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The Octofoil, March/April 1979

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 XXXIV Number 2 -

Mar-April 1979

Thirty Fourth Annual Reunion Ninth Infantry Division Association July 26, 27, 28, 1979 Galt Ocean Mile Hotel Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Program of Events

Thursday July 26, 1979

9:00 A.M. Registration
Bivouac - All day long
4:00 P.M. Board of Governors Meeting
8:30 P.M. Welcoming Party

Friday July 27, 1979

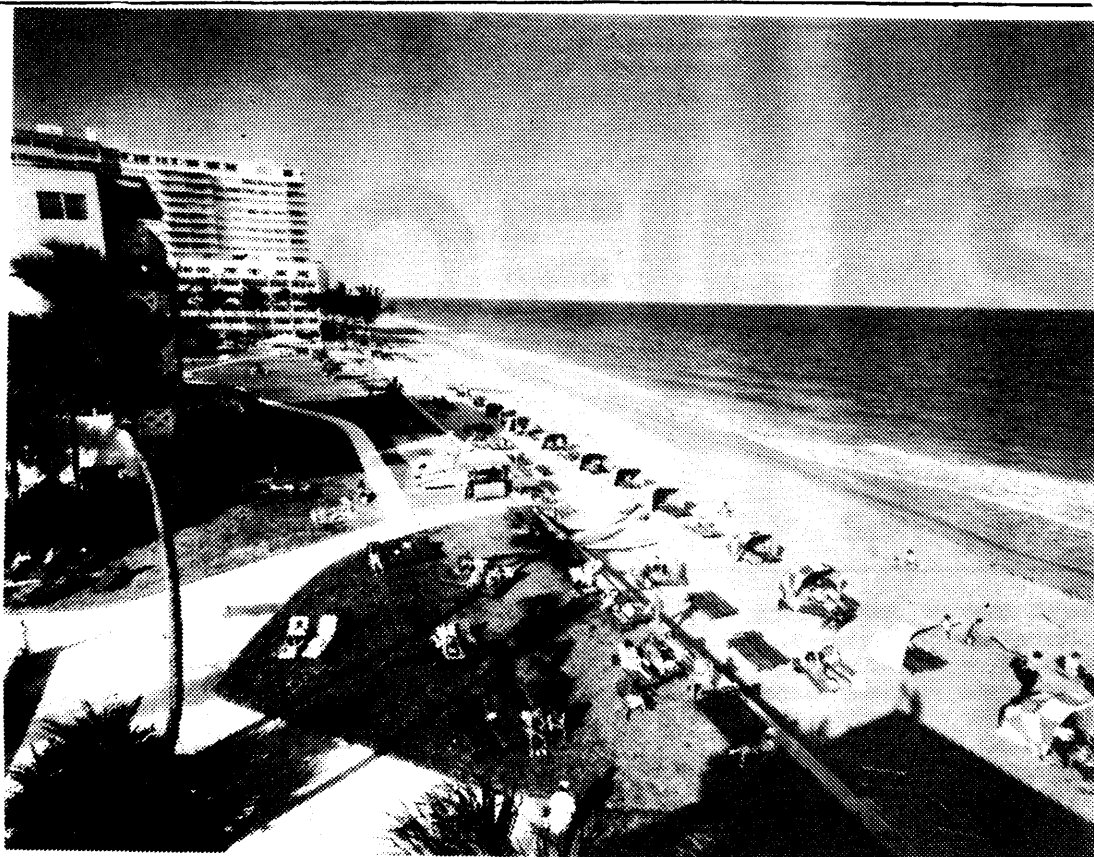
9:00 A.M. Registration
10:00 A.M. General Meeting and Committee Meetings
10:00 A.M. Ladies Auxiliary Meeting
4:00 P.M. Board of Governors Meeting
6:30 P.M. Fish Fry-Pool Site
9:00 P.M. Dance

Saturday July 28, 1979

9:00 A.M. Registration
10:30 A.M. Memorial Service
12:00 P.M. Rest and Recuperation
6:30 P.M. Banquet and Dance (Dress informal)

Sunday July 29, 1979

Strike tents-Au Revoir, Cheerio, Adios, Auf Wiedersehen. Arrividerci, Shalom...Good bye till next year!



Fort Lauderdale

34th Reunion

The Ocean side of the Galt Ocean Mile Hotel, our C.P. for the 1979 Reunion. McFadyen's Pond at Fort Bragg was never like this so bring along the swim suits.



Scenes like this will be repeated for the 27th year when Company B, 39th Infantry hold their annual reunion. This picture was taken a way back when? Leading the band is Al DiRisio (The Hawk), seated are Joe Gravino and Joe Cascio, on the right - Fred Clift and Sam Spector at the Mike-Tom Orband and "J.J." Moffi, at the piano Al Baccile, in the back - Irv King, Louie Kenward and Earl Pratt.

27TH COMPANY "B" REUNION

Once again my sincerest thanks for a job well done on the last issue of the OCTOFOIL. This goes for you and all the wonderful staff. I really feel as if I know you personally and do hope we meet in the near future - perhaps at our forthcoming 27th company reunion... June 8th, 9th and 10th at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge - Rt. 22 in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. We would love to have you or any other army buddies join us at this happy occasion.

My wife and I are hosting this reunion and it's all due to the Octofoil publishing my letter three years ago at which time

two of my former officers of "B" Company WWII saw my name and address and contacted me. What a thrill to hear from them after a lapse of 32 years, and God willing we will remain in touch from here on in and keep attending reunions.

Many thanks for your kind consideration and looking forward to seeing you and the rest of the buddies of "B" Company in June.

For more information and reservations - write to:

Daniel Douvanis
2025 Eaton Ave.
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Co. B - 39th
Phone: 215-866-5828

The thirty-fourth reunion will be the fourth reunion that the Officers and Board of Governors of the Association will handle in place of a chapter. The first was at Fort Bragg in 1962, the second in Pittsburgh in 1969 and the third in Atlanta in 1974. In keeping with the policy of holding a reunion in a non-chapter city from time to time the Board selected Fort Lauderdale, Florida. At the present time Florida does not have a chapter but from the looks of things and the way our members are moving to retirement in Florida it won't be long before a chapter is formed.

Chance for a Vacation

This year our C.P. is located on the Ocean and it will afford the members a chance for a vacation. Special rates will prevail at the Galt Ocean Mile Hotel for three days before and after the reunion. Many members will be staying for a week or more combining their vacation plans in with the reunion.

Hotel to Ourselves

At the rate the reservations are being made it appears that we will have the hotel to ourselves; over 100 rooms are already reserved. The hotel is located on 400 spacious feet of golden beach and nothing comes between you and the Atlantic. Poolside fun is offered by a heated olympic size freshwater pool. Your accommodations at the Galt are more than a room. They're a room with a view; a special point of view that transforms your guest room into a personal holiday haven.

"R and R"

For those who are still with it and play tennis there are two courts. And there's always time for a game at the volley ball court. Shuffleboard... they feature the keenest competition anywhere. And for most of us - time to unwind, relax and get in tune with nature. The relaxing sun and warm sandy beaches and the best fishing on the coast.

Bring a Buddy

Follow the example of Ed "Hoppe" Hopkins who is busy writing to his buddies from Company F-47th Infantry. Last year at Philly they had 25 members present at the reunion. Again this year Hoppe promises another great turnout of F Company. If each Company in the old outfit had that kind of turnout we would have to use two hotels. Invite your buddies and have your own get together.

Free Parking

There's plenty of free parking on the Hotel property and for those who prefer there is Valet Parking.

Shopping

Other than a half-dozen shopping centers with a Sears on one end and a department store at the other, there are two main areas for spending time and money. First, there's East Sunrise, with a Saks, Jordan Marsh and 60 satellite shops, restaurants, movie theater, McDonald's, a deli and waterfront park. And then there's Las Olas with trees, planters, and hedges.

ON THE WATER - For waterborne touring there's the Paddlewheel Queen, which departs from a dock a block south of the Oakland Park Beach Bridge. A reproduction of a triple-deck sternwheeler, it makes a two-and-a-half-hour afternoon cruise (\$2.95 for adults and \$1.75 for children) along the Intracoastal Waterway, passing palatial estates on Fort Lauderdale's so-called millionaires' row and cruise ships in Port Everglades.

