiring sight to see 200 or more men smartly stepping out to the beat of the drum and the marching tunes of the Worcester V. F. W. band. The color guard of the Worcester Police Department leads the way. They are followed by the band. Then our own Colors and Division Banner, our association officers, and our members. Wunnerful, Wunnerful.

The parade disbands at the church door. Mass begins at 10:15. Several selections by a wonderful choir are a special part of our Mass. Many parishioners attend other Masses so that Ninth men and their families will have plenty of room to be together. No matter how many Masses Fr. Connors has said for Ninth men, nor how many he will say in the future, he always finds something special to say for his boys.

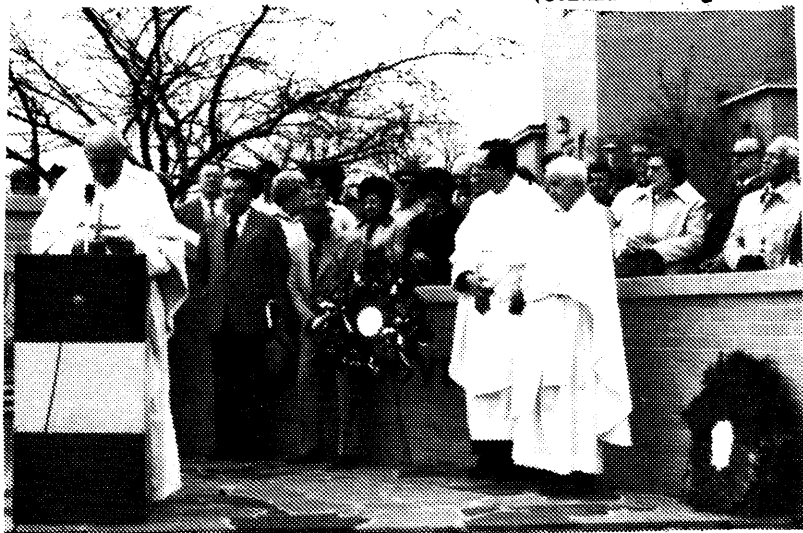
### SHORT CEREMONIES

After Mass is a short ceremony at our Memorial Ralph Witzkin, Fr. Rowan, Fr. Curtis, Rev. Ralton Spears, Fr. Connors and members of the Worcester City Government say a special prayer or express their appreciation for the sacrifices that have been made.

### WONDERFUL WEEKEND

Now it is off to the Sheraton - Lincoln Hotel where 500 or more will enjoy a typical Connors meal. One never knows what he is about to eat. A few more speeches and a few novelty prizes, which help to remember the week-end, bring festivities to a close. It was a wonderful week-end in Worcester, spiritually, socially and meteorologically.

(Continued on Page 5)



The outdoor services at the Memorial to the men of the Ninth with Father Ed Connors leading the members in prayer. Left to right behind Father Ed is Ralph Witzkin who offered prayers in Hebrew, Al Perna the President of the Association, Father Jerry Rowan a former M.P. and Father Robert Curtis former Chaplain with the 39th Infantry. Rev. Curtis lives in Monterey, California but tries to attend every year.



General (Ret.) Louis A. Craig

Honor General Craig at Luncheon in Washington, D.C.

Members of the Association's Washington, D.C. Chapter in conjunction with the new Octofoil Association held a luncheon to honor Maj. Gen. Louis A. Craig war time C.G. of the Ninth Infantry Division.

Several top World War II general officers and many other prominent Army brass, including a former Army Chief of Staff, were in the audience of more-than-100 members of the sponsoring D.C. chapter of the 9th Infantry Division Association, its collateral Octofoil Association and their guests.

### Honored Gen. Craig

They honored Gen. Craig, who retired 25 years ago this year, after an active Army career that included combat services in France in World War 1, professor of Military Science and Tactics at Harvard, 1924-29, and a year as the Army's Inspector General in 1947. Slim, short and gray-haired, Gen. Craig, who commanded the famed "Old Reliable" 9th Infantry Division in Western Europe from Aug. 1944 to August 1945, still holds himself with military bearing at 86 years of age. His wife, the former Miriam Blount, is a native of the Baltimore area.

A group of members of the 9th Division Association, veterans of World War II combat service under the leadership of Gen. Craig, felt that the General "had been sort of forgotten over the years." "We wanted to see that he gets some well-deserved recognition, while he's still around to enjoy it."

### "Westy"

The former Army Chief of Staff who was a principal speaker at Gen. Craig's luncheon was Gen. William C. Westmoreland, who was chosen by the General to be his Chief of Staff for the 9th Division in October, 1944. Westmoreland, known as "Westy" to his former comrades, later went on to fame as the commander of all forces in Vietnam.

"It wasn't a flashy unit," said Gen. Westmoreland of his old outfit, the 9th Infantry Division, which earned the sobriquet of the "Old Reliable" for its exploits during the Second World War. "It was steady, professional, reliable, using sound tactics and no razzle dazzle nor boasting. Its accomplishments spoke for themselves."

### Mutual Confidence

The Division had a "mutual confidence up and down the chain of command," Westmoreland recalled. "It exuded integrity and a modest pride. It was a Division of character, because of its leadership." A military organization reflects its leaders, he explained to the roomful of military leaders, and "not the other way around."

### "The General"

Gen. Craig was a "military professional in every sense of the word," Westmoreland continued, "and led by example, using proven tactics. He was a sensitive officer, but avoided orders dictated by emotions. He was a master at giving his staff plenty of leeway, but always knew what was going on."

Gen. Craig "blended in with his troops," Westmoreland recalled, "and carried a regular .45 pistol, with no pearl handles. He had no nicknames ... he always was 'The General' to us. "He was the epitome of the Division Commander."

Master of ceremonies for the three-hour luncheon was Gen. Richard Sweet, president of the Washington Chapter of the Octofoil Association.

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## THE OCTOFOIL

Form 3579 should be sent to 412 Gregory Avenue,  
Weehawken, N.J. 07087  
Octofoil Associated Editors Walter O'Keeffe and  
Daniel Quinn.

## NATIONAL OFFICERS

Albert Perna, President  
2642 S. Juniper  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19148

Vincent Guglielmino, 1st V.P.  
114 Charles Street  
Floral Park, N.Y. 11001

William Bongiorno, 2nd V.P.  
3 Cedar Ridge Terrace  
Bedford, Mass. 01730

Robert DeSandy, 3rd V.P.  
23430 Colonial Ct.  
St. Clairshores, Mich.  
48080

Harrison Daysh,  
Judge Advocate  
Kensington, Md. 20795

Thomas Boyle, Treasurer  
39 Hall Avenue  
Somerville, Mass. 02144

## Board of Governors

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.

1979  
Charles Koskie, Schiller Park, Ill.  
George Bako, Bronx, N.Y.  
Francis Maher, Worcester, Mass.  
Pat DeColli, Philadelphia, Pa.

