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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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7-1-1979

## The Octofoil, July/August 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 for the Octofoil

VOLUME XXXIV NUMBER 4

JULY-AUG 1979

## The Michigan Chapter 34th Annual Reunion "AS WE SAW IT"

A fine turn-out of 49 represented The Michigan Chapter at the first National Reunion ever, in Florida. They came from four different States and everyone traveled on their own. There was no group transportation planned this year.

Gerry and Erma Teachout, originally from Port Huron, Mi. and now residing in Anaheim, California made that long journey and did their best to get the "F" Co. 60th group together at their C.P.

Jakie and Val Grgurich from Novinger, Missouri decided to make that 3000 mile round trip in their mobile home. They brought along their son, Frank and daughter-in-law, Debbie and their three young grandchildren, Michael, Jakie and Tracy. It was a vacation that they will long remember.

From Lafayette, Pennsylvania came Arthur and Mary Becker, good "D" Co. 60th, friends of Kleb and Vi Sockford's. They had a great time together.

## GREAT TURN-OUT

Paul and Gerrie Prymak were enjoying an extended vacation and this was their first Convention. They were impressed with such a great turn-out, so far away from home. With a little luck, the crowd could have been somewhat larger. Ernie Young came by himself, because Elsie wasn't feeling too well. Other members who were missing: The Andrews, Alsgaards, Bruners, Hattons, Hennesseys, Saunders, Wisniewskis and John Youngs, just to mention a few. They all had good reasons and we've missed them.

And the other Regulars who made this one were: Bob and Flo DeSandy, Elmer Wagner, Everett and Irene Tapp, Bill, Dolores and Paula Zimmerman, Billie and Marilyn Martin, John, Thelma and Denny Obermiller, Bob and Mac Cole, Leonard and Lorry DeBell, Charles and Doris Williams, Evan and Ethel Thompson, and Matt, Jennie and Jennifer Urban. They all were happy to be there.

## HIGHLIGHT OF REUNION

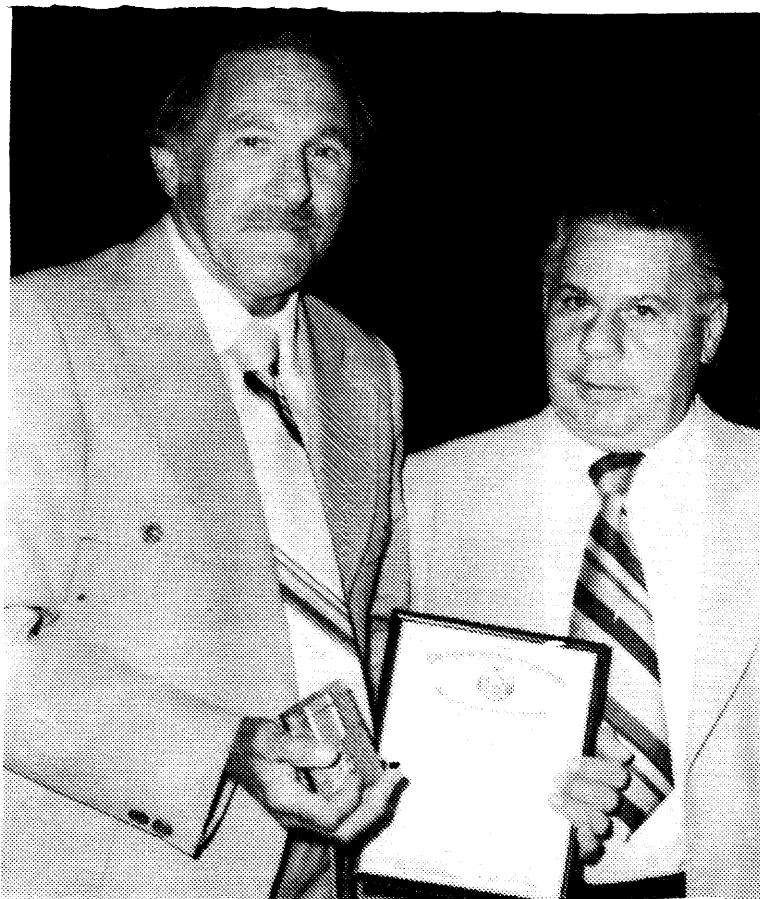
The highlight of every Reunion is the Memorial Service and this one was extraordinary. There was no parade, as it all took place at the pool site in the court area of our Convention Headquarters. Tom Boyle was superb in conducting the Memorial Program. Father Gerald Rowan did the invocation. Prayers of every Faith were offered by Father Connors, Ralph Witzkin and John Clouser, who was called on to stand in for the ailing Rev. Speers, missing at this Reunion. Pres. Fran Maher and Sec. Dan Quinn also participated with General Edwin Randle, as the Main Speaker. During the solemn Ceremony, a Member from each Chapter was announced and escorted individually to a white cross bearing his Chapter's designation. After placing a wreath, he stepped back in a symbolic manner and presented arms. As a hymn was played softly in the back-ground he was escorted back to his place of honor. Pres. Leonard Kowalski represented the Michigan Chapter during this Ceremony which was witnessed by a large number of Members and spectators in the area.

## MEMBERS PITCHED IN

Besides doing some sight-seeing, shopping, time on the beach, dining out, or plain relaxing, there was time to look after the Association's affairs. Members pitched in at the Registration Desk and the success of the Reunion was more evident as the figures increased by the hour. We also were able to help our Chapter's cause by promoting the 3rd Annual Michigan - Illinois Bi-Chapter Outing in Grand Rapids, on October the 25th. A list of those who signed up was forwarded to Chairman, William Andrews.

The 132nd Board of Governors Meeting was held on Thursday, July 26. Chairmen of the five Reunion Committees have been appointed and plans for the Memorial Ceremony were revealed.

*continued on page 2*



Matt Urban receiving New York's Conspicuous Service Medal from Ben Murrell representing Governor Carey at the reunion banquet.

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — World War II hero Matt Urban of Holland, Mich., says he thinks 34 years of waiting for the nation's highest military honor may soon be over.

Urban received the highest honor of a state when a representative of Gov. Hugh Carey presented him with New York's Conspicuous Service Medal at a reunion banquet of the 9th Division, Infantry Division of the U.S. Army. The reunion was to honor 4,581 soldiers in the outfit who were killed during World War II.

Urban added it to 20 other military awards, including six Purple Hearts for wounds suffered during campaigns in Tunisia, France and Belgium.

Urban, 59, said he has been assured by Pentagon officials that "chances are excellent" he will also receive the Congressional Medal of Honor.

"It's like a dream to me," he said. "It should have happened 35 years ago."

Urban brandished a sheaf of letters sent by his former soldiers to the Pentagon recommending him for highest military honors.

Earl Evans, now a Miami Beach liquor store owner, served as a sergeant under Urban in the brutal campaigns and first wrote a recommendation in 1945 that Urban receive the honor.

Evans didn't get a reply until earlier this year, when Army officials said his letter surfaced after apparently being lost in a maze of bureaucracy that accompanies Congressional Medal of Honor requests.

Recipients must be approved by Army officials, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the President, the Secretary of State, and Congress.

Army officials asked Evans for additional information, and Lt. Col. Vernon R. Hull said the Pentagon was acting on the recommendation and expected that Urban would receive the award.

Evans said similar bureaucratic foul-ups have kept Urban from receiving a Legion of Merit and a French Croix de Guerre.

"It's a very, very funny thing," Evans said. "I'm proud as hell. When he gets it, I'll be as proud as him. I'll cry."

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

To all Officers and Members of the 9th. Inf. Div. Association:

The honor you have bestowed upon me is one I will always cherish, and I assure you it was accepted with a great deal of humility. I shall always strive to do that which best serves the interest of all in matters concerning our Association. With the help of the Governing Board, Officers and members I am confident we will continue in the fine tradition of the Association.

Congratulations to Dan Quinn and all other responsible persons for making our Fort Lauderdale reunion a success. It appears as though good things will continue to happen in the sunshine state.