Fishermen can take their pick of four fishing piers, the longest of which is in Pompano Beach, jutting a thousand feet into the Atlantic. Anglers can rent rod, reel and tackle for \$3.28.



Paddlewheel Queen's starlight cruise features steak dinners and dancing, plus great banjo entertainment.

Be a part of the reunion and remember your buddies through the Reunion Journal.

reunion dates
July 26-28

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

National Officers

Francis K. Maier President
14 Davenport Street
Worcester, Ma. 01610

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

Elmer Wagner, 2nd VP
2833 Hotchkiss Road
Bay City, Mi. 48706

Ralph Carci, 3rd VP
6324 Kilmer Street
Cheverly Manor, Md. 20785

Harrison Daysh
Judge Advocate
4303 Carriage Court
Kinsington, Md. 20795

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

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 \$55 per year with \$1.50 of the (\$55) 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 of the 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

Volume XXXIV Number 2 -

Mar-April 1979

Tip Of The Hat

The Association is grateful to the following members who remembered the Memorial (or Scholarship) Fund:

George Waldron
Arthur Clark
Walter Pastel
Richard McGrath
Calvin Daniels
Harry Kish
Irving Posner
Stephan Urbanyi
Edward Drabik
Howard Heilman

We salute these men and a special thanks to Howard Heilman who every year sends a most generous donation to this fund.

EARL H. MAYER

296 Pine St. Apt. 25
Tilburn, Ga. 30247

It is my sad duty to inform you that my brother Harold and yours in fraternity passed away on Sunday, March 25, 1979.

He was proud of the 9th and although I served in the Pacific theatre at that time, I shared his pride, and welcomed each issue of the Octofoil.

With best wishes to you and the association.

Deadline for the next issue of the Octofoil will be June 20th. All copy or material should be sent to the Editors before this date.

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. ☐

★★★★★★

Taps
Sounded

...Farewell...

Comrades true, born anew,
peace to you.

Your souls shall be where
heroes are

And your memory shine like
the morning-star

brave and dear,

Shield us here

Farewell!

...Joyce Kilmer

Joining their comrades who
have gone before them we add
the names of these buddies.

Maurice Mitchell
Hq Co 47th Infantry

Harold H. Meyer
60th Infantry

Samuel Piccirilli
Co E 47th Infantry

Stanley Czerski
1st Bn Hqs 47th Infantry

Robert W. Nicholes
Co D 47th Infantry

Henry A. Dabrowski
A-T Co 60th Infantry

George Fraenkel
60th Infantry

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

+++

Mrs. Susie Nicholes writes to
inform us of the death of her
husband, Robert. "He always
looked forward to receiving the
Octofoil and reading about the
boys. I would like to let you
know that four of the men who
were with him in Germany
served as his Honorary
Pallbearers.

Their names are Bill Phillips,
Greenville, N.C., Claude North,
Richlands, N.C., Lloyd Owens,
Hertford, N.C., and Leonard
Parker, Murfreesboro, N.C."

++

Mrs. Sandra Piccirilli in-
forms us of the death of her
husband Samuel. He passed
away on January 10th of a heart
attack. She writes: "He was
proud to have been a member of
the Ninth Division"

++

Art Schmidt, secretary of the
New York Chapter, informs us
of the demise of George
Fraenkel. George will long be
remembered by those who took
the trip to the E.T.O. back in
1970. He was the travel agent in
charge and while there were
some SNAFU's - all in all it was
one great trip.

Bob Desandy writes

"It saddens me very much to
report the death of one of our
fine, dedicated, members,
Maurice Mitchell who passed
away March 9, 1979 of apparent
heart failure after his illness of
short duration.

Morrie, as he was fondly
called, served in the 47th
regiment, and as driver for
General Randle (then Colonel).
He and his wife Viola have been
very active in the affairs of the
Michigan chapter and had
never missed a reunion since
joining the Association. About
four years ago they retired in
the sunshine state of Florida
but continued to attend at least
one Michigan meeting a year.
He was looking forward to this
year's reunion in Ft. Lauder-
dale with special interest in
anticipation that perhaps a new
chapter might be formed in that
area with the number of
members who have moved to
that state."

REQUEST FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS

FOR 9th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
REUNION

GALT OCEAN MILE HOTEL
3200 GALT OCEAN DRIVE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33308

JULY 25-29,

RESERVATION CUT-OFF
DATE: JULY 15, 1979

1 PERSON \$21.00 ARRIVAL DATE

2 PERSONS - 1 ROOM \$26.00

DEPARTURE DATE

3RD & 4TH PERSONS AT \$3.00 per person additional. Children
under 12 sharing with parents - no charge. Maximum 4 persons
per room. PLEASE ADD 4 PERCENT SALES TAX. SPECIAL
CONVENTION RATES APPLY 3 DAYS BEFORE & AFTER
CONVENTION DATES.

NAMES OF OTHER PERSONS IN YOUR RESERVATION:

NO. OF PERSONS TELEPHONE: 305-564-8581

PLEASE INCLUDE ONE NIGHT'S DEPOSIT

We know that a lot of our members will not be able to attend the
reunion this summer but a great way to be remembered to your
"old buddies" is to make sure your name appears in the Reunion
Journal. Rates start at \$2.00 for a booster (includes your name
and unit) up to a full page for \$50.00. Try to be in the Journal.

*** REQUEST FOR SPACE
IN SOUVENIR PROGRAM ***

Full Page \$50.00

Half Page \$30.00

Quarter Page \$20.00

Eighth Page \$10.00

Boosters \$2.00 (includes name and unit)

Make checks payable to the 9th Inf. Div. Assn. Reunion and
send all checks, money orders and copy to:

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

Deadline for Reunion Journal - July 1st

For those interested in renting a car while at the reunion,
arrangements have been made for our group, in order to
get reduced prices. New - Castle - Rent a Car - at 3000 S.
Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale. Call Toll Free-800-
327-2512. The rates are much more reasonable than the
car rentals located at the airport such as Hertz, etc. Tell
the Manager that you are with the Ninth Division
Reunion.



Wesley Spofford (2049 Earl Drive, No. Merrick, N.Y. 11566)
formerly of Company D-39th Infantry sends this photo taken at
New River, N.C. in 1942. Wes writes that he suffered a stroke
last year and would like to hear from some of his "old buddies"



Charlie Hoffman supplies this picture taken in Sicily in
October of 1943. That's Charlie on the left with Andy "Pappy"
Grauer in the center and John Waldron on the right. They were
having a spaghetti dinner with a little Vito in the house of an
"Italian" friend. Charlie writes that he is going to send a story
on Sedjenane Valley around April of 1943 dealing with the death
of Lt. George Ware the first Engineer Officer to be killed in
action.

Michigan Doings

In a brief ceremony prior to the Regular Session, Bob DeSandy presented the President's Gavel to Leonard Kowalski. The Out-going Pres. John "Al" Young would have done the honor but he couldn't be present because of other commitments. The gavel was sent to Bob with a note of apology.

We extend our Congratulations to John "Al" on his fine work in the newly founded V.F.W. Post in Lewiston and on his appointment to the National Deputy Chief of Staff in the V.F.W.

Sick Call

A note from Vi Stockford informed us that Kleb is ailing again and that they would not be able to make the Meeting. They were missed and one of the Get-well cards signed by the "Gang" was sent with our best wishes for an early recovery.

John Zulkiewski is another Member on the sick list. Everett and Irene Tapp offered to bring him along but he's still recovering from surgery on his leg. John will try his best to attend the next one.

It was nice to have Paul and Gerry Prymak back again. Due to her illness they've missed the last couple of Chapter doings and have some catching up to do.

Rodger and Jennie Alsgaard missed the previous Get-together because of their daughter's upcoming wedding. They brought some pictures of that special event last December and we enjoyed viewing them.

Billie and Marilyn Martin also had a fine display of colored shots. They were taken during that Christmas Party and brought back many happy moments.

Ed and Marge Wisniewski enjoyed being with the crowd. We appreciate their great effort in making that first Meeting of the New Year. Ed worked the Friday-night and Saturday-morning shifts.

Elmer Wagner was there and we personally expressed our condolences on the loss of his brother.

The same to Don and Helen Lewis after we heard of Helen's father. His recent passing was sudden and unexpected. Most of us met him a few years ago when he attended one of the big doings at The Michigan House in Bay City.

During the evening, some would gather around the piano for an ol' fashion sing-along. A few would try their hand at a friendly game of cards. From their smiling faces it was impossible to determine who was doing the winning or losing. What a great bunch.