1979  
John Bonkowski, Detroit, Mich.  
Dave Gelman, Forest Hills, N.Y.  
Salvatore Trapani, Rockville, Md.  
Paul Keller, Columbus, Ohio  
Frank Ozart, Frankfort, Illinois

Daniel Quinn, Secretary  
412 Gregory Avenue  
Weehawken, N.J. 07087

## 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 spirit 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. Publication No. 402820

Nov-Dec 1977

Volume XXXII Number 6

★★★★★★

## Taps Sounded

We report with sadness the passing of five "Old Reliables."



Peter S. Mazzapelle Co. I 60th Inf.  
Leslie C. Perks 34th F.A.  
James Keohane Co B 15th Eng.  
Ralph Merrithew Co B 15th Eng.  
Irvin Simmons Hq's 1st Bn 47th Inf.



If down here I chance to die,  
Solemnly I beg you take  
All that is left of "I"  
To the Hills for sake's sake.

May they rest in peace and to their loved ones we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

### NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASS'N. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dan Quinn, Natl. Secretary, 9th Infantry Division Assn.,  
412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. 07087

Enclosed please find 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 ☐

Three-Year Member \$13.00 ☐

LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$50.00 ☐

Ladies' Auxiliary Member \$ 2.00 ☐

Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund ☐

Octofoil Automobile License Disc \$ .50 ☐

Combat Route Map \$ .50 ☐

60th Infantry History \$ .50 ☐

Please give credit to the following Chapter:

Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐

Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐

New England ☐ Michigan ☐

Ohio ☐ Fayetteville-Fort Bragg, N.C. ☐

## BOARD MEETS

The 126th meeting of the National Board of Governors of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was held in Worcester, Mass., at the Sheraton-Lincoln Motel on November 5, 1977, at 5:15 p.m., attended by Messrs: Al Perna, Herb Olsen, George Bako, Dave Gelman, John Bonkowski, Elmer Wagner, Pat DeColli, Sal Trapani, Frank Ozart, Franny Maher and Vice-President Vincent Guglielmino, Treasurer Thomas Boyle, Judge Advocate Harrison Daysch, Past Presidents Fred Josie, Leonard Tomassone and Max Umansky from Florida.

The secretary Daniel Quinn read the minutes of the 125th meeting and upon a motion duly made by Fran Maher and seconded by Elmer Wagner it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes and to instruct the secretary to place same on file.

The treasurer Thomas Boyle reported to the members the spending and income of the past quarter and upon a motion duly made by Pat DeColli and seconded by Herb Olsen it was voted to: Accept the treasurers report.

Frank Ozert was called upon for a final report on the 1977 Reunion held in Chicago. Frank supplied the members with copies of the income and expenses of the reunion committee and turned over a check to the association for \$920.77 the profit realized from the reunion. Upon a motion duly made by Elmer Wagner and seconded by George Bako it was voted to: Accept the report submitted by Frank Ozart and to grant the Illinois Chapter a gratuity of \$100.00 for a job well done.

A discussion was held for future reunions. A committee was appointed several years ago with the object in mind to hold reunions in non-chapter cities from time to time, preferable in resort areas. Max Umansky reported on a site in the Florida area for 1979. He has checked with a number of hotels in the Miami and Fort Lauderdale area. Upon a motion made by Sal Trapani and seconded by Pat DeColli it was voted to: Give a vote of thanks and confidence to Max Umansky for his efforts.

Upon a motion duly made by Elmer Wagner and seconded by George Bako it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Daniel Quinn  
National Secretary

### Tip Of The Hat

The association is grateful to these members who remembered the Memorial Fund:

Jack Thornton  
Oliver Carter  
Paul Angellillis  
Elias O. Hopkins

We tip our hats to you, and a special thanks to Mrs. Betty Rumenapp for her generous donation in memory of her husband Robert.

Remember  
The Dates  
July 27-29

## 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.
5. THE APPLICATION MUST BE SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE BY MARCH 15. Applications received after March 15 will not be considered.
6. All applicants must accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.
7. Information to determine financial need will be requested by the Scholarship Committee after the applications have been considered.
8. 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.
9. All applications must be sent to: John J. Clouser, Scholarship Chairman, Ninth Infantry Division Association, 901 Graceland St., Des Plaines, Illinois 60018.

## MAR. 15<sup>TH</sup> DEADLINE NEAR

### NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

July 27-30, 1978

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ room(s) for \_\_\_\_\_ person(s):

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SHARING WITH \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

FIRM \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Will arrive on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ m  
(day) (date) (time)

Will depart on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ m  
(day) (date) (time)

Philadelphia Sheraton Hotel  
1725 John F. Kennedy Boulevard  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

### CHECK ACCOMMODATIONS PREFERRED

Single (1 person, 1 bed)	25.00
Twin (2 persons, 2 beds)	30.00
Suite (1 bedroom)	70.00 80.00 90.00

215-568-3300  
FREE SELF PARKING FOR  
REGISTERED GUESTS

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LADIES' AUXILIARY

of the

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

I would like to become a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Enclosed is check or money order for \$1.50 for 1978 dues. Please mail my membership card to-

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

While attached to the 9th Infantry Division (state relationship, whether the Ninth Division man was a husband, father, brother, son, etc.)

was with \_\_\_\_\_  
give company, regiment, battery, attached unit, etc.)

Make checks or money orders payable to Ninth Infantry Division Association. Mail to  
Mrs. Lillian Krasovetz  
107 USA East  
Gibbsboro, N.J. 08026

## The Party's Growing in Philadelphia

There's a party still going on in Philadelphia.

The candles may have been put away for our nation's Bicentennial birthday celebration, but there's still plenty of ice cream, cake and icing left.

Philadelphians planned it this way, of course, because they saw 1976 not as the end, but as the beginning in a series of exciting events linking the Bicentennial to the City of Brotherly Love's 300th anniversary in 1982.

So, when the city began sprucing up for the Bicentennial, events, exhibits and attractions were created or restored to thrill visitors for many years, not just for a single summer.

And the spirit which vitalized the people and spurred them on to create the excitement surrounding this continuing festival lingers in the air.

Philadelphia has always been one of America's richest cities for visitors, offering historic shrines, museums, parks, ethnic festivals and an ongoing parade of events which have pleased generations of Americans.

But because the City of Brotherly Love was to play host for the grandest birthday party in history, dozens of new attractions were created and many established points of interest were restored or refurbished.

The list of attractions introduced to the world during 1976 is impressive and the pleasing fact that they will entertain visitors for decades to come is a tribute to the vivacity of the people of this city.

The Living History Center, for example, offers a unique glimpse into American history through the magic of the IMAX film technique — capturing the grandeur of our nation's history and projecting it on a screen 90x70 feet high, the largest in the world.