Our next meeting of the Association is a very special one, the 35th Annual Memorial mass and service to honor our deceased members. November 3 and 4th., Worcester, Mass., Father Connors and his parishioners have once again extended this gracious invitation. I urge you to attend.

In conclusion I wish to thank past President Franny Maher for his work and dedication making this past year a success.

Sincerely,  
Robert J. DeSandy

## WORCHESTER MEMORIAL NOV. 4th

### 35th Year for Worcester Memorial

Rev. Edward Connors will again hold his Annual Memorial Mass on Sunday November 4th. This will mark the 35th year he has done so beginning in November 1945 when most of us were coming home from the E.T.O. or as in the case of many men, were already discharged from Uncle Sam's Army. Actually the association didn't hold a reunion till the following year or in 1946 thus the difference in our holding the 34th reunion this past summer and Father Ed conducting his 35th Memorial Mass.

As usual the Parishioners of his church will provide the Saturday evening get together at the school hall. The Banquet will be held at the Sheraton-Lincoln Motel on Sunday Nov. 4th. Fran Maher will again handle the reservations for our group and he can be reached at 14 Davenport Street, Worcester, Ma. 01610 (telephone 617-756-1803).

## MAKE EARLY RESERVATIONS

Fran tells us that he could only get a few rooms at the Sheraton Lincoln but he did manage to reserve 100 rooms at the Holiday Inn located in the City of Worcester. (remember? we used it for years) He also has 25 rooms at the Days Inn which is located very near the Sheraton-Lincoln.

The Holiday Inn rates are \$25.00 single and \$30.00 for a double, extra persons \$4.00. Cut off date is October 20th.

The Days Inn rates are \$24.00 for a double, for Days Lodge which is a suite goes for \$27.88 and an extra person in the room is \$4.00. A \$15.00 deposit is required for all reservations. A cut off date of October 4th will be at the Days Inn.

Fran urges the members to make their reservations early as possible because they will not hold the rooms.

Remember the date, November 4th, and if you can not join your buddies in Worcester be with them in spirit and remember our departed in your prayers.

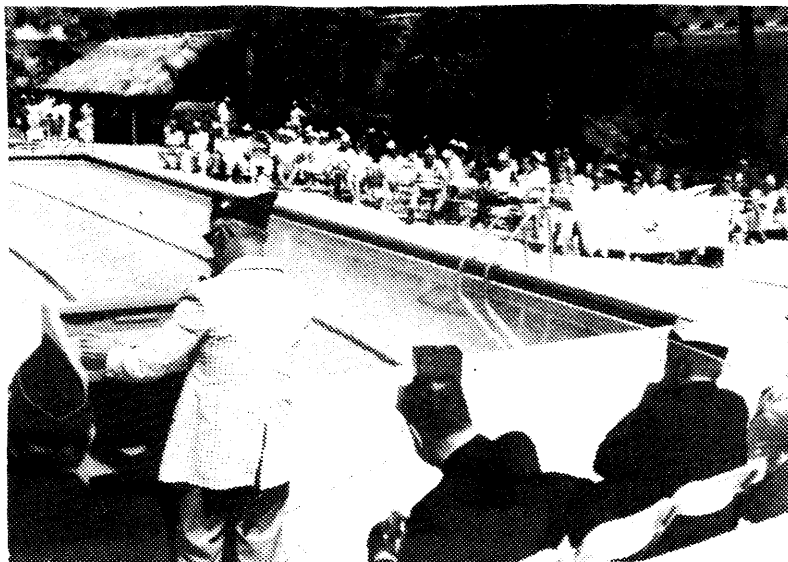
## LADIES AUXILIARY

The Auxiliary thanks the National Association for providing the meeting room as well as the refreshments. We appreciate your consideration.

We were very successful in the Afghan donations this year and will certainly increase the scholarship contribution at the next reunion when we have a business meeting again. If National has use for a donation other than increasing the scholarship, we would appreciate knowing so it may be brought up at the next business meeting.

We all had a good time renewing acquaintances and getting to know new friends.

Sincerely,  
Lily Krasovetz  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Ladies Auxiliary  
107 United States Ave. E.  
Gibbsboro, N.J. 08026



Fran Maher, President of the association, addressing the members at the Memorial Service. Unlike other years where the members marched to a Memorial site the services were held at the hotel overlooking the Ocean.

## THE OCTOFOIL

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

## National Officers

President  
Robert J. DeSandy  
23430 Colonial Ct.  
St. Clairshore, Mi.

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

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

Charles Koskie, 3rd V.P.  
4334 Hirschberg  
Schiller Park, Ill. 60176

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

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

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

## Board Member Emeritus

## Honorary Member Emeritus

## Board of Governors

1980  
John Bonkowski  
Detroit, Mi.  
Dave Gelman  
Forest Hills, N.Y.  
Salvatore Trapani  
Rockville, Md.  
Frank Ozart  
Frankfort, Ill.

1981  
Michael Deresh  
Pinellas Park, Fla.  
William Bongiorno  
Bedford, Ma.  
Robert DeSandy  
St. Clairshores, Mi.  
Elias Hopkins  
Feasterville, Pa.

1982  
John Clouser  
Crystal River, Fla.  
William Klaus  
New York, N.Y.  
Fred D'Amore  
East Boston, Ma.  
Martin Krasovetz  
Gibbsboro, N.J.

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

Rev. Edward Connors, Worcester, Ma.

The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Single copy price is 25 cents per issue or by mail \$1.50 per year payable in advance when dues are paid. Dues are \$5.00 per year with \$1.50 of the \$5.00 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 yearly, 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 our fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the division, to assist in promoting an everlasting world peace exclusively of means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to former members of the 9th Infantry Division."

Copy must be received on or before the 15th of each month to guarantee publication on the 20th.

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Publication No. 402820

VOLUME XXXIV NUMBER 4

JULY-AUG 1979

## TIP OF THE HAT

The associations Memorial Fund is enriched with the donations of these members:

Felton Jones  
David Thompson  
Milton Hacker  
Louis Connors

Members of the Michigan Chapter

Members of the Ladies Auxiliary

Members of the New York Chapter

Henry Santos in memory of Pete Strach

Calvin Daniels

And to all those who attended the reunion and helped make the contributions at the banquet one of the largest. The sum of \$1460.00 was collected for this most worthy cause.

We salute you.

The Banquet that evening was attended by 500 Members and Guests. On this occasion, the speeches were few and brief. Father Connors reminded us again, that there will be a 35th Annual Memorial Mass on Sunday, November the 4th, in Worcester, Mass.

## NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Enclosed please find 1980 dues for:

Name ..... Serial No. ....  
Street Address .....  
City ..... Zone ..... State .....

I was a member of:

Battery .....; Company .....; Regiment .....; 9th Div.

I wish to sign up for the following:

Regular Member, per year .....\$5.00 ☐  
Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund ..... ☐  
THREE-YEAR MEMBER .....\$13.00 ☐  
Life Membership .....\$50.00 ☐  
Octofoil Automobile License Disc .....\$ .50 ☐  
Decals .....\$ .50 ☐  
Ladies' Auxiliary Member .....\$ 2.00 ☐  
Combat Route Map .....\$ .50 ☐  
60th Infantry History (plus postage 45¢) .....\$ .50 ☐

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Please credit the following chapter:

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

## TO "B" (47th) OR NOT TO "B"

This correspondent of 'BECO' would like to thank 'ole buddy' Art Stenzel for the nice columns which were written in search of our many 'BECO' buddies with whom we've lost contact. As ART so aptly put it "there's jes gotta be a lotta 'BECO' boys out there an we're truly anxious to hear from ya an yer whereabouts 'n happenings". Wherefore art thou Romeo's is still in hot pursuit and this month we're seeking out these 6 buddies:

Jules "Frenchie" Stephan in Long Island, N.Y.?

Ted C. Batten in New Jersey?

Roland W. Phelps in Norfolk, Va.?

Eddie C. Weber in Kutztown, Pa.?