We knew of one winner in the crowd and that was Dolores Zimmerman. Her name was drawn in the Regular 7-Crown Bottle Raffle. Our Congratulations to the Lucky One and sincere thanks to everyone for their great support in this Chapter project. Don did a fine job on the promotion.

Saving for a Rainy Day

Rose and I had some tales to tell of our recent Hawaiian and Las Vegas Adventure. Everyone was surprised to hear about the 13 days of rain that we've encountered. (We must have been spending the money that we were saving for a rainy day.) Despite a few disappointments, such as missing out on our Pearl Harbor cruise, due to the bad weather, all was not lost.

We've met many new friends in our travel group. Among them were Don and Joan Savage and Maurice and Marge Hennen. Don was Bill's brother of "B" Co. 899TD who passed away last year and is on our Golden Honor Roll. Maurice and Marge are friends of Al and Alice LeDuc, "C" Co. 47th in West Branch, Mi. (Small world, isn't it?) A reminder of The Ninth was always with us, as Father Connor's Coffee Shop coasters were firmly fixed on all our luggage.

Tom and Gerrie Hatton are enjoying the slower pace of retirement. They were overnight guests of Bob and Flo. On the way home they stopped by at Jim and Audrey Bruner's new home in Flint for a wonderful visit.

Sad News
With the first two pages of these Notes completed and all copies made, we were putting the final sheet together when the sad news came that Maurice Mitchell passed away. It was a great shock to us, he was doing well and we were hoping to see him and Vi at the Reunion. Now, suddenly it's all over. To know him, was to like him and now we are left only with memories that no-one can take away. One of these, the way he greeted us when our Michigan Chapter Convention Bus pulled up in front of The Sheraton Hotel in Philadelphia, last July. No one knows how long he was waiting but there he was with his pleasant smile and a helping hand. We'll miss him.

This year's Reunion was going to be something special, the very first one in his newly adopted State. Mauri was going there with a great ambition, to help form a new Chapter and yet remain a Member of our own Michigan Chapter, of which he was so proud. May he rest in Peace. Bob DeSandy arranged for the Floral bouquet in behalf of The Chapter. We were calling Members to pass the sad word around and some sent Vi their expressions of Sympathy.

Unfortunately

We're always trying to keep our Mailing list efficient and a recent call from Mrs. Clare Papuga was really appreciated. The only reason they never made any of the Chapter meetings is because of Ted's six day work schedule.

Vincent Temple in Sandusky is another Member who has no way of attending our Meetings. He looks forward to making the Convention with The Chapter but this year he will be disappointed. There will be no group transportation because of so many individual travel plans and extend vacations. Everyone will be traveling on their own and we do hope to have a good turn-out. (Just a reminder, a one night deposit is required with all the reservations at The Galt Ocean Mile Hotel)

"Guys and Gals"

Mentioning the Convention, we have started the annual "Guys & Gals" Booster page for the Reunion Journal. This year the cost per name has been increased to \$2.00 with your Unit included. So far, we have 30 Boosters with a long way to go to reach our record high of 125. The dead-line will be at our June Picnic.

Save Time

The next News-Notes will cover our May 20th Memorial Program and the annual Chapter Picnic on June 10th. They will be sent out prior to those events but for now, note the dates on your calendars and save them for us.

Respectfully,
John Bonkowski, Sec.
19941 Hickory St.
Detroit, Mi. 48205

Illinois Chapter News

When the winter winds finally diminished, the Illinois Chapter was able to have its first meeting of 1979 at the end of February. Good attendance reflected the need for all to shake loose from the "cabin fever" that had set in. While there wasn't a lot of business to attend to, there was a lot of socializing to catch up on and we all had a great evening together.

Memorial Service Planned

The March and April meetings were spent planning for our annual Memorial Day Service. This year we will go to St. Adelbert's Cemetery in Niles to honor the memory of Joseph Lacie who passed away last September. Joe was one of our active loyal members who we all miss. Details of the service will be sent to members by Secretary Bob Winkleman. Following the service, our families will all meet at the John Clouser home. So set aside Sunday, May 27th for this special occasion.

Following Memorial Day Planning, President Mike Belmonte called on Chuck Koskie for the treasurer's report. The pot could stand a bit of sweetening, so we'll have to take our resources to replenish funds. Chuck is encouraging Illinois members to send their annual dues to him and he in turn will forward them on to Dan Quinn. By doing this our membership list can be kept current and members can be assured of being on the Illinois mailing list. Routing the membership in this way also provides a little revenue for your state chapter. Mail to: Mr. Charles Koskie, 4334 Hirschburg, Schiller Park, IL 60176.

Anyone wishing to have their name appear on the Illinois Booster page of the reunion book could also forward their \$2.00 per name to Chuck. Provisions for taking care of this matter will also be provided at the memorial get together.

We were all interested in a news article which Lorraine Clark passed around at the meeting. Our good friend, Rev. Ralton Speers was one of the specially selected ministers of the Methodist church to represent this country in London. The occasion was the re-dedication of the recently restored and renovated Wesleyan Chapel in London. Reverend Speers account of his experiences was very interesting.

Spring Scholarship Time

Chairman John Clouser, Dr. David Heller and Frank Ozart have met to determine the scholarship recipients for 1979.

Plans for Florida

Reunion

Many members are expressing a desire to head south in July. Paul Clark is giving his new van the test run by driving down. Others are concerned about whether to fly or drive because of the gasoline situation. Bob Winkleman plans to hang up his carpenter's tools and make the trip. Koskies, Clousers, Belmontes, Ozart and others are seriously making plans. If memory serves us, there were a couple of "Arab Sheiks" at a reunion a few years back. Perhaps they can be prompted to exert some influence to solve the gasoline problems. In any case, the reunion sounds real promising and we're all looking forward to a good time.

Mr. & Mrs. J. Clouser
901 Graceland
Des Plaines, Ill.
60016

NEW YORK CHAPTER CELEBRATES SECRETARY ART. SCHMIDT'S 62nd BIRTHDAY

On April 6th, 1979 the Greater New York Chapter held its regular monthly meeting at the 69th Regiment Armory, East 26th Street and Lexington Avenue, New York City. Along with other Chapter business gone into was the celebration of Secretary Art. Schmidt 62nd birthday and his receipt of Social Security benefits as of age 62. Art's birthday was March 31, 1979. President Alfred Orletti noted that Art had donated \$62.00 to the Chapter Good & Welfare Fund. Art was surprised when John Parisi came up to the dais with a birthday cake, lighted candles and all. Everyone sang "Happy Birthday". Art tried, but he couldn't blow out all of the candles. John must have put more than 62 candles on the cake.

Annual Services

Treasurer Irving Feinberg reported that the Chapter was in good shape financially. The Chapter voted to have our annual Memorial Services at Long Island National Cemetery, Pinelawn, New York, on May 12, 1979. We always have a large turn-out for these services. As per usual, we will be holding a picnic at Bethpage State Park with all refreshments on the house. President Al Orletti asked that members try to be at the main parking lot of Long Island National Cemetery at 10:30 A.M.

Group Rates

Dan Quinn reported that good progress was being made on the plans for the Reunion in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He said quite a few members lived in the Florida area. He requested that members get their hotel reservations in early. Discount rates will apply for several days before and after the Reunion. The Chapter is trying to arrange for two groups to go to the Reunion by airplane. Members in the New Jersey area should contact Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, New Jersey, 07087, telephone No. 201-Un6-8195; members in the New York area should contact Frank Fazio, 820 Mace Avenue, Bronx, New York 10487, telephone No. 212-882-5655.

Presented Plaque

Al Orletti, presented immediate Past President Harry Wax with a plaque bearing an enameled engraving of the Octofoil as a token of appreciation for his work for the Chapter. We intend to present several of these plaques to our recent Past Presidents' at our Past President's Night, May 4, 1979. Harry was given his plaque in advance because he will be unable to attend the May 4th meeting.

Booster Page

Our recent Chapter Newsletter, mailed on April 12, 1979 announces that Secretary Art. Schmidt is again accepting Boosters for our New York Chapter Booster Page Ad. in the Reunion Journal. Boosters cost \$2.00 for name and unit. So get your Booster money in to Art. For inclusion in the Chapter Booster Page. Art's address is 69-20 - 69th Street, Glendale, New York 11227, telephone No. 212-HY7-3993.