The New Year's Shooters and Mummies Museum, the Afro-American Historical and Cultural Museum, a new Robin Hood Dell West, the overwhelming Delaware River waterfront development at Penn's Landing, Franklin Court and the Living History Center are but a sampling of the innovative additions awaiting your discovery.

A more personal glimpse into one of our nation's guiding lights, as well as Philadelphia's most famous citizen, awaits discovery at Franklin Court — an entire complex of reconstructed houses and unusual exhibits dedicated to the redoubtable Benjamin Franklin. A working 18th Century printing press, a memorial post office issuing Franklin's original postmark and an entire underground museum with innovative exhibits highlighting his contributions of the world of science, literature and history are featured here. Capping the exhibit is a brief film on his life starring Howard Da Silva as Franklin.

Although Franklin devoted much of his life to scientific and scholarly pursuits, he was known from Pennsylvania to Paris as a devotee of the good life. He relished good food and good company as much as he loved liberty; he was a patron of the arts, enjoying the finest in musical and theatrical productions of his day.

It's been almost ten years since our last reunion in Philadelphia. The city has a new look, and is truly beautiful.

Our November meeting was well attended. President Al Perna welcomed back all the travelers: The Sabato's from Italy, the Wilson's from Scotland, the Richards's from Spain, and Troccoli's from Hawaii. It was great to see Lou Netta at the meeting, as he was laid up for a spell.

Our thanks to the Chicago chapter for a well planned convention, especially for naming Al Perna as Association President. Al is a hard worker and likes to get things done. Also our thanks to Nick D'Augustino for hosting our annual picnic.

The Ladies are taking our group to Silver Lake Inn for our Christmas party. It is an annual thing, dinner-dance. This year Marty and Lily Krasovitz are hosting.

We hope everyone tries to make it to Philly this year. It's going to be a big one for the Ninth.

Charles Troccoli  
1106 Chestnut Ave.  
Woodbury Hts., N.J. 08097

### NOW HEAR THIS ALL GRANDFATHERS

Marty Bergman is Special Events Chairman for the 1978 Philly reunion AND he is planning a pleasant surprise for all Grandfathers who attend the reunion.

Please send your name and address to Marty at 8805 "B" Haldeman Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. 19115

### 'Worth Its Weight in Gold' in World

## Bits of Bridge at Remagen Will Be Sold

The remains of the Rhine River bridge at Remagen will be used to finance a museum to commemorate the World War II events that made it historic.

The stone underpinnings of the bridge, removed last year as hazards to navigation, will be cut into small chips, sealed in plastic and sold as souvenirs by the city fathers of the little West German town.

The proceeds will finance construction of a museum in the two stone towers that still stand on the west bank and are owned by the town.

The bridge, built for rail traffic in 1918 and named for Germany's World War I general, Erich Ludendorff, was badly battered by Allied bombing but still standing — the last intact bridge across the Rhine — when advance elements of the Ninth Armored Division reached Remagen on March 7, 1945.

A handful of infantrymen dashed across the bridge before the German demolition crew could blow it up and managed to hold onto the tiny bridgehead until reinforcements could arrive.

The U.S. Army diverted all the troops and air cover it could to the little Westphalian village, to expand the bridgehead and defend the span itself from repeated German efforts to destroy it. For 10 days men and materiel poured across the bridge, while Army engineers worked to strengthen it.

The bridge finally collapsed on March 17, killing 28 engineers.

It was never rebuilt, and for 31 years its black stone supports stuck up out of the water.

When the piers were dug up last year, Mayor Hans Peter Kuerten decided to sell souvenir chips to finance a "peace museum" in memory of both Germans and Americans who died in the fighting for the bridge.

Gen. Dwight Eisenhower once said the Remagen bridge was "worth its weight in gold," and he may have been literally correct. Chips the size of small coins will go on sale next March 7 for around \$15 each.

PHILADELPHIA  
will be the

1978 Convention City 1978



TO YOU FROM ELDNAR

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

### CHRISTMAS 1977

Rich gifts the Magi carried  
To the babe in Bethlehem,  
But gifts to true magnificence  
Were those he gave to them--

The joy of Life eternal,  
Faith, hope, and Love so true--  
Oh, may the Christ forevermore  
Bestow these gifts on you.

Agnes Randle

The Editors of the Octofoil wish to thank all those who sent the beautiful Christmas Cards and best wishes for the New Year. We would like to wish all the members and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Aerial view of the skyline of central Philadelphia, looking down the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. The U-shaped building in center of picture is the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

PHILLY in  
1978



Charles L. VanDerPoel and troops of Company I 60th Infantry taken in August of 1945 in Ingolstadt, Germany. Near Division Headquarters.



Jim Duffy supplied us with a photo of the "troops" filing into Church for services at Worcester. The Colored Guard consisting of Al Orletti, George Brown, John Parisi and Mike Deresh with Tom Boyle the Drill Sgt., standing for review.



## CHAPTER NEWS

## Illinois Chapter News

As Christmas cards keep arriving from our many Ninth Division friends, we are reminded that it's time to hit the keyboard and get some news off for the Octofoil. Included among our cards was one from our Michigan friend, Betty Rumenapp, with a generous contribution to the Scholarship Fund in memory of her late husband, Bob. For the young people this will help, "Thank you, Betty".

## Notes of November

At the November meeting at Tedtmans, Frank Ozart reported on his trip to the Worcester Memorial week end. Frank presented the reunion report at the Board of Governors meeting. Frank makes the trek east most every year and when he appeared at the last meeting in a dark suit wearing a white turtle neck sweater, the immediate reaction was that Fr. Conner's influence had gone pretty far. It took a moment to realize that it wasn't a Roman collar he was sporting after all.

John Clouser was able to secure from Channel 7 the news film of the 1977 Memorial Parade and Service at the Daley Civic Center. Needless to say, this was one re-run which we all enjoyed seeing.

Further business consisted of making plans and arrangements for our annual Christmas Party. The finale of the evening came when we toasted and sang "Happy Birthday" to Bud Remer.

## Our December Is Nice To Remember

The Christmas Party at Koskies on December 10th was a great way to usher in the Holiday season and to officially end our activities for 1977. Chuck and Irma had their home festively decorated including a conveniently located Mistletoe.

It was good to see some of those who can't always make it to our monthly meetings. Paul and Lorraine Clark chaffered Cas and Jean Pawelek, Bob and Beryl Pappas battled the elements and made their way in from Moline.

President Bill Hennemuth "officiated" the White Elephant game, which is always a feature attraction of our Christmas Party. In addition to an armload of white elephant prizes, the Clarks won the Grand Prize. Grab bag gifts produced a variety of treasures for everyone. Our newcomer, Gordon Anderson, won the feather blowing contest and has captured the coveted "Hot Air" award from last years winner, Georgine Winklemann. A bottle of Listerine, a traveling trophy, was awarded by game director, Anne Belmonte.