Peter Mastrangelo in N.Y.C.?

Johnny Compagnene in Netcong, N.J.?

We'd appreciate hearing from any of the above buddies or any reader of this column having knowledge of men listed.

## MOST SUCCESSFUL

Ann and I sincerely thank the following buddies for the beautiful card and kind words from the Reunion Site at Ft. Lauderdale: Nick and Olga Palega, Ed and Helen Sarnocinski and family, Joe and Edith Podany, Steve and Wanda Lelak, Bill Klaus and last but not least Art and Grace Stenzel. We both missed you also since from all accounts the reunion was most successful and enjoyed fully by all of you. We just received a nice card from Art and Grace who were visiting relatives and friends in Palm Beach, Clearwater, Palm Harbor and other Florida West Coast areas on their way home to N.Y.

## MISSED REUNION

Ann and I just were not able to make the Reunion this year. It's been many years since we missed one together! Our trip to California was most memorable. To those who have yet to 'Go West' we can only say that we hope you will make it one day. Ann and I would have to agree that our good old U.S.A. is the world's best place for travel, adventure, knowledge and activity. Our National Parks are really beautiful and wonderful to see and visit. Death Valley Nat'l Monument in Death Valley, Calif., cannot be described — it was like walking on another planet. Yosemite Falls and "El Capitan" (over 7,500 ft. high with sheer faced cliffs) in Yosemite Nat'l Park, Calif., were simply beautiful and awesome. We have wonderful memories also of our visits to Carlsbad Caverns and White Sands Nat'l Park in New Mexico. Our visit and stay at South Lake Tahoe was all too brief!! However we did manage to play and win 4 Jackpots at Harrah's Casino!

## 57 DAYS ON THE ROAD

We will always have wonderful memories to cherish of this 1979 Western trip. We have taken over 500 slide photos which we will be viewing together with relatives and friends. We are most thankful to the Almighty for keeping us in good health and watching over us during our entire trip which covered 57 days 'on the road'. Ann and I will attend Fr. Connors' Annual 9th Div. Memorial Mass in Worcester on Sunday Nov. 4th. Hope to see you all at the Sat. Night get-together and the Sunday Banquet at the Sheraton-Lincoln.

PAT J. MORANO

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

## THEY CAME FROM NEAR AND FAR

They came from Detroit and Paducah, from Alapaha and St. Louis, from Richmond Hill and Middlesex, Wayne and St. Claire Shores, Schiller Park and Heckscherville, Rome and Elizabeth, Floral Park and Union, Chicago and Seminole and Metuchen.

For this 34th opportunity to renew old friendships, they left their jobs of federal judge and clothier, land developer and carpenter, machinist and school teacher, insurer and miner, florist and furrier, factory worker and environmentalist.

## BOUND TOGETHER

These are the men of F Company, 47th Infantry, who descended on Fort Lauderdale en masse for the thirty-fourth annual reunion of the Ninth Infantry Division. They are bound together by a mortar mix of fun, pain, blood, mud, hardship, deprivation, unbelievable physical and psychological stress, fear, and courage. These are the ingredients of the mixture that cemented this group together since the original mold was poured in 1940. This meeting and the good will and good cheer that emanated from their popular CP attest to the permanence of the bond.

## COMPANY COMMANDERS

Two of their former company commanders were there, Frank Smith and Otto Geyer. It was Smith's first reunion ever, his first meeting with the men whom he led with distinction from Fort Bragg to El Guettar, his first meeting since that fateful and deadly Sunday of March 28, 1943. His presence at the Galt was a most welcome sight to all and reflected the respectful light in which this courageous man was held by men who recognized courage in all its guises.

Otto Geyer, another of the great leaders of F Company, came from St. Louis where he heads up the Department of Environmental Protection for St. Louis County. If he serves the citizens of St. Louis County the way he led his men through some of the most devastating fighting of any war, then these people will be well served. Otto has attended many of the reunions in the past, and his presence has added greatly to the feelings of good fellowship that have always pervaded the meetings.

## BEST FIRST SERGEANT

Felton Jones, F Company first sergeant from Bragg to Germany and former Mayor of Alapaha, Georgia, was very much in evidence at Fort Lauderdale. Many refer to Jones as the best first sergeant who ever donned Uncle Sam's uniform.

## MEN OF COMPANY F

No lesser lights present at Fort Lauderdale were F Company's most decorated soldier, John "Smig" Tokarchek, Frank Gonzol, Ed "Hopple" Hopkins, Paul Giarraputto, Charlie Williams, Earl Wilkey, Ed Netta, Chuck Koskie, Bob DeSandy, Vinnie Guglielmino, Al Munatore, Larry Ghre, Bill MacDonald, Paul Pryznak, and Ed Johnstone who is F Company's contribution to justice, for he currently sits in Paducah, Kentucky, where he serves as federal judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky.

## MOST WELCOME VISITOR

In addition to the above mentioned F Company men, many of their friends from other units enjoyed the hospitality of their CP. One of the most distinguished, most enjoyable, most welcome

visitor was their old Regimental Commander, General Ed Randle. He held a dozen of them spellbound for an hour with anecdotes.

## MEMORABLE ONE

The reunion of 1979 will go down as a memorable one. Every event from the Thursday evening festivities through Saturday night's banquet went smoothly and efficiently. The memorial service was beautifully done. The entire weekend was an exhilarating experience, a work of art, a tribute to those responsible for its orchestration. F Company congratulates Dan Quinn and all other responsible members. Everything was arranged with sensitivity and class, class that befits one of the classiest outfits that ever fought a war.

Ed "Hopple" Hopkins  
110 Hollywood Ave.  
Metuchen, N.J.

## AS WE SAW IT

(Continued from page 1)

## LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING

The Committee Meetings preceded the General Membership Meeting on Friday, the second day of the Convention. All the Reports were presented and accepted. The attendance was good and Danny Quinn reported on the progress of this Reunion. The ever growing list of Members now in the State of Florida exceeds the minimum requirement to form their own Chapter. They have been informed on the procedure and it's only a matter of time. While we were in session, the Ladies Auxiliary held their Meeting in the adjoining room. Unfortunately, not too many of our Chapter Gals were present to see Irene Tapp re-elected the National President. We believe, that they will make up for it next time.

## MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Memorial Scholarship Chairman, John Clouser announced the Awards for this year. Two of those Scholarships went to Margaret Wisniewski, daughter of Ed and Marge Wisniewski and Don Meadows, son of Barbara and the Late Bill Meadows. The Annual Scholarship donations at the Banquet amounted to over \$1400. Besides generous contributions by all those present, the Michigan Chapter presented two checks for this most worthy cause. \$150 from the Chapter funds and \$200 from some of its Members. Pres. Irene Tapp also presented a \$150 check from The Ladies Auxiliary.

Citations were handed out to the out-going Board Members for a job well done and to Elmer Wagner, for all the press releases that he sent out to the mid-western papers, that helped make this Reunion such a great success. In the excitement, The Outstanding Chapter Member Awards were over-looked and will be forwarded with a note of apology.

## HIGHEST OF ALL HONORS

Matty Urban was cited with the highest award from the State of New York and it was appreciated. The long wait goes on, for the highest of all honors that he earned so many years ago.

## ANOTHER REUNION OVER

The final night was coming to an end with a few well chosen words by Pres. Bob DeSandy. The same band was there again for our dancing pleasure. It hardly seemed possible that another Reunion was all but over.

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



## REUNION HI-LITES



Presenting Colors as Taps is sounded at Memorial Service.