Arthur R. Schmidt,
Chapter Secretary

To "B" (47th) or not to "B"

The departure time — March 29th.

The place — Chambersburg, Pa.

The participants — Pat and Ann Morano

The objective — California

— and so we say "Bon-voyage" "to these seasoned travelers on their "westward ho" venture — and in the spirit of the American tourist — May the road rise to meet you — May the sun shine warm on your face — and with gasoline selling at 80-90 per gallon — may the wind be always at your back!!

"Time Gentlemen"

— Speaking of time — remember those evenings over in the "jolly ol' England pub's? — when we acquiesced to the proprietors "Time, Gentlemen!" — well, Beco has it's own tavern owners, namely, Joe Metscavage, who owns and operates a "watering place" down in "coal country" in Shenandoah, Pa. — Stan Adowski has his "pub" in "cold country" — up yonder in Buffalo, N.Y. — "Stas" and Florence have two sons and make their home locally at 331 Jewett Ave.

— So, Gang, now that we know where we can get a drink — make that "calvados" — on the "arm" all around, Bartenders!

First Response

Our "Wherefore art thou, Romeo!" has brought it's first response in the person of buddy George Bentley, Jr., who joined Beco just prior to our going overseas — he did the whole bit from Safi to Rizerte — Palermo to Mt. Etna — then back to England awaiting the invasion. George was badly wounded in France D-21 — spent one year in the hospital leading to his discharge.

George and his wife live in Couyers, Georgia — near Atlanta, and he would enjoy hearing from you "Beco" men — so, get out those pens! — that address is P.O. Box 206 and the zip is 30207 — my letter is in the mail, Jay-arr.

Second Call

Second call goes out to you Mid-westerners — Ed. Stillwell; Clinton Winsconsin? — Mike Hesch, No. Sauk Rapids, Minnesota? — Les Campen, Roanoke, Illinois? — and Julius Majeski, Dearborn, Michigan? — So! sound-off, Soldier, — hut, two, three, four,!

See you' all in 60 days' — er, by the way are you making any plans for the Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. re-union in July?

Art Stenzel
179 Salem Road
Westbury, N.Y. 11590
Pat J. Morano
2208 Lincoln Way, East
Chambersburg, Pa. 17201.



Art Schmidt is shown cutting the cake at his 62nd Birthday.

+++

A clerk in battalion headquarters opened a document, initialed it, and sent it on to the commanding officer. It soon reappeared on his desk with this notation. "You were not supposed to see this document. Please erase your initials and initial the erasure."

reunion dates
july 26-28

mail call

Continued

Div. Art. Band
60th Field

DON AMATO
11 Paulson Drive
Burlington, Ma 01803

Please publish our birth announcement! Born to Don Amato (Division Artillery Band 60th Field) and his wife, Moira - a girl, Regina April Amato - 8 lbs. 5 3/4 oz. on February 7, 1979.

Thank you.

Co. K 60th

J.F. HART, JR.
7 Nenagh Drive
Wilmington, Del. 19803

Dan, I am sorry you did not receive this earlier, just found it with some other papers.

My best to all the Association Members and in particular best wishes to all of you who have done such a good job over all these years.

Co. D 47th
FREDERICK SCHEEL
414 Rockwell Street
Sandusky, Ohio 44870

So sorry to be late with "Fritz's" dues! Again!

Just so I won't forget next year, I'm enclosing a check for \$50.00 for a Life Membership. It should make a nice birthday present.

We're both well and happy and are the proud grandparents of two little girls. What a joy they are!

Hoping to see everyone in Florida.

Co. E. 39th Inf

K.W. HILL
3210 Maxwell
Midland, Texas 79701

I just received my January-February Octofoil and as usual was glad to receive it. I'm planning to make Ft. Lauderdale in July. It happens I have a son in Miami and will have this opportunity to both attend the reunion and visit the son whom we can't see a great deal of due to the distances involved. Had my usual Christmas card from Ward O. Payne who says he will be there. My usual Christmas card from Ray Firestone did not come - instead I received one from his wife Alma advising of his death in Harrisburg, Pa early last year. I had not caught any mention of it in the Octofoil. He was a great guy and will be sorely missed around Harrisburg if his character, dependability and personality over there was any indication. He was platoon leader in my Co. E 39th but joined F. Co. as C.O. at Remagen and was in that capacity to the Elbe at Dessau.

I work with Stan Downs, wounded first with F. Co. 39th and finally with A. Co. in the Lammersdorf - Huertgen area. I see him almost daily.

Enclosed is my check for renewal.

Co. D 47th Inf
RONALD E. FRANK
R.D. No. 1 Box 122-D
Leechburg, Pa. 15656

Enclosed find dues for next three years. Reason for late payment is because we were away for one month visiting the Hawaiian Islands.

Funny that we should read in the last issue about "Ernie Pyle" while on Oahu we went to "Punchbowl" Crater National Cemetery and saw the gravesite of "Ernie Pyle". Also went on a cruise to Pearl Harbor and viewed the Arizona Memorial.

Weather was beautiful there, then had to come back to this cold weather and catch a cold. Take care and God Bless.

+++

Retirement-Drinking coffee on your own time.

+++

The family that stays together probably has one car.

9th Medic
R.M. HUMMEL, M.D.
2411 Lommel Lane
Marion, Indiana 46952

Enclosed is my check for membership.

I continue to enjoy all the news in the Octofoil - even if I get in the "red". Keep it coming, I'll get caught up on payment eventually.

I continue to practice medicine, determined to do it right some day. Best wishes to everyone.

39th Inf.

1st Bn. Hq. Co.

N. ANDROVICH
68 Greenwood Dr.
No. Babylon, N.Y. 11703

How have you been? It has been quite awhile since I saw you and the boys. It seems every time we have an affair, I'm in the hospital or just getting over surgery. These days it takes much longer to get back into shape; not like the old Ninth Division days.

Give my regards to the boys and my fondest hopes for the coming year.

Enclosed my check for 1979. Yours always.

K.Hqts. Co.

3rd Bn. 60th Inf

JOSEPH RAPPAZINI
24001 Sherman
Oak Park, Michigan

As yet the years failed to dim The memories of him and him - Buddies who did serve so well The fears of the world to dispel. They fought, they bled, and many died As they struggled bravely side by side.

Gallant heroes! Gallant men! Raise their standards up on high!

Shout their praises to the sky! But with bowed heads and reverent thanks

To their ever-passing ranks. Utter a silent, humble prayer That peace may exist everywhere.

Reception of the "Octofoil" has always been a moving and cherished experience. Best wishes to you.

9th Q.M.

HAROLD HOKANSON
99 Dustin Street
Brighton, Mass. 02135

Enclosed check for three years' dues. Don't want to miss the Octofoil. Not much about Q.M. but we were only a small company. Retired two years ago and trying to keep out of mischief. Mrs. Harry Orenstein's correspondence to me and in the Octofoil.

47th Inf.

FRANK PROPER
1812 S. Morgan Street
Chicago, Ill. 60608

Am enclosing my check for dues for the next three years. I think it's due. I misplaced my dues card but what difference - I'm paying up.

I missed the convention last year here in Chicago - due to illness at the time. But, I still have memories of the first convention that the association held here. I'll bet had I been able to attend the last convention, I'd have a heck of a time recognizing some of my old buddies and vice versa. Time sure is passing fast. Oh, well, so be it. Until next time then, regards to all of you in the association and to all my old friends in the 47th - G Co. and Headquarters. 2nd Battalion.

Hq. 9th Inf.

Div. Arty.

RALPH FULBRIGHT
Rt. 3 - Box 341
Vale, N.C. 28168

Enclosed my late dues. Enjoy reading the Octofoil. The years sure go by fast. Thank you for everything.

Co. E. 47th Inf.

MARTIN BERGMAN
9805-B Haldeman Avenue
Philadelphia, Pa. 19115

It sure is gratifying to read all the letters to you about the Philly Reunion this past July. I'm sure I speak for the Entire Delaware Valley Chapter who worked an entire year to prepare that affair - to get the best rates and all the sight-seeing - and all the happy "old granddads" - Al Perna is a great leader and organizer - kept us all together. Thanks to you for your job that you and your lovely wife have been doing. P.S. All X P.O.W.'s - convention in Pitts., Pa. July 17-21st, 1979 - also I forgot what I really wanted to ask you - where can we get the Ernie Pyle articles from Infantry Journal? I never saw one or heard about them - please let me know.