This was just not Georgine's year. In another game, she was disqualified because she peaked under the tablecloth to see what the objects were which we were to identify by touching with the toes. John Clouser (a school principal, yet) was also eliminated for copying answers from Georgine. The winner of this "feat with the feet" was toe-tapping Jerry Fajnor.

Combining the games with lots of good nibblings and bubbies made a good fun time for all. Our official songsters, Chuck and Bill rendered a lovely lunch to cap off a great party. Thanks so much, Chuck and Irma, for opening your home to us.

## Have a Great Seventy-eight

All the Illinois Chapter families wish to all the Ninth Division families a New Year filled with contentment, peace, good health and love.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Clouser  
901 Graceland  
Des Plaines, Ill.

## New Yorkers Hold Christmas Party

On Sunday December 11th, the Greater New York Chapter held its annual Christmas Party. You would think the old 69th Regiment was holding a drill the way the Armory sounded on Lexington Avenue and East 25th Street. It was a cold day but not inside the grill room where paintings of Father Duffy, Wild Bill Donovan etc., grace the walls. The "Old Reliables" and their wives turned out in great numbers for the occasion even though time has seen the children, all grown and no longer attending with the "old folks" - waiting for their gifts from Santa. Jack Scully our original Santa is no longer with us and likewise for John Rizzo his under study. We miss them both but especially around this time of the year.

## Perennial

Our perennial chairman of these affairs Frank Fazio with his assistant Bill Klauz our host and reason for using the Armory (Bill is a retired Colonel with the old 69th) provided the gang with a sumptuous hot and cold buffet supper. John Parisi and Al Orletti dished out the food like no tomorrow. Vince Guglielmino and Frank Smiles were behind the bar (drinks were on the house) taking care of the thirsty troops. The president of the New York Chapter Harry Meltzer was at the door to greet the guests. So was Art Schmidt collecting dues and the 50-50 raffle tickets. Art had the gals selling chances on the Jack Scully Scholarship fund raiser and Myrtle Guglielmino, Olga Palega, Marie Munatore, Paula Bako, Nina Deresh and Ronnie Lee worked hard.

There were gifts that were donated by Iris Canales, Ronnie Lee and Betty Rizzo (I know we are going to miss some other names but hope they will accept our apologies).

## Shades of England

Irv and Edith Feinberg were busy on the dance floor with all the new steps they've learned. It kind of reminds us of our days in England with dances we had in Alsford etc.

## Winners

The winners of the 50-50 Club prizes were Al Orletti (1st prize), Mike Covito, Francis Smiles, Joe Massarese, Frank Liftchild, Dan Mercer, W. Nehrkorn, Anita Daniels, Merton Leroy Call, Ben Bosco, Walt Mikorski, Jim Hayes, and Edna McCormack.

Bridie Greenberg was the first place winner of the Jack Scully Scholarship raffle, a beautiful shawl made by Marge Orletti and other prizes went to Paula Bako, Kaye Brady, Sal Longo, Helen Seeley, Iris Canales, Nina Deresh, Terry Staats, Joe Kearns, Bill Klauz, Emil Langer and Hugh Lee. Joe Brady made a donation to this Fund.

Frank Fazio made an announcement that Dom Miele had phoned to express his regrets for not being at the party. Dom is under the Doctor's care.

## Good Indication

The last of the crowd were seen leaving around 7 PM (the party started at one o'clock) a good indication that everyone had a good time.

The next order of business is the Installation of officers on January 6, 1978 where Harry Wax will succeed Harry Meltzer. Happy Holidays to all.

## Here N There

For years we have been traveling to Worcester for Father Ed's Memorial Mass for the men of the Ninth. Most of the New Yorkers travel by bus and this has become part of the wonderful weekend. This year we were delighted to have meet us in Worcester, Timmy Kraft son of Walter Kraft Co. of G Company 47th. Tim attends M.I.T. near Worcester and what a thrill it was to have him with us. We hope his Dad will take time out from his busy schedule and join us next year, with Tim, at Worcester.

Jim Bumbeck suffered a heart attack last summer just before the convention in Chicago but is back in the ball game. He and his wife were going to be part of the group leaving Newark Airport and had to cancel at the last minute. We missed them both, but hope they will be with us next summer in Philly.

Ed Hopkins and Howard Waldman are keeping the National secretary moving these days requesting the names and addresses of men of their companies. They want to have company reunions in Philly. Hoppie was with Company F and Howie with A-T both of the 47th.

The secretary finally had lunch with Ed Hopkins the day after Thanksgiving. Hoppie has an Aunt that lives in Weehawken and often when he visits her calls Dan. He finally caught Quinn and they arranged to meet for lunch. He swears that Quinn steered him to a bistro where the waitress made sure that Hoppie got the check. It was a good afternoon,

## TERRIFIC JOB

John & Jane Young did a terrific job in promoting the Bottle Raffle. The wonderful response resulted in a record breaking 103 chances sold. Congratulations to the lucky winners; Frank Ozart, Elmer Wagner and Peggy Hennemuth and our sincere appreciation to everyone who made this possible.

Our thanks to Fred & Jane Josey, Elmer Wagner and Bob DeSandy for the prizes and favors that were handed out during the course of the evening. They all added to the fun and excitement.

It was only through super effort that Pres. Ed & Marge Wisniewski were able to make that Outstate Meeting. Ed put in a double shift at the Tech Center and Marge was there to meet him to get a head start on the road. They arrived just as the Program was about to begin. Dedication such as this makes our Chapter what it is.

Good to see Billie & Marilyn Martin again who brought some of their family guests, Jerry & Lori Emerick with them.

Ernie & Elsie Young made a late decision to come, sure were glad that they did. They were pleasantly surprised to meet their long lost friends, Tom & Carol Saunders. Another old friendship has been rekindled.

Tom & Doris Pitzer and Floyd & Leora Hennessey kept wondering why Jakie & Val Grgurich didn't show. They promised to be there and we all missed them.

Charlie & Charlotte Fox came together with Bob & Flo DeSandy again and it was a lot of fun sharing that ride.

## ILLINOIS FRIENDS

With so many Illinois Chapter friends around, it seemed like the Chicago Convention all over again for; Rodger & Jennie Alsgaard, Leonard & Sally Kowalski, Earl & Faye Hyde, John & Betty Maule and Evan & Ethyl Thompson. It's great when friends get together.

The sad note of the week-end was when we learned of Jane Young's Mother passing away so recently. A belated sympathy card in behalf of the Chapter was sent upon our return.