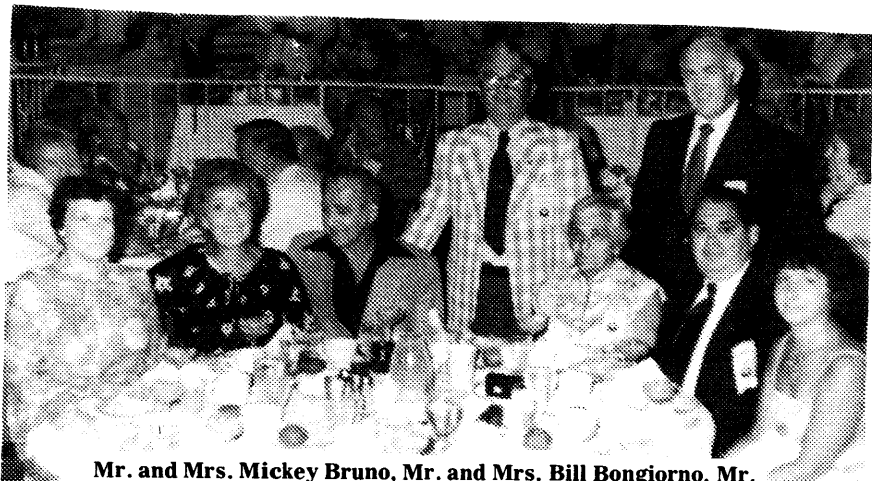
Mr. and Mrs. William Arnold, Bill Muldoon, Mr. and Mrs. Tom McGinley, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Coen (just about can see the top of his head) and Mr. and Mrs. Chesley Mischler and the lovely young lady on the end of the table is Molly, the daughter of the McGinley's.



Company F 47th members are shown (l-r) Ed Hoppie Hopkins, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Giarraputo, seated next to the Giarraputo's is Frank Smith, Larry Ghare, Frank Gonzol, Harry Wax (a 39th man) standing behind Frank Smith, Felton Jones, Earl Wilkie and Jim Burke (another 39th man and first reunion for Jim).



The Ninth Medic's at table 27, from the front, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Todarello, Mr. and Mrs. Vito Splendorio, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. John Laubach and Mr. and Mrs. John Price.



Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Bruno, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bongiorno, Mr. and Mrs. Fred D'Amore and Mr. and Mrs. Herb Olsen take time out from chow to make this happy group photo.



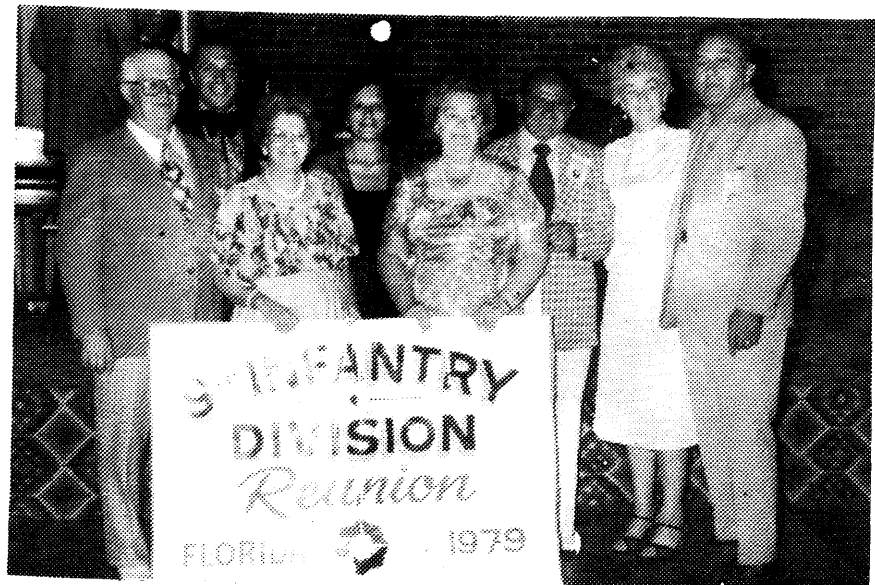
The Ladies Auxiliary were very much present at the Memorial Services which many members believed to be one of the most impressive services ever held by the association.



The Ladies Auxiliary leaders for the coming year, Irene Tapp, president, Ruth Victor spiritual guide and secretary-treasurer Lilly Krasovetz, are shown with floral wreath for the Memorial Service.



Part of the well represented 47th Anti-Tank Company seated (l-r) Mrs. Ed Orr, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bodnar, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Waldman, Mrs. Alice Adams and Chick Wollrich, standing Julius Andrazi, Daniel Adams and Edward Orr.



Mr. and Mrs. Elias (Hoppie) Hopkins, Mr. and Mrs. Marty Bergman, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Perozzi and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Greco are shown after the banquet waiting for the band to strike up the music.



(l-r) Bill Klaus, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Al Munatore, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Deresh (who recently moved to Florida) and their neighbor and member Mr. and Mrs. James Scotta.

# Taps Sounded

LIGHT CASUALTIES

*We are the three who fell that day,  
And true, as the reports have said,  
The casualties were negligent —  
For only we three are dead.*

*Only we three who have remained,  
Lone bivouacs to keep  
Here on this narrow stretch of beach,  
That holds our unwilling sleep.*

*Only we three remain for whom  
There will be no reveille —  
Others will rise to meet the dawn,  
But never again we three.*

*Never again shall it be ours,  
When the ripe grain smells of musk —  
And air is sweet with clover bloom,  
To walk through the scented dusk.*

*We are the three who have remained,  
To rot in the tropic sun —  
And bleach our bones upon the sand,  
When the ants and worms are done.*

*Ah yes, the casualties were light —  
We are glad that it was so.  
But what we three who fell have lost,  
Is something you cannot know.*

Howard A. Farrens

With saddened heart we announce the passing of these comrades who have answered their last roll call:  
**George Morgan**  
Company A and Regt'l 47th Inf.

**Pete Strach**  
Company A 15th Eng.

**Ned Trainor**  
Co. H, 47th Inf.

**Harold Rissue**  
Co. M, 60th Inf.  
May they rest in peace.  
On behalf of the members we extend our heartfelt sympathy to their loved ones.

As we try to put the Octofoil together for the printer from time to time especially when we come to Taps Sounded and come across men that we knew in the Regiment and those we got to know through the association we have to pause and get our thoughts together. Often wish we were gifted writers and could say the things that were in our heart. Little things that you remember about our departed comrades but its a "tough old ball" game and as life goes on we will always keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

George A. Morgan, A Co., Spec. Unit Hq. Co., The Mail Section and the regimental artist of the 47th Infantry Reg. died in Los Angeles Cal. on July 6, 1979. He had been hospitalized for several weeks prior to his death. He had been in and out of hospitals since the war as a result of war time injuries. A funeral mass was held at St. Catherines R.C. Church and burial was at Holy Cross Cemetery, both of Lawndale, Cal. on July 10th. The Veterans of Foreign War provided a burial escort.

George is survived by his wife Trudi, nee Scott, a son Scott, a daughter Mimi Bacon, three grandchildren, two sisters Audrey Smith and Vivienne Kuhrt.

## SUCCESSFUL ARTIST

George was a native of Staten Island, N.Y. who had moved for health reasons to California in 1951. He was suffering from severe degenerative arthritis of the spine. George (a.k.a. Asherton and Buddy) was a successful artist before entering service in January 1941.

He served with the 47th Infantry from January 1941 to June 1945, and was severely injured in Africa and also was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action at El Guettar. In England he served as the regimental artist and painted the murals and the cartoons adorning the walls of the Red Cross club in Winchester and the recreation room of the Winchester barracks. The 1975 Nov.-Dec. issue of the Octofoil contained copies of two cartoons that George had done for the 47th Regimental booklet of Christmas 1944.

## PROUD OF DIVISION

George was proud of his division and the men who served their country wearing its patch. He mentioned when the convention was held in Philadelphia several years back, that his forefathers had served their country in every war back to 1600 and that one of his forefathers, a Jacob Morgan, was buried in Christ Church at Fifth and Arche St. Philadelphia, having served in the Revolutionary War. He never missed an opportunity of having a good time despite his sickness and injury which prevented him from successfully continuing his career as an artist. He had worked for Disney and for others in N.Y., Las Vegas and Reno for a short period. He made friends easily with people of all classes and ranks in and out of the Army and I am sure he will do the same in the hereafter.

