The Octofoil, July/August 1978

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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PHILLY WAS TOPS-NOV.5TH IT'S OFF TO WORCESTER FOR 34TH MEMORIAL SERVICE

Reunion Was Wonderful
By Joseph A. McKenzie

Thank you, Philadelphia. Your convention was wonderful. You were rewarded by the splendid attendance of so many NINTH men and their families. There was bound to be some disappointment such as the PA system at Independence Hall but that did not dampen the enthusiasm of the majority. We looked pretty good after thirty-four years. The route of march was on a holiday appearance with many American flags in display. It was inspiring.

Free Transportation

For all of us who are now senior citizens, the City allowed us to join their residence to enjoy free transportation anywhere in the city just by showing our Health Insurance identification. Thank you Philadelphia could be the only city in the country granting such a privilege.

The best time

Many people do not attend a convention or a Memorial Mass because they think that they will not know anyone there. If you know no one then that is when you have the best time. Start a conversation with someone at your side and see what you will find. I had a very enjoyable chat with Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Nelson from Iowa. There is a lot of space between Massachusetts and Iowa and there were so many questions, politics etc. to talk about. Two men from Jersey with their wives and a couple from Yonkers were also very interesting while swapping stories.

Extreme courage

Bill and Barbara Meadows attended as many, if not more conventions and Memorial Masses than many men. They lived in Detroit. In any event they had to travel great distances to attend these events. Both were well liked and well known. A year ago Bill became seriously ill and died within two weeks. Like many widows of NINTH men Barbers Meadows showed extreme courage by attending our convention in Philadelphia. Like Mrs. Harold Huber and Mrs. Sylvester Byrne they too had to attend our next event after their husbands had died.

These three women showed great courage. There are many more who feel that they could not attend an event without their husband. These three women did it.

Florida in 1979

So the 1979 convention is to be in Florida. All of the regular conventions will be held in the Sunbelt: Florida, Texas and California and women there are nuns, widows and other gracious people. It was a privilege to meet there a couple from Yonkers who might think that Florida is a long way off.

Close out the year

What better way is there to close out the year than by visiting our annual Memorial Mass on Sunday, November 4th at the Immaculate Conception Church, Worcester, Mass. If you live more than 100 miles from Worcester you should arrive during Saturday and stay over. Francis Maher, 14 Davenport St. Worcester will help you in finding a place for you and your wife. Come and renew your acquaintances with Fr. Connors.

Annual Memorial Mass

34th Annual Memorial Mass and Service for the deceased of the Ninth Infantry Division will be at the Immaculate Conception Church, Worcester, Mass., Sunday, November 5, 1978, at 10:00 a.m.

If you are interested in receiving notification of the Memorial Mass, drop a note to Reverend Edward T. Connors, 335 Grove Street, Worcester, Mass. 01605.

Scenes like this will be repeated for the 34th year when Rev. Edward T. Connors (shown at last year's dinner) will celebrate Mass in memory of the departed men of the Ninth. After the church service a short ceremony will be held at the Memorial Mass at the Monument climaxed by the Mason and Dixon Line can be seen there. The Padre began holding his Memorial Mass at the end of the 1945 season. In the years before the Association began to hold reunions. For the past few years we would say to the people gathered in Worcester - "Will this be our last service?" and he would receive a reply from the gang: a resounding "No." So here we are planning to be at Worcester for the 34th year. Most of our members have attended this beautiful weekend and we need not write about it but for those who have never attended we will say it was a magnificent experience.

Starting with the gang getting together at the Sheraton Inn, the Saturday night buffet at the Parish Hall followed by the Sunday Church Services and the placing of the wreath at the Division Monument climaxied by the dinner back at the Inn - a weekend you will never forget.

Take time

Remember the dates - Saturday November 4th and Sunday November 5th and if you cannot attend the Memorial Service in Worcester wherever you are be "take time out for a prayer for our departed members."

AUXILIARY ELECTS

NEW OFFICERS

The Ladies Auxiliary has selected Irene Tapp to lead them for the coming year. Phyllis Perna will be next in command as Vice-President, with Lilly Krasnovitz keeping an eye on the financial conditions of the Auxiliary. Ruth Victor will again be Secretary.