## PAINFUL JOURNEY

Don & Helen Lewis made that trip to Sturgis with us and it was a rather painful journey for him. His back and leg was giving him trouble. By the time we returned to Garden City, considerable swelling set in his right leg. The following day, Monday, Oct. 17th he was admitted to the hospital with phlebitis. The swelling has been checked and he was discharged, Nov. 3rd and is now home resting under medication. He appreciates the Get-well card sent to him also the calls from those that heard about his illness. I've just got through talking with Don on the phone and he's looking forward to our Christmas Party.

## ANOTHER GREAT CROWD

There was another great crowd at the Annual Memorial Service in Worcester, Mass. However only nine Members from Michigan made it this year and it was the Chapter's smallest turn-put in quite some time.

During that Memorial Week-end, Bob Smith & Don Crosskill from Ohio expressed their wish to join our Chapter. They've made their decision on the way to Worcester and the request was granted. We welcome them.

Everyone would like to see the Ohio Chapter with all its wonderful people, on the move again. Since Pual Plunkett and Dick Pestel are no longer with us, it's not easy. However, there are enough Ol' Reliables around the Buck-eye State to make it happen. Perhaps an Outstate Meeting in the Toledo area with all the Ohio Members present and our friends from Illinois and other States to cheer them on, would be a great start.

While in Worcester, Fred & Jane Josey enjoyed an extended visit with their Relatives in the area. They also had them invited at their table for the Sunday Banquet. It was nice meeting them again.

Elmer Wagner's Memorial trip was a flight into Boston. This was the second time into New England within a week. The other occasion was on Company business.

## SHARE A RIDE

For Rose & I, it was something different this year. We were delivering a company car to the East coast with plans of flying back from Boston. Both, Pres. Ed & Marge and John & Thelma Obermiller asked us to share a ride home with them. We've decided to go along with Ed & Marge since they live closer to our home and it was a very enjoyable journey. It also wasn't the last that we've seen of The Obermillers. Without any previous arrangements we came across them later that Sunday evening at the Village Motel in Richfield Springs, N.Y. Next morning we enjoyed breakfast together followed by rest stops and snacks all the way to Niagara Falls, Canada. We were in good company.

Upon our return, Bill Phelps called to inform us that he was getting married that coming Saturday, November 12th and moving to Mount Elemens on the 22nd. Congratulations were sent in behalf of the Chapter and a note of appreciation for the change of address.

Not long ago, John Young came across Harry Bushey up North and passed along his dues for 3 years. Harry who served with the Ser. Co. 60th, was on our mailing list years ago when he lived in Wyandotte and we're happy to have him back. So important to let us know when you move.

Our December 17th Christmas Party Meeting will be all Social except the Election of Officers for 1978. Those nominated as of this date:

## NOMINATIONS

Pres. Fred Josey-Bill Andrews-John Young  
1st VP Fred Josey-Bill Andrews-John Young-Rodger Alsgaard-Gene Reedy  
2nd VP Rodger Alsgaard-Chuck Williams-Leonard Kowalski  
Treas. Bob DeSandy-Leonard Kowalski  
Sec. John Bonkowski  
Chap. Everett Tapp-Floyd Hennessey-Tom Hatton  
Adj. Don Lewis-Bill Zimmerman-Chuck Williams-Leonard Kowalski  
Historian Bob Hosking-Elmer Wagner

John Bonkowski  
19941 Hickory  
Detroit, Michigan 48206

Reunion Dates  
July 27-29

## GENERAL CRAIG

Continued from Page 1

## Special Guest

A special guest in the crowd was Gen. Craig's Jeep driver in Germany, Clarence C. Ellenberger, who came from his home in Parker, Pa., north of Pittsburgh, for the luncheon. Ellenberger is still driving, these days a truck for Witco Chemical Co. in nearby Petrolia, Pa.

Also prominent in the audience was Gen. J. Lawton Collins, who earned the nickname of "Lightnin' Joe" for his exploits as a troop commander during World War II. Collins was Commander of VII Corps and selected Gen. Craig to command the 9th Infantry Division.

Also on hand was William C. Yarborough of Little Rock, Ark., who was Gen. Craig's senior tactical aide during the entire War, from January, 1943, to the end of hostilities. An early supporter and campaigner for President Jimmy Carter, Yarborough obtained a letter from the President that was read to the assemblage by Charles C. Tingley of near St. Leonards in Calvert County, who served as the Division's Military Government Officer in Headquarters. Yarborough presently is executive director of the Arkansas Society of Certified Public Accountants (CPA'S).

## Presented Plaque

Tingley also presented the General with a plaque "from the 9th Division's red, white and blue shoulder patch."

## "Truly a great man"

Another letter read to the group came from Fr. Edward Conners, who conducts the annual memorial service in his church in Worcester, Mass. It was addressed "to a truly great man" whose influence was a "highlight of my life as a man and as a priest." Fr. Conners missed the luncheon because of a prior commitment to marry a young couple in his parish.

Another absentee who sent regards was Maj. Gen. Van H. Bond, who was ill.

Gen. Collins remembers that Gen. Craig was a "forbidding looking man," but "very human. He gave up a safe post with a Training Corps in this country to command troops in action." Craig succeeded Gen. Manton S. "Matt" Eddy as a 9th Division commander.

Collins also recalls searching for the right person to be Inspector General of the Army "to see what we at HQ could do to help the troops in the field . . . and we made a good choice in Gen. Craig."

Gen. Jacob L. Devers, 9th Division Commander while it was forming at Fort Bragg, N.C., recalls Gen. Craig as a "brilliant young officer who, when given something to do, went out to do it . . . and didn't come back and ask why."

Devers remembers that the 9th Division "started" at Fort Bragg "in the middle of Winter . . . with a few experienced sergeants and some young officers." It developed into a military organization that was "always at the right place at the right time," as he put it.

## Reminiscences

Gen. Craig himself wound up the memorable afternoon with some reminiscences about Gen. Eddy, Gen. Patty Flint and the "small bridgehead across the Rhine" those many years ago, as the War in Europe was on its way to completion.

The bridge has been "neglected" by the Germans, the General recalls, "making available one-way traffic" across the river for his Division.

"And we made full use of the bridge; river boats and some Navy boats to maintain continuous flow of material, ammunition and troops," Craig said, on the way to Berlin and the end of the War.

Editors Note: This report of the luncheon was submitted by Ed Seneff a writer and friend of Frank Wade but somehow was delayed finding its way to the secretary's office and Editor of the Octofoil. It may be a little late but we regret that we could not attend the affair. General Craig we salute you.

SERVICE BATTERY  
26 Field Artillery Battalion(Continued from page 1)  
HERE'N THERE

Milt Parrott reports that Joe "Smokey" Gallerini was there for the first time. Bob Warner, recently retired, was given an unusual present. It was a ten speed bicycle. For anyone who knows Bob, I doubt if it will get much use.

Dan Mazeika had Henry Capella and Gil Pernokos to keep him company. Henry and Gill made several trips to hospitals this year. Henry has a rare brand of heart condition that will keep him under the watchful eyes of doctors for the rest of his life. Gil had a pacemaker installed so he also will have to be quiet for some time.