It is with deep regret that I must pass on the sad news, the death of my husband, Harold, on June 14th of a heart attack. He served with the 60th Infantry, Company M, helping form the Company at Fort Bragg, in 1940. He served through Africa, Sicily, the Normandy Invasion, into Belgium and Germany, receiving his discharge in April 1945.

He always looked forward to receiving the Octofoil and was very active in the V.F.W.

An old M Company, buddy of Superior, Wisconsin, Ray Gedde, was one of the pall bearers.

Sincerely,  
Ollie Rissue  
Rt. 2, Box 342  
Wautoma, Wisc.



Rev. Louis Kines, S.J.

The passing of Chaplain Kines, 39th Infantry was announced in the May-June issue of the Octofoil. We regret that at the time we did not have more information or a photo to use. Thanks to Harry Herman who supplied us with a photo.

With heavy heart I want to let you know that yet another of our Buddies has been called to the great beyond.

Pete Strach of "A" Co., 15th Engrs. I had been telling of his illness which was terminal, at the convention and when I got home my wife and I mentioned him again, so I decided to call Tues. morning only to have Jean tell me he had passed away Mon. night. Pete was not an "army buddy, we had been school-mates a few years and lived in the same town less than a mile apart. Once I got him started he was a faithful pilgrim to "Connors Coffee Shop", never missed in quite a few years, I'm sure a lot of our friends will feel as I do. He is survived by his wife, Jeannette, a daughter, Janet, and a son, Dennis.

**HENRY SANTOS**  
9701 N46th St.  
Tampa, Fl. 33617

I am writing to tell you of my husband Neds, death on July 2, 1979. Although he had been ill for a year and a half his death was very sudden, a terrible shock.

In going through his papers I found the Sept.-Oct. 1978 issue of the Octofoil and his letter to you. He rarely missed the November Mass in Worcester and really enjoyed meeting so many of you. He always looked forward to the Octofoil, too.

He will be sorely missed by our son and daughter and me.

Sincerely,  
June Trainor  
182 William St.  
Stoneham, Ma. 02180

## "DEE" De Donato Joins Staff at Guy Mims Realty, Century 21

Mary Jo Mims, Realtor of Guy Mims Realty, Century 21, announced the addition of Emil J. "Dee" Donato of Rainbow Lakes Estates as a member of their sales staff.

Emil De Donato brings to Guy Mims Realty many years of marketing, advertising and sales experience. He was born and raised in New Jersey and was active in the advertising industry for over 25 years. De Donato held such positions as production manager, account executive and assistant to the president prior to becoming president of his own advertising agency.

## mail call

Continued from page 6

60th Inf.  
**JOHN M. MCCHESENEY, JR.**  
P.O. Box 356  
Waynesboro, Pa. 22980

I read with much interest our Octofoil May-June 1979 edition, and there were many things which interested me a lot. The article concerning Col. "Paddy" Flint and Lt. Col. Mike Kauffman, in addition to other picture and convention news, made this one of the best issues we have ever put out, I think.

My main attention centered on the 60th Infantry boxing team in England in 1944, led by Matty Urbanowitch, who changed his name to Matt Urban after he married Shirley. At any rate, I am the one in the back row, standing beside the lieutenant whose name I cannot recall; but I can pick out Evans in the center of the picture flanked on one side by Sebeck and on the other side by Albert, with Matt Urban being on the far left side. The other names I simply cannot remember.

I am enclosing a picture which I sent to my Mom and Dad from England after the Ninth Division had won the championship at Torqua, England, which I think is much better picture than the one you printed, and does show Matt Urban up well, sitting beside the lieutenant I still cannot recall, with Evans shown on the right of the lieutenant. In this picture I am in the center of the back row, 4th from the left, or third from the right.

Once again, my compliments to you and the editor of the Octofoil for a job very well done.

I might add that after returning from the army I entered the insurance business and now own an insurance agency known as the Valley Agency, here in the Shenandoah Valley. My main office is located in Waynesboro, Virginia.

I married Helen Virginia Hildebrand in 1947 and have two grown sons, John III and Seth Baylor McChesney. John is a teacher at Augusta Military Academy, Ft. Defiance, Virginia, and Seth is assistant manager of The Piedmont Electric Corporation in Manassas, Virginia. I have been retired for the last five years, but still manage to keep quite busy with my insurance business and my church work. These, in addition to gardening, hunting and other sports activities, fill my time. Best personal regards.

Co. B. 39th Inf.  
**E. DAVID McLAUGHLIN, JR.**  
P.O. Box 3606  
Lantana, FL 33462

Thank you for your reply to my earlier letter, and the enclosure of The Octofoil. I wish it were possible for me to attend the commemoration ceremony for Colonial Flint, however, I look forward to being with you in Fort Lauderdale.

For purposes of my membership application, I provide the following information: name — E. David McLaughlin, Jr., serial number — 0-437-724, 450-30-0729, P.O. Box 3606, Lantana, Florida 33462. I was a member of Company B, 39th Infantry, participating in the Tunisia, Sicily, Normandy and Northern France campaigns, during which time I was wounded.

I hope this information is sufficient for your purposes at this time, and I look forward to being a member of the association. Kindest personal regards.

## ONE OF THOSE THINGS

New England Chapter has been a little lax during the past year in planning meetings and social activities. It was just one of those things that no one can explain. A get-together was the wishes of many but time and place were always far apart.

Bill Bongiorno, 3 Cedar Ridge Terrace, Bedford finally did something about it. He reserved a place and time then sent out the call for someone to attend.

The place was the beautiful Marriott Hotel on the banks of the Charles River in Auburndale. Marriott is two minutes drive from the turnpike toll gate and the 128 exit at Weston, Mass. The time was a week-end in May.

## HASHED OVER

Bill arranged for an under \$30.00 price for a room that was the equal of any that you ever occupied. Thrown in for good measure, at no cost, was a good size conference room where the men hashed over one hundred topics and the women talked styles. Even the indoor pool was used. Goodies supplied by the women and beverages by the men were in plentiful supply.

Marriott restaurants as usual had the good service to go with the good food. The lounge was busy. There is a certain crowd that make it a must.

Even though most of the women who attended live nearby, some had to go to the new Bloomingdales' to see the latest. It was a first for them.

## WONDERFUL WEEKEND

Sunday morning we hosted the gang for brunch after their check out as we live only two miles from Marriott. It was a delightful climax for a wonderful week-end.

I am sure that everyone enjoyed the delightful weather of the week-end, the pleasant company, the hotel accommodations and their surprise brunch.

Bill Bongiorno will have to do it again.

Joseph A. McKenzie  
95 Washington Avenue  
Waltham 54, MA  
02154

# DC in 1980 for REUNION



# Business Transacted At Reunion

## MEETING

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The 132nd meeting of the National Board of Governors was held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on July 26, 1979 at the Galt Ocean Mile Hotel. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 P.M. by President Francis Maher. Attending were Bill Bongiorno, Pat DeColli, Robert DeSandy, John Bonkowski, Charles Koskie, Michael Deresh, Sal Trapani, Elias Hopkins, Paul Keller. Also in attendance were Treasurer, Thomas Boyle, Judge Advocate, Harrison Daysh, 1st Vice-President, Vincent Guglielmino, 2nd Vice-President, Elmer Wagner, and Mike Belmonte, former Board member.

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

The Secretary read the minutes of the 131st meeting that was held in Pittsburgh, Pa., on May 19, 1979. Upon a motion duly made by Sal Trapani and seconded by Mike Deresh it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes, as corrected, and to instruct the secretary to place copy of same on file.

The Treasurer, Tom Boyle, was called upon for his report and he supplied the members with copies of the income and spending for the last quarter and the past year. Upon a motion duly made by Pat DeColli and seconded by Bill Bongiorno it was voted to: Accept the Treasurer's report.