This year the Ladies have added an "office to their chain of command when they appointed Connie Richards "Vice-Pastoral" to handle the Public Relations of the Auxiliary.

Congratulations Ladies and a special thanks for the donation to the Memorial fund by the "gals" at this years reunion.

Yours in Commradship

Phanny Maher, President
For those coming from New York, Connecticut, Michigan, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and the South, leave the Mass. Pike at Exit No. 18 take the Worcester Expressway No. 290 leave Expressway at Exit No. 29. Overhead sign will signal Burnt-Hill Lincoln St. This will bring you to a traffic light, proceed across the intersection to the next traffic light and turn left. You will now be on the side block on Lincoln St. A short drive on Lincoln St. will bring you to the Sheraton Lincoln Inn. Way will be marked with 9th Division markers, keep an eye out.

Tip of The Hat

The Memorial Fund is richer through the generosity of Robert A. Donnelly, Paul J. Nahl and Mrs. Amy Lloyd for her generous donations in memory of her husband, William.

Let's hope we hear from them soon and we wonder why. Howie were thrilled and their efforts and the support of our members will result in many more reunions in the future years. Another long distant traveler from Texas was Jack Whiteley-Company L & Med. 47th. It was Jack's first reunion. Jack was good seeing both of them.

A lot of people promised to write to the Octofoil but as we go to press we are still waiting. Let's hope we hear from them for the next issue. The Octofoil will have more details, rates, etc., the dates July 25-29, 1979.

Last February it was announced the introduction of a new system for receiving VA benefits checks by direct deposit to accounts in savings institutions. Veterans are reminded that policies for making these funds available to the recipient differ between banks. Some will allow access to funds immediately upon receipt of credit authorization at the bank and others require that the account holder wait up to five days. Veterans are urged to determine their bank’s policy before submitting government form SF 368. This allows the pespective to process the deposits by Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) through the Federal Reserve, but not all financial institutions are equipped to process EFT. Check first.

For those coming from the North and East if you use I95 West proceed to the sign marked Exit No. 20 Burns & Lincoln. Make a sharp right turn and you are now facing a large building of the State Mutual Life Assurance Co. You are now on Lincoln St. and just a short drive from the Sheraton, keep your eye out for the 9th Division road markers.

Tip of The Hat

Leaving the Sheraton for the immediate Conception Church make a right hand turn on Lincoln St until you see the building marked No. 290 West. Take this for a short distance until you see the overhead sign right hidden. Edwards Ferry West continue until you come to the traffic light at the bottom of the hill. Proceed across the intersection and make a left hand turn. You are now only a short distance from the Church.

For the 47th Infantry had the largest group at the reunion with 151 men in attendance. This turnout can be credited to the diligent work of the 47th reunion committee under the chairmanship of Walter by writing to him at 2745 Dodson Lee Dr., East Point Ga., 30344. Walter with a total of 151 members. Walter marked the introduction of a new system for receiving VA benefits checks by direct deposit to accounts in savings institutions. Veterans are reminded that policies for making these funds available to the recipient differ between banks. Some will allow access to funds immediately upon receipt of credit authorization at the bank and others require that the account holder wait up to five days. Veterans are urged to determine their bank’s policy before submitting government form SF 368. This allows the pespective to process the deposits by Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) through the Federal Reserve, but not all financial institutions are equipped to process EFT. Check first.
Hail - hail the gangs all here. Shown here are all the Grandfathers that were in attendance at the reunion. Marty Bergman got this gang together for his Special in honor of all Grandpa's.

The Philly-Delaware Valley Chapter members making arrangements for seating at the Saturday night banquet.

Not to be outdone by the men folk the Ladies Auxiliary join the Memorial Parade.

Ronnie Lee (R) is showing Ann Shapiro the Afghan she made and donated to the Ladies Auxiliary for their raffle. John Zulkiewski from the Michigan Chapter was the lucky winner.

Leading the marchers - the Color Guard turns on to Walnut Street.

The Old Reliables as proud as ever marching to the Memorial Service at Independence Hall.