## GREATEST EVENT

Connie Matulis reports that Carl Amodio and Jim Oliver made the trip after a five year absence. Jim Hennelly, Dick Rogers and John Boden were also among those present. While waiting for the parade to assemble at the fire station your reporter noted a man wearing a Ninth pin but with a long lost expression on his face. Your reporter approached him with the usual question "What part of the Ninth were you with?". His answer surprised me "I wasn't, I was with the Sixth Marine Division". Then he said, "Three years ago I came up here with my brother-in-law and I thought this was the greatest event I ever witnessed. Last year I was here. This year my brother-in-law did not want to march so I borrowed his pin and here I am". The brother-in-law is a member of the Philadelphia Chapter.

## COURAGE

Courage is something we all have to have these days. In some instances some have more than others. Mrs. Leeta Huber showed greater courage when she brought her family to Worcester the November after her Harold passed away. This year it was Dick Rogers. Last year at this time his wife was seriously sick. So sick that they could not venture to Worcester to attend the Memorial Mass which they had done so many times in the past. Early in December 1976 Mrs. Rogers died. This year Dick Rogers had that extra courage to attend the Mass without one he loved so much.



Gil Penokas sends this photo taken at Worcester (l to r) Gil, John Quinn, standing Harry Fry, Henry Cappella, Elmer Roscoe and the one and only Joe McKenzie-all of the 26th F.A.



Edward F. Pergiovanni son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Pergiovanni of 30 Davis Road, East Hartford, Conn. was graduated Magna Cum Laude from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in Boston.

Edward was the salutatorian of his class at the school's 123rd commencement exercises. His dad, Louis was a member of the 26th F.A.-Service Bty. Congratulations Edward.

## BACK TO DUTY

Harry Fry and his wife Dorothy from Munhall, Pennsylvania were the unexpected. It was their first visit. Other Old Reliables in attendance were Joe Albanese (broken arm completely healed), Elmer Roscoe (broken hip and respiratory condition) almost back to normal, Bill Bongiorno (much improved after a by-pass operation), John Quinn plans to retire next March. He has been an executive in the Massachusetts Bakers Union since separation from the Army. John has a son teaching in the American College, Beirut, Lebanon. Pergi has a son who graduated second in his class in Tufts Dental School, Boston and is now practicing Dentistry in Hartford, Connecticut. Joe McKenzie completed the contingent from Service Battery at the Mass.

What happened to Hdqtrs Battery? Gerry Leone and Donald Rollar were the only representatives from Hdqtrs.

Heard by way of the underground--John Murray was cruising the Caribbean on the QE 2 otherwise he would have been present. Everett Grigsby has some new investments in Colorado and is spending much time in that State.

Remember November 5, 1978

If you plan to attend the 34th Annual Memorial Mass during November 1978, and you should, make sure your wife is with you so that she may enjoy a wonderful week-end with you.

Your roving and roaming reporter for 26 Field Artillery Battalion.

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

PHILLY in  
1978

## Mail Call CONT'D

R.M.A. Hirst  
6200 Wiesbaden  
Gustav-Freytag-Str.6  
Tel. 08121-304892  
writes to 60th Inf.  
Mr. Vic Ogeen  
17 Bacon Street  
LeRoy, New York 14482  
U.S.A.

Dear Vic:

Most unfortunate that the entire 9th membership did not show the enthusiasm that you have for the acquisition of a bit of the Remagen Bridge!

Although, you probably read of my effort in the Octofoil, I have not had one, not one solicitation for further information on how one could obtain a bit of the bridge. I'm as you might imagine, a bit downtrodden. More especially, since I had word from the 9th Armoured division association which calls us (as to our crossing on the Remagen bridge) a bunch of 'Johnny come latels'. Perhaps we were and perhaps for that reason, the guys just do not wish to have a memento of one of the most spectacular events of WWII!

Guess, they've all become landlocked with their thinking. Believing the world will always remember the accomplishments of the 9th! I doubt that! If we had ceased to exist as a division at the end of WWII, then the judgement is just, but -- the division lives on and some of what has happened since than has not added lustre to our image. The one we built up!

Either way, Vic, I am indebted for your honest interest. But, you must drop a note to (the mayor)

Herrn Buergermeister  
Hans-Peter Kuerten  
Alter Fuhrweg 39  
5480 REMAGEN  
Federal Republic  
of Germany

Through his good offices, Vic, will you be able to obtain a memento of the bridge for a small donation to the museum he will build on the site. If you've a problem in acquiring one -- drop me another line. Thank you for your steadfast interest in the 9th!

Roy A. Peterson  
393 Avenue S, Apt. 4D  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223

1st Bn Hq  
47th

Last June, Harry Segal and I had a warm reunion with Irwin Simmons, Huron, South Dakota, who may have been our newest member. It was the first time we'd seen him in 33 years.

Simmy was in my radio squad in Fort Bragg; was run over by a jeep on the beach at Safi and didn't suffer a scratch; went on to Tunisia; then Sicily; after England into Normandy where he was badly wounded. He spent an additional three years in Army Hospitals. After discharge, he finished college, married Muriel and they became proud parents of three fine children.

On October 27, 1977, Simmy passed away in his sleep at the age of 54. Another unsung warrior of the 47th has left our ranks. To those of you who may read this and knew Corporal Irwin Simmons, I'm sure a prayer will pass through your thought for a good American and a typical Ninth Division Infantryman.

If you are planning on moving please notify the secretary of your new address. It will save postage and keep you on the Octofoil mailing list.

When was the last time you wrote a letter to our Mail Call Column?

Howard Waldman  
26 Newman St.  
Metuchen, N.J. 08840

A.T. Co., 47th

Howard writes that he and Audrey enjoyed their stay at Worcester and will try and make it again next year. The Memorial Mass at the church was beautiful. It was great seeing Col. Dan Boone Adams again for the first time since he got hit in the Sejenane Valley in North Africa - he was my co. commander. We hope to visit with them this spring at their home in Southern Pines, N.C. Howard also encloses his dues and hopes to see everyone in Philly in 1978.

Stanley Putt  
199 Quincy Ave.  
Kearny, N.J. 07032

Co F 47th

Stanley writes both he and Gloria are fine. Working hard and getting older each year. Their children are married now for 5 years. Will try and make the Philly reunion, and reading the Octofoil brings back lots of memories. Enclosed is a check for dues.

Mrs. Theresa Cuprys  
135 Jerome Ave.  
Blackwood, N.J. 08012

The wife of the late Al Cuprys, MP and 47th, sends her change of address (as noted above), and wishes everyone well and have a nice Holiday.

Frederick Dick  
7901 40th Ave., No.  
Lot 54  
St. Petersburg, Fla. 33709

Co C 9th Med.