84th F.A.

JIM DELEHANTY

64 E. Main Street
Wappingers Falls, N.Y. 12590

Enclosed please find my yearly dues for 1979. I saw you at Father Connors 1978 Reunion in Worcester, Mass. Met quite a few old friends from B&C Batteries 84th F.A. I was a member of Capt. Sating's Med. Det. 84th F.A. ALL BEST.

K. Co. 47th Inf.

JOHN A. MRUGULA
R.D. No. 1, Box 11
Barnesboro, Pa. 15714

I am enclosing a check for payment of the boosters in the Souvenir Program.

I am sorry to say but I will not be able to make it to the reunion. I did hope to be there but it is too far for me to travel. I am not allowed to fly and auto is too long a try. God willing I will plan to be in Washington D.C. next year for it is much closer to home.

I say again, I had a wonderful time in Philly last year. Only I was surprised that more men from K. Co. 47th did not show. A lot of the men were from Pa., New Jersey and New York. I know there were a few from the Pittsburgh area.

I enjoyed reading the article by the late Ernie Pyle in this past Octofoil. He was one War Correspondent that really knew the score for he lived it with the Infantry. He did not do his reporting from the bars of London by picking up second or third hand information.

You and all of my buddies have a good time in Florida. I will be with you in spirit.

May God bless all of you throughout this year of 1979. I always keep the men of the 9th in my daily prayers. P.S. The photo of Schevenhuetten Germany sure did bring back memories.

Serv. co, 47th Inf.

A.A. Micolucci
1614 Lynnewood Dr.,
Havertown, 19083
Pennsylvania

Dear Dan:

Am enjoying retirement and glad I went out at '62' it enables me to be with me three grandchildren a great deal. My wife and I have been at a lot of conventions and looking forward to Fla this year for we never did see Florida. It'll be 34 years since I was discharged and here we are still fighting - this 'runaway inflation' How come no one can halt it or solve it?

Co F 60th Inf.

PHILIP BERMAN
1620 Armiston Ave.
Holly Hill, Fla 32017

Enclosed is dues for the next year. Not much news down here in the Sunshine State, but will see you in July in Fort Lauderdale, God willing!

Co. M. & I. 60th Inf.

ORVILLE A. STANGL
Java, S.D. 57452

Enclosed is my check for \$50.00 for a Life Membership in the Association. I was a faithful dues paying member for several years when the Association was young, but as one became more involved in his day to day work, it was always easy to set aside the annual reminder for a day or two, then be forgotten until the next reminder came. This time the red ink jarred me awake to the fact I had been neglecting what should have been done years ago.

Have enjoyed reading the issues I've received, but seldom see a familiar name. Turn over of personnel in the line companies was so great, that many members of the same companies or even squads never even knew of the names of soldiers who had served in the same units.

I was a member of M. Co. and I. Co. 60th Inf. I joined M. Co. as a replacement in the Hedge-rows of Normandy in July of 1944 and was W.I.A. that same month. I rejoined M. Co. in November near Camp Ellsenborn. I served as an F.O. with I. Co. until January, 1945 when I was assigned to I. Co. as a Platoon Leader. My service with I. Co. was ended by a German shell in the hills across the Rhine above the Remagen Bridge. The bridge was down when I was evacuated out of the battle zone. I returned to the Division in early May, 1945 and was reassigned to M. Co. I did occupation duty with M. Co. at Ingolstadt on the Danube River until November, 1945 when I was called home by the serious illness of my father. I was released from active duty in December, 1945. I started farming in South Dakota in 1946 at the place I was born. I was recalled to active duty for the Korean conflict in 1950 and saw combat duty with M. Co. 32nd Inf. 7th Div. in Korea. So I am one of a few (when compared to the millions that served) who can wear the Combat Infantryman's Badge with Star. I returned to my farm in 1952 and am still actively farming.

Have been able to keep in contact with a few of my 9th friends, some have passed on. Have been blessed with visits at my home from some of them. Namely, Jerry Stevens from N. Dakota (Sgt. in I. Co.), Albert Hoff, Bison, S. Dakota (Division Hdqs.) Leighton Sweeney, Baltimore, Md. (M. Co.) Del Pembroke from Endicott, N.Y. now Tuscon, Ariz. (M. Co. M.G. Plat. Ldr.) and Cole Gronseth, Sutton Bay Mich. (M. Co. Plat. Ldr. Exeč. Off & Co. Cmdr.) There are also the friendships developed in the Korean War that also live on. Visits have been exchanged with these friends too.

I hope the Association lives on with those who served in the Division in Viet Nam, or is this association limited to only those of the W.W.II period? The poor veteran of Viet Nam has certainly got the dirty end of the stick. Somehow, this country has failed them. I hope this is changed soon.

Enough ramblings. Thank you for continuing to remind me. It finally worked.

Co. C 47th Inf.

DANTE CIATTI
5925 Kenilworth
Dearborn, Michigan 48125

Sorry I overlooked my dues for Octofoil.

I'm still working and in good health. Please say hello to All Company C 47th Inf. Also the rest of the "9th" Div.

I enjoy the Octofoil very much. Keep up the good work.

47th Inf. 1st Bn. Hq. Co.

VIRGIL DINGMAN
6 Clark Avenue
Fort Plain, N.Y. 13339

Andrew Crawford and I went to Rome, N.Y. to look up Stanley Czerski, 47th Inf. 1st Bn Hq Co. buddy. We finally got in contact with his widow. Stanley died fourteen years ago. He worked at the Griffis Air Force Base after he came home. He was given a military funeral and is buried in Rome. I thought some of his buddies would like to know.

Also, I would like to know if you could help me get a copy of the Raiders. It is the history of the 47th Inf. I thought maybe some widow or other relation may have one they would like to sell. A buddy of mine had his stolen. He would like very much to get another.

The Octofoil brings back memories, keeps the old mind refreshed, keep up the good work.

Hq. Btry. 84th F.A. Bn.

NEWTON FIELDS

521 John Rolfe Drive
Monroe, Mich. 48161

Sorry to have fallen into the delinquent class with my dues. But enclosed is a check to catch up, I hope.

I would like to hear from some of the old Hq. Btry. 84th F.A. men. I enjoy the Octofoil very much. Keep up the good work.

Co. K. 39th

EMIL RADIC

1857 So. Allport St.
Chicago, Ill. 60608

Please put me in as a life member. I don't want to be late anymore. See you soon. Take care.

Co. B & Hq. Co. 15th Engr.

RICHARD C. MC GRATH

2856 W. 85th Street
Chicago, Ill. 60652

It's time to get "on the ball" as my last Octofoil had that red ink warning.

Enclosed find my check for three year membership plus \$5.00 for scholarship fund.

Thanks to everyone who is responsible for the making of Octofoil. It is an excellent paper and I look forward to seeing each issue.

It must be age as I find it hard to focus on a lot of names but I will never forget the outstanding men I met during my time in the 9th.

Hq. Co- 47th

Boardman F. Lockwood
242 Trumbull Street
Hartford, Conn. 06103

Dear Dan:

Thank you for printing my story on the Reunion in the Ardennes. It will be interesting to see if it draws any response from the membership at large or from any of my friends and acquaintances from long ago. Would you be kind enough to let me have five additional copies of the OCTOFOIL in which it appeared as I would like to send one to my daughter to Charles MacDonald the Texas travel agent and one or two others who may find it of interest. I would also like to have the photos back if it is not too much trouble.

There is a new novel, SOLDIERS OF '44, reviewed in the New York Times Book Review section for March 23rd which has a "Bulge" locale and may be of interest.

Best wishes, along with my appreciation for your kindnesses and thoughtfulness over the years, come with this.

Continued on Page 5

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mail call

Continued

Co. F — 60th Inf.
GERALD TEACHOUT
 Anaheim Vacation Park
 311 N. Beach Boulevard
 Anaheim, Cal. 92801

Have to start out on a sad note. We have just returned from three weeks with our son's family during the illness and loss of a granddaughter to Leukemia. It seems rather hard to accept the loss of a fifteen year old. Fortunately, she was not suffering any pain, so we must go on and trust in our faith.

As I understand, National is in charge of the reunion in Fort Lauderdale and as National Secretary, I assume, you are up to your ears in plans, arrangements and trying to meet deadlines. So with all these problems you should breeze through a few more requests and problems.