### GREATER THAN

#### ANTICIPATED

The Secretary briefed the members on events of the reunion with attendance greater than anticipated. The hotel was undergoing renovations and much of the work had not been completed on time for the reunion causing the loss of the top floor in the left wing or some 75 rooms. At the rate the members are registering the attendance will be over the 400 mark.

### COMMITTEES

The President then appointed the following Board member as Chairman of these Committees: Finance Committee, Bob DeSandy, Newspaper Committee, John Bonkowski, Miscellaneous Committee, Elias Hopkins, By-laws, Paul Keller and Nominating Committee, Bill Bongiorno. The Committees will meet on Friday, July 27th before the General meeting.

Fran Maher briefed the members on the 35th Annual Memorial Mass and Services to be held in Worcester, Mass., on November 4, 1979.

Upon a motion duly made by Paul Keller and seconded by Charles Koskie it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 5:40 P.M.

### The 34th Meeting of the Ninth Infantry

The 34th meeting of the Ninth Infantry Division Association took place on July 27, 1979 at the Galt Ocean Mile Hotel, Fort Lauderdale, Floriadi at 11:35 A.M. There being a quorum of 104 members present the President, Francis Maher called the meeting to order and asked the members to stand, salute the Flag and to remain standing for a moment of silent prayer for the departed men of the Ninth.

Earlier in the morning at 10:20 A.M., the President had appointed members to serve on the various committees.

The Secretary, Daniel Quinn then read the minutes of the 33rd meeting that took place in Philadelphia in July of 1978. Upon a motion made by Vincent Guglielmino and seconded by Sal Trapani it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes as read and to instruct the Secretary to place same on file.

Thomas Boyle, the Treasurer, was called upon for his report and he gave a detailed account on the Association's income and spendings for the year. Once again Boyle concluded his report by stating "In my opinion all bills of the Association 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 this Association". President Maher thanked Tom for his report and upon a motion duly made by Elias Hopkins and seconded by Bob DeSandy it was voted to: Accept the Treasurer's report.

### BRIEFED ON REUNION

The Secretary, Daniel Quinn, briefed the members on the reunion. Over 400 members attending the 34th reunion and some members experiencing difficulties with their rooms, etc. Many members were sent to other hotels, next door to the Beachclub Hotel and two blocks away to the Polynesian Hotel. The Galt Ocean Mile Hotel was undergoing renovations and they were not completed on time, causing the loss of 75 rooms. The Secretary apologized to the members for the inconveniences.

### SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

John Clouser, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee addressed the membership. John explained that this Committee is a permanent one consisting of Doctor David Heller, President of Loop College of Chicago, Frank Ozart, former President of the Association and himself a retired High School Principal. He stated that the recipients are selected, according to their academic ability and as the awards are not that great, they do help the youngsters along the way at college. This year 12 students will divide the sum of \$2000.00 and since the Scholarship Committee began these awards in 1961 a sum of \$25,425.00 has been granted to students all whom are related to members of the Division.

There were five new Applicants and seven renewals this year.

New Applicants were: Luann Belmonte, daughter of Michael Belmonte, A. Bty. 60th FA. David C. DiFolco, son of Louis DiFolco, 47th Inf. Terri D. Hertz, daughter of Stanley Hertz, Co. G. 60th Inf. Donald E. Meadows, son of William Meadows, A. Bty. 26th FA. Nancy Stanick, daughter of Michael Stanick, Co. D. 47th Inf.

Renewals: Ellen Bokina, daughter of Henry Bokina, Hq. Bty. 9th Div. Arty. Roberta Cappella, daughter of Henry Cappella, 26th FA. Martin Feinberg, son of Irving Feinberg, 47th Inf. Mary Lou Morrisette, daughter of Paul Morrisette, 60th Inf. Salvatore Trapani, son of Salvatore Trapani, Jr., 39th Inf. Marjorie Wisniewski, daughter of Edwin Wisniewski, 47th Inf. Richard Wisniewski, son of Edwin Wisniewski, 47th Inf.

At the Board of Governors meeting held in Pittsburgh on May 19, 1979, the Board approved the Committee recommendations for these awards.

President Maher thanked Clouser and his committee for their efforts for all these years and upon a motion duly made by Tony Chaconas and seconded by Charles Williams it was voted to: Accept the report of the Scholarship Committee.

### FINANCE AND BUDGET

Robert DeSandy, Chairman of the Finance Committee was asked for his report and he named these members who served on this committee: Frank Ozart, Tony Madonna, Vincent Guglielmino, Elmer Wagner, Al Bravin, Emil Langer and Tom Boyle sat as an adviser. The committee submitted the following budget for the year 1979-80.

Anticipated Income	
Dues	\$4500.00
Investments	2500.00
Reunion	500.00
	\$7500.00
Expenses	
Octofoil	\$3400.00
Secretary Salary	600.00
Clerical Help	600.00
Utilities	700.00
Postage	1200.00
Supplies	300.00
Miscellaneous	
Expense	200.00
Printing	300.00
Secretary	
Expense	350.00
Treasurer	
Expense	200.00
Editors Expense	\$400.00
Accountant	150.00
Dues reminder	100.00
Board Meetings	400.00
Scholarship	
Expense	100.00
Floral Wreath	50.00
Reunion	
Gratuities	100.00
F.I.C.A.	40.00
TOTAL	\$9190.00

The Finance Committee recommends that the estimated deficit of \$1690.00 be borrowed from the Capital Fund.

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

President Maher thanked Bob DeSandy and his committee.

### NEWSPAPER

John Bonkowski, Chairman of the Newspaper Committee was called upon for his report and he named these members who served with him on the committee: Art Schmidt, Bill Coen, Martin Krasovetz, Everett Tapp, Park Privett and Jerry Teachout. The committee recommends the following:

1. To express our appreciation to the Chapters that submit a regular column in the Octofoil and encourage the following Chapters to do the same: Philly-Delaware Valley, Washington D.C., Ohio, Fayetteville, and New England Chapters.

2. Appropriate sufficient funds to operate the publication at the present high standings on a bi-monthly basis.

3. Begin - a running list of active members addresses in the Octofoil.

4. Use the Octofoil to full advantage in forming new Chapters.

5. Commend the Co-Editors for incorporating previous recommendations in improving the Octofoil. Namely: (a) more mail call space, (b) addresses included with mail call letters, (c) published dead-line dates.

6. Last but not least: A great hand for the Co-Editors Wally O'Keefe and Danny Quinn for a great job they are doing.

Upon a motion duly made by Bill Zimmerman and seconded by Al Orletti it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the Newspaper Committee.

Elias "Hoppy" Hopkins, Chairman of the Miscellaneous Committee was called upon for his report and he named these members who served on the committee: John Clouser, Lou Netta, Leon Kowalski, Charles Williams, Fred D'Amore and Max

The Committee recommends the following:

That future reunions be held within the boundaries of the Chapters.

2. When selecting a hotel try and get a hotel that is large enough to take care of all our members and guests. The members attending this year's reunion far exceeded the amount of rooms available and therefore many members had to go to other hotels. Renovations being made were not completed on time.

3. Plan activities such as trips be placed on the Bulletin Board. It isn't necessary to include it on price of three day strip ticket. Members interested could pay their own way.

4. For the Thursday and Friday night affairs have some members at the door to collect tickets. No body should be admitted with out a ticket - no freeloaders.

5. At Fort Bragg, N.C. there isn't anything that reminds the people that the Ninth Infantry Division was ever there. Perhaps a plaque or monument could be erected there.

President Maher thanked Hoppy and his committee for their report. Upon a motion duly made by Leon Kowalski and seconded by Art Schmidt it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the Miscellaneous Committee.

### NOMINATING

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Bill Bongiorno, named the following members who served on this committee: Michael Deresh, Herb Olsen, Mike Belmonte, Anthony Soprano, Bill Zimmerman and Kleb Stockford.

The Committee recommends that the vacancies of four members leaving the Board of Governors be filled by the following members: Fred D'Amore...New England, John Clouser...Illinois, William Klauz...New York, Martin Krasovetz...Philly-Delaware Valley.