Thank you very much for answering my letter as soon as you did. I came across your name and Arthur Loughers in the July issue of the VFW magazine. Obviously when I saw 60th CT spelled out it meant something. I've got to read and I am so glad I did.

Yes, I joined the 9th prior to Morocco and remained with the unit attached to the 60th Infantry all the way through. I am truly proud to be a member in the "Best" Infantry outfit the US Army has. During these past 35 years I have met many fellows who were with us but had no desire to join our organization. Perhaps it was because I was sick over the whole damn thing. Now that I am older I realize how truly a privilege it is to be a member and so I am most happy to be one of "us".

I do have 100 pictures or so I took and developed over there and of course keep them in an album. I look at them often - yes, 100 times a year. If you have any desire for me to send any of them to you as a loan, I would be most happy to do so. God bless you all.

Adolph Wadalavage  
94-30 96th Street  
Ozone Park, N.Y. 11416

M.P.'s

Adolph was trying to locate someone from the 38th Station Hospital and he writes: The letter I promised you about the nurse who would appreciate any help locating someone that served with the 38th Station Hospital in England or if there is some way she could contact the former unit if it has an association - the hospital served us while in Winchester and of course quite a few lads were in on the way back.

Either drop me a line or have anyone with any information that may help her get in touch with the old outfit. Her name is Irene Luskcavage or now Mrs. Irene Panchiri 437 W. Main St., Girardville, Pa. 17935.

Regards to all.



## MAIL CALL

Dominick Miele  
121 Mastic Blvd.  
Mastic, N.Y. 11950

Co M 47th

Received a wonderful GET WELL CARD, from the members, who attended the Father Connors' Dinner at Worcester, Mass, on Nov. 5th. I want to express my sincere thanks to all the members and their loved ones for thinking of me during my illness.

GOD LOVE YOU, GOD BLESS YOU and wish you all a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Jack Wilson  
Star Rt. Box 118  
Canal Point, Fla. 33438

Co B 9th Med

Jack's better half, Ena writes for him "Time to renew the membership again, don't want to let it run out. Hope to make the reunions again soon. Not sure about Philly - see what time brings. Jack is scheduled to go to the VA Hospital in Miami in February for plastic surgery on his leg. It has been giving him a good bit of trouble, but we hope for the best. Give all the gang our best regards and wishes for a very happy Holiday season."

Eds note: Hangin there Jack we are rooting for you.

Francis B. McLaughlin  
74 Highland St.  
Canton, Mass. 02021

84th FA

Mac sends his dues and writes "Wasn't it great to get together again with Father Ed at Worcester. I do wish there were more men from the 84th F.A. Best wishes for the Holidays."

Paul Angelillis  
314 E. Mt. Kirk Ave.  
Norristown, Pa. 19401

Enclosed find donation for Memorial Fund. We are all fine and I hope the same for you. Sorry I missed the convention this year, due to the fact that July is a bad time for me to get off from work, but I do hope some day I can make one. I spent 10 days with my wife last year in Hawaii. As we enter a New Year, I wish the best to everyone.

Bill Muldoon  
507 Treasure Point Dr.  
Regency Park  
Port Richey, Fla. 33568

Co L 47th

Bill writes that his wife was pretty sick with a ruptured appendix and it was touch and go for awhile, but the climate in Florida is doing her good and she is on the road to recovery. He also says he had a good time with Art Schmidt while he was visiting in Fla. Bill sends his Best Wishes and to say "hello" to Walter O'Keefe.

Earl Wilkey, Jr.  
402 Calhoun Ave.  
Rome, Ga. 30161

Co F 47th

Enclosed membership dues for 1978. Hope you all had a good year. As for myself it was the greatest. I know Hoppie Hopkins wrote you about our trip. It sure was something to see Hoppie, Felton Jones and the surprise visit from our ex C.O. - Col. F.M. Smith (ret.). Good luck to all.

Carlton C. Curtis  
304 Worth Avenue  
Elkins, W.Va. 26241

Co B 15th Eng

Carlton has had more than his share of hard luck but he hangs in there and writes: "I have spent one year in the VA Hospital out of this past year and a half. I have had major surgery seven times for cancer. Although I suffer continually I have not given up.

Am sure you remember Major Donald Roberts who was the 47th Medical Officer lives here in Elkins. He has been my family Doctor since the 30's. I see him very often and chat with him. His hospital is just across the street from where I live. I hear from General Randle pretty often. He lives in Florida. Dan, if you would put in the Octofoil a part of the letter requesting that I would like to hear from my old buddies of B Company 15th Engineers. I would appreciate hearing from them so much.

In closing I do hope and pray to God to take care of you and yours. May God bless you all.

Editors note: Carlton we'll be praying for you and may the good Lord hold you in the palm of his hand. Come on fell'as drop a few lines to Carlton.

William Cardoza  
17 Jones Terrace  
Apt. 3  
Stoughton, Ma. 02072

Div Hqs

Sally and Bill sent Christmas greetings and added "We had a real good time at Worcester. We will try to go to the convention in Philly this July".

Good wishes to all.

Bruce B. Johnstone  
21 East Park Rd.  
Pittsford, N.Y. 14534

C Co. 9th Medics

Dear Dan:

Sorry that I was unable to pass my dues on to you or your good wife this year, but previous commitments made it impossible to get to Worcester this year.

I did see via The Octofoil that Peter Radichio held up the Medics banner at the Convention and at Father Connors Coffee Shop.

It's great that he is able to travel around. More power to him.

I will try to make Philly this year if I do not get too involved in Legion Baseball.

Best wishes to all at this Holiday Season.

Wilton M. Taylor  
Star Rte Stop 6  
Lost Hills, Calif. 93249

Co M 47th

Wilton requested the address of Raymond Ledwith of the 9th Med. Bn. and the 709th Ordnance but we are sorry to inform his that Ray's Octofoil was returned with the postmark "Deceased". Wilton writes and recalls the days in Sicily when part of his platoon was sent on special detail cleaning up enemy equipment and demolition with the 15th Engineers. How the guys ended up with the natives at a square dance and thanks to their interpreter a good time was had by all.

He closes wishing the best to all.

Bill "Sam" Buemi  
6649 Mayfield Rd.  
Mayfield Hts., Ohio  
44124

Co F 47th

Hi, Danny:

It sure is a long time between drinks. I hope that this letter finds you and yours enjoying the best of health. Before I go any further, I don't know my butt from my elbow about this cotton pickin' typewriter. So if you find any errors, don't say I didn't tell you. I just had to get this letter off to you when I saw the picture taken by "Hoppie". "Field Manuel Smith", "Wilkey" and "Felton Jones". I would have drove a million miles to have been with those 4 ungodly characters. Well I'll be damned if it wasn't my old Capt. Smith. What a pain in the ass I was to him at Fort Bragg. Oh well, Smitty was one hell of a C.O. If I had to do it over again, that's the guy I would want to pitch the orders to me. That damn Hoppie. Everytime he hits Cleveland, I miss him. I remember Hoppie, Hugh Dunlop and I went into town (Safi??) and got sort of wobbly legs, but we made it back to the pup tents and that damn Hoppie started shooting up the camp.