The second contingent stepping off to the Memorial Service.

There weren't many empty chairs at the Welcome party held on the first night of the reunion.

When was the last time you wrote a letter to our Mail Call Column?
Meeting of the Board of Governors

The 128th meeting of the National Board of Governors was held on July 30, 1978 at the Philadelphia-Sheraton Hotel. The meeting was called to order by the President Al Perna at 4:10 P.M. Present were: John Bonkowski, Elmer Redeck, William Klain, Charles Koskie, Edwin Wisniewski, Max Umansky, Dave Gelman, Francis Maher, President Len Tomassone, former Board members Max Umansky, and Mike Dereish.

President Perna asked the members to hold a moment of silent prayer for the departed members.

The secretary read the minutes of the 127th meeting which was held in Pittsburgh on April 29, 1978 and upon a motion duly made by Bill Klauz and seconded by Elmer Wagner it was duly made by Bill Klauz and seconded by Elmer Wagner. The secretaryDaniel Quinn National Secretary

President Perna asked the members to stand for a moment of silent prayer in memory of the deceased members.

A motion duly made by Bill Klauz and seconded by Joe Adours the meeting at 1:05 P.M. Respectfully submitted Daniel Quinn National Secretary

Meeting National Board of Governors

The 128th meeting of the national board of governors was held on July 30, 1978 at the Philadelphia-Sheraton Hotel. The meeting was called to order by President Al Perna at 4:10 P.M. Attending were Pat DeColli, John Bonkowski, Robert DeSandy, Charles Koskie, Elias Hopkins, Sal Trapani, Paul Keller, George Bako, Michael Dereish, Dave Gelman, Frank Ozart, and Mike Dereish. Also in attendance were Judge Advocate Harrison Daysh, the treasurer Thomas Boyle, past board members William Klain, Ronald Murphy, Herb Olson, Len Tomassone.

President Perna asked the members to stand for a moment of silent prayer in memory of the departed members.

A motion duly made by Pat DeColli and seconded by Elmer Wagner it was voted to: Omit the reading of the minutes of the 123rd meeting of the Board of Governors.

A motion duly made by Pat DeColli and seconded by Mike Dereish it was voted to: Announce at the banquet on October 1st the names of the scholarship recipients. The names will be announced at the banquet on October 1st.

Every Chapter shall have a regular column published in the Octofoil - we would like to hear more often from the New England, Philadelphia, and New York chapters.

The committee recommends that the Octofoil be granted.

Chairman Frank Ozart, a member of the Scholarship Committee, was asked for his report and he named these members: John Bonkowski, Frank Ozart, and Art MadDougall. The committee recommended that the Octofoil be granted.

The recipients are selected, announced to their academic department, and they in turn will make copies for their members who have other means and grants. Everyone who contributes is happy to settle for what we get.

There were five new applicants and four renewals this year. The new applicants were: Ellen V. Bokina, daughter of Henry S. Bokina, 94th Div; Wendy Gold, daughter of Fred Gold, 60th Inf. (as she concluded her remarks Bill Klauz was given a loud ovation.) Upon a motion duly made by George Bako it was voted to: Accept the report of the Octofoil Committee.

The committee recommended that there be no Octofoil.

A motion duly made by John Young and seconded by Dave Gelman it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the Octofoil Committee.

President Perna thanked John Bonkowski and his committee for their report.

John Bonkowski, Chairman of the Finance Committee, was asked for his report and he named these members: Bob DeSandly, Vincent Guglielmino, Frank Ozart, and Art MadDougall. The committee submitted the following budget for the year 1978-79.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Corruption</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$4,300.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Finance Committee recommended that $1000.00 be voted against this motion.

A motion duly made by Pat DeColli and seconded by Elmer Wagner it was voted to: Accept the budget submitted by the Finance Committee.

President Perna thanked Frank Ozart for his honest criticism.

The Finance Committee recommends that the vacancies of five members be filled by the following members: Michael Dereish, David Heller, Robert DeSandy, Charles Koskie, and Elmer Wagner. The committee recommended that $1000.00 be voted against this motion.