The President asked for nominations from the floor and upon a motion duly made by Emil Langer and seconded by Harrison Daysh it was voted to: Close the nominations.

Upon a motion duly made by Doc Seslowe and seconded by Marcus Sciarappa it was voted to instruct the Secretary to cast on ballot for a unanimous vote.

Bongiorno and his committee were thanked by President Maher.

### BY-LAWS

Paul Keller, Chairman of the By-laws Committee named the following members who served on this committee: Jack Collier, Gene Reedy, George Brown, Henry Santos, Charles Koskie, Bill Martin, Pat DeColli and Harrison Daysh.

The committee recommends no change in the present By-laws. A discussion was held on the dipersment of the Association Funds when the Association becomes small enough to exist. The committee suggest each member give this serious thought and send suggestions to the Judge Advocate or the Secretary so the By-laws can be changed to fit the situation. The committee also recommends that some thought be given to form an

Assistance Fund to help any members experiencing difficulties.

Upon a motion duly made by Frank Ozart and seconded by Frank Fazio it was voted to: Accept the report of the By-laws Committee.

### FLORIDA CHAPTER

Richard Trahey addressed the membership as to the possibility of forming a Chapter in the state of Florida. He received a good response with many members now living in Florida in attendance at the reunion. A "sign up" sheet will be at the registration desk for those interested. We may add that before the day was over the necessary members (25 for a chapter) had been reached.

### MONUMENT AT FT. BRAGG

President Maher appointed Bill Martin as Chairman of the Committee for a monument to be erected at Fort Bragg. He will correspond with the secretary and report the progress of this committee.

### FUTURE REUNION

Albert Hodger spoke to the members regarding a reunion to be held in the future, in the state of South Carolina. He mentioned several cities that would be ideal for the association to hold a reunion.

### WORCESTER NOV. 4th

President Fran Maher told the members of the 35th Memorial Mass and Services to be held in Worcester on November 4th. Details will appear in the next issue of the Octofoil.

Upon a motion duly made by Robert DeSandy and seconded by Elias Hopkins it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 1:05 P.M.

The 133rd meeting of the National Board of Governors was held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on July 27, 1979 at the Galt Ocean Mile Hotel. The meeting was called to order at 4:15 P.M. by President Maher. Attending were Bill Bongiorno, John Bonkowski, Bob DeSandy, Paul Keller, Frank Ozart, Michael Deresh, Elias Hopkins and Sal Trapani. Also in attendance were the newly elected Board Members, Fred D'Amore, John Clouser, and Martin Krasovetz.

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

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of Officers for the year was held with the following members elected to serve for the coming year: Robert DeSandy, Pres.; Vincent Guglielmino, 1st V.P.; Elmer Wagner, 2nd V.P.; Charles Koskie, 3rd V.P.; Harrison Daysh, Judge Ad.; Daniel Quinn, Sec.; Thomas Boyle, Treas.

Fran Maher the outgoing President then turned over the Chair to the newly elected President, Robert DeSandy. Fran thanked the members for their cooperation during the past year and wished Bob DeSandy all the best for his year in office. DeSandy thanked the members for the honor bestowed upon him and promised to do his best for the Association for the coming year. He asked the members for their full support and cooperation and thanked Fran Maher for a splendid job he had done for his year in office.

### SITE FOR 1981

A site for the 1981 Reunion was voted upon by the Board members and the New England Chapter was selected for that year.

There being no other business to come before the Board and upon a motion duly made by Fred D'Amore and seconded by Michael Deresh it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 5:10 P.M.

## MAIL CALL

REV. EDWARD T. CONNORS  
Immaculate Conception Rectory  
353 Grove Street  
Worcester, Mass. 01605  
Dear Dan,

I thought when the Board of Governors arranged for a meeting in Ft. Lauderdale, that it was not going to be very successful — but you and your group did a terrific job. It was a fine meeting, great crowd and a wonderful spirit. Congratulations, Dan, to you and all those who assisted you. Once again you have done a great job for the men of the 9th Infantry Division. I thought Franny Maher did a great job in the extra effort they put into the Memorial Service. It was very meaningful and very successful.

Until almost the last moment, I did not think I would be able to go, but finally I was able to make arrangements to be with the gang.

Thanks again, Dan, and God bless you, Marie and your family. With God's help, I hope to have our annual Memorial Mass once again at the Immaculate Conception Church on November 4th.

Say a prayer for Old Man Connors.

Sincerely yours,  
Rev. Edward T. Connors

A and Hq Co. 15th Eng.  
HOWARD C. GRANGER

1601 Castle Pinckney  
Columbia, S.C. 29206

Dear Dan,

I am enclosing a check for membership dues for three years; donation for Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Also enclosing a separate check for reservations for the 34th Reunion, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and included is amount for the Booster for Reunion Journal.

Have just recently retired after 22 years Army, and 18 years with Civil Service. Just now finding some spare time to meet with old members of the 9th.

Hope to see some of my friends and old buddies from Co A and Hq Co, 15th Engr. Combat Bn.

84th F.A.

PETE RICE  
P.O. Box 34760  
Dallas, Texas 75234

Some time ago I made myself a note to write a letter in response to the question printed on one of the pages of a recent "Octofoil" "When was the last time you wrote a letter to our mail call column?"

I especially enjoyed the April issue of the "Octofoil" because of Col. Randall Bryant's letter and the addresses he gave of some retired men in Florida. As for me I joined the 9th in Belgium and was Assistant Com 0 of the 84th FA Bn for most of the remainder of the War, although probably the last month or six weeks was spent as a forward observer in C Battery. When the war was over I stayed with Headquarters Battery, 84th, for a little more than a year as it moved down to Wasserburg and later to Oberstdorf. I lived four years in Kansas City (where I saw John Cattle in his bank in Nebraska one year) and eight years in Virginia, and visited Major Bill Mauser in Ohio — now in Florida? For the last twenty one years have been back in Dallas. The years have been exceedingly kind to me with a great wife and five beautiful children and a fair amount of excitement in the business world. Sorry I can't join you in Florida — best wishes to all, especially the guys of the 84th.

Co 47th Inf.  
EDWIN H. RANDLE  
503 Althea Road, Belleair,  
Clearwater, Fla. 33516

Dear Dan: Just wanted to tell you how much we enjoyed the convention in Ft. Lauderdale. You did an outstanding job and I know it took an enormous amount of work and organizing. We were glad to see the BW again. She is just as beautiful as ever. Glad to hear the convention is to be in Washington. The Lord — willing, we can make that one.

Btry. B. 84th F.A.  
ANTHONY CHACONAS  
5101-13th St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20011

Doing just great, feeling fine. This is Life Membership for my best buddy met at Fort Bragg basic training together. Then sent to the main post 9th Division. We served together from the beginning to the END. He is one helluva guy, John Boswell, also has been sick and recovering from same operation I had plus liver operation at the same time I was hospitalized. How about that? Well that's enough from this sick call. Here's to seeing all of you guys in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. My very best to all.

2nd Bn. 39th Inf.  
FRANK BUZANOSKI  
2619 W. Grandview Blvd.  
Erie, Pa. 16506

Just a line to say I'm sorry I had to receive a dues reminder letter, which I intended to take care of at the last reunion. Somehow I slipped up, so enclosed, Danny, you will find my check and if things go well as planned we will see you all in Fort Lauderdale. Wishing the gang the best of health and luck. Hoping they all can make the reunion.

Can. Co. 47th Inf.  
BILL & BETTY ZWEIL  
348-33 Aberdeen Road  
Matawan, New Jersey 07747

We were in hopes of being at the convention but healthwise we are very disappointed. My doctor says if I don't overdo I will stay around and I like it here. I must improve as there is so much to do.

I still have 1 cab and Betty has the Stitching Post, doing as little as possible.

We are with you in spirit. Hope to see you all at Worcester.