Lt. Ray Larson called everyone out and was going to cancel all leaves unless the guy that shot up the place stood forward. No one said anything but good old Hoppie came forward and admitted he was the culprit. I don't recall what they did to Hoppie, other than tell him to sleep it off??? Maybe Hoppie will write in and tell us what happened???

Smitty has some explaining to do. When we were pinned down at El Guettar and he told us to hold everything and he would be back. I think he got nailed and captured. Will Smitty write in and let us know what happened???

I owned a tavern in the roughest part of Cleveland and everyday I was cleaning up the guns, at times I carried 3 guns to work. I felt that I never got out of combat. I got involved in quite a few shoot outs. Well anyway I finally sold the tavern and now own the Wine Barrel. What a difference in business. When I'm through with this letter I'll try to find some photos and send them with this letter. Well, Danny, my finger is getting sore so I will have to give this hunt and peck up. I want to say that I used to send out Christmas cards to everyone in the 9th, but I got tired of writing out 300 cards so now I don't send out any.

I belong to an outfit called Alhambra. And all year long we raise money for retarded children. So I donated \$50.00 every year for Christmas. That's what I figured the cost of the Christmas cards used to cost me.

So I will end this letter wishing all 9th men a Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year. God Bless You All.

George King  
44 Park St.  
Phelps, N.Y. 14532

Co F 47th

Mary King writes for George "Thought I'd better get this off to you before George fires me as secretary. All's well here in Saurkraut Country. (Enclosed find dues). Best wishes to all.

George Bastedo  
125 Terrace  
Hasbrouck Hts., N.J. 07604

Co K 47th

George sends his dues and regards to all. You're still doing a great job with the 9th Div. "Octofoil". Best of luck.

~~C O F 47th~~  
~~PL~~  
~~RECEIVED, IND. 1-2-8~~

## THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave Weehawken, N. J. 07087-

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

John Thornton  
PO Box 3782  
Mdse. Mart Sta.,  
Chicago, Ill. 60610

Co D 60th

Dear Dan:

Well here it is that time of the year again, Holidays and Dues time, how the time sure goes by. It sure was nice visiting with you and John Clouser on the 1st day of the Convention in the Hotel Lobby for a few minutes in the afternoon.

I had hoped to spend a little more time with the Convention, but I had relatives in town that week, and on Saturday I had to help an Old Friend move, but did manage to make the Saturday nite Dinner. It sure was a real nice affair, and the Food was wonderful.

The only old timers I knew were John Clouser and Frank Ozart, but had a nice visit with them. It sure was wonderful that the Scholarship Fund was so well remembered, at the Saturday nite Dinner.

Enclosed is my check for \$15.00 - Ten for the Scholarship Fund, and five for the Dues, and \$ for a couple of ROOT BEERS 4 U??

Must sign off for now, so keep well, and take good care of yourself, and hope you and yours has a real good HOLIDAY SEASON.

Wesley Spofford  
2049 Earl Drive  
No. Merrick, L.I., N.Y.  
11566

Co D 39th

I've been retired by the "Daily News" after 29 years, because of a bad heart and hypertension.

I cannot attend any of the New York meetings because of the condition. I trust you will understand.

I joined Co D 39th Infantry on Jan. 17th, 1941. Our Commanding Officer was Capt. Watson at that time. I was hit twice in No. Africa and put on limited service in 1943. Discharged in September 1945 after service in France.

I still see some of my old friends of Company D - Pete Uhl, Pat Higgins, Whitey Metzler, etc., also receive mail from Tony Micke, Ernie Kovach, Newton Eldred etc.

Give my best to the members.

Arthur R. Lougher  
108 Elm Street  
Waverly, N.Y. 14892

E Co &amp; Serv

60th Inf

Enclosed find check for 78 dues. I want to thank you for all your help to me on locating buddies to support my claim, during 1977. I lost out but I know where some of my buddies are and what they are doing. Thanks to you.

Yours to the 9th.

Andrew Crawford  
Box 27  
Burke, N.Y. 12917

Hq's 1st Bn.

47th

Enclosed you will find my check for membership dues. I was wounded in Monschau, Germany on Jan. 27, 1945 and I would enjoy hearing from any of my buddies.

Henry Chiarini  
821 American Legion H'way.  
Roslindale, Ma. 02131

A &amp; Serv. Co 47th

It was great seeing you all at the Worcester Memorial affair and especially heartwarming to join in prayers for all our departed comrades.

I saw a lot of familiar faces that I associated with Bragg and Africa, etc., but names and events seem to fade, with the years, from the mind. It was great seeing Larry McLaughlin, Jake Laskau, Ralph Wilkin and Tony Giaccobe - a few others I couldn't even remember their names. It would be a good idea to have some way of letting people know who is attending our reunions, memorials, etc. when a person gets at a hotel so that a person can get-together with friends. (A unit sign in book!) I walked around the hotel looking for someone I knew for an hour, sat in my room watching TV until finally I met someone who told me Jake was there.

Dan, my wife and I want to thank you and the New York Contingent for allowing us to ride your bus to the Church - we promise not to "freeload" again! Thanks!

Now that I am no longer in the RED, please send me the Octofoil regularly; O.K.?

Good luck to all.

Robert J. Mason  
2818 Garbett Ave.  
McKeesport, Pa. 15132

26th F.A.

Dear friend Dan:

Just a few lines to say hello and to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the wonderful "Octofoil" which I read cover to cover. From time to time I read something pertaining to some of my former friends of the 26th F.A. Bn. Sorry to learn of Elmer Roscoes recent trip to the Hospital.

At the moment I am collecting and have a few up to now of any Photos-snapshots of anywhere in North Africa. It was my favorite spot in all my travels with the 9th Div. I have a great desire to make a trip back there someday especially to see Algiers-Biradem - the El Guittar area - Oran - or Casablanca. If anyone who reads this letter has any snaps or Photos of anyplace or anything from North Africa - would appreciate them getting in touch with me as I would be willing to purchase same. Also if Elmer Roscoe happens to read this letter would he please contact me at enclosed address as I would like very much to hear from him. He was always a favorite buddy of mine.

With the best of good luck to you and my best wishes to you all at this Happy Christmas Season.

Oliver Carter  
3107 Walters Lane  
Forestville, Md. 20028

A.T. Co., 47th

Oliver sends his dues plus some extra for the Scholarship Fund. He says he is feeling fine and looking forward to the next reunion in Philly.

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Deadline for copy of the next issue of the Octofoil will be Feb. 20th.