Upon a motion duly made by Bill Klauz and seconded by Joe Adours it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the Finance Committee.

President Perna then called upon the Chairmen of the other committees to report.

Mr. DeSandy called upon for his report and he gave a detailed account on the spending of the association for the past year. He concluded his report by remarking 'In my opinion all expenditures have been paid and all obligations have been settled and paid and once again the Officers and Board members are to be congratulated for their efforts in managing the affairs of the association.'

Upon a motion duly made by Bill Klauz and seconded by Elmer Wagner it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes as read and to instruct the secretary to place same on file.

The treasurer Thomas Boyle then read the minutes of the third meeting which took place in Chicago in 1977. Upon a motion made by Robert DeSandy and seconded by Pat DeColli it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes as read and to instruct the secretary to place same on file.

The treasurer Thomas Boyle then called upon for his report and started his report. He then made it in the form of a motion and it was seconded by Elmer Wagner. Ozart explained to the members that Chairman John Bonkowski and Walt O'Keefe rendered through the years - now it would be an opportunity to demonstrate this truth.

The committee recommended that $1000.00 be voted against this motion.

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President Perna thanked John Bonkowski and his committee for their report.

Max Umansky, a member from Florida addressed the meeting and the members.

Upon a motion duly made by George Bako and seconded by Pat DeColli it was voted to: Accept the treasurer's report.

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Election of Officers for the coming year was held by the Board members and the following members elected to serve for the next year.

President 1st Vice-President, Vincent Guglielmino, 2nd Vice-President, Elmer Wagner, 3rd Vice-President, Ralph Cappella, Judge Advocate, Harrison Daysh.

Mr. Boyle, Secretary, Daniel Quinn

Al Perna, the outgoing President, then turned over the meeting to Francis Maher, the newly elected President. Perna thanked the members for their support and cooperation for the past year and wished Franny Maher all the best for the upcoming year. Perna thanked the members for their support and cooperation for the past year and wished Franny Maher all the best for the upcoming year.

The President then asked for nominations from the floor and upon a motion duly made by Bill Klauz and seconded by Pat DeColli it was voted to: Accept the nominations.

Upon a motion duly made by Joe Adours and seconded by Max Umansky and seconded by Nick Duganitis it was voted to: Accept the nominations.

The President then asked for nominations from the floor and upon a motion duly made by Bill Klauz and seconded by Joe Adours the meeting at 1:05 P.M. Respectfully submitted Daniel Quinn National Secretary

The deadline for the next issue will be October 28th.
The OCTOFOIL

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Michigan Doings

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Despite the inclement weather reports, Sunday June the 12th was a beautiful day and our Chapter Picnic was a great success. It was a fine-out-of-6 and we had a grand time.

Chairman, Don Lewis and his committee had worked hard to arrange an event that would be a success. The weather was very nice and the setup was perfect. Everyone had a great time and the food was fantastic.

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On Schedule

We arrived at the Sheraton, located off the 95 after the rain stopped. The Marriott was there to greet us and it was great to see the President! A President Furn showed us the 30th Convention's SP Suite on the top floor. Everyone was given rooms with the availability of all the rooms in the building. We enjoyed the hospitality of the staff that was very helpful and made sure we were taken care of. The food was delicious and everyone had a great time.

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Tired

Once again, Bob Lynch, Gordon Anderson, and I were the only honorees at the Convention. Heavenly knows how we've tried to get to the 30th Convention together again. Guess we could come up with some ideas for the 50th Berg. Magic. They sure had a wonderful turned.

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Sad news

Some very good things happening, it's also our duty to support the sad ones. In less than a month we've lost two members in our Chapter, Carl Vanderly, Can Co. 39th Inf, Med. in Michigan passed away on July 12. Raymond J. Painter, Can Co. 19th Inf. Passed away on May 18, 2016.

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We offer our condolences on behalf of the members and may they rest in peace.

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We have been wanting to write you for a couple of years now but have only let you know that my husband William Chester Lloyd passed away on December 9, 1976. He was a member of the National Third Division Association of many years even though he wasn't able to be active. We always enjoyed the Octoberfest and through it he was able to get in touch with some of the members of our old outfit.