I still need any assistance you can give me in locating those men who served with F. Co. 60th. Arthur Schmidt, Sect. of the Greater New York Chapter and John Bonkowski, Sect. of the Michigan Chapter have been of great assistance in supplying names, addresses and other possible leads. Have written to Herrin, Ingle, Maher, Malone, Saunders, Saulters, Shriften, Welch and Young; all from F. Co. Also got the names of Stockford, Allen Skirtish, Drust, Kaufman and Urban; but no addresses. With a lot of help and a lot of luck there may be a fair turn out of F. Co. veterans at the Reunion in Fort Lauderdale.

As you know, after 4 M.I.s, open heart surgery and 18 trips to the hospital 1973-1978, my health is not 100 percent dependable. If my health holds up I want to set up a F. Co. CP at Ft. Lauderdale at the Reunion in July. From Port Lyautey to the Elbe River was a long way and a long period of time. Many men of F. Co. are from different periods and different actions. I am told Tom Saunders may be the only original F. Co. to make it all the way. Hopefully, the men will find common bonds with the opportunity to get together.

Not only have I never set up a CP at a convention but I have also never been at one. So I need a lot of advice and a little help. As attendance of those who served with F. Co., at this point, appears to be limited to perhaps 10 couples, I thought a two room suite, one bedroom-one room with bar, would be sufficient. Could you obtain a discount on this? Thought we would set up a self serve bar with an original stock of a couple of cases of beer, six to ten bottles of liquor, mixes, snacks and ice. I guess we would have to depend on donations to keep it stacked. If you have any suggestions on specific items, sources of supply, etc. they would be appreciated.

Am also enclosing copy and check for space in souvenir program.

Good luck in your arrangements for Fort Lauderdale. See you there.

P.S. Many thanks for the info you dug up for my daughter, Jeri. It resulted in a wonderful Christmas present.

Nick DiMella
 110 Laurel St.
 Malden, Ma. 02148

Missed your wife at Father Conors last November and never gave it another thought. Here is my dues for this year and will see you and Marie in November.

Best wishes to all.

39th Inf. 3 Bn.
NEWELL C. COLE
 1850 W. Orangethorpe, Space 63
 Fullerton, Cal. 92633

Enclosed check for "Life Membership" — sorry I'm delinquent, but my wife and I are into woodcarving, just at the novice stage, but really enjoying it. Have been elected Vice President of our local group — which means I get to do things like sweeping up the chips, etc. Some fun!

Expect to be in Florida — if the gas situation doesn't worsen. We travel in a small import camper, so may make it.

Greetings to all my "buddies" in the Ninth — hope to see you this summer.

JOSEPH PIZZOFERRATO
 985 Potter Avenue
 Steubenville, Ohio 43952

Enclosed you will find a check for \$50.00 for a life time membership.

That is what it was a few years back, if it's more please let me know, and I will send you the rest.

Thank you for sending me the Octofoil and the reminder. Thank you.

Co. 139th Inf.
J.C. DAWSON
 Box 622
 Decatur, Texas 767234

Enclosed is a check for dues for next year. I have enjoyed reading the letters in mail call. I would enjoy hearing from anyone that was in Co. 139th Inf.

I was wounded and left the company on January 30, 1945.

The only one I hear from is Abrion H. Mayes from Bogota, Texas.

Cannon Co. 39th Inf.
CALVIN C. DANIELS
 47354 Burton Drive
 Utica, Mich. 48087

Thanks for the Octofoil. It's very good news and I was able to hear of a couple of old Cannon Co. 39th Men I knew. Say Hi! to Tommy Orband for I remember him very well. Tom also had a friend by the name of Larry Farrenti who was a Co. cook. They were both from the same home town in New York.

I'm sending for three years dues and also \$10.00 for Memorial fund, all are in one check. Will try if at all possible to be in Florida for the 9th Reunion.

I work at Pontiac Motors, but I'm from Tennessee. Enlisted at Knoxville and sworn in at Charlotte, N.C. Sept. 13, 1940. I'm not from Michigan.

Have you ever heard or had any contact with the following men: Sgt. Walter L. Gray, Cannon Co., captured Feb. 14, 1943, also Sgt. Carl T. Maynard. Is there any former Cannon Co. or 26th F.A. Bn men near the Detroit area?

All of the N.C.O.'s came from 26th F.A. when Cannon Co. was formed in 1942. I knew about every man in 26th.

I'm looking forward to seeing all my old buddies soon.

P.S. In near future I'm going to send for the Octofoil auto License plate disc. Have you ever been in touch with a Doc Rowe. He was Co. First Aid man in Cannon Co. Don't know his first name. Do you have a Harry L. Fowler as a member? He was our 1st Sgt. when war ended.

47th 2nd Bn. Med
WILLIAM BAPTISTE
 817 Gilbert Street
 Sebastian, Florida 32958

Janet and I are talking about attending the meeting to be held in Ft. Lauderdale. Just hope that we can get there. However, after all these years will probably not recognize any of those that I once knew.

Hope to see you.

Co. K 39th Inf.

AL NAPADANO
 715 Mabel Street
 New Castle, Pa. 16101

I haven't seen you nice people since the Detroit Reunion. How are you? I am the same as ever. My mother is now 84 years young and still getting along. I work at the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Co. in Youngstown, Ohio for 33 years and 5000 of us steelworkers get knocked out of work in the latter part of 1977. It looks like somebody died everytime I pass that way. There are about 8 veterans of the ninth division here in the New Castle area and these people haven't gone to one reunion at all. I saw Johnny Peluso a veteran of 84 field battery "C". Overseas I used to run into him wherever our bivouac area was. I wish all the members of the association well. Am making preparations to go to the reunion in Ft. Lauderdale. Have always wanted to see Florida and this will be the chance. Right now I am working part-time as a security guard at one of the plants here in New Castle. Also read about those gallant men who held up the German advance for one day and gave everyone a check to get solid. Under all standards that one gentleman should get the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously. Yes the men of the ninth division were damn good fighters. We met every challenge and overcame every obstacle no matter what. Yessir, I remember the Kasserine Pass, El Guettar, Bizerte, Sicily. Nounchidre-Smedh, Vossenoch, Hurtgen forest and that lumber mill. Things were hot and heavy. Our division along with the First division were fantastic. I see it is dues time again as you have the tell-tale red ink. Enclosed is a check for \$13.00.

To all members of K. Co., 3rd Bn. 39th Inf. Reg. greetings to everyone and good luck wherever they are. To Lt. Ray Breuger (Leework, Kansas) my best regards. He is now a veterinarian in Lewood. So Dan, so much for my gab. Here's hoping to see you and Marie and all the association members at the reunion in Florida. God Bless everybody and a Happy Easter.

Co. B. 15th Engrs.
ARTHUR R. SCHMIDT
 69-20 - 69th Street
 Glendale, N.Y. 11227

"In a recent issue of the Octofoil the writer noted that one of the members mentioned reading a book called "Kasserine Pass" written by Martin Blumensch. The writer would like to buy the book. If the member who has the book would write me and give me the name and address of the publisher, and the year the book was published, it would be greatly appreciated. A note with this information sent to the Octofoil Mail Call column would suffice".

Co. F. 47th Inf.
WILLIAM MAC DONALD
 113 Gordon Drive
 Seminole, Fla. 33542

Just found out I am late on dues, so this is for Life Membership.

Will be at the next convention in Florida. Hope to see some of the F. Company men. My deposit for convention is all ready. I've never been to a 9th Division Convention.

I now have the best health since I got hurt in 44 in Sept.

Sending \$10.00 for Memorial Fund.

60th, E. Co.

ARTHUR LOUGHER
 108 Elm Street
 Waverly, New York 14892

Who bothers you more than I do. Well, I don't remember whether or not I told you but you did it again and found 1st Sgt. Frank Czar "Hunk". Another thing is, do you have any more copies of the Stars to Victory - the big blue book on the history of the Ninth Division? It seems that some time ago, I read in the Octofoil that there was a few copies left. If you do have any, how much dough do you get for them, let me know.