Serv. Co. 47th Inf.  
JOHN J. KIMMERLE  
405 Cactus Circle  
Lehigh Acres, Fla. 33936  
Sorry I had to miss the convention in Fort Lauderdale, Florida — Doris and I had reservations made — we really looked forward to it, however we had the closing of our home in New Jersey the same week. Please note my new address, 405 Cactus Circle, Lehigh Acres, Florida 33936.

My sincere regards to all the men of the 9th Division and my old buddies, Rocky Merz, Bill Spencer, Don Anthony, George Morgan, to mention few of the 47th.

God bless you all.

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

Walter Victor supplied us with all the photo's from the reunion. We've run out of space to show them all but will try to get them into future Octofoils. Walt lives at 2745 Dodson Lee Drive East Point, Ga. 30344.

60th Inf.  
REV. RALTON SPEERS  
5 Patricia Avenue  
Albany, New York 12203

I am writing this note to the Mail Call Column to thank all those who remembered Ralton in their prayers and with many cards and good wishes.

Ralton suffered a stroke on July 20, 1979. He is still hospitalized at Ellis Hospital, Nott Street, Schenectady, New York, 12308 and is undergoing therapy. Coming along very nicely.

We had planned to attend the reunion at Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Best wishes to you and Marie, and to all in the association.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Ralton (Agnes)  
Speers

Co. H. 60th Inf.  
ROBERT LA TURNER  
5688 Wilson Mills Rd.  
Cleveland, Ohio 44143

We'd love to join you at the convention but it isn't possible this year — maybe next.

I just lost my dad age 93 — he'd lived with us for 32 years.

We wish you a most successful convention.

"Hi" to anyone who might remember us.

Co. D. 9th Med. Bat.  
JOHN A. SEVERINO  
P.O. Box 1271  
Albuquerque, N.M. 87103

Please be advised of my new address above. My old address was: P.O. Box 1822, Daytona Beach, Fla. 32015.

My membership dues are paid up to 1980.

Please mail any further correspondence to my new address. Thank you.

B. Btry. 84th FA  
SAMUEL D. ROBINSON  
95 Nahant Street  
Apt. 7  
Lynn, Mass. 01902

I wrote a letter to David Black (Lynn, Ma. VFW) and by this "note" about the 9th convention, I received a telephone call from a 9th man I haven't seen or heard from since we left Germany in 1945. My old "B" Btry. 84th FA buddy — Gus Spenard. We got together and hashed over old times. Gus and I were on the 105's since 1941. I sent a copy of this to Westy.

Sorry I can't make the Lauderdale affair. Have fun.

1st Bn. 47th Inf.  
EDWARD SLOSSON, JR.  
63 Sherwood Place  
Greenwich, Conn. 06830

My dues are not due until 80 but sending them early for the next 3 years if God is willing.

I am looking for a small lapel pin of the 9th Div. Patch or where I can buy it from. You see I am a member of the D.A.V. of eight years. Our chapter no. 50 of Greenwich, it's a new chapter just started last year in town we have about 22 members so far.

I am feeling much better this year and still have hard time in balance when walking. Also Octofoil auto license disc.

Best to all the 47th.

Deadline for the next issue will be October 20th. All copy or material should be send to the Editors before this date.

JOHN J. CLOUSER  
P.O. BOX 268  
WETMORE, MI. 49895

## THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave Weehawken, N. J. 07087-

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

Publication No.  
402820

Co A-47th Inf  
LAWRENCE NEUDICK  
6811 Boston Street Road  
Hamburg, N.Y. 14075

I am enclosing check for 3 years membership in the association.

Sorry to be late with my dues. I always look forward to receiving the 9th Division paper.

I was unable to attend the reunion at Fort Lauderdale. Best wishes to all

Can. Co 47th Inf.  
DANIEL COLEMAN  
56 Byron Avenue  
Yonkers, N.Y. 10704

Received your letter a few weeks ago along with the "Octofoil". I would like to join the Association and enclosed find my check for membership.

I got a kick out of reading the Octofoil and look forward to the next copy. I saw the names of two former members of Cannon Company 47th Infantry. Leonard Kupkowski from Dunkirk, N.Y. and James P. MacManus from Billings, Montana. I remember them both very well, especially Kupkowski!

I don't know if I will be able to attend the 34th reunion in Fort Lauderdale this year but in any event give my regards to all.

Bty. C 26th F.A.  
CALVIN C. DANIELS  
47354 Burton Dr.  
Utica, Mich. 48087

Dear Dan: I hope all the old 9th had a great time in Florida. Sorry I couldn't make it. We will have an Out State meeting pretty soon and I'll be there. Maybe I will meet someone I know. I got to see our 39th man Wm. Andrews and it sure was good to see him. I wrote to St. Louis, Mo. for all my campaign ribbons and medals. I received them this past Saturday but they only have me down for 6 campaign stars. I looked my discharge over and I'm not down for Belgium. I can't see how we got 8 stars and I was with them from the beginning until end and only got 6. What can I do if anything to get it changed. My old company commander lives in California, Capt. Philip Loomis. Our Ex Officer was Donald M. Clark. I know I can't change my discharge but why I never noticed those things when I was discharged. They don't even have Germany on mine, only Northern France and Rhineland.

Hope everyone had a good time in Florida.

Hq. 3rd Bn. 60th Inf.  
INEZ OSWALT  
Rt. 1, Box 240  
Greenville, Miss.

I am writing in regards to the notice I saw in our paper about the Reunion of the 9th Infantry Division in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

My brother Earl Hewitt went through all these campaigns and was killed in 1944 in the Battle of the Bulge.

We would like to know if any of the boys in the 9th Infantry would happened to have known him. He was Earl Hewitt, lived in Boyle, Miss.

If so, would love to hear from them. We received some pictures of him with other boys but never did know their names.

Would appreciate any news. Thank you.

2nd Bn. 60th Inf.  
MICHAEL KAUFFMAN  
4466 Abinadi Rd.  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84117

I have been remiss in not renewing my membership in the Association and regret it. Here's my application for three years.

During the years I have maintained contact with members of my battalion, the 2nd of the 60th Inf., and other members of the regiment. I've seen Chick Hennen, Barney Ingebretsen, John Miller, John Carrier (now deceased), Paul Quasanto and correspond occasionally with Carl Hull and John Doxsee.

It's great to read about the many old-timers I knew. Keep up the good work.

P.S. Perry Langston keeps in touch also, as does Matt Urban.

P.P.S. I'd like to hear from any of the old gang.

I Co. 60th Inf.  
SAMMIE & BETTIE GOODWIN  
803 McAnn Street  
San Angelo, Texas 76903

Enclosed are the much delinquent dues for one year membership for the Octofoil. As for "Chapter" Sammie has none other than was stationed at Ft. Bragg from 10/14/41-10/21/42.

Health permitting Sammie (we) plan to attend his first reunion (in that hot country this time of year) even though he feels certain he will know no one as so few of his group left in 1945 upon discharge. Four years ago Albert M. Hodge (who became company clerk just prior to his being wounded) started corresponding with him from Savannah, Ga. and had attempted to help him locate some of his group to no avail. Sammie can't remember him, but would be a genuine pleasure to finally meet him. His Lt. for a time, Hugh Alcorn from Brownwood, Texas is now confined to a wheel chair with M/S in critical condition.

The article (with picture) with resume that was sent to the Octofoil several years ago, no one responded to.

Still associated with the Police Department as motorcycle officer, we are looking forward to his retirement June 1, 1980.

We asked once if you had any record of a Mike Panuthos of Brooklyn, N.Y.; negative reply at that time, but any information since?

Please excuse my many mistakes as just arrived home (7:45 a.m.) from a twelve hour shift and am a little more than "beat."

Hoping to see you in Florida in July, I remain.

D. Co. 60th Inf.  
EARL J. SULLIVAN  
2 West Pine Street  
Adams Mass. 01220

Don't think I'll make the reunion again this year. Sure would like to but I'm just not up to it.

Good luck to all the boys and I'm sure they will all have a good time.

Enclosed is dues for 3 years; And a booster for the journal.

Hope to see you all again someday, maybe next year?

continued on page 3

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