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OUTSTATE MEETING

Fred Jessen and Bill Andrews, Co-Chairmen of the 2nd Annual Michigan Outstate Meeting have already made arrangements for the Holiday Inn, Angola, Indiana on Saturday, July 23, 1994. If you're interested in attending the meeting please respond to your local. We'll be having dinner at the Registration Room Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Anyone who is interested, please respond as early as possible, before October 15.

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Fred Jessen

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Record donations

Bill Andrews and I were not making the Convention so they would not be reporting any of the Scholarship Fund. A $22 donation was received from Fred Casada. I think our greatest cause, besides the Convention's Scholarship, would be the $24.00 we raised for the Banquet. Additional donations will be accumulated to a new record of donations.

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We are pleased to hear the announcement that Rick & Marjorie Wisniewski were among those that received a Scholarship Grant this year. They are the son and daughter of our Past President, Ed & Margie Wisniewski.

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Receiving

Representing the Michigan Chapter whose names were: Elmer Wagner & Family, John Murghala, Roanoke, Va; Bob Schmidt - Miscellaneous, Bob Dendy - Scholars, and the headquarters in Hatton - By-Laws, Chairman, John Dendy, Floyd Hensley - At large - Nominating. Congratulations are extended to President-Elect Trip and all the Officers in the Ladies Auxiliary: Vice Pres. Sally Kowalski, Treasurer - Sally Kowalski, Mail Call - Mrs. Kowalski, Chaplain, Rodger Fox.

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Steve Truett

Ballots were distributed on the Board of Governors who was Bob Schmidt. Joe Pavlik represented the Business that transpired at the Convention. May the best man win for the 1986 Convention, in favor of Joe Pavlik. That's where we are going off the next Convention in Florida.

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JOHN A. MRUGALA

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This is to let you know that we are still around. Our numbers have increased. New are two granddaughters and five granddaughters. Our boy is still in the AirForce stationed at Davis-Monthan AFB. Pastor is retiring. Our youngest boy lives at Nebraska City, Neb. He has three grandchildren.

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Cherished a heart attack August 2nd. Fortunately, he made it. He's still very well for the most of the time. Slowdown. Too bad for his health. But knows it's a must. As we are people with a life style of type of attack, they think it is only a health, but we are glad all can come out and do it. If we can do certain types of work by taking one person, I am extending a check for $50 to the $100 for the Scholarship Fund.

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We won't be coming to the Octoberfest this year. We both enjoyed our trip to Springfield the year it was held there.
Some of you pedestrians in the 9th Div don't know what a letter means. I am one of the "Missing in Action" former members of the 9th Div and was in the "Eight Stars to Victory", publication. Back then I was a private in Btry. They have a loose knit organization and meet at a hotel in a small city for a few persons I want to say hello to Fr. Connors and the Btry. I have been unable to attend. We were supposed to be delivered to my home from the reunion; I know they'll be establishing our CP along with the proper nutrients. I shall all long remember. With of my former members of my old outfit - AntiTank Co. 47th Inf. I have been able to contact some 62 former members of the 9th. And in addition the widows or family members (I am not sure here, but a sign of our times.) of 9 of our group who have passed away. As it turned out, because of the weather - the vacation for that week or simply a change of plans, some of these guys were not able to make it to our first Anti-Tank reunion.

We know that this was what I am one of the "Missing in Action" former members of the 9th Div and was in the "Eight Stars to Victory", publication. Back then I was a private in Btry. They have a loose knit organization and meet at a hotel in a small city for a few persons I want to say hello to Fr. Connors and the Btry. I have been unable to attend. We were supposed to be delivered to my home from the reunion; I know they'll be establishing our CP along with the proper nutrients. I shall all long remember. With of my former members of my old outfit - AntiTank Co. 47th Inf. I have been able to contact some 62 former members of the 9th. And in addition the widows or family members (I am not sure here, but a sign of our times.) of 9 of our group who have passed away. As it turned out, because of the weather - the vacation for that week or simply a change of plans, some of these guys were not able to make it to our first Anti-Tank reunion.

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