Well, here may be something for your Octofoil. 1st Sgt. "Hunk" Czar I found is not very good - frostbite. He has lost the ends of all his fingers and one index finger. The toes from one foot and the other foot removed from the ankle. Don't sound good and, of course, isn't. I sent him down some memos I had hanging around for him to reminisce on. He also sent me a picture of his family - wife and son, I noticed he had his hands hidden in the picture and it didn't show the lower part and he was leaning on the wall. Well, enough of that for a while - so I was sitting here one evening last week and a Former Sgt. from "E" Co. called me from Erie, Pa. He didn't recall me but his name registered with me St. Jim Popleski - Bozooka section. I didn't dig too deep but he got hit along with his bozooka men near Maria Wallhofer outside the Hurtgen - after a few trips to the hospitals - they finally did him. He is in and out of the hospitals - like Czar and it makes them feel as though they each own at least 1/2 of them (the hospitals) because they are in so much. Well, what, I'm getting at is, I'm sure that they sure would like to hear from some of the "E" men. I know that if anyone met Czar they'd never forget him but I don't know Jim only through his voice. Both are having a helluva time with V.A. etc. You combat men all know that there is a heck of a lot of stuff happens that doesn't get recorded, etc. You know damn well you all got bumped around when the heavy stuff came in or you get nicked and cold and lousy and all those no good things. I don't care if you even got cut opening a C Ration - you lay out on that damn cold ground in your phart sac and freeze to death unless you're lucky enough to take a small hour or barn. It's the same with a heck of a lot of us but you have to prove - prove - prove - have evidence - medically that is. We left a helluva lot of them over there but a lot of us got home hurt and now that age is creeping up, it's prove - prove - prove. I wonder if these adjudication officers ever saw any combat? Easy Co. consisted of a lot of men from Pa. - the Scranton - Wilkes - Barre Sections. Drop these guys a little card - letter or something and send them to: Frank Czar, 1660 Kaywin Avenue, Bethlehem, Pa. - 18018 (Former 1st Sgt. "E" Co. - all the way Africa - Elbe). and James C. Popleski, 1228 Shenk Avenue, Erie, Pa. 16505 (Former s-Sgt. "E" Co.) Maybe some little incident they may recall even though you didn't know them.

Yours to the Ninth.

Co. D. 47th Inf.
CLAUDE N. NORTH, SR.
 Rt. 3 Box 262
 Richlands, N.C. 28574

I am paying my dues for two years. And any of the old guys that know me I would like to hear from them. I have lost contact with almost all of them.

47th C.O.

EDWIN H. RANDLE
 503 Althea Road, Beeleair
 Clearwater, Florida 33516
 Greetings and best wishes.
 Hope to see you at the Reunion.

47th Inf.
RANDALL H. BRYANT
 15640 SW 85 Ave.
 Miami, FL 33157

Enjoy reading Octofoil very much and in the last issue just re-discovered an old friend, Boardman Lockwood. Just thinking, space being available, possibly many of us would like to know addresses of our old 47th friends. How about printing names and addresses of members, a few in each issue?

Also another thought, I take Army Magazine, The Army Times and the Retired Officer Magazine, each of which publishes complete information in most issues of the coming military unit Conventions. To date have not seen the 9 Div. mentioned in any of them. Am sure they would be happy to include ours if advised of the info.

I've contacted all the 9 Div. personnel I know down here to advise them. Gen. Randle knows and will be there. The following knew nothing and at the time were not members. I sent them the necessary data to join but perhaps if you contacted them they would join and come:

Col. H.W.W. Lange, Ret. (84 Field)
 14A Embassy Towers II
 Ft. Lauderdale, Fl. 33308

Col. Rhett Taber, Ret. (47 Inf.)
 10216 46 Ave. West
 Bradenton, FL. 33507

Brig. Gen. Lewis Maness, Ret. (47th Inf.)
 3209 Nottingham Drive
 Cocoa, FL. 32922

Am enclosing check for '79 membership.

Co. K — 47th Inf.
OBERT SOLHAUG
 Argyle, Minn. 56713.
 Dear Buddies,

Ufda! Red ink, so here is a check for \$5.
 Enjoy reading Octofoil. Not too many names ring a bell. Was wondering if Red Thompson was 1st Sgt. of K Co.?
 I joined K Co. from Camp Wheeler Ga. just before going to Safi Africa.
 Would like to hear from Joe Yaskanish Jeep driver also Dick Pestel cook.
 Am going to try for the reunion in Fla.

Take Care.

Co. G — 39th Inf.
BOB SMITH
 134 Roger Avenue
 Bellevue, Ohio 44811
 As a former P.O.W. myself, Huertgon Forrest, I have just been informed that the State of Ohio is now issuing free license plates to former P.O.W's.
 Since there may be some assoc. members who are residents of Ohio and don't know about this latest P.O.W. law here how about printing this notice in the next Octofoil.
 Hope to see you in Ft. Lauderdale in July.

Can. Co., 47th Inf.
LEONARD KUPKOWSKI
 27 N. Gazelle Street
 Dunkirk, N.Y. 14048

Enclosed find money order for \$50.00 for life membership. Don't know why I didn't do this before.

Sorry to say we won't make the reunion this year but say hello to the gang for me and my wife, especially Szymanski cannoneers of the 47th. Hope next year it is a little closer to home.

MAIL CALL

Co. F — 47th
RUD S. HOFFMAN
R.D. 2, Box 47
Waterloo, New York 13165

I am enclosing my dues for this year. It has been nice to read what some of the other fellows had to say about the reunion in Philadelphia.

It was absolutely amazing what Hopkins was able to do to get the turnout from former Co. F men. It always seemed to me that F Company was a very close knit group. I think a good amount of the credit goes to Tony Repetti. When you take a group of men away from their homes and from everything that is dear to them what can you give them to make up for all they have lost. Believe it or not good food and fair treatment fill an awful lot of that void.

I remember the first Xmas that we were away from home in Safi, French Morocco. Tony spent days planning and trying to find extra food for that dinner. I saw tears in some eyes as I helped serve it. And when we were making the forced march across North Africa and food was so short that everyone would fight for it Tony made sure that what we had was divided so that each man got his share. He never ate anything himself until after everyone else was fed. He and I experimented with British hard tack crackers that were being thrown away until we were able to come up with a way to make a cereal that was eatable and filled a good many empty stomachs.

Yes, it was so good to be a part of that again at Philly. It was so nice to see all of those who attended, but it was also a little sad to wonder what has become of so many others that I have lost track of, guys that worked with Tony and I. Frankie Gallo, Ted Stout, Lamitis, Adam, Goon Moore, Starzic, so many more. Everyone that I talked to had a name. The answer was always the same, "I don't know what became of him." I hope that wherever they are that they too still remember F Company and are still proud that they were a part of it.

Bty. A. 60th F.A. Bn.
WALT QUIGLEY
P.O. Box 1094
Lake Elsinore, Calif. 92330

Received the Octofoil last week & noticed my address in "red". Enclosed is my '79 dues. Spring has finally "sprung" here in Calif., which has us up to our elbows, sprucing up flowers, & preparing a vegetable garden.

We have to toss a coin to see who will read the Octofoil first each time it arrives. My wife enjoys it as much as I do.

Hope to be able to make the Fla. reunion.

Can. Co. 47th Inf.
JAMES P. MAC MANNUS
710 No. 18th St. No. 108
Billings, Mont. 59101

Here are my dues.

Please change my apartment no. from 310 to 108 as I may not get the Octofoil one of these days. Say hello to all the members of the Div. for me.

M.P. Hqtr.
JOHN T. WEBER
46 Broomfield Street
Wollaston, Mass. 02170

A 35th reunion in Cherbourg sounds like a fantastic idea! I'll tell the old man to get "the lead out" if that happens. (Audrey Weber)

Div. Hq.
HAROLD A. OTT
24A Salem Drive
Whiting, N.J. 08759

Sorry for delay in submitting my annual dues. Now residing exactly midway between New York and Philadelphia — guess my allegiance must be to the Division. Too far for either Phila. or N.Y. meeting. My regards to Jim Hayes new 1st V.P. in N.Y. Best to you, too.

709 Ord.
RAY KENNEDY
413 Stratton Lane
Pgh. Pa. 15206

Thanks for doing my thinking for me and reminding me that my dues are overdue. A message to all the men in the 709th L.M. Ordinance. Hello to all you guys.

Co. B 60th Inf.
NICHOLAS CIECI
18920 N.W. 18 Ct.
Miami, Fla. 33056

Thanks for the information on the Reunion and the Octofoil.

Hope to see you and the "Gang" at the reunion.

I sent copies of your papers to my buddy Ferguson, so you should be hearing from him also.

Co. M. 39th Inf.
ARTHUR C. CLARK
16 Zuegel Ct.
Bergenfield, N.J. 07621

Enclosed find checks for three years and a donation to the scholarship fund.

I enjoyed the last Octofoil, especially Tony Carmeci's letter. I have since spoken with Tony and told him that we have changed our minds about moving to Florida.

Tony and I are planning a small reunion of M. Co. during the second weekend in August. We're looking forward to seeing Jimmy Shaw, Nick Asperger, Andy Wolchok Camp and anyone else from M. Co. who may care to attend. Just call (201) 385-7794 for details.

3rd Bn. 60th
WALLACE B. HAWKINS
318 S. 13th Avenue
Hattiesburg, Miss. 39401

You will find a money order for 3 year dues and two copies of 60th Inf. History.

Hope to make the Reunion in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. I hope that some of the men of the 3rd Bn. 60th Inf. Med. Det. can make the reunion in Florida this year. Do you have any record of past membership of the following: Walter J. Murphy, George W. Billenger, Wilford G. Mitchell, Dr. Marvin V. Klinger. He was Bn. Surgeon of 60th in Sept. 1944, when I was captured at Hoffman, Germany. I really enjoy the Octofoil. Keep up the good work. Hope to see you in Florida in July.

E. Co. 47th
FRANK MANCINELLI
298 Union Avenue
Irvington, N.J. 07111

Enclosed find a check for my dues for 3 years. I really enjoy reading the Octofoil, especially the letters sent in from the boys. Every once in awhile I come across a letter from one of the oldtimers.

F. Co. 47th Inf.
ED ("HOPPY") HOPKINS
110 Hollywood Avenue
Metuchen, N.J. 08840

Here it is the Ides of March and I am making my announcement to former F Company members about the establishment of our CP at Fort Lauderdale in July at the Reunion. Last year's CP was such a success, and I received so many requests that we continue this every year that I just had to send this note.

For those of you who were not at the Philadelphia Reunion last year I'll tell you what we did. F. Company, 47th Infantry rented our own suite of rooms, stocked it with a supply of booze, and enjoyed one another's company in between the regular festivities. It was great! Twenty-five guys showed up, most with their lovely wives, and rehearsed old and current times. It was a place to go when you wanted to be with the guys you knew and who personally shared your mess, your recreation, your grief during the tough years. One and all told me to do it again next year. The cost was shared by all by sending me a ten dollar donation. This year it will be the same. I'm asking for a ten dollar donation — more if you'd like as the ten dollars didn't quite make it last year. Everything is spent on the suite and refreshments. Last year some people gave me extra money and some contributed extra liquor, beer and goodies. Regardless, as soon as I receive one hundred fifty dollars I will make the reservation for the rooms. This year in addition to those we had last year we expect to have two of our old company commanders there, Frank Smith and Otto Geyer. So start that money coming my way. All monies will be accounted for. If for some reason I don't receive enough, to make the reservation, I'll refund your money, but I truly do not expect this to happen.

Two or three weeks after this letter appears in the press, I'll be sending out personal letters to all whose address I have. So I'd appreciate it if you'd send me the check when you see this in the Octofoil. You'd be saving me a stamp. I have a number of addresses, but I can use more. If any of you have addresses of former F Company men please send them to me now.

I don't know if I ever thanked you for the citation you gave me during the banquet. Believe me, Dan, I was truly moved. But one doesn't look for extra rewards for doing something that one enjoys so much. It was great to be in touch with all those great guys again — even those who couldn't make it but sent along their warm regards and a financial contribution to the festivities. I'm talking a bout people like Frank Smith and Otto Geyer, Pop Zucker and Ernie Templeton. Ernie passed way late last year, but he was so happy to send along a check so we could have a drink on him. As for the Smith, Geyer, Zucker triumvirate, we expect to have that drink with them this year.

Dan, I'm looking forward to Fort Lauderdale in July. I was wondering if it wouldn't help things if many of us sent a letter to the editor of our hometown newspaper telling them about our reunion. We would reach more people that way. Take care of yourself.

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

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

THE OCTOFOIL

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Co K 39th

Raymond J. Brugger, D.V.M.
4468 Rainbow
Kansas City, Kansas 66103

Here are my 1979 dues. As for my personal situation, I still practice Veterinary Medicine, and travel with my wife whenever I can. We just returned from Hawaii two weeks ago.

Last October we spent two weeks in Sicily. While there have been some great changes in parts, the interior is just as mountainous and barren as it was in 1943. I took a few pictures, but those of the Cerami-Troina area turned out to be pretty drab and uninteresting. I also have a few views of Cefalu and the Norman cathedral therein.

Agrigento and Castelvetro, being settled originally by ancient Greeks, have some well preserved temples. In my previous visit to Sicily, the tour didn't include that type of sightseeing.

Best wishes for the current year.

Co K 39th Inf.

PETER JANUS
1112 Gladys Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15216

I don't know how many years I have been a member but if I wanted to be a life time member do I have to send you a check for Fifty Dollars?

Can you please send me the address in the State of Washington where I can write and find the name of my buddies.

I enjoyed myself when you had your reunion in Pittsburgh years ago. Regards to all.

709 Ord. Co.

ROBERT L. SPENCER
37 Water Street
Wellsboro, Pa. 16901

Just a line — along with my late dues. I'll pay them for three years then I'll only be late a third of the time.

After thirty four years I still hear from T. Grasbesky, S. Gorman, T. Bruno, L. Blystone, R. Kennedy, J. Kawalski, A. Mungi, that in itself shows the 9th was full of great guys.

Having been and still am the Adj for our legion Post 84, for the last twenty years, I can appreciate the time and effort you have put in to keep the association going. Commanders come and go, but the good old secretary is the bag in the gear that keeps the wheels going. Good luck.

JOHN P. FARSON
716 Powdermill Ln.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19151

It doesn't seem possible that another three years has gone by, so here are my dues for another three years.

Hope to see you and a great many more in Fort Lauderdale in July.

Best regards to all.

Co. L 47th Inf.

Serv. Co

GEORGE MERZ
69 W. Francis Street
Iselin, N.J. 08830

Jeez! When I saw the red ink on my Octofoil I could have kicked myself. All these years and I got to make a boo-boo like that. Guess because the age is catching up. By the way Dan baby, the line is getting very thin. So a three year renewal will keep me going.

I also hate myself for not keeping in touch with Bill Muldoon. This guy is one of the best and he took care of me like a dutch uncle. I do hope he and his family are in the very best of health.

My gang are doing well - the limey (Rosemarie) that gave me seven kids still plugs along. I'd do it all over again. Thank God we stopped in England for awhile. Up to this writing we have 10 grandkids thus far. Two of the seven haven't gotten hitched yet!

Sure wish you and your family the very best of good luck and health Danny. Keep the faith kid. "The Rock" P.S. All the best to all my pals

39th Inf.

VINCENT F. QUARTUCCIO
1911 N.E. 46th St.
Fort Lauderdale, Fla. 33308

Enclosed dues for year. Take note of change on application for the item Infantry history. 39th. Right after war, there was a book published, on the history of the 9th Infantry Div., in World War II. If it is possible please advise if it still is available or forward details. I live in Fort Lauderdale, and will attend the reunion. Is there any additional information I may need to be admitted to this reunion.

Co. E. 39th Inf.

WILLY GOLDSMITH
7848 Maynard Ave.
Canoga Park, Calif. 91304

I hope this letter finds you and yours in good health. It has been a long time since I have contacted you and has been ten years since I have been to a reunion. I have been home (N.Y.) several times in the past 10 years. This year I plan to visit around the reunion dates then make the triangle to Ft. Lauderdale. I will be making the trip alone as my wife Judy will be at the peak of her work season (she is a travel agent) and cannot get away that time of the year. I am sure there must be other members who are in the same boat, if you do get any request of one who wishes to share a hotel room, please let me know. If all goes well, I'll see you at the reunion.

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

HARRY C. KISH
82 Duncan Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15205

Enclosed is a check for three years dues. I haven't attended a reunion since 1949 when it was held in Pittsburgh. I am hoping to attend the reunion in Ft. Lauderdale in July. I would like to hear from the guys from Hq. Co. especially that Gung Ho bunch from the A & P Platoon.

(Please turn to Page